



# September 2021

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[www.pplac.org](http://www.pplac.org)

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## SEPTEMBER 2021 PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Happy September!

It's difficult to believe that September is here! I hope you enjoyed your summer, were able to reconnect with friends and loved ones, and captured some wonderful images! I had the joy of traveling the beautiful California coast over the summer with absolutely no agenda! It was wonderful to not be tied to a timeline, I highly recommend it! Although I thoroughly enjoyed my summer, I am looking forward to some relief from our southern California heat! September 22 will technically bring us into the fall season, when nighttime arrives earlier, temperatures begin to drop, and the leaves begin to change color.



Do you know why leaves change color? Good question, huh? This is going to get a little geeky but here goes.....basically, what's going on is that flavonoids and carotenoids, the compounds responsible for fall foliage's yellow and orange-red hues respectively, are present in leaves throughout the year, but they're overwhelmed by high levels of vivid green chlorophyll during the summer months. Leaves can only produce chlorophyll—a necessary component of photosynthesis—in the presence of warmth and sunshine, which of course become increasingly scarce starting in late September. As chlorophyll production slows and then stops, yellow and orange flavonoids and carotenoids are allowed to shine through. Autumn's deepest reds, purples, and

magentas are caused by anthocyanins, a type of flavonoid that unlike those discussed above is not present throughout the year. Its production is triggered only in the fall when sunlight interacts with seasonally higher concentrations of sugar in the leaves.

I will admit that fall is one of my favorite seasons, perhaps it's a result of growing up in New England! Now that you know the chemistry behind "fall color"....spend some creative time capturing this incredible season!

PPLAC held its 3<sup>rd</sup> DPC on 8/26 with 54 incredible images! Great work members! Special thanks to our 3 wonderful judges, Aaron Hockley, Michele Pennings and Ana Montgomery, and our moderator John Powers who kept our DPC running efficiently.

### **Congratulations to our Best of Category winners**

John Grusd	Architectural	Airport Modern
Eleanor Gray	Landscape	Where the Sea Meets the Sky
Bobby Tan	Nature	Come Tango With Me
Mel Carll	Open	Mirror Mirror
Gary Parsons	Photojournalism	Hairy Legs
John Powers	Portrait	Pondering the Past

### **Best of Show winner**

**Bobby Tan**                      **Nature**                      **"Come Tango With Me"**

We are excited to have our first "Post DPC Informal Image Review" on Thursday 9/2, beginning promptly at 6:30pm. Judges are invited to attend and provide information on their critiques. Our goal is to provide valuable information to our members who wish to further their work and improve their images. We hope you can join us!

We are pleased to announce that we will be meeting **IN PERSON** in October! We have missed our members immensely and really look forward to seeing everyone "live" on October 23. Our guest speaker will be George DeLoache, Master Portrait Artist.

Please note that we will close the year out with our final DPC on November 18 via Zoom. We feel it is important to remain consistent in our DPC process for 2021 and the board will discuss the feasibility of resuming in-person DPC's in 2022.

Keep shooting!  
Eleanor

### **Coming Events & General Meetings**

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

**Save The Date**  
Meetings and  
Events

Visit our Meetup  
Calendar for more details\*

### **Stay Connected**

**Facebook**  
[https://www.facebook.com/  
PPLAC/](https://www.facebook.com/PPLAC/)

**Meet Up**  
[https://www.meetup.com/  
Culver-City-Photography-  
Meetup/](https://www.meetup.com/Culver-City-Photography-Meetup/)

**PPLAC is a  
Proud Affiliate**

### **2021 Board of Directors**

**2020-21  
President**  
Eleanor Gray

**1st Vice President**  
(Programs, Speakers,  
Workshops)  
John Powers

**2nd Vice President**  
(Membership)

Thursday, September 2  
DPC Review  
6:30 PM

Sunday, September 5, 2021  
Outing: Huntington Beach  
"Civil War Re-enactment"  
10:00 AM

September 23, 2021  
Speaker:  
Dwight Okumoto  
"Photoshop Insights  
and Tips"

October 28, 2021  
Speaker:  
George DeLoache  
**LIVE & IN PERSON**

Friday, November 5, 2021  
DPC #4  
Submission Opens  
12:01 AM

Sunday, November 7, 2021  
DPC #4  
Submission Closes  
11:00 PM

November 18, 2021  
Fourth DPC  
**(THIRD THURSDAY)**

December 2021  
No meeting

January 27, 2022  
Open House and Awards

*\*Please note that  
speakers/schedules may  
change at any time.*

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## September 2021

2 - V-J Day  
6 - Labor Day  
14 - Live Creative Day  
22 - Autumn Equinox

of...

# PPC

<https://ppconline.com/>

# PPA

<https://www.ppa.com/>

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## PPLAC Sponsors

**Howard Burkholz  
Allstate Insurance**

<https://www.nationalphotographersinsurance.com/>

**Jixipix Software**

<https://jixipix.com/>

**Mindshift Gear**

<https://www.thinktankphoto.com/pages/mindshift-gear>

**ProLab Digital**

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

**StudioMagic**

<https://www.layercakeelements.com>

**Think Tank**

<https://www.thinktankphoto.com/>

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Roy Patience

**Treasurer**  
Nikki Washburn

**Secretary**  
Teresa Pepe

**Digital Photographic  
Competition Director**  
Gary Parsons

**Digital Photographic  
Competition Co-Chair**  
Kevin Karzin

**Digital Photographic  
Competition Moderators**  
Mel Carll  
Bob Young

**Fundraiser Director**  
Ira Mintz

**Event Photographer**  
Angela Chen

**Newsletter**  
Teresa Pepe

**Sponsor Management  
Chair**  
Mel Carll

**Webmaster**  
John Grusd

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**2022 Election for  
Board of Directors** is  
in November. Please  
contact Eleanor Gray or  
any Board member if  
you are interested in  
volunteering for any  
Board position. There  
are several positions  
open, including  
Webmaster and  
Newsletter Editor.

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## Donate to a Veteran

Help a Veteran interested  
in Photography!



Will appreciate your donation of any old camera bodies, lenses, reflectors, tripods, etc...  
These are men and women suffering from post traumatic syndrome.  
Contact Carlos Lozano  
323-721-6665  
or email  
[Lozano720mp@gmail.com](mailto:Lozano720mp@gmail.com)  
Thank you in advance for your kindness!

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## August 26, 2021 DPC Highlights

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Many thanks to our judges for their fine critiques at the August DPC. Congratulations to all those who received merits and the Best of Category and Best of Show winners.

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**Best of Show**  
**Best in Category - Nature**  
**"Come Tango With Me"**



**Best in Category - Architecture**  
**"Airport Modern"**  
**John Grusd**

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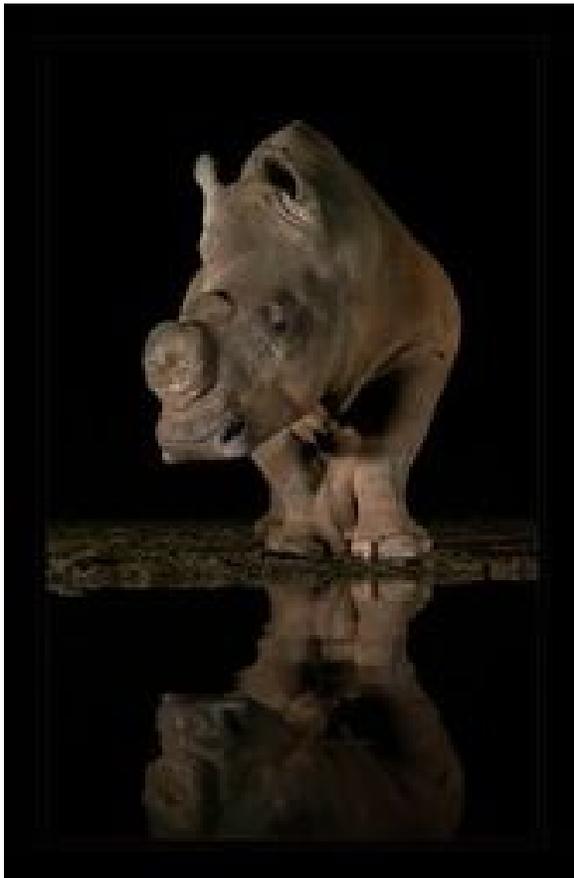
**Best in Category - Landscape**  
**"Where the Sea Meets the Sky"**  
**Eleanor Gray**

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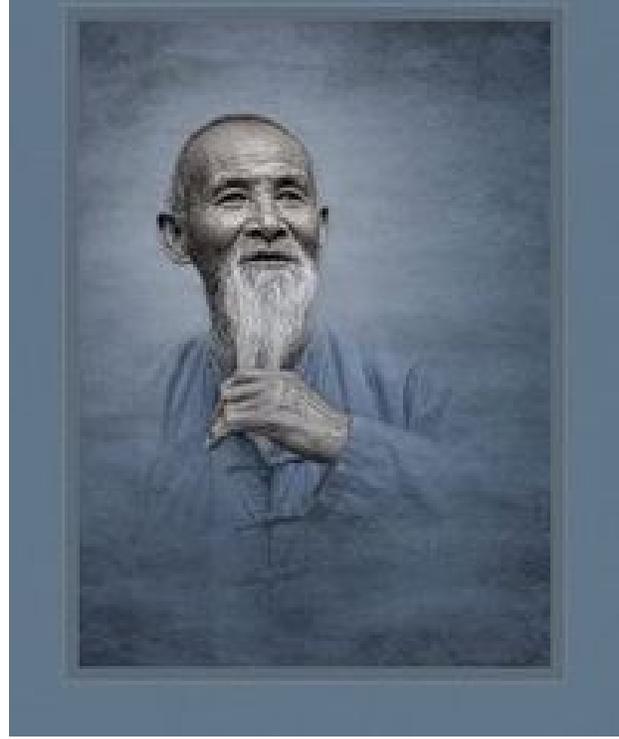
**Best in Category - Photojournalism**  
**"Hairy Legs"**  
**Gary Parsons**

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**Best in Category - Open**

**"Mirror Mirror"  
Mel Carll**



**Best in Category - Portrait  
"Pondering the Past"  
John Powers**

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## **Member Spotlight: Andrew Lewis**



Andrew Lewis started learning photography in seventh grade. He continued his studies in high school and will earn an associate's degree in Commercial Photography from Antelope Valley College in the fall of 2021. He was assistant editor for his junior high yearbook and chief photographer his high school yearbook. His first job during college was as a portrait photographer for a national retail chain.

After over 20 years in the telecommunications industry, Andrew has returned to photography and is a member of Professional Photographers of America, Professional Photographers of California, Professional Photographers of Los Angeles County, and Santa Clarita Valley Photographers Association. He is also current vice president of the Antelope Valley College Photography Club and Secretary of the Lancaster Photography Association.

Andrew lives in northern Los Angeles County, loves to travel, and enjoys photographing landscapes, motorsports, aviation, and natural events. He also collaborates with other photographers and is always excited to expand his knowledge and experiences.

**What are you passionate about shooting?**

I'm an aviation geek. I love catching military aircraft in the Antelope Valley or Star Wars Canyon. I am also fascinated with firefighting aircraft doing their thing. I am a sucker for landscapes, and jump at the chance to travel to deepen my portfolio in new territory. Deserts, seascapes, forests, I'm happy anywhere.

**What's in your bag?**

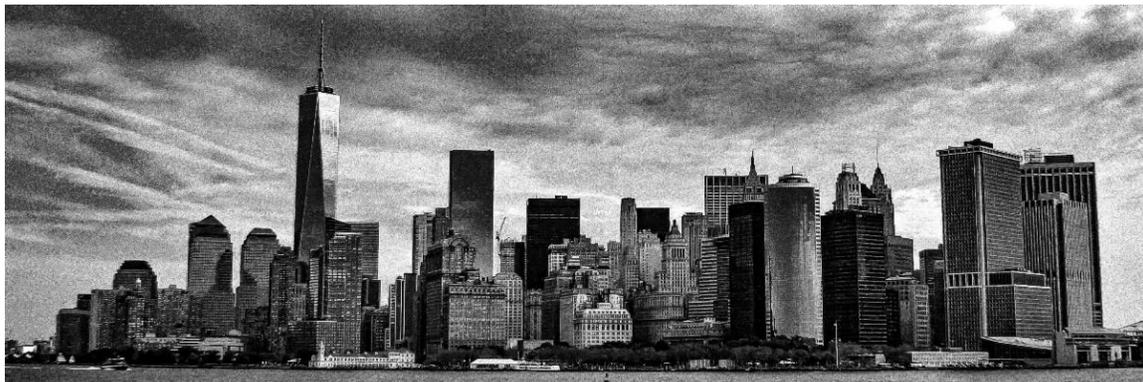
I started with Minolta film equipment when I was a kid, and transitioned into digital with a Sony DSLR that took my older Minolta lenses. As I've become more serious as an adult, I've crossed over to Nikon and now shoot with a D850, my lenses range from 24 to 500 mm.

**How did you come to love photography?**

I don't know what lit the fire, but I've enjoyed photography since I was a kid. I started taking classes in junior high. I worked on yearbook staffs and in darkrooms through high school, and my first job was with Sears Portrait Studios. As an adult, I've gotten back to the joy that photography has brought me all my life.

**Accolades you've earned along the way**

Nothing major. The first feather in my cap was an honorable mention award at the Antelope Valley Fair when I was in my teens. That's a big deal to a kid! More recently, I've earned a handful of ribbons in local competitions with the Lancaster Photography Association and Santa Clarita Valley Photographers Association. I am secretary for the Lancaster Photography Association, and vice president of the Antelope Valley College Photography Club.





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## **August Highlights!!**

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**PPLAC August Outing  
Wings Over Camarillo Air Show**

### Wings Over Camarillo ... And PPLAC Was There!

On Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, PPLAC joined up with *Channel Islands Professional Photographers Association* (CIPPA) to capture all the aerial displays put on by the *Wings Over Camarillo* air show. With over 24,000 people in attendance over the two-day event, there was much to see and lots to photograph. We had five photographers from PPLAC along with three family members in attendance.

This being my first air show, it was difficult to distinguish the players without a program! Thankfully, Mike Mercadente from CIPPA put together a program with photos of each aircraft that made everything comprehensible. However, "*Alphabet Soup*" is still new to me. There were J-3s, L-5s, PT-22s, BT-19s, UC-43s, T-34s, B-25s, P-38s, P-63s, and P-51s. Fortunately, those numbers translated into aircraft that were amazing to behold. Actually seeing the aircraft up close and then performing aerial feats a thousand feet above us put everything into perspective.

At each of our PPLAC Outings, it is traditional for us to gather together for a group shot. Well, with everyone scattered throughout the airfield, it was next to impossible. So, here is the next best thing. This is a group photo of us together. What do you think?



That's "Hutch" Hutchinson leading us, with Nikki Washburn, Roy Patience, Rob White, Gary Parsons, and then me bringing up the rear. Hmmmm ... you're not buying that? Okay, okay. You got me. It's actually just one of the, literally thousands, of photos taken during the air show.

All the best,

John Powers  
1<sup>st</sup> VP

An image review Zoom session for images taken at the airshow will be forthcoming. Watch your email or the website for more information.

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## Coming Events

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**PPLAC Outing!**  
**Sunday, Sep 5th,**  
**2021**

## **The Civil War Days – Living History!**

**Huntington Beach Central Park**

**Southern California's Largest Living History Event!**

The Huntington Beach Historical Society is proud to host the 28th annual Civil War Days Living History Event in Huntington Beach Central Park during the 160th anniversary of America's Civil War. This event is facilitated by hundreds of dedicated volunteers portraying people from all walks of life. This event is free to the public.



Our own Ira Mintz will be our guide. We will meet at **10 AM** in front of the **Huntington Beach Public Library (7111 Talbert Avenue)**. Ira will then walk us over to the Civil War encampment area where we will be free to take all the photos we want. The first battle re-enactment takes place at 11 AM.

If you're interested in attending, contact John Powers at:  
[johnpowers@hotmail.com](mailto:johnpowers@hotmail.com)

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## **Future Meetings**

September 23, 2021

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**PPLAC  
General Meeting  
Presentation  
Sep 23rd, 2021  
6:30pm**

**"Creating Images For Fun! ... Or Serious If You Prefer!"  
Dwight Okumoto, M.Photog. M. Artist, MEI., Cr., CPP., API**

Image creation is only in your mind until it's released onto print. Envision your final image in detail before the first exposure. Your image capturing and software tools are all you need, plus adding your creative juices certainly does help! Compose that idea by gathering all the elements for your final image.



Discussion will cover:

- Basic overall lighting consistency and quality
- Proper perspective and visual scale to make it believable
- Print competition or personal projects



Dwight's interest in photography started at the very young age of 6, receiving his first Kodak Brownie Box Film camera. After graduating from the University of Hawaii with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree, he officially established his portrait studio business. The studio originally concentrated on portraits and weddings. Through the decades, the studio expanded including

Infant/ Babies, School Events, Architecture/ Industrial Construction, Aerial, Landscape Art/ Travel, Commercial/ Corporate, Legal/ Discovery Documentation, & Image Restoration.

While continuing with his education, Dwight obtained three photographic Masters Degrees. Dwight has been professionally judging for PPA's IPC since 1996. His approved judging categories include: Photographic Open, Master Artist/ Digital Competition, and Weddings.

**The link to join this Zoom meeting will be found in Sept. on the PPLAC website (PPLAC.org under the Calendar tab, "What's Next!") or in our Sept. Newsletter and Blasts.**



**We hope you'll join us on Sep 23rd at 6:30pm!**

Our September 23 speaker will be Dwight Okumoto from Honolulu discussing "Photoshop Insights and Tips". <https://www.studio3fx.com/>

**Eleanor Gray is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.**

Topic: PPLAC General Membership Meeting – DWIGHT OKUMOTO  
Time: Sep 23, 2021 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7962521301>

Meeting ID: 796 252 1301

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October 28, 2021



George DeLoache will be our October 28 speaker. You don't want to miss his always popular and excellent presentation. Details coming soon!

<https://www.georgedeloache.com/>

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## **November 18, 2021 Fourth DPC of the Year**

**Friday, November 5, 2021**

**DPC #4**

**Submission Opens**

**12:01 AM**

**Sunday, November 7, 2021**

**DPC #4**

**Submission Closes**

**11:00 PM**

**November 18, 2021**

**Fourth DPC**

**(THIRD THURSDAY)**

<https://www.pplac.org/competition-rules>

## Want Help or Advice About Your Images?

### **WE ARE HERE TO HELP!**

At PPLAC we have PPC certified judges who can give you one-on-one informal critiques or advice on your potential DPC submissions, or an explanation about why you received the score you did at our DPC.

PPLAC members can bring up to 4 images (in any viewable form) to our General Meetings at 6:30pm (NOT a DPC meeting) or contact John Grusd at [johngrusd@gmail.com](mailto:johngrusd@gmail.com) or call and leave a message at 310 365 6364 and we will make arrangements.



"Irish Eyes" by John Powers

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## *Sponsor of the Month*

**Prolab Digital**  
PRINTS FOR PROS.

<https://www.prolabdigital.com>

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## Sponsor News



# Gift certificate

Exclusive 10% PPLAC Member-Only Discount



Call us:  
310-846-4496

Disclaimer: Use of this gift card can be redeemed only once with Miles from Prolab Digital. This card cannot be exchanged for online purchases, cash, check or credit. If this card is lost or stolen it will not be replaced. PPLAC 2022 Member-Only. Expires 2/1/23.

<https://www.prolabdigital.com>

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## Silent Auction Item of the Month

**Perfectly Clear Complete by Eyeq...formally called Anthentech**

Perfectly Clear is a Photoshop plug-in or stand-alone program for fantastic image processing. It uses AI intelligence, batch processing with no subscription needed. It is easy to use and used for portraiture, weddings, wildlife, landscape, and travel photography.

Check them out at: <https://eyeq.photos/>

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## Find a Photographer

If you would like to have your business added to our "Find a Photographer" link, or want to update your information, please go to the website at <https://www.pplac.org>, click on the Membership button under "Contact Us" and send your information.

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## Help Wanted



### **Wanted: New Webmaster!**

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

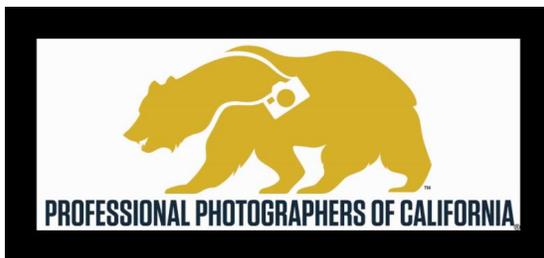
If you are interested in becoming PPLAC's newest webmaster, please contact John at the email address above. John will work with you thoroughly through the transition and will be available any time for support and questions you may have. This will be an exciting and rewarding opportunity to help our organization.



### **Wanted: New Newsletter Editor!**

[tlp.8713@gmail.com](mailto:tlp.8713@gmail.com)

Looking to get all the news and share it with all of us? Have we got the opportunity for you! We are in need of a new newsletter editor for PPLAC. If you are interested in helping us out in this area, please contact Teresa at the email address above. Teresa will be glad to help you take over this awesome chance to help us all out in this endeavor. She will be available to train you and guide you.



## **PPC News**

<https://ppconline.com/>



# California Workshops

## "Quickbooks for Photographers" - PC Platform



Robin Swanson // M.Photog.Cr., CPP, F-PPC,  
S-PPC, CPA, CGMA & PPC Treasurer

Sunday, September 19

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., PST

\$99 PPC Member / \$129 Non-Member

Presented via Zoom

To Register: Please visit PPC's website: <https://ppconline.com/>

Accounting for your photography business finances has never been easier! Quickbooks has come a long way and is one of the most popular & user friendly programs for the small business owner. This class will concentrate on QuickBooks Desktop Pro for the PC.

What we will cover:

- Setting up your business in QuickBooks
- The Chart of Accounts
- Money In - Getting paid
- Money Out - Paying your bills
- Financial Statements - Income Statement and Balance Sheet
- Managing Sales Tax
- Managing your Customers
- Using Class Tracking
- ... and much much more!





# California Workshops

## "Quickbooks for Photographers" - Mac Platform



Robin Swanson // M.Photog.Cr., CPP, F-PPC,  
S-PPC, CPA, CGMA & PPC Treasurer

Sunday, September 26

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., PST

\$99 PPC Member / \$129 Non-Member

Presented via Zoom

To Register: Please visit PPC's website: <https://ppconline.com/>

Accounting for your photography business finances has never been easier! Quickbooks has come a long way and is one of the most popular & user friendly programs for the small business owner. This class will concentrate on QuickBooks Desktop Pro for the Mac.

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- Managing Sales Tax
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- Using Class Tracking
- ... and much much more!



WEST COAST SCHOOL  
PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA

# WCS News

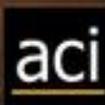
<https://ppconline.com/wcs/2020-west-coast-school/>

Fine Art Compositing  
With Richard Sturdevant \$249



Sept 30th & Oct 1st 2021  
9am-5pm PST

Learn how to create fine art composites from Richard who is known for his style, concepts and visually stunning art pieces. From conception to finish learn how to bring your storytelling and vision to life.



[www.westcoastschool.com](http://www.westcoastschool.com)



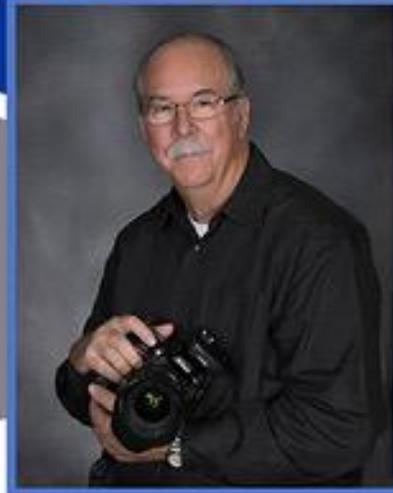
This is a Zoom Workshop



Coming to WCS 2022!



JUNE 5-12, 2022



## MICHAEL COLLINS PHOTOSHOP – ZERO TO SIXTY IN A WEEK

In today's photographic world, you need to use Photoshop to make your images stand out. Michael will take you on a whirlwind tour of the program from the basics to advanced. He will show you shortcuts, how to use the various tools in Photoshop, and make you confident and comfortable within a week. He will blow your mind with how easy Photoshop really is once you get out of your own way.



1(800) 439-5839



Register Online at:  
[www.westcoastschool.com](http://www.westcoastschool.com)



## PPA News



PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA

**Photo**

Please note that PPA has a page dedicated to what is available. You do NOT need to be a PPA member to look at what's there.....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

# Competitions

Entering competition is the quickest way to improve your photography.

## 2021 Judging Schedule

IPC Judging Dates:  
September 12-17

IPC Early  
Registration: July 6 to  
August 17, 5 pm ET

IPC Late Registration  
will be August 17, 5  
pm ET to August 31, 5  
pm ET

1-800 786-6277

<https://www.ppa.com/inittogether>



SAVE THE DATE  
JANUARY 16-18, 2022  
GAYLORD NATIONAL HARBOR  
NATIONAL HARBOR, MD



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