

Urban Wildlife Photo Club

January 2026 Newsletter

Next Membership Meeting: **January 12th**

Online and In Person at 7:00 PM

SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE MEETING INFORMATION

Club Contact Information

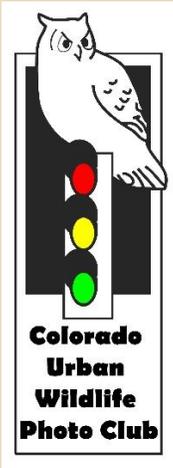
Address: COUWPC
PO Box 270501
Louisville, CO 80027-0501

Email: uwpc@comcast.net Website <http://www.couwpc.com>

A Zoom link for the online meeting is included in the email and in this newsletter and will be sent again as a reminder a few hours before the meeting.

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January Program

Our January program will be Shara Johnson presenting her program on the Caribou area near Nederland.

Shara's Bio and links to her websites.

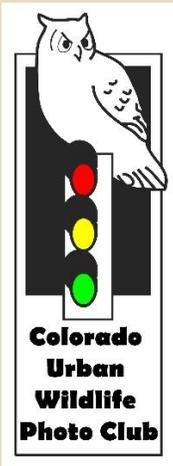
I'm an essay writer and a photographer. I make my home on the edge of a forest in Nederland, Colorado -- a small town in the Rocky Mountains. Most of my work, both written and visual, is inspired by travel abroad. I'm very interested in other cultures and have a love for a number of scientific disciplines, though I myself am not a very disciplined person and therefore have only a lay-person's knowledge. However, concepts in physics, cosmology, history and other fields often make their way into my writing. I also like melding fictional elements into my nonfiction (i.e. creative nonfiction), but in very obvious ways such as the form of a legend or extravagant metaphor. A common problem for readers of creative nonfiction writing is knowing how much to trust the author, wondering how much they fudge the truth for the sake of making a better story. Allow me to assure you that I write only what I truly experienced and make the "creative" parts quite obvious.

Shara Johnson

<https://skjtravel.net/>

<https://skjphotography.net/>

<https://sharasinor.com/>



Meeting Location:

We meet in person at Park Hill United Methodist Church at Montview and Glencoe. We'll also have a Zoom link that is in this newsletter and email plus it will be sent a few hours before the meeting.

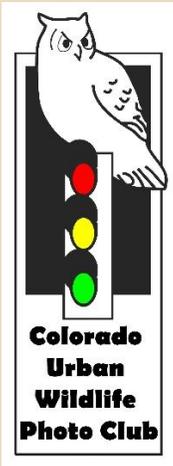
Parking is off Glencoe, north of the church. Enter through the double doors on the north side of the church. If no one is there, please do not ring the doorbell as that alerts several people from the church on their mobile phones. Text or call (303) 807-7678 or (303) 589-5414 and someone will come down and let you in.

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84280401888?pwd=Dg41cWivkVrbwwLm4Tqjt0esMz7Xgi.1>

Meeting ID: 842 8040 1888

Passcode: 337507



MEMBER MONTHLY IMAGE SUBMISSION

Members and first-time guests are encouraged to submit images for a gentle critique. We are not a competitive club, but we do strive to help our members learn and improve their photographic skills. Guidelines are below.

We have both open and theme image categories:
January Critique and Theme images due by January 5th.

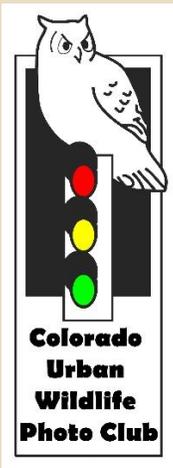
Send to: uwpcimages@comcast.net

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS FOR IMAGE LABELING, ESPECIALLY THE USE OF SPECIAL CHARACTERS (NO @) AND NAMING NEEDS. If I get really busy, I may not be able to accept images that don't follow these "rules."

PLEASE ADHERE TO THE DATE & SIZE REQUESTED -1MB or less

Two categories at each meeting - THEMED AND OPEN

- Maximum of 4 images total and no more than one themed image
- Email files one week before the scheduled meeting to uwpcimages@comcast.net
Please use this one!
- Send themed category images in an email titled 'themed images'
- Send open category images in an email titled 'critique images'
- If your image is selected to appear on the club website, the website caption will be derived from the file name. **Be sure that your name and the image title as you would like them to appear on the website are included in the file name.** Use only letters (a-z and A-Z), numerals (0-9), dashes (-), underscores (_), and the single dot before ".jpg" in file names. Avoid using blanks. Use dashes (-) underscores (_) and capitalization to indicate word boundaries (e.g. Bob_Dean-Trees_In_Snow.jpg or BobDean-TreesInSnow.jpg). It is acceptable to include other information that identifies the image in file names, but you risk the possibility that this information will be misinterpreted by the webmaster. Although it's unlikely, the image BobDean_TreesInSnow_27583.jpg might end up on the website with the title "Trees in Snow 27853."



MEMBER MONTHLY IMAGE SUBMISSION CONT'D

OPTIONAL Descriptive information for each *critique image* should be as follows:

Exposure data should, for example, include f/stop, shutter speed, ISO, any exposure compensation, and any filter information. Post processing enhancements should include only those things beyond simply cropping, sharpening, noise reduction, etc. such as HDR, panorama work, color enhancements, exposure changes, etc. If you can put the image data (if you choose to include it) **as text** in the body of the email as opposed to an attached word or excel file, it would be appreciated! Makes life easier if everyone does the same thing.

January Theme - Layering

February Theme - Cold

Image Number	Title	Species	Location		Camera	Lens	Exposure Data	Post Processing
Critique 1								
Critique 2								
Critique 3								

Please don't use an @ in the exposure information as when I copy it into the slide presentation, the computer sees it as an email address, and I need to retype rather than copy.

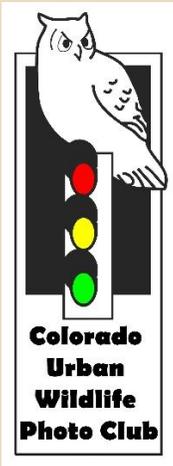
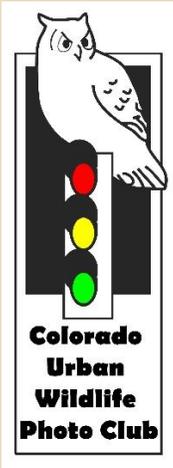


PHOTO CONTESTS

Whenever you think about entering a photo contest you should very carefully read the Ts and Cs. I know that the legalese can be daunting but there are a lot of contests out there that are a “rights grab.” Make sure that the ones you enter specifically lay out the image ownership agreement. Whenever you send in images to a contest you are entering into a contract. You really should consider only those contests that have very limited usage of your photos and state in their rules that YOU retain full ownership of the image. When you read the fine print on image usage, watch out for those contests that demand the right to use all your entries for their own purposes, not just the winners.

Contest Information Website;

If you'd like a resource that has just about all the contests out there, take a look at Photo Contest Insider at <https://www.photocontestinsider.com/contest/all-themes/>



Opportunity to Recruit!

Cards are now available for members to pass out to photographers (or anyone who would be interested) that they meet in the field or anywhere really! I'll bring them to the next few in person meetings.



Urban Wildlife Photo Club
Club website
<https://couwpc.com/>
Urban Wildlife website
<https://oururbanwildlife.org/>

Email: uwpc@comcast.net PO Box 270501
Louisville, CO 80027

Feel free to take a few and have them in your wallet or camera bag.

Planning for 2026

On January 14th, we will be having our annual meeting to satisfy our 501c7 corporation requirements. If there are topics you'd like discussed, let me know. Time 7 PM-Zoom only.

Link for the annual meeting on Jan 14th is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89867706883?pwd=UOd0NjgfdJcDVPYayfoFedv7InAOUB.1>

Meeting ID: 898 6770 6883

Passcode: 594989

Join instructions

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/89867706883/invitations?signature=A1fcx1uLIngEmkp3EqW-28q2RFmysb2KCy7rgpGgax0>

Agenda looks like this:

- Finances
- Membership trends
- 2025 Overview
- 2026 Plans
- Discussion topics
 - Websites
 - Newsletter
 - Meeting Image Exposure Info
 - Membership growth
 - Whatever folks want to discuss.

Some thoughts on our Field Trip to the National Eagle and Wildlife Property Repository

On December 5th several of us had the opportunity to tour the “National Eagle and Wildlife Property Repository.” Our guide was the supervisor of both the Property and Eagle sections, so we were able to get a detailed understanding of the roll both play in the protection of wildlife and the application of laws relating to wildlife products.

The first part of the tour was to the shipping and receiving area where all the items coming in arrive and things being sent to various locations are packaged and shipped (more on this coming up). After that we went into the large storage room and were shown cabinets, racks, and open areas where thousands of items were stored. These were all wildlife related items from full animal taxidermy mounts to animal parts to products made from endangered or rare animals. Some of the “products” included boots made from elephant hide, various jewelry items, again made from animals, medicinal items like bear bile and gall bladders, and just about anything you can imagine. All these items were confiscated, mostly by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

We then went to the Eagle Repository viewing area outside of what is really a laboratory. The mission of the eagle repository is to collect remains of eagles, or parts of eagles from all over the U.S. We were reminded that it is unlawful to possess any part of an eagle (feathers, talons, wings, etc. unless you are a member of a federally recognized indigenous tribe). This is where the repository comes in, they collect eagle remains, test for avian flu, preserve, catalog, and then fulfill requests from Native American tribes for various eagle parts. These parts are used for ceremonial functions.

The repository accepts requests from tribes and if available, ships the requested eagles or eagle parts to that tribe. They literally have thousands of requests, some take multiple years to fulfill.

Items in the Wildlife Property storage can be used for law enforcement training, and some can be loaned to educational and research institutions. This is where the shipping area comes in.

Our guide talked about the various laws that USFWS enforces regarding animal parts:

Endangered Species Act which prohibits possession, sale, import/export of listed species and their parts.

Marine Mammal Protection Act which prohibits taking, importing, or selling marine mammal parts.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act which prohibits taking, killing, selling, or possessing birds, feathers, eggs, nests.

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) which requires permits for import/export of listed species and parts.

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act which prohibits taking, killing, selling, purchasing, bartering, transporting, exporting, importing, or **possessing any part** of bald or golden eagles.

The repository has recently opened public tours in addition to their privately arranged group tours. These tours are on the first Friday of the month at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. To register (required) check the website: <https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wildlife-property-repository> and click on the “Tours and education programs link.”

Photography is allowed only in the reception area but for security and cultural sensitivity reasons, not anywhere else.

USFWS is always looking for help in saving wildlife. They have established a tip line for people to report suspected violations of the various wildlife laws and regulations.

The tip line number is: 1-844 FWS TIPS or 1-844 397-8477.

Side Note: Colorado Parks and Wildlife also has a tip line to report poaching in Colorado. Poaching is hunting out of season, using spotlights at night, taking more than the legal limit or violation of hunting license purchase regulations (e.g. buying a resident license for a non-resident)

Reports can be made via phone 1-877-COLO-OGT or via email at game.thief@state.co.us

Both USFWS and CPW Game Thief offer rewards.