



Indian River Photo Club February's 2026 Newsletter



Hello Members

January 22, the club had its first meeting of the year. This year marks a significant milestone as the club turns 46 years old. To ensure our continued success, we encourage more members to step up and contribute. The club's annual dues are still \$35. We have many members who have already paid their dues, and also donated some extra money, which will surely help. If you haven't paid your dues yet, please do so to show your continuing support.

Pat Rice gave us a great program. "Thanks Pat" The club also wants to thank Dick Robertson and Robert for judging January print contest. This month's speaker will be Christine Wickham. I hope you all come to see this member's great work.

The club wants to thank Do and Christine for bringing in the snacks, and if you are interested in bringing in the snacks for any monthly meeting please sign up.

The theme for this month's print and digital photo contest is "Animals". Digital photos should be sent to the club at irpcmemo@gmail.com

Don't forget that April 7 will be the intake for IRPC Photographic Print Exhibit at the Vero Beach Museum.

The Club will also be having a “[Open Reception](#)” on [April 10 between the hour of 4pm and 6pm](#) with light refreshments. This is the third year of doing this so please show your support. You are all invited

This month’s meeting is on February 26, at 6:30pm. I hope to see you all there.

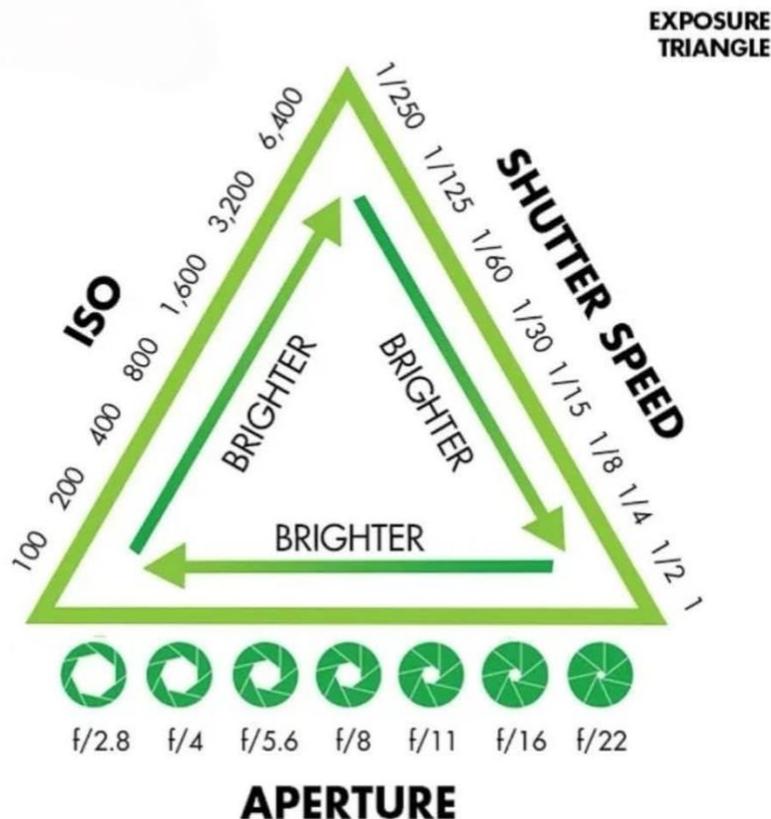
Keep your camera ready, your flash cards clean and your batteries charged,

Billy Ocker IRPC, President

February Monthly Theme “Animals”

Cheat Sheet

You Must Know Before Starting Photography 📷



February's Speaker



Christine Wickham

I was born in New Jersey. Right outside of Philadelphia. For as long as I can remember I always had an interest in photography. When I met my husband Don he was already into photography and being transferred to Florida. At that time, I had a headhunter business in data processing in Haddonfield New Jersey.

Moving to Florida opened a new world to me. I went to work as a decorator. I enjoyed it so much I went back to school and got my license in interior design to open my own design business. I started with residential design and as the years went by, I got into commercial design. All along I was still doing lite photography After Shooting 15 weddings I knew I did not want to do it anymore. Don and I retired the same year, and we both became much more serious about wildlife photography. Grizzly bears and eagles were on top of the list.

Going to Romania seven times, working with orphans and photographing the people there, my interest changed again. Each time I returned to Romania I would bring the printed photos of them back to share with the people. After years visiting many National parks and so much time visiting Europe, we bought a diesel pusher with the thought maybe we would spend one year roaming around America. We were able to unhook the truck and drive down dirt roads where very few people would ever go. Hiking in the mountains and valleys and finding new things was amazing. Then we took another step for a new adventure. We drove up to Alaska and fell in love with the people and wildlife. We learned so much about Bears from friends that made a I Maxx movie about bears. They took us so many places in their float plane to be with the bears. Some of my photos were in galleries, local shops and hotels. I had a full page in Camera Arts magazine. My photos were used in Europe for advertising in magazines. We moved back to Florida and started to sell our work at a farmers' market. We were very surprised that we sold so many each day. Today I am on the computer for hours late at night like I did on my drawing board when I was a designer. I cannot wait to see what I shot that day. We are still hiking steep mountains, although carrying our gear is getting harder to do. But I have to say smart phones may not be good for wildlife, but they sure are great for portraits, still life and landscapes.





INDIAN RIVER PHOTO CLUB 2026 PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINT EXHIBIT

ENTER YOUR BEST PICTURES

The Indian River Photo Club (www.indianriverphotoclub.org) announces its 2025 Photographic Print Exhibit, to be displayed in the Studio Gallery at the Vero Beach Museum of Art, **from April 10 through May 18 2026**. Entry is open to anyone residing in Indian River, Brevard or St. Lucie Counties, amateur or professional, and to any member of the Indian River Photo Club, regardless of residence address. Because of space limitations in the Studio Gallery, this will be a juried exhibit. Rules for the exhibit follow:

ELIGIBILITY

All members of the Indian River Photo Club and any non-member residing in Indian River, Brevard or St. Lucie County, professional or amateur.

INTAKE DATE

April 7– Tuesday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, at the Vero Beach Museum of Art, (studio 2 and 3)

RECEPTION

April 10, 2025 from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM in the Education Wing

EXHIBIT DATES

April 11 through May 17 2026

PICK UP DATE

May 18, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM

ENTRY FEES

\$25.00 per print. Indian River Photo Club members **\$ 20.00**
Limit of five (5) total entries by an individual.
No refund for entries, whether juried in or out.
Entry forms will be available at intake on **April 7 2026**. Or you can print the form from www.indianriverphotoclub.org.

AWARDS

Ribbons will be awarded for **Best in Show**, 1st, 2nd, 3rd place, Honorable Mention and Merit Award in each category. Press release to local newspapers.

BEST IN SHOW

Best in Show Award will also receive a \$100.00 prize.



JUDGING

Entries to be included in the exhibit will be selected by a jury.
Judging for awards by the same jury.

Pictures selected for the Exhibit may not be removed before **May18, 2026** and must be **picked up between 9:30 AM and 12:00 PM on Monday, May18 2026**.

If your entry(s) were not accepted, you will be contacted April 07, after 4:00 p.m.

Pick up entries not accepted between 10am-2pm, on April 08, 2025.

PRINT CATEGORIES

PEOPLE - Posed or candid, portraits or groups

NATURE -

Flora- Flowers, plants, etc.

Fauna- Animals, birds, etc.

(As noted above, Nature is split into two categories. Evidence of human influence will be allowed, but the subject should be primarily natural.)

STILL LIFE - Arrangements, natural or man-made, of inanimate objects

SCAPES - Landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes

SPECIAL TECHNIQUE - Out of the ordinary techniques, digitally altered images of any subject. NO typography layers.

OPEN - Abstracts, Infra-red images and images that don't fit the other categories.

* *The Special Technique* category applies to both film and digital images. It shall include any image that has been substantially altered from its original form using digital image editing techniques. Substantial alteration includes such actions as: printing with multiple layers, adding, removing or rearranging elements of the picture, use of digital filters that alter the texture of the image, color substitution, etc. Images that incorporate double exposure, time lapse, hand tinting, etc., should be entered in this category along with Infrared images.

* *Special Techniques* **does not include** normal imaging processing by digital means, such as cropping, dodging, burning, or contrast or density control. Photographs that are captured with a digital camera or film images that have been printed using a computer and printer are not considered differently than film images that may have been processed in conventional darkroom techniques, unless they have been substantially altered as described above.

Images or parts of images created by TEXT to Image Artificial Intelligence (AI) are not allowed. Neither is Clip Art, Stock Photo, Stock Skies, etc.

ENTRIES

- Images must have been made in 2023 to 2026.
- No Photoshopped Typography or lettering is allowed.
- Images must be the work of the entering photographer; the photographer may enter their image(s) that were professionally or otherwise mounted or framed by another person.
- Traditional prints must be framed, under glass and **wired for hanging**. No sawtooth hangers or eye-screws will be accepted. The only exception is if a photo is printed on canvas, or on a medium other than traditional framing such as metal, acrylic or wood, it is not required to be under glass. When printed on canvas, a "gallery wrap" format is acceptable. Gallery wraps must be wired for hanging. Metal, Acrylic or Wood must be wired for hanging.
- Minimum Image size – 8" on each side
- Maximum frame dimensions 30"x 30"
- The original image of a Special Technique or digitally altered submission must be affixed to the back of the submitted photograph.
- Images must be marked on the back as follows:
 - Photographer's name, phone number, Title, Entry category.
- Indian River Photo club bears no responsibility for photographs that are not copyrighted.
- By entering the exhibition, the photographer acknowledges total responsibility for his/her photo.
- Questions about the exhibit should be addressed to Billy Ocker (772) 559-6194 or email: IRPCmemo@gmail.com.
- **Entry Rules will be enforced.**

[Click Link](#)



FCCC 2026

Photography Conference

*"From Vision to Vivid: Bringing Your
Creative Concepts to Life"*

March 27-29, 2026 • Manatee Technical
College, Bradenton, FL

Presented by the Florida Camera Club
Council (FCCC)

[Photo Outing](#)

FELLSMERE RIDING CLUB PRESENTS:
CRACKER DAY RODEO

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Fellsmere Riding Club Arena
13101 99th Street – Fellsmere, FL 32948

ICE COLD *Budweiser* & BBQ



SPONSORED BY:

Fellsmere
Feed & Farm
772-571-8199

Adults: \$20
Kids 6 to 10: \$5
5 & Under:
FREE

GATES OPEN AT 12 NOON
SHOW STARTS AT 1:00PM

CALL IN (TEXT ONLY) FOR CONTESTANTS:
Monday, February 23, 2026
8:00PM 772-321-3784

BRONCS * BULLS * BARRELS * MUTTON BUSTING
For More Information, Call 772-473-0989

January's 2026 Winners Theme "Repeating Patterns"

Color Print

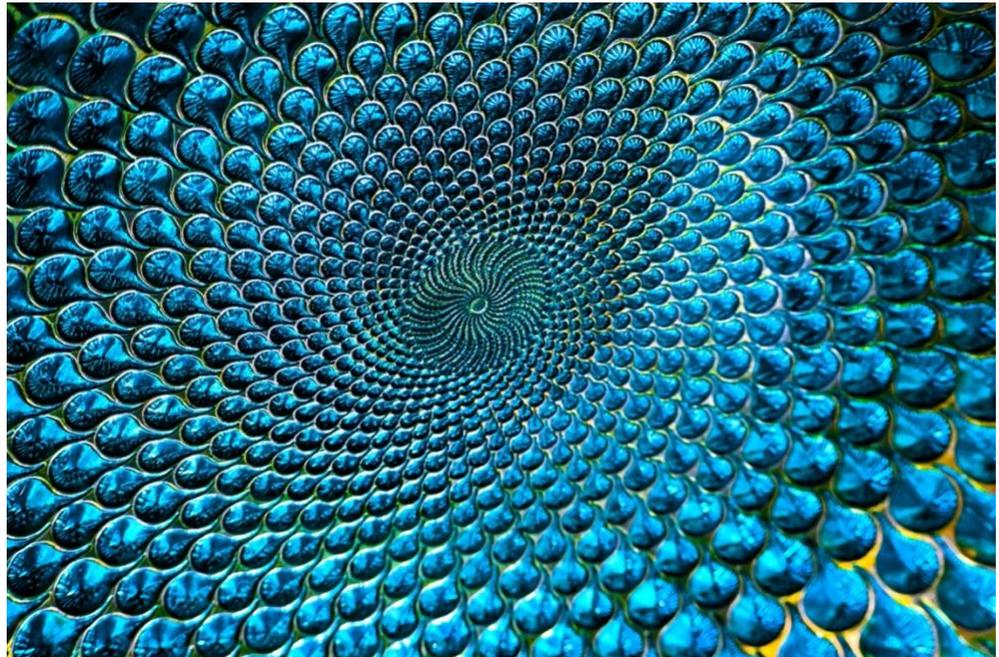
Kathie Phillips "Hypnotic" 1st Place

Kim Hunt "Bottles Multiplied" 2nd Place

Christine Wickham "Thirteen Repeating Patterns" 3rd Place



Kathie Phillips
"Hypnotic"
1st Place



Kim Hunt
"Bottles Multiplied"
2nd Place



Christine Wickham
"Thirteen Repeating Patterns"
3rd Place



Monochrome Print

Gary Schwendner "Pier Symmetry" 1st Place

Christine Wickham "Lord Leicester Hospital Warwick England" 2nd Place

Kim Hunt "Bridge to Infinity" 3rd Place



Gary Schwendner
"Pier Symmetry"
1st Place



Christine Wickham
"Lord Leicester Hospital
Warwick England"
2nd Place



Kim Hunt
"Bridge to Infinity"
3rd Place



Special Technique Print

Gary Schwendner "Framed Perspective" 1st Place

Mike Stewart "Pattern WTO Pattern" 2nd Place

Kim Hunt "Lily Kaleidoscope" 3rd Place



Gary Schwendner
"Framed Perspective"
1st Place



Mike Stewart
"Pattern WTO Pattern"
2nd Place



Kim Hunt
"Lily Kaleidoscope"
3rd Place



Digital Color

Chester Smith 1st Place
Mike Stewart 2nd Place
Kathie Phillips 3rd Place



Chester Smith 1st Place



Mike Stewart 2nd Place



Kathie Phillips 3rd Place



Digital Monochrome

Chester Smith 1st Place

Gary Schwendner 2 Place

Mike Stewart 3rd Place



Chester Smith 1st Place



Gary Schwendner 2 Place



Mike Stewart 3rd Place



Digital Manipulated

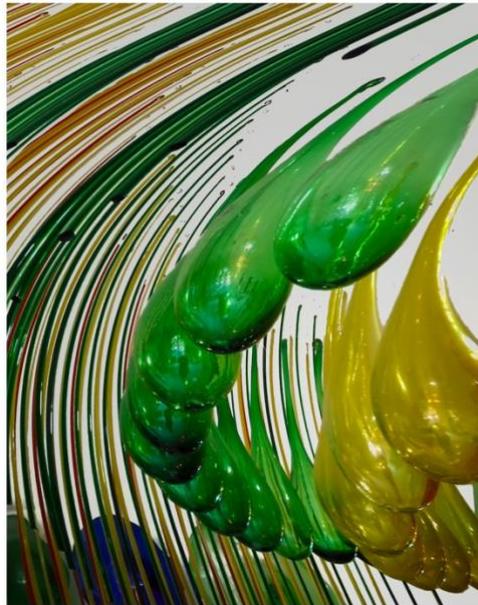
Daniel Pacinelli 1st Place
Mike Stewart 2nd Place
Chester Smith 3rd Place



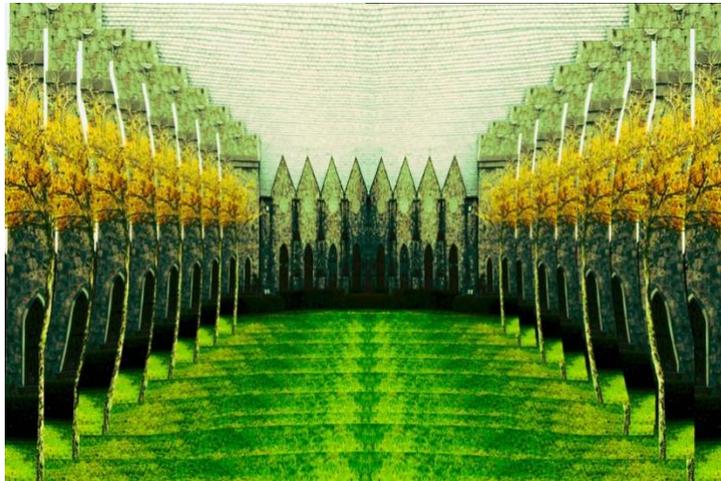
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WWW.indianriverphotoclub.org

[See you on February 26 at 6:30 pm](#)