

tidewater camera club

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Dear Member,

Welcome to April!

This is the last month to submit your digital images for the club's monthly competitions. Traditionally, we open our club digital competition season in September with the theme "Open- with no time limit" and end it in April with the theme "Open- with time limit". The time limit requires that the photo must have been taken after the January 1 two years prior to the beginning of the current club year. For the 2017-2018 club year, your photo must have been taken no earlier than 2015.

During this club year, the theme definitions were left vague to allow members to pursue their creative vision and interpretation of the theme topic and we have had great participation in the monthly competitions. As a nod to those who prefer a more structured theme definition, as well as to those who want to become more practiced in specific compositional and/or technical skills, we have added another dimension to the competitions. This month, we have added the "Blecman Challenge", so named as this is the type of digital image

assignment that David poses to his group each month.

As described in the Selective Focus Challenge notice emailed on March 23, the challenge for April is to photograph up to 2 new images, taken after March 22, 2018, that incorporates the technique of SELECTIVE FOCUS. Selective focus is a technique used to draw the viewer's attention to the exact area of your photograph that you want their attention to go to, or to showcase a subject without any distractions surrounding it. The technique is accomplished by using a shallow depth of field. This is accomplished by typically selecting a large aperture, which is a small F-stop number, and/or by getting as close to your lens' minimum focusing distance, which reduces depth of field. For instance, even if you're using an F-stop such as F11 or F16, a long focal length at the lens' minimum focusing distance will still produce shallow depth of field.

Up to two images can be submitted by the April 4, 11:45pm deadline. You have three options for submissions (1) two "Open with time limit" images, (2) two "Selective Focus" images, or (3) one of each. Here is a link for entering ['regular Open competition entries'](#) and here is a link for submitting [Selective Focus Challenge Images](#). Don't forget to include your name and Member ID number in the body of the email.

All submissions will be judged as usual by this month's speaker, Kathryn Harris, and the scores and comments will be presented at the Competition meeting on April 16. After Kathryn's comments and scores are reviewed, David Blecman will comment on just the Selective Focus Challenge images based on the assignment, and then he will select a winner from this group who will receive a prize from David. In his selection process, David will be looking for (1) a well composed image, (2) a well exposed image, (3) good color balance, (4) no doubt about the intended subject, (5) tack sharpness on intended subject, (6) shallow depth of field, and (7) visual impact.

April Speaker Meeting-



Our speaker this month, Kathryn Harris, will give a presentation on 'What Makes a Winning Image'. This talk will explore different possibilities for a camera club to provide members with education and experience to both maximize their experience of the club competition, and develop skills to critique and judge their own and other's images.

Kathryn is responsible for the Coastal Camera Club's Judging and Apprentice Program and the 'What Makes a Winning Image' Special Interest Group. She will look at the purposes of club competitions and share various models that the Coastal Camera Club has explored to teach members both how to evaluate images (their own as well as others) and to give constructive feedback to the photographer. Kathryn has been taking pictures for over 60 years. She has shown her work in solo shows at Lavinia St. Gallery in Milton, DE, and Café Gelato in Newark, DE. She has been in group shows at Gallery 50 and Rehoboth Art League, and the Packard Reath and Peninsula Galleries in Lewes, DE.

Club Exhibits

April- Installation of the Kent County Library Exhibit is scheduled from 10am-12pm on April 2nd and will be available for viewing through April 26th with take down on April 27th from 10am-12pm. We have 15 members exhibiting 29 prints. If you haven't been to

Chestertown, this is a great opportunity, after viewing the exhibit, to explore this town with colonial history and maritime heritage. If you prefer a more natural setting to explore, Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge has 7 trails and 4 miles of paved roads and is located in Rock Hall, approximately 20 miles from Chestertown.

June- Our last exhibit of the year will be at Dorchester Center for the Arts, located in downtown Cambridge. This will be a combination of our Print of the Year competition and a traditional exhibit. Details on registering for this exhibit will be provided in a special announcement newsletter within the next two weeks.

Club Outings

Matting & Printing Demo- Last month, Doug Turner invited members of the club to his shop, Downtown Frame of Mine, for a discussion and demonstration of various aspects of matting and framing prints. He demonstrated his process from beginning to end and produced a professional piece of artwork ready for exhibiting. Doug was both entertaining and informative and has generously invited us back for another demo for those who were unable to attend or for those wishing to view the process a second time. If you are interested, send an email to outings@tidewatercameraclub.org.

Blackwater NWR- Club member, Scott Bruce, has spent quite a bit of time photographing the Refuge and has offered to lead a late afternoon/early evening photo tour around the Refuge in mid-May. The date will be weather-dependent. If you are interested, send an email to outings@tidewatercameraclub.org.

The NYC High Line trip has been postponed until further notice.

Programming Change-

Anke Van Wagenberg will not be available to speak at our May 7 meeting. However, we will have access to the Academy Art Museum from 6pm-7pm on May 7 to view the juried photography exhibit "New Photography: Inaugural National Juried Exhibition". A docent will be there to discuss the artwork with us. This exhibit will be on view from April 14 through July 15 and the Award Ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 28, from 3:00pm to 4:30pm with Juror Sarah Stolfa, CEO of Philadelphia Photo Arts Center (PPAC).

Please Note:

- Our schedule is subject to change due to weather-related or other unforeseen events. Please check the website calendar prior to attending the meeting.
- For announcements of photo ops, workshops, seminars, equipment for sale, or other photography-related information, sign up to receive blog posts.
- Feedback is appreciated. If you have suggestions for future speakers, club activities, or ideas on how to improve or expand our programs, send an email to

president@tidewatercameraclub.org

Thanks!

Janet

Club Officer Contacts –

[Janet Kerr - President](#)

[Norm Bell - V President](#)

[Rose Poling - Secretary](#)

[George Durhan - Treasurer](#)

Advisory Board Contacts –

[Chris Jewett - Exhibit Coordinator](#)

[Joe Soares](#)

[Kevan Full](#)

[Dawn Miller](#)

[Jack Upchurch - Newsletter / Chief Judge](#)

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