



August 2025



"Wherever there is light, one can photograph."

Alfred Stieglitz

Greetings, PPLAC Members:

A simple observation but profound in its possibilities. In other words, there is almost no limitation on what can be photographed. Don't limit your scope and subject matter. Experiment, expand, explore! That fits right in with our newest project: *"The 30 Days of Photography."* More on that later in this column.

You can say that the first week of July belongs to our own **Roy Patience**: that first week we held our first PPLAC Photo Review (the Getty Museum) and Roy took first place. Then two days later it was Roy, himself, that led us through the UCLA campus at night for our monthly PPLAC Outing. He took us to various sites to photograph special locations and did a fabulous job! Then two weeks later we held our PPLAC Outing Photo Review (UCLA). We had a great time reviewing wonderful photos and first place went to the amazing **Angela Chen**! Congratulations, Angela!

And then it was **John Grusd's** turn to take our members out to Joshua Tree for a two-day, two-night PPLAC Adventure. I understand everyone had a grand time. I can't wait to see the results at our upcoming PPLAC Photo Review this month! Be sure to join us – the flyer is forthcoming.

And for our final event of the month, we had our in-person meeting at the Playa Vista Clubhouse where yours truly shared insights into *Travel Photography*. I hope everyone enjoyed it and I didn't put too many people asleep! I want to give a personal shout-out to **Liz Chalmers** who surprised me with a congratulatory cake celebrating a photographic milestone. Thank you, one and all!

For August, be sure to get your ticket for our annual PPLAC Outing to the *"Wings Over Camarillo"* air show before it sells out! And submit your images NOW for our third DPC

which will be held August 28th. It will be another amazing display of wonderful images!

Have you started your “30 Days of Photography” yet? **Frank Damon** has challenged us to this unique venture: Photograph something every day for 30 days straight. It can be a sun set one day and a trash can the next day. It’s up to you! Then, at our October in-house meeting, we will be sharing everyone’s results. If you haven’t done so, start NOW!

Finally, we welcome still three more members to PPLAC: **Greg Trainor, Edward Haugh,** and **Albert Huen**. Great to have all of you with us: All great photographers in their own right!

“Keep on clickin’!”

John Powers

M.Photog.Cr., CPP, M-PPC

PPLAC President

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BECOME A MEMBER!

We are always looking for new members to join PPLAC. Whether you are a working professional or someone who wants to actively grow their skillsets to just take better photographs, we welcome all engaged & enthusiastic Image Makers!

TO FIND OUT MORE

contact [Roy Patience](#)

AND JOIN US AT OUR NEXT IN-PERSON MEETING!

SEPTEMBER 25, 2025 @ 6:30PM

CenterPointe Clubhouse
[6200 Playa Vista Drive](#)
Playa Vista, 90094

(free parking)

[SAVE THE DATE](#)

Meetings and Events

FUN FACT

Come join our monthly meetings held on the
4th Thursday of Each Month
(unless it falls on a holiday).

August 16th
Wings Over Camarillo

August 1st
DPC Entries Open

August 17th
DPC Entries Close

August 28th
DPC #3

September 25
General Membership
Meeting
Guest Speaker
Kevin Karzin
"Youth Sports"

September 27
Workshop-Kevin Karzin
"Youth Sports"

October 6-9
Eastern Sierra

October 23
General Membership
Meeting
Guest Speaker
Frank Damon
"Project 365"

November 1
Dia de Los Muertos

November 20
DPC #4

**Please note our speakers/schedule
may
change at any time. Please check our
[website](#) for more details*

Did You Know?

***A photo of Machu Picchu
was the first archaeological
photo ever taken!***

STAY CONNECTED



meetup

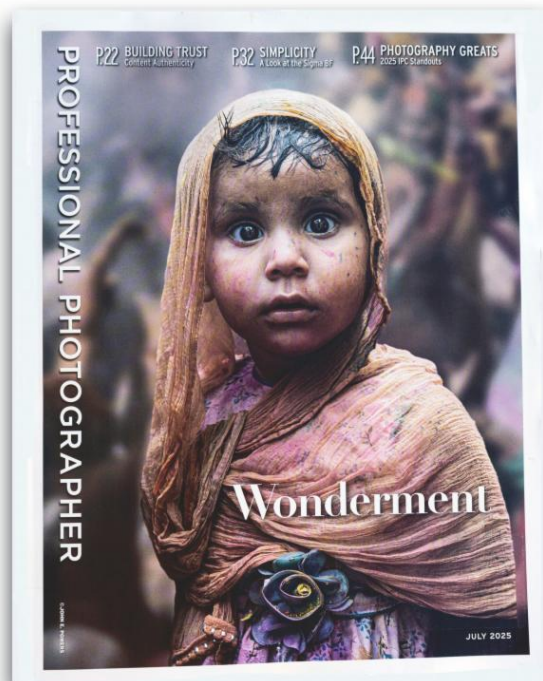


Community Network
with PPA

PPLAC is pleased to announce our
AUGUST SPONSOR:

ProLab Digital
<https://www.prolabdigital.com/>

MEMBER NEWS



What In The World Is Going On?!

Congratulations to PPLAC President, John Powers, for receiving the prestigious Grand Imaging Award, and for his image “What In The World is Going On?!” being featured on the cover of the July issue of Professional Photographer magazine! An inspiring achievement and well-deserved recognition of John’s talent and leadership, John was presented with a \$10,000 check from PPA!

MEMBERS EXTRA

Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)

When traveling abroad, with or without your camera, consider enrolling in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program. **STEP** Enrollment saved a PPLAC member from spending months in China when the Corona Virus outbreak occurred in 2020!

STEP is a free service offered by the U.S. Department of State that allows U.S. citizens and nationals to register their trip abroad. This helps the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate contact you quickly and accurately in case of an emergency.

Benefits of Enrolling in STEP

- **Receive real-time alerts** about health, weather, safety, and security issues in your destination country.
- **Stay informed** using resources from the local U.S. embassy.
- **Get help in emergencies** such as natural disasters, civil unrest, or family emergencies.
- **Assistance with STEP-related technical issues** is available.

JULY HIGHLIGHTS

JULY 24TH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING GUEST SPEAKER JOHN POWERS "Insights & Applications of Travel Photography"

Guest Speaker: John Powers





Liz Chalmers presenting our President, John Powers, with a congratulatory cake for receiving the PPA Grand Imaging Award and his photograph being featured on the cover of Professional Photographer magazine.

Merit Award Distribution for May DPC by Roy Patience



John Powers



John Grusd



Ira Mintz



Kevin Karzin



Mel Carll



Heather Dinkins

JULY OUTINGS

PPLAC ADVENTURE: Joshua Tree



Pictured Above: Gary Johnson, Dave Glazier, Ana Leslie Escalante, Alex Andrews, Annie Slagboom, John Grusd. Not pictured: Tim Hintz, Liz Chalmers, Ron Kaplan, Rich Ramirez, Gary Chamberlain.

On July 21 and 22, PPLAC members, along with a few fellow photographers, gathered in Joshua Tree for an unforgettable outing of night sky photography. The Adventure began with an early dinner and prep session, giving everyone a chance to connect and get ready for the night ahead. Once out in the field, we captured a wide range of images, from desert landscapes and serene blue hour shots to stunning Milky Way images and star trails. The clear desert sky provided a perfect backdrop for creative exploration, education and shared inspiration. Joshua Tree was a magical night under the stars!

Liz Chalmers
PPLAC 1st VP

JULY IMAGE REVIEWS

**PPLAC Outing: “Getty Museum”
The Winning Photographs!**

On Tuesday, June 17th, 2025, fifteen PPLAC members and friends went to the Study Room at the Getty Museum, led by John Grusd. After a special photography presentation, the group ventured through the museum grounds photographing the various sites. Then on July 7th we had 35 photos to review, comment on, and vote for. Our first place winner was Roy Patience, receiving a \$25 Amazon gift card. Our second place winner was Jay Pruett who received a \$15 Amazon gift card. And finally, John Grusd won third place, receiving a \$10 Amazon gift card. Congratulations to our winners! And also big thanks to all who participated with a special thanks to Roy Patience for running the Photo Review.



First Place: Roy Patience



Second Place: Jay Pruett



Third Place: John Grusd

John Powers
President

PPLAC Outing: "UCLA Campus at Night"
The Winning Photographs!

On Wednesday evening, July 9th, 2025, six PPLAC members and friends went to the UCLA Campus to photograph various structures after dark. Led by our own Roy Patience, a grand time was had by all. Then on July 21st we had 34 photos to review, comment on, and vote for. Our first and second place winner was Angela Chen, receiving a \$25 & \$15 Amazon gift card. Our third place winner was Roy Patience who received a \$10 Amazon gift card. Congratulations to our winners! And also big thanks to all who participated with a special thanks to Roy Patience for running the Photo Review.



First Place: Angela Chen



Second Place: Angela Chen



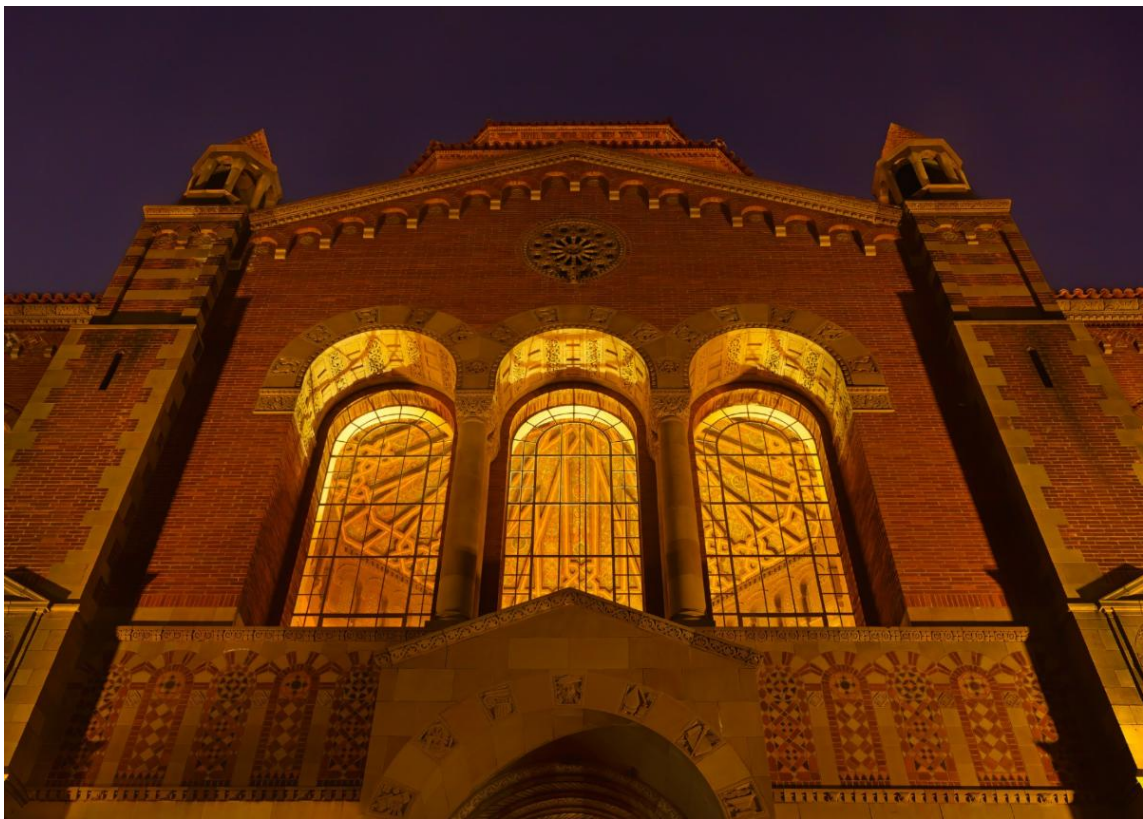
Third Place: Roy Patience

John Powers
President

IMAGES OF THE MONTH



**First Place Image by Roy Patience
Outing to the Getty Museum**



**First Place Image by Angela Chen
Outing to UCLA Campus**

JULY HIGHLIGHTS

**DPC #3
AUGUST 28, 2025**



PPLAC DPC
August 28, 2025
6:00pm

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION!

Join us for our 1st Digital Photographic Competition of 2025 ! Yes, we compete, but it is really a learning exercise. There is no better way to improve your work than to receive constructive comments from knowledgeable photographers. A panel of 3 judges evaluates each image submitted into the competition and they do it live!

Judges: Sandra Harris, Aaron Hockley and Dan Holmes.



"Lumbering Through the Canyon"
by Andrew Lewis
May 2025 Best of Show

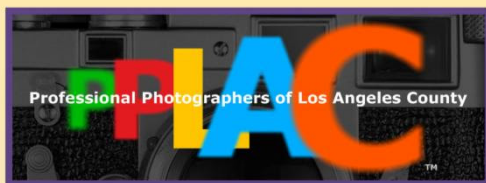
Our DPC is conducted via Zoom meeting. For all of the details about how to enter as well as how to watch the competition, go to pplac.org and click on the "Photo Competition" tab.

The dates to submit images are August 1-17.

Join us on August 28th at 6:00pm!

AUGUST OUTINGS

for additional information contact: [Liz Chalmers](#)



PPLAC Outing!

Saturday

August 16th, 2025

9:00am

Wings Over Camarillo Air Show!

555 Airport Way, Camarillo, CA

PPLAC is heading off into the wild blue yonder for the fantastic "Wings Over Camarillo Air Show"! Don't miss this exciting opportunity to capture breathtaking images of vintage and modern aircraft in aerial action! There are also static aircraft displays and an extensive car show! It's a great way to spend a day with your fellow photographers!



For more information about the Air Show and to purchase tickets, visit the website: <https://wingsovercamarillo.com/>

We recommend buying the "VIP Chalet Tickets" which include parking, food and shade! These tickets are limited and sell out quickly, so act now if you are interested. Otherwise, the General Admission tickets are much less expensive and offer the same access to photography.

Those intending to go will receive an informational sheet that discusses gear, settings and the logistics for us all to meet. And as always, we will follow this PPLAC Outing with a fun and casual Image Review! (Date TBA)



If you're interested in attending, please contact Liz Chalmers at:

liz@lizchalmers.com

Join us for the 30 Day Photography Challenge

PPLAC is excited to introduce a new photography challenge to our members: 30 Day Photographic Journey. This challenge can begin *anytime*, starting today - but cannot start later than September 1st. The only requirement we ask

**is quite simple - take one photograph every day for 30 days,
using a camera or phone.**

**We hope you will find this challenge rewarding in many ways
- boosting your creativity, looking and seeing new things
every day, improving your skills and project planning,
encouraging experimentation, and expanding your artistic
toolkit!**

**At our October General Meeting, we'll invite all participants
to stand and briefly share four favorite images, along with
insights gained, lessons learned, or anything meaningful they
experienced."**

2025 ADVENTURES

please contact: [Liz Chalmers](#)

PLEASE NOTE:

**NEW PPLAC Adventure fee structure for non-members
and non-shooting guests.**

\$70 for PPLAC Members (no change)

\$100 for Non-Member Photographers

\$50 for Non-Shooting Attendees

****Even with the slight increase in fees, this is still, far
and away, the best value ever in the history of
photographic adventures!****



Four-Day Adventure!

October 6-9, 2025

Eastern Sierra and Fall Colors!

Join us on this exploration to some
of the most dramatic scenery in the
American West!



Thank you for your interest in this PPLAC Adventure! The response has been overwhelming!

If you are still interested in attending this event, we have started a **Wait List** in case there is a cancellation. Just contact Liz Chalmers and she will add you to the list.

PPLAC 1st VP, Liz Chalmers - liz@lizchalmers.com

We hope to see you on our next PPLAC Adventure!

EXCITING ADVENTURES FOR 2026!

**We're Thrilled to Announce our
Adventure Opportunities for Next Year!!**

Stay Tuned for Details!



Four-Day Adventure!

March 9-12, 2026

Winter in Yosemite!

Join us on an exploration to one of
the most extraordinary and certainly
most photogenic places in the world!



In this PPLAC Adventure, John Grusd will lead us on a spectacular winter photographic exploration of Yosemite Valley! This time of year, the crowds have melted away and the weather can range from early spring-like to dead of winter. It's a truly magical place!



John will also assist you in learning Basic Winter
Landscape Camera Handling Techniques to help both
you and your photo gear to weather cold temperatures!



The PPLAC Adventure fee includes four days of guidance, plenty of handouts, a pre-trip informational Zoom meeting and a fun, casual post-trip Zoom image review!
\$70 (PPLAC Member)
\$100 (non-member)
\$50 (non-shooter)

Lodging, meals and transportation are not included. We will be based at the Yosemite Valley Lodge, deep in the heart of Yosemite Valley!

For questions, more details or to register for this PPLAC Adventure, please contact:

Liz Chalmers - liz@lizchalmers.com



Join us on this inspiring 4-Day PPLAC Adventure!



Five-Day Adventure!

May 11-15, 2026

Grand Canyon & Sedona!

**Join us as we photograph one of the
most striking geographic features
on the surface of our planet!**



On this 5-Day, 5-Night PPLAC Adventure, John Grusd will begin our explorations in fabulous Sedona, AZ

...and begin our explorations in the beautiful Sedona, AZ where we will photograph some of the iconic landscapes and soak up the desert southwest vibe! Then we transit to the South Rim of the spectacular Grand Canyon for breathtaking sites and more incredible photography!



The PPLAC Adventure fee includes four days of guidance, plenty of handouts, a pre-trip informational Zoom meeting and a fun, casual post-trip Zoom image review!

\$70 (PPLAC Member)

\$100 (non-member)

\$50 (non-shooter)

Lodging, meals and transportation are not included. We will be based at the Bell Rock Inn and the Holiday Inn Express near Sedona for 2 nights. Then for the following 3 nights, we will be at the Maswik Lodge in Grand Canyon Village near the South Rim.



For questions, more details or to register for this PPLAC Adventure, please contact:

Liz Chalmers - liz@lizchalmers.com



Join us on this "Grand" 5-Day PPLAC Adventure!



**Four-Day
Adventure!**

Death Valley Adventure!

**Join us on this epic exploration
to one of the most iconic and
storied places in America!**



On this PPLAC Adventure, John Grusd will lead us on a photographic extravaganza through Death Valley's most spectacular landscapes! We will visit the magnificent dunes, salt playas, and tortured geography that made it infamous!



John will also present techniques to encourage your creativity, reveal the photographer's role in interpreting subject matter and help you find the path to developing your own personal style!



The PPLAC Adventure fee includes four days of guidance, plenty of handouts, a pre-trip informational Zoom meeting and a fun, casual post-trip Zoom image review! \$70 (PPLAC Member)

\$70 (PPLAC Member)
\$100 (non-member)
\$50 (non-shooter)

Lodging, meals and transportation are not included.
We will be based at the Stovepipe Wells Village Hotel
located at sea level in the middle of Death Valley!

For questions or to register for this event, please contact
Liz Chalmers - liz@lizchalmers.com



Come explore with us on this 4-Day PPLAC Adventure!

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Photo Opportunity for Inspiration, Education, and Edification

One of the many things we like to do for our members is to share with them photography-oriented activities that may be of some interest to them. Here is one such possibility:



Forest Lawn Museum
1712 S. Glendale Avenue
Glendale, CA. 91205

<https://forestlawn.com/exhibits/persona-exploring-self-portraiture-2/>

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News

**FOR ONE
WEEK**

**JUNE 7-12,
2026**

**LEARN
FROM
THE
BEST**





WEST COAST SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY

June 7 -12, 2026
Hyatt Regency - Valencia, CA



Photoshop In A Week:
From "Help!" To
"Heck Yeah!"

MICHAEL COLLINS



Architecture & Interiors
Photography

RANDY VAN DUINEN



Real World Commercial
Photography

JOE GLYDA



Portraits:
The Essentials &
Beyond

TIM MEYER



High School Seniors
& Sports: Lighting,
Posing And Business

ALISON CARLINO



Basic Photography:
For Beginners &
Students (reduced
tuition)

KEVIN KARZIN

Join us in the sun-kissed paradise of Valencia for an unforgettable week of learning from industry leading instructors. Immerse yourself in a vibrant community of photographers and discover new techniques to elevate your photography skills. Our 2026 session promises to be even more exceptional than the last, with a lineup of renowned instructors and exciting new classes. Don't miss the opportunity to grow as a photographer and create lasting memories.

CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

Tuition starts at \$950 Easy prepayment plans available!

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If you are curious or interested in becoming a **Certified Professional Photographer**, learn more [here](#).

Community Network
with PPA

Did You Know? PPA has a page dedicated to what is [available](#). You DO NOT need to be a PPA member to look at their [website](#).....and they are offering a lot of webinars this year!

LET'S CONNECT!!

PPA - Professional Photographers of America
229 Peachtree St. NE, Suite 2300
Atlanta, GA 30303
[1 \(800\) 786-6277](tel:18007866277)



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Culver City, CA 90230 US

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