

Urban Wildlife Photo Club

May 2025 Newsletter

Next Membership Meeting: **May 12th, 2025**

Online and In-Person meeting 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 has been sent for the meeting and will be again as a reminder a few hours before the meeting.

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May Program

Butch Mazzuca will present: Beyond the Rule of Thirds 33 hacks to improve your images

Beyond the Rule of Thirds, 33 hacks to improve your scores in club competitions" is a 45-minute zoom presentation that goes beyond the mundane. It's a series of narrated visual illustrations of photographic techniques focusing on Impact, Visual Interest & Story because those are fundamental characteristics that most often succeed in competitions. We've all read, seen or heard the "standard approaches" to taking better photographs using the Rule of Thirds, Leading Lines, Framing your subject, etc., etc. But what is different about the "33 Hacks" presentation is that its focus is about improving scores in club competitions.

(In photography, "hacks" usually refer to creative techniques or clever tricks that make capturing great photos easier or more interesting. These could be shortcuts, unconventional methods, or do-it-yourself solutions.)

Butch Mazzuca hails from Chicago Illinois and currently lives in Tucson Arizona. He bought his first camera in 2008 when his wife suggested they take a trip to Africa. The photography bug bit him when *Africa Geographic* published one of his images from that trip. Upon return he joined Mile Hi Wildlife Photography Club.

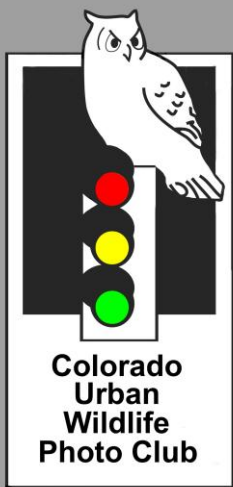
Since that time, he's participated in numerous workshops & seminars, joined the Photographic Society of America (PSA) and taught basic digital photography at Colorado Mountain College in Vail Colorado. He describes himself as a generalist. Butch has done several presentations for PSA clubs around the country and has judged at various photo clubs around the country including Mile Hi. His images have appeared on the *Audubon Society* website, in *Sarasota* and *Shutter Bug* magazines and his photo essays have been featured in *Travel Africa* magazine, *Africa Geographic* magazine, and the Sierra Club's *Focus Points* magazine. Internationally he's won the Leica, ZEDE and Elixir International photo competitions and believes Impact, Visual Interest, and Storytelling are the fundamental characteristics that most often succeed in competitions. His mantra is, "Compelling images separated from their backgrounds make strong photos."



Meeting Location:

We will meet in person at Park Hill United Methodist Church at Montview and Glencoe. We'll also have a Zoom link that has been sent.

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.



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:
May Critique and Theme images due by May 5th
Send to: uwpcimages@comcast.net

May Theme – Water
June Theme- Spring Flowers

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.

Sample table for exposure details

IMAGE	IMAGE TITLE	SPECIES	LOCATION	CAMERA	LENS	EXPOSURE DATA	POST PROCESSING ENHANCEMENTS
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

Some thoughts on 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/>

Kudos

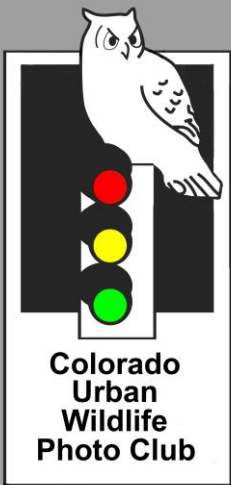
Congratulations to RC and Donna Pyle. Each of them had two images selected for the juried Louisville Art Association annual photo contest.



Colorado
Urban
Wildlife
Photo Club

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 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.