

# Through the Viewfinder



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## In This Issue

December 2023

Our professional judge for **November** was **Greg Cooper**. Our Judge & Mentor for our online meeting has an extensive history as a professional photographer and educator, he was a Photography Instructor at Ventura College, Santa Barbara City College, and for *many years* was the Instructor of Photojournalism at the nationally famous Brooks Institute of Photography. As is a college educated photography graduate and a photographer for several newspapers, Greg was also Photo Editor for the Ventura County newspaper.

After Brooks closed, about half a dozen VCCC Club members attended Greg's two-semester color photography class at Ventura College before he moved to Eastern Illinois University. We are all eternally indebted to his knowledge, photographic expertise, and Club support. He now uses a *Blue* microphone to emphasize his clarity of speech at our meetings, I wished I had one! **Greg** volunteered to attend our January Club online meeting from his new home in Illinois. Please welcome Greg Cooper, an Ojai native, to our first meeting in January 2024!

Remember, we don't have a membership meeting in December due to holiday conflicts, but behind the scenes we compile all the 2023 Merit images on file together and digitally forward them to our expert judge panel to determine which 2023 Merits are 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc for the "Year End Competition". Results will be determined for each of the 7 different major subject categories listed below and announced in January/February..

The General Categories for 2023 Year End Competition are as follows:

1. **Landscape**
2. **Wildlife**
3. **Urban/Photojournalism**
4. **Portraits/Still Life**
5. **Botanic**
6. **Abstract/Digital Art/Other**
7. **B&W**

Last but not least, remember to renew your annual Club membership fee (\$50) to Joyce in January to receive Professional Critiques and Expert Feedback of your images in the future .....

Happy Holidays!

Ken



## Membership Annual Payment Info:

Partial annual payments will be pro-rated on a month to month basis to the end of the year only for new members joining for the first time.

All existing members are expected to forward the full annual membership fee to Joyce each year in January. Annual fees are very modest (\$50). So, mail your check to:

Joyce Schoppe,

Ventura County Camera Club, Inc.

4875 Mascagni St, Ventura, CA 93003

If necessary, contact Joyce at: [jbschoppe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbschoppe@sbcglobal.net)

**Only paid Club Members may submit images for critique by our expert judges.**

**Member's Digital image entries** must be sent by 8 pm on **Sunday** before the Wednesday night meeting. Files must use the following naming format:

**TITLE\_photographer name\_date month -24\_Assigned/ or Open.jpg**

Notice the **TITLE** is the only part that must be in FULL CAPS.

Images should not exceed the **vertical size of 1080 pixels**. Or the **horizontal size of 1920 pixels**, *this is the international standard for full HD images.*

## Last but not Least!: Digital Image Collection and Projectionist

OK!, Our Vice President, Janice Lindsay, has volunteered to be our digital collection and projectionist for 2024! Yea! She has had a few dry runs substituting for Susannah in the past year, and all were highly successful!

Congratulations to Janice! We now need to work on transferring our paid club account with Gotomeeting from Susannah to Janice.

Once Janice determines if there are any changes to the **email address** that you should submit your future images to, we will let you know!



## 2023 VCCC Schedule

### Location, Assigned Topics, & Scheduled Judges:

January 11:	Go To Only	<b>"Winter"</b>	Stephanie Hogue <a href="http://www.stephaniehogue.com">http://www.stephaniehogue.com</a>
February 8:	Palms+GoTo	<b>"Silence"</b>	Chris Broughton <a href="https://www.christopherbroughton.com">https://www.christopherbroughton.com</a> /Club Officials ... due to last minute judge work changes
March 8:	Palms+GoTo	<b>"That Ah-Ha Moment"</b>	Pete Scifres <a href="https://psa-photo.org/index.php?peter-scifres-0218">https://psa-photo.org/index.php?peter-scifres-0218</a>
April 12:	Go To Only	<b>"On the Edge"</b>	Carl Volpe <a href="https://www.carlvolpephoto.com">https://www.carlvolpephoto.com</a>
May 10:	Palms+GoTo	<b>"Dramatic Moment"</b>	Hutch Hutchison
June 14:	Palms+GoTo	<b>"Complementary Colors"</b>	Chris Zsarnay <a href="http://www.zstudios.com">http://www.zstudios.com</a>
July 12:	Palms+GoTo	<b>"Landscapes/Seascapes"</b>	Dan Holmes <a href="https://www.danholmesphoto.com">https://www.danholmesphoto.com</a>
August 9	Palms+GoTo	<b>"Wide Angle"</b>	Cynthia Bullard <a href="http://cynthiabullardphotography.com">cynthiabullardphotography.com</a>
Sept 13	Go To Only	<b>"I Found this at the Beach"</b>	Chris Broughton <a href="https://www.christopherbroughton.com">https://www.christopherbroughton.com</a>
October 11:	Go To Only	<b>"B&amp;W Street Portrait"</b>	Dana Rene White ( <a href="http://photoshelter.com">photoshelter.com</a> )
November 8:	<u>Go To Only</u>	<b>"Doorways"</b>	Greg Cooper <a href="http://www.gacooper@eiu.edu">http://www.gacooper@eiu.edu</a>

There is no club meeting in December, **Happy Holidays!**

December 2023/24: *Year End Competition*

Various Expert Professional Judges

No meeting in December, we conduct the *Year End Competition* of all Merits awarded during the calendar year.  
*All Digital Merits are automatically entered, so you do not have to do anything if you received a Digital Merit!*

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## 2024 VCCC Schedule

### Date, Location, Assigned Topics, & Scheduled Judges:

January 10:	GoTo Only	<b>“Weather”</b>	<b>Greg Cooper</b> <a href="http://www.gacooper@eiu.edu">http://www.gacooper@eiu.edu</a>
February 14:	GoTo Only	<b>“Something Wild”</b>	<b>Sharon Donaldson_Lobel</b>
March 13:	GoTo Only	<b>“Near &amp; Far”</b>	<b>Dan Holmes</b> <a href="https://www.danholmesphoto.com">https://www.danholmesphoto.com</a>
April 10:	GoTo Only	TBD	<b>Myrna Cambianica</b>
May 08:	Palms+GoTo	<b>“Signs”</b>	<b>Carl Volpe</b> <a href="https://www.carlvolpephoto.com">https://www.carlvolpephoto.com</a>
June 12:	Palms+GoTo	<b>“Something Odd”</b>	<b>Hutch Hutchison</b>
July 10:	Palms+GoTo	TBD	
August 14:	Palms+GoTo	<b>“Wabi-Sabi”</b>	<b>Chris Zsarnay</b> <a href="http://www.zstudios.com">http://www.zstudios.com</a>
Sept 11:	Palms+GoTo	<b>“Patriotism”</b>	
October 09:	GoTo Only	TBD	
November 13:	GoTo Only	<b>“Night Photography”</b>	<b>Pete Scifres</b> (below...)  <a href="https://psa-photo.org/index.php?peter-scifres-0218">https://psa-photo.org/index.php?peter-scifres-0218</a>

**There is no club meeting in December, *Happy Holidays!***

December 2024: *Year End Competition*

Various Expert Professional Judges

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# Club Merit Awards

**Results of November 2023 Meeting - Critique & Judging**

**Judge: Greg Cooper**

## Digital: (15)

### Assigned: (7)

**"Anasazi Inn"** by JP Watson  
**"Barn Doors"** by Steve Light  
**"Crossing the Threshold"** by Janice Lindsay  
**"Rusty Door"** by Bill Horstick  
**"The Bathtub House"** by Bill Horstick  
**"Union Station"** by Steve Light  
**"Waiting for the Veterinarian"** by Bill Horstick

### Open: (8)

**"Flutterbys are Free"** by Chris Martens  
**"Hungry Hopper"** by Janice Lindsay  
**"Hunter's Moon"** by Janice Lindsay  
**"Light Drizzle"** by Albert Huen  
**"November Floral"** by John Ferritto  
**"Oxbow Sunrise"** by Ed Pinsky  
**"Punching the Rain"** by Ken MacGregor  
**"Ring of Fire"** by JP Watson





## Club Merit Awards

*Results of November 2023 Meeting - Critique & Judging*

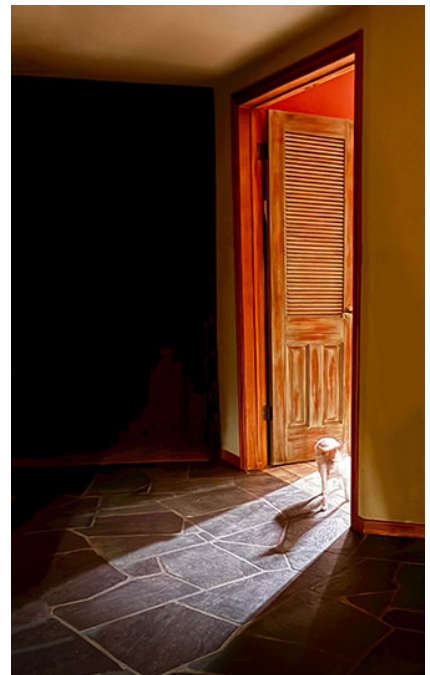
Judge: Greg Cooper



**"Anasazi Inn"** by JP Watson



**"Barn Doors"** by Steve Light



**"Crossing the Threshold"** by Janice Lindsay





## Club Merit Awards

### Results of November 2023 Meeting - Critique & Judging

Judge: Greg Cooper



**"The Bathtub House"** by Bill Horstick



**"Rusty Door"** by Bill Horstick



**"Union Station"** by Steve Light



## Club Merit Awards

**Results of November 2023 Meeting - Critique & Judging**

**Judge: Greg Cooper**



**“Waiting for the Veterinarian”** by Bill Horstick



**“Flutterbys are Free”** by Chris Martens





## Club Merit Awards

**Results of November 2023 Meeting - Critique & Judging**

**Judge: Greg Cooper**



**"Hungry Hopper"** by Janice Lindsay



**"Hunter's Moon"** by Janice Lindsay



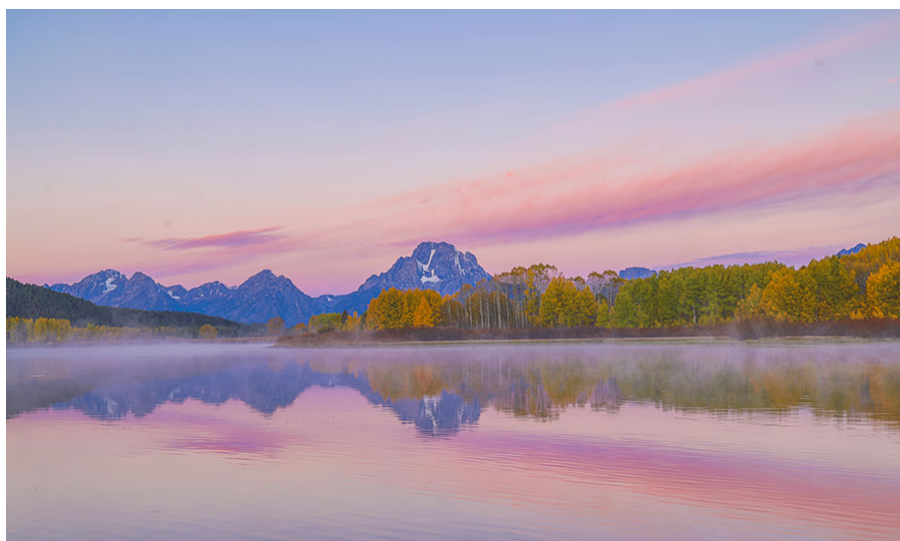
## Club Merit Awards

*Results of November 2023 Meeting - Critique & Judging*

Judge: [Greg Cooper](#)



**"Light Drizzle"** by Albert Huen



**"Oxbow Sunrise"** by Ed Pinsky



## Club Merit Awards

**Results of November 2023 Meeting - Critique & Judging**

Judge: [Greg Cooper](#)



**"November Floral"** by John Ferritto



**"Ring of Fire"** by JP Watson





## Club Merit Awards

*Results of November 2023 Meeting - Critique & Judging*

Judge: [Greg Cooper](#)



**"Punching the Rain"** by Ken MacGregor





## Professional & Expert Support

***Below are some of the distinguished local expert photographers that have been gracious in providing their free time as judges, to attend and critique member's images at our recent Club meetings.***

***Thank you all for supporting our Club!***

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**Dan Holmes (Award Winning Ventura Landscape Photography, Workshops, Tours, and Photo Adventures, past President of CI Professional Photographers Association):**

<http://www.danholmesphoto.com/Danholmesphoto.com/Workshops.html>

**Donna Granata (Founder of "Focus on the Masters", ex-Brooks Institute Faculty)**

[www.focusonthemasters.com/Donna\\_Granata.html](http://www.focusonthemasters.com/Donna_Granata.html)

**Christopher Broughton (ex-Brooks Institute Faculty Instructor - Street Photography - and current Ventura College Photography Instructor)** <https://www.christopherbroughton.com/>

**Gary Moss Photography (Principal Photographer and Photo Editor of 805 Living Magazine)**

<http://www.garymossphotography.com>

**Chris Zsarnay (Photographer in Ventura 33 years - local successful commercial studio - Brooks Institute Grad)**

<http://www.zstudios.com> choose Portfolios then Food, Product, etc. (805) 644-5554

**Greg Cooper (ex-Ventura College Instructor & ex-Brooks Institute Faculty Instructor of Photojournalism)**

was: <http://www.mediacooper.com> New: <http://www.gacooper@eiu.edu> Currently Instructor of Photojournalism at Eastern Illinois University. Greg is raised in Ojai and worked most of his photographic career in the Ventura area.

**Pete Scifres (Published PSA Photographic Society of America - Night Astrophotography Specialist)**

<https://psa-photo.org/index.php?peter-scifres-0218>

**Hutch Hutchison (Photographic Society of America - PSA Judge)**

<https://psa-photo.org/index.php?geo-hutchison-0717#ad-image-0>

**Carl Volpe (Ventura County Artist - Fine Art Photography)**

<https://www.carlvolpephoto.com>

**John Grusd (Highly Awarded Still Photographer and Hollywood Animation Producer/ Director)**

<https://www.johngrusdphoto.com/about/>

**Cynthia Bullard (Portrait Photographer and Commercial Studio Facility Owner in Ventura)**

<https://www.cynthiabullardphotography.com>

**Dana Rene White (Photography Degree, Cal State University Northridge) Staff Photographer for both LA Times and Ventura County Star, and DOD photographer at Port Hueneme**

<https://www.instagram.com/danarenephotos/>

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## Ventura County Camera Club:

**Our Mission:** To promote the art, science, technique, and enjoyment of fine art photography through sharing, education, cooperation, association, and fellowship.

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## Club Web Links:

General Info/President: [67billh@gmail.com](mailto:67billh@gmail.com)

Newsletter Editor: [kenmacg@aol.com](mailto:kenmacg@aol.com)

Membership: [jbschoppe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbschoppe@sbcglobal.net)

WebMaster: [captain119@gmail.com](mailto:captain119@gmail.com)

Image Submissions (**members only!**):

[myvcimages@gmail.com](mailto:myvcimages@gmail.com)



## 2023 Club Officials

### President:

Bill Horstick

### Vice President

Janice Lindsay

### Treasurer:

Bruce Schoppe

### Secretary:

Evan Maidaa

## Committee Chairs:

### Judge Coordinator:

Bill Horstick

### Membership Chair:

Joyce Schoppe

### Web Site Master and Facebook Administrator:

Evan Maidaa

### Newsletter Editor:

Ken MacGregor

### Monthly Digital Image Entries and Projection:

Susannah Kramer

Evan Maidaa (backup)

Albert Huen (backup)

### Publicity, Year End Tech, and Room Setup: John Ferritto