

# Cayuga Nature Photographers *Newsletter*

August 2019 - Volume XXVII, No. 8



On July 3<sup>rd</sup> a dozen CNP members met at Ithaca College to photograph the fireworks rising from the Cayuga Lake waterfront. It was a pleasant mix of chatting plus learning how to capture the display. Devan Accardo captured the line of members awaiting the display. At right is one of her beautiful images.

At our next meeting, **Kathleen Rasmussen** will offer a program on macro photography. We've all seen her intimate garden photos that artistically capture the character of a wide range of subjects. Depending on the weather, we will have a field outing on the following Friday or Saturday. Great program.

At our July meeting, we introduced a more efficient way to share photos. Please come to the meeting with your three images on a flash drive. On arrival, the meeting host will upload your files to the laptop. This goes quickly, and at the time of sharing we avoid the time to walk up and upload the file. Credit for the idea goes to **Peter Thomas**, with a number of others supporting it.



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**Thursday, August 1 at 7:30 PM**  
**Cornell Plant Science Building,**  
**Whetzel Seminar Room (Rm.404)**



As one views the shared photos, note how consistently the depth of focus is managed by members. When the image is a close-up, the background is consistently complementary and characterized by beautiful Bokeh. The landscapes do the opposite and present a great depth of focus.



**Paul Schmitt** brought images of Showy Lady's Slippers. In this image, a graceful stalk of grass arches over the subject bloom with a large drop of dew, that captures highlights from the overhead sky.

**Connie Stirling-Engman** shared a portrait of three stately Bloodroot blooms. Three's make for a nice composition, and the square crop removes unnecessary background.



**Devan Accardo** presented a beautiful portrait of *Trillium grandiflorum*. It captures the brilliance of a newly opened flower. Note the subtle yellow on the petals from the flower's pollen.



We welcomed a new face in the meeting. **Don Tennant** brought a photo of wildflowers growing along a fence. He ran it through the dry brush filter in Photoshop to create this colorful impression of the original image.



**Mario Del Russo** took a landscape approach for this image of Dame's Rocket bordering a dark woods. The image is framed so that the two sections of tightly packed trees are divided by a dark void. This adds a sense of depth. Nice.



**Mark Malkin** offered two images processed with filters to create painterly results, but his close up of an insect on the throat of an iris flower is featured here. It has his usual sharp focus at the subject with clear, rich colors. You find yellow-orange at the insect, with rich blue and green surrounding.



We also welcomed **Matt Nanna** to our meeting. This is an intriguing image of an odd little "weed" he found at Cayuga Lake. The blurry form of waves on the lake make for a pleasing background.



**Muhammad Arif** presented a concise image of a Pink Dogwood bloom. Composition. Background. Color. It all comes together nicely, as we saw so often in this meeting.



**Ray Hunt** shared three excellent images from his phone camera. For this one, let's consider the rich colors, the sharp focus on the primary bloom and the supporting background. The crop is pretty good too.



**Nancy Ridenour** likewise made it difficult to choose only one image to highlight. This image of Bleeding Hearts was picked because it illustrates the power of a black background to place strong attention to the subject. There can be no distraction to the artistic intent. The framing also promotes good eye movement through the scene.

**Jim Lassoie** shared a photo named *Don't Forget Me Not*. The textured canvas holds our attention firmly on the yellow flowers.

Would membership like to explore these painterly effects as a meeting a topic this winter? Perhaps have an introduction to the methods and follow with a sharing theme. Please let Devan Accardo know of your interest.



**Eugene Kolomatsky** was unable to attend our July meeting to share his images. Here is a lovely bouquet of daisies to conclude our sharing highlights.

Our July meeting was a success both in terms of the creative images that are highlighted here and also in how much faster our sharing progressed because of our new process. We started a little late and out of the room before 9:00 pm. Thanks to everyone who brought images.

## September Webinar

In September, Cayuga Nature Photographers will offer a new meeting format, a webinar. For those unfamiliar with this, there will be a live link between our meeting room and our presenter. It allows us to access talented photographers without the expense of travel on their part, and greatly expands what we can offer. The webinar allows you to send questions to the presenter as the program flows.

Our first webinar will feature master landscape photographer Greg Miller. This program is titled ***Understanding Light to Make Better Landscape Photos***. Greg is located in the Hudson River valley north of New York City. I have participated in two live webinars by Greg, and I am sure that this one will be of great interest as autumn approaches in September. Here is a link to Greg's website of inspiring photos that will underscore my enthusiasm for this presentation to our group.

<https://www.gregmillerphotography.com/index>

There will be no sharing theme for this meeting.

## Tentative Program Calendar

You likely have noticed that CNP is modifying our program to offer more variety in our activities, including meeting agendas and increased field events. While our sharing on a theme contributes a great deal to each member's personal growth, we are seeking a wider range of interesting content to complement the sharing. Devan Accardo coordinates the schedule and welcomes your ideas for programs. Here is our current agenda:

August 1 Meeting : Close-Up Photography by K. Rasmussen  
 August 2 or 3 Outing: Close-Up in the field  
 September 5 Meeting: Webinar on Types of Photographic Light  
 Fall Foliage Outing- Date and location to be determined  
 October 3 Meeting: Member Photo Sharing on types of light  
 November 7 Meeting: Speaker- Telling a story with your photos (details pending)  
 December 5 Meeting: Sharing on theme of telling a story with your photos (pending)  
 January 9 Meeting: Sharing your best of 2019  
 February 6 Speaker: Todd Bittner- Photo Locations in Cornell Natural Areas  
 March 5 Meeting: Photo Sharing on theme of hidden places in Cornell Natural Areas

## Please Note

*Membership is \$20 for new and existing members. For existing members, it is due in September. You may pay at our next meeting, or, if preferred, you can mail it to Nancy Ridenour at 346 Warren Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. Thank you.*

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