

# WASHINGTON PARK INFOCUS



OCTOBER 2023

A newsletter publication of the Washington Park Camera Club which is affiliated with the Chicago-Area Camera Clubs Association (CAOCCA) and the Photographic Society of America (PSA)

## A Message from the President



It's astonishing to realize that two months have already passed since our reunion on September 5th, 2023, marking the commencement of our dual night "Welcome Back". Since then, we've delved into a myriad of activities: a captivating Photography 101 workshop, an all-inclusive "New Members Orientation," a lively Show and Tell session, and the inauguration of our In-Person Print & DPI competition (at the Washington Park District Field House).

To the new members, welcome aboard! I deeply hope for you to embrace the same mentorship and camaraderie that shaped my journey when I joined in 2012. To our steadfast members, your essence and commitment are our backbone; it's your spirit that ensures we continue to seamlessly "click." As we look ahead, I urge everyone to send their thoughts and prayers for members facing health adversities, anticipating their swift recovery and eventual return to our fold.

It brings me immense joy to report that our committees and service teams are thriving, thanks to the unwavering dedication of our members who have volunteered their valuable time. Your tireless endeavors are sculpting this year into a remarkable success.

We are actively coordinating our return to the Washington Park Field House for in-person meetings. Working closely with the Chicago Park District supervisor, who is focused on replacing equipment, upgrading the print lab, and restoring storage spaces that were compromised in last year's fire. More updates to follow.

In these challenging times, it's vital to remain a beacon of positivity. Let's nurture each other, and passionately document the ever-evolving world around us, forging a legacy for future generations.

Stay inspired and keep capturing!

- Philip Thomas, President

### Events: Look What's Happening

**Nov. 1 @ 8:00 am - Nov. 28 @ 5:30 pm CST**

**November Theme - "Door(s) and Photo Story Telling"**

Members are encouraged to participate in this theme about DOOR(S). They are to photograph any door or doors using their creative composition with or without props. Past images in their library may be submitted. Show & Tell of these images will be on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 via shared screen on zoom.

**Nov. 7 @ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm CST**  
**WPCC DPI Monthly Competition (Zoom)**

We are looking forward to viewing many creative photographic images which will receive well deserved scores from the judges. All eligible members are encouraged to participate with DPI entries. DPI submissions allowed are: 2 B & W images and 2 Color images

**Nov. 14 @ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm CST**  
**WPCC Monthly Business Meeting (Zoom)**

Time permitting members can show their October Theme "All About Orange" images via shared screen

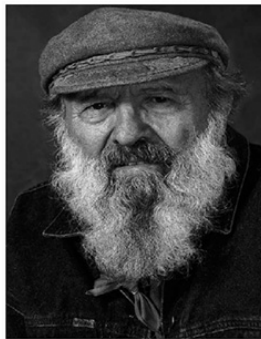
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For more information and to see the latest, please visit:  
<https://washingtonparkcameraclub.org/event>

# Featured Member: Artie Harris

## Some one You Should Know



**Artie Harris**



*Fred Lott*

Artie Harris and his Images [ Collage Credit - Fred Lott and Artie Harris ]

In the hustle and bustle of club meetings, amidst the enthusiasm of budding photographers and the ever-evolving technology of the craft, there remain legends whose tales weave the very fabric of an institution. On Tuesday, October 17, 2023, during a business meeting of the Washington Park Camera Club, Fred Lott, the Club's History Chairperson, reintroduced one such legend to both old and new members: Artie Harris.

Fred Lott, who has known Artie for over six decades, shared personal anecdotes from their early days, painting a vivid picture of their shared memories. Their camaraderie started outside the photography world, bonding over drinks in the company of friends from Yazoo City, Mississippi. In a testament to the migratory patterns of the era, Lott mentioned the surprising number of Yazoo City natives who had made Chicago their home. Their bond strengthened when Lott introduced Artie to the Washington Park Camera Club, a move that would not only change Artie's life but also leave an indelible mark on the club's history.

Artie's association with the club transformed him. He evolved from a new member to eventually becoming a three-time president of the club. His accolades didn't stop at club leadership. Artie's prowess in portrait photography led him to clinch numerous awards at CACCA (Chicago Area Camera Clubs Association). Jerlyn Maloy aptly encapsulated his reverence in the CACCA circle, describing him as nothing short of a "legend."



### July

Minnie B.  
Cheri H.  
Sheila N.  
Diane P.  
Duane S.

### August

Hez B.  
Dennis H.  
William M.  
Preston M.  
Lauren S.  
Charles W.  
Kirk W.

### September

Darcy J.  
Carol N.  
Vanessa T.

### October

Theodore B.  
Rosetta P.  
Samuel C  
Spring K.  
Sharnetta K. .  
Teracita P.  
Wanda R  
Sue w. .

### November

Anita E.  
Arlene M.  
Delores J.  
Rebekan Y.



Moreover, Artie's influence extended to bringing talent into the club. He was instrumental in recruiting George Seymour, another luminary. During the meeting, Fred Lott showcased a portrait of Harold Jaunes, another past president of the club, further illustrating the intertwined histories and the illustrious legacy of members like Artie.

Yet, in recounting Artie's tale, the Washington Park Camera Club not only honors its past but also educates its present. Jerlyn Maloy remarked how the storytelling session evoked memories for the older members and enlightened the newer ones about the giants whose shoulders they stand upon.

Lott's final note was a poignant reminder of the transient nature of physical memories. With limited photographs of Artie available, he urged members to preserve any work of Artie they might possess, emphasizing their inestimable value.

In institutions like the Washington Park Camera Club, while technology and techniques will evolve, it's the stories of legends like Artie Harris that remain timeless, resonating through generations.

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## Philip's Mobile Photography Tips

By Philip Thomas

If I'm asked, "What's the best camera?" I'll probably reply, "The one you have access to right now." Chances are that will be your mobile phone. Mobile photography is the art, and science, of capturing photos with your mobile device. Here are a couple tips for your mobile photography journey:



1. Use as much light as possible to capture the right exposure.
2. Turn off the built-in flash, it causes harsh lighting. Use an off-camera light source if possible.
3. While composing your image, touch the screen to set the focus and adjust the lighting settings.
4. Use RAW capture mode (if available) to grab as much image details as possible.
5. Use the default camera app that came with your device. Many apps capture their images using a lower resolution.
6. Just take the picture. It's digital so you can take more images.
7. Turn on the grid feature to help with image composition.
8. Refrain from using digital zoom. Optical zoom is best.
9. Use Portrait mode to allow the camera to apply AI-determined background bokeh.
10. Have fun taking selfies.
11. Change your perspective and turn your phone up-side-down to capture subjects that are low to the ground.
12. Recall an image's location from the metadata that's stored with it. (geotagging will need to be enabled).
13. Use panorama mode to capture extra wide shots.
14. Don't fear the water. Newer phones are waterproof to specific depths. Consult your phone's manual or purchase a waterproof case.
15. Slow things down with "slo-mo" mode for video capture.
16. Speed things up with time lapse and shrink time.
17. Always capture the shot anywhere you're legally allowed. You may need to be aware of the laws pertaining to privacy wherever you are.
18. Use filters sparingly!
19. Backup your photos to the cloud (Apple iCloud, DropBox, Google Drive/Photos).
20. Most importantly: HAVE FUN!

# Resilience in Focus:

## The Return of Washington Park Camera Club to the Field-house

By Bonnie DuBose

Nestled at the heart of 55th & King Drive Ave., the Washington Park Field-house has been synonymous with the Washington Park Camera Club for years. It wasn't just a meeting place, but a haven where members congregated to discuss, learn, and compete. From weekly meet-ups, enlightening lectures on photographic ideals, to hands-on shooting techniques and the much-anticipated monthly photography competitions, the Field House echoed with the shutter clicks of shared passion.

However, as with many aspects of life, the pandemic intervened. The days of in-person discussions were replaced by Zoom meetings, as the world grappled with a new way of life for nearly two years. The club, ever resilient, adapted to these virtual sessions, keeping the spirit of photography alive.

But as hope began to glimmer, and in-person gatherings were almost within reach, tragedy struck. The Field House suffered a fire, leading to severe smoke damage. The loss wasn't just architectural, as the club's cherished equipment stored therein faced the brunt as well. It was a blow to our collective spirit, one that demanded strength, patience, and unity.

After what felt like an eternity, spanning between a year and a half to two years, the Field House was restored to its former glory. October 3, 2023, marked a red-letter day in the club's history, as members reunited for the First Print and DPI competition of the 2023/2024 season. Despite the setbacks and the fact that not all our equipment has been replaced, the unyielding determination of our president, Philip Thomas, along with the Print/DPI committee, ensured the competition ran without a hitch.

That evening wasn't just about the competition. It was the joy of reunion, the laughter, the exchange of stories, and the face-to-face fellowship that had been missed so dearly. As the event wrapped up, there was an overwhelming sense of gratitude and anticipation for the next meeting.

Mark your calendars for December 5, 2023. We eagerly await to see each of you at the Washington Park Field House. Let's continue capturing moments and memories, both in front of the lens and behind it.



[ Photo Credit - Vanessa Thomas ]



# The Aspiring Photographer

By Ted Evans



**B**ecoming a photographer has been a long journey for me.

Some time ago, I was privileged to visit the Southwest USA. I met up with individuals from different areas of the country and experienced an outward-bound experience, which included camping within the Gila National Forest and the Grand Canyon. While still in

Arizona, I purchased my first Single Lens Reflex (SLR) camera. I was inspired to try to capture some of the beauty of the Grand Canyon.

Of course, film was expensive and by only having a maximum of 36 shots per roll of film, it was an expensive proposition. The roll of film had to be developed first before the prints could be seen. I quickly learned how to be a photographer through trial and error. So, my first photos were landscape and later I did portraiture, and street photography.

Back in college, I enrolled in several art classes because I thought I'd like to become an artist. It didn't work out as I'd expected though. Being an artist took a lot of time and skill that was difficult for me to master. However, I still kept the desire to be an artist.

Today, with the emergence of digital cameras and cell phones, photography has become a more widely accepted art form. These days, almost every person has access to a sophisticated camera. You can explore all forms of photography today, which may include: Fine Art, Travel, Sport, Wildlife, Macro, Fashion, Studio, Architectural, Lensball, and Infrared to name a few.

You can explore innumerable niches as an amateur or professional photographer.

As a painter or an artist, your tools are paper or a canvas and you apply pencils or brush to create lines and color in order to reveal your image or vision.

As a photographer, your tools are light, shadow, color, composition, exposure, depth, contrast, line, space, balance, dynamic range and you try and tell a story for the viewer with your camera.

Joseph Niepce invented a light box or camera in 1826 and captured the first photograph outside of his window. In 1888, George Eastman created the first film camera. Since the advent of the Digital Single Lens Reflex camera (DSLR) in 1975, the photographer has a lot more

sophisticated tools and equipment to create great photographic art.

Oskar Barnack, known as the father of 35mm photography, invented the Leica camera in 1925. Today's cameras, with the help of engineered glass lenses, can, in a split-second, capture a scene on its internal sensor and instantly record that image on a memory card. Later, the photographer can upload that set of images from the card onto a computer and process that image, as needed. Some of today's tools available to enhance good images include:

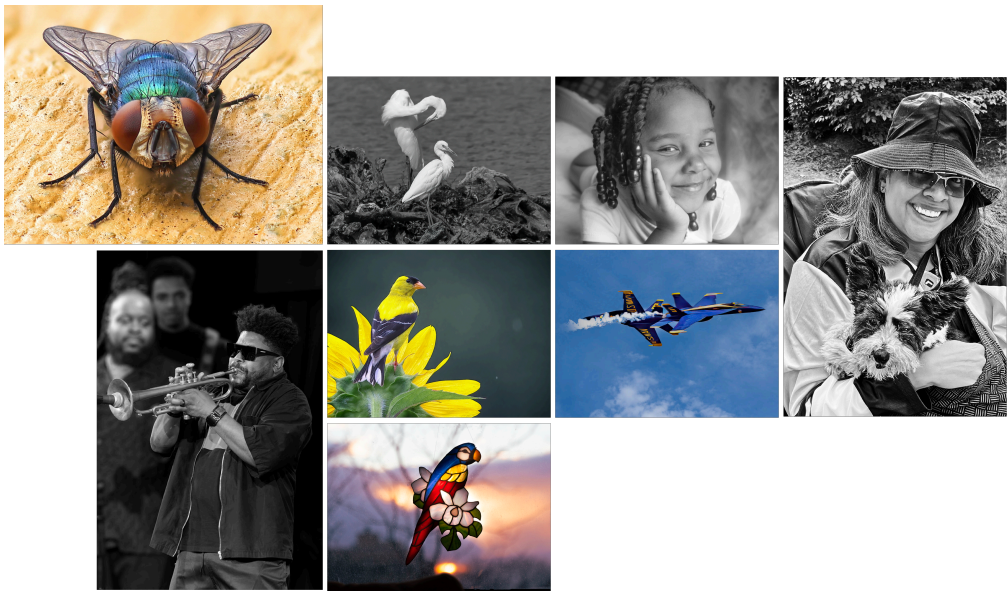
- DSLR Camera
- Mirrorless Camera
  - Canon
  - Nikon
  - Sony
- A wide variety of lenses
- On-camera flashes
- Strobes & umbrellas
- Filters
  - Neutral density
  - Infrared
  - UV & clear
- Post-processing software
  - Photoshop
  - Photoshop Elements
  - Lightroom
- Tripods & monopods
- Remote controls & transmitters

However, you don't have to go crazy spending wads of cash to become a good photographer. A lot of today's equipment can also be rented. A lot of good photography can even be captured with a cell phone camera.

Basic photography is manipulating a light source in order to enhance an image you've selected in order to tell a story.

# Competition Results: October

AW = Award; HM = Honorable Mention.



## DPI

### Image of the Month

“Fly Portrait” - Charles Walker

### Monochrome

AW - “Monochrome Egrets” - Charles Walker

AW - “Supermodel” - Charles Walker

HM - “A Lady and Her Dog” - Jerry Maloy

HM - “Trumpet Soloist” - Preston Moore

### Color

AW - “Fly Portrait” - Charles Walker

AW - “Goldfinch on Sunflower” - Charles Walker

HM - “Crossing Paths” - Dennis Hurd

HM - “Stain glass Bird on a Sunset” - Carol Neal

## Print

### Print of the Month

“Tina” - Jerry Maloy

### Monochrome

AW - “Pianist” - Duane Savage

AW - “Cedar Park Cemetery” - Linda Hondras

### Color

AW - “Tina” - Jerry Maloy

AW - “InDeep Thought” - Dennis Hurd

AW - “Blue Swan” - Rosetta Porter

HM - “Color Angel” - Rosetta Porter

HM - “Burlington Shopper” - Linda Hondras

HM - “Beautiful Smile” - Linda Hondras





# Washington Park Camera 2021-2022

## Club Officers

Office	Officer	Contact
President	Philip Thomas	<a href="mailto:president@washingtonparkcameraclub.org">president@washingtonparkcameraclub.org</a>
Vice President	Diane Halle	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@washingtonparkcameraclub.org">vicepresident@washingtonparkcameraclub.org</a>
Secretary	Ted Evans	<a href="mailto:secretary@washingtonparkcameraclub.org">secretary@washingtonparkcameraclub.org</a>
Treasurer	Carol Neal	<a href="mailto:treasurer@washingtonparkcameraclub.org">treasurer@washingtonparkcameraclub.org</a>

## Committee & Chairpersons

Office	Chair Person	Contact
Competition	Duane Savage	<a href="mailto:competition@washingtonparkcameraclub.org">competition@washingtonparkcameraclub.org</a>
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DPI Competition	Johnny Evelyn	<a href="mailto:dpi@washingtonparkcameraclub.org">dpi@washingtonparkcameraclub.org</a> or <a href="mailto:wpcddpi@comcast.net">wpcddpi@comcast.net</a>
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Equipment Consultancy	Ken Mitchell	TBD
Newsletter	Bonnie DuBose	<a href="mailto:newsletter@washingtonparkcameraclub.org">newsletter@washingtonparkcameraclub.org</a>
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Archive	Diane Halle	<a href="mailto:archives@washingtonparkcameraclub.org">archives@washingtonparkcameraclub.org</a>

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Website	<a href="https://washingtonparkcameraclub.org">https://washingtonparkcameraclub.org</a>
Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonParkCameraClub">https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonParkCameraClub</a>
Instagram	<b>@washingtonparkcameraclub</b> <a href="http://instagram.com/washingtonparkcameraclub">http://instagram.com/washingtonparkcameraclub</a>
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