

# Bellingham Photography Club

Issue 38

June 2021

## *President's Message*

The big news: **beginning in June, BPC is going to try a new format for our meetings!**

When I attended the Northwest Council of Camera Clubs conference earlier in the year, I was surprised to learn that many, if not most, of our NW photo clubs meet twice a month. One meeting is reserved for the program for that month, while the entire second meeting is for member sharing — the theme of the month, photos submitted for critique, and any other special projects that may be percolating.

It's very clear that our club especially values the times we are able to share our work and talk about photography among ourselves. It's also clear that one meeting for both a program and photo sharing simply doesn't leave as much time as we want for the latter.

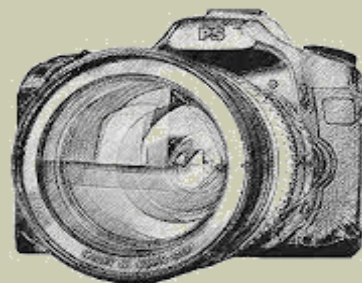
So: those of us on the board have decided to do a **three-month trial run of splitting our monthly meeting into two 1-1/2-hour meetings**. We will keep the first meeting (on the second Wednesday, as always) for our program; our second meeting, on the fourth (not always the last!) Wednesday of the month will be for photo sharing and open discussion. At our second meeting in August we will re-group, discuss how it's working for us, and see if we want to continue.

Our program this month will be the third and final presentation of *Not Bad... But is it Art?*, an overview of the impact of major art movements on photography. Our theme for our second meeting will be *What Three Photos Would You Put in a Time Capsule?* (See some ideas on this on page 3.)

See you on the 9th!

## Bellingham Photography Club Board

Lorraine Day - President	mesmerie1@gmail.com
Deanna Birdsall - Secretary	iamdela@gmail.com
Alan Alquist - Treasurer	alan@learn2inquire.com
Ham Hayes - Programs	hamhayes@outlook.com
David Johnson - Club Liaison	davidsamishphoto@gmail.com



## June 2021 Meetings

### June 9—Program

*Not Bad, But is it Art? A History of Art Movements in Photography*  
Part 3 of 3

### June 23—Sharing

Monthly Theme:  
*Time Capsule*

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## How to submit

- .jpg format
- Width = 1920 px or less\*
- Height = 1080 px or less\*  
Resolution not important;  
150—300 dpi typical.
- File names to begin with  
your last name and a  
sequential number  
( Day 1—Fish House.jpg)
- Total size of email with  
attachments: 10 MB max.
- Include exif info in your  
email if known

Send images for the website  
(Theme, Commentary, or  
Members Gallery) to David  
Johnson

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

Send images for the news-  
letter to Lorraine Day—  
[mesmerie1@gmail.com](mailto:mesmerie1@gmail.com)

*For those who care:*

Our website host will resize  
your images to a maximum of  
1,550 pixels wide by 960 tall. It  
does this "to prevent theft of  
your originally uploaded full  
resolution images and it also  
help to ensure that your  
images will always load with  
minimal loading delay. Your  
original image files are  
retained and remain unedited."

## About BPC

Bellingham Photography Club provides opportunities for photography enthusiasts to enhance and share expertise. Club activities include, but are not limited to, regular meetings, photography field experiences, photography competitions, and special interest forums.

Our goal is to provide encouragement, camaraderie and educational programs that will motivate photographers to improve their skills.

We are meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, when we have a program or demo, and on the 4th (not the last!) Wednesday of the month, to share our monthly theme photos, review photos submitted for critique, and have open photography-related discussion. During COVID-19 management we are meeting online via Zoom.

If you would like to join a meeting as our guest, please contact our president, Lorraine Day, at [mesmerie1@gmail.com](mailto:mesmerie1@gmail.com).

## Show Your Stuff!

The Bellingham Photo Club has many venues for sharing your work. We'd love to see YOUR work in one of these places!

### Website and Monthly Meetings:

- **Member Galleries** – Members can each upload up to 20 images to the members' gallery on our website. These can be anything you want – your own personal portfolio that you can share with friends and family!
- **Theme of the Month** – Each month, a theme is established and you can submit up to 3 images (the theme for the May meeting is 'still life'). The themed images are for sharing, not for critical review (unless you ask for opinions). These images will be shared/reviewed at each monthly meeting.
- **Commentary/Review** – Each month, members can also submit up to 3 images for critical review. These do not need to be tied to the Theme of the Month. Members are encouraged to go online and enter comments; additionally, these images will also be shared at each monthly meeting.

**Newsletter** – Remember, members can send images the newsletter editor -- me, Lorraine, at [mesmerie1@gmail.com](mailto:mesmerie1@gmail.com) – for inclusion in the newsletter. Especially welcome would be a brief explanation of your inspiration, your technique, problems you tackled and overcame (or failed to overcome!), location, exif data or any other information you'd like to share. Absent this, a brief caption would be great.

Come on; let's show our stuff!

## *June Theme of the Month:* What Three Photos Would You Put in a Time Capsule?

Our theme for June is *What Photos Would You Put in a Time Capsule?* You can make a time capsule to be opened by you at a future date, or by strangers unknown to you who want to know what life was like in 2021. Here are some photo ideas to get you going.

Your family	Masks
You	"I was vaccinated" pin
Your pet(s)	Hand sanitizer, disposable
Your house—outside and inside	Sanitizing wipes
Your car	FedEx/UPS truck
Your office	Stay-at-home entertainment
Your neighborhood	Board games, jigsaw puzzles
Your garden	Your kids' favorite toys
	Something new you learned
Something you are working on	A new hobby
Today's fashion	Calendars
Your fashion	Planners
Books you are reading	
Newspapers, magazine	Protest images
Store receipts	Capitol riot
Shopping lists, to-do lists	Black Lives Matter
A favorite meal	George Floyd
A child's drawing	
	Playlist of songs
Street scenes	Lists of movies
Movie/theater marquees	Menus
The inside of your favorite store	Tickets

You can think in terms of items that have meaning only for you, or items that would be interesting to future generations. Our photos should generate some interesting discussions!

## *Matika Wilbur at the Mount Baker Theater*

Last month, we shared the news that the critically acclaimed **Matika Wilbur**, from the Tulalip and Swinomish Tribes, is sharing a selection of her photographs in the exhibition *Seeds of Culture: The Portraits and Stories of Native American Women*. **On view in the Lightcatcher building through June 13, 2021.** The museum features a selection of Matika's photographs of Native American women along with interviews, written narratives, and a compelling sound-scape of voices and original music.

**Matika will be speaking at the Mount Baker Theater on June 3.** Tickets are free, but you must register on line, and tickets will be available only in pairs to ensure that people are seated six feet apart.

*[I would hope that] I was able to find moments of transcendent immortality within the quotidian—'cause that's pretty much where I live.*

— Sally Mann

*We let the remarkable, ordinary wonders of living slip into the oblivion of memory, but they are the very moments Sally Mann lovingly records, resurrects, and returns to us. I would not be surprised if at the moment of our deaths the last thoughts that flicker before our consciousness look like photographs by Sally Mann, and I will be disappointed if mine do not.*

—John Wood

*People get dirty  
through too much  
civilization. Whenever  
we touch nature, we  
get clean.*

*— Carl Jung*

*Each time I make a  
photograph I  
celebrate the life I  
love and the beauty I  
know and the  
happiness I have  
experienced. All my  
photographs are made  
like that, responding  
to my intuition.*

*— Ruth Bernhard*

## *What Our Members are Doing*

### *Carol Sheppard at Langell Hummingbird Workshop*

It's a clear morning in Madera Canyon, Arizona as I follow my GPS to the Santa Rita Lodge. Since 2018, when I first heard Lisa Langell as a key presenter at the annual conference of Photographic Society of America, I've wanted to take her hummingbird workshop.

In addition to Lisa's numerous super-value 90-minute online videos, she conducts several workshops each year, most notably her Alaska and Arizona workshops. While Alaska is focused on grizzlies, the Arizona workshop is based on photographing hummingbirds. Southeast Arizona has several varieties of migrating and resident hummingbirds, including the Black-chinned, the Magnificent, the Calliope, the Broad-billed, the Violet-Crowned, and the Allen's Hummingbird.

Lisa's four-day workshop is held in morning and afternoon segments, with mid-day periods of downtime to either continue photographing, rest, explore the area, or socialize. She begins with colorful backgrounds printed on a matte finish board, but by Day 2 of the workshop we moved into high-key photography: photographing the flowers and the hummingbirds in flight against a pure-white background. The contradiction of settings normally used to capture birds in flight and the requirements for capturing these ultra-fast and erratic movements is part of what makes this workshop unique. Part of Day 3 included some instruction on using Photoshop for post-processing these images.

Santa Rita Lodge is a set of rustic cabins which include a kitchen, front and back porches, and peaceful seating areas where one can watch for the different birds that frequent the area. Set in the woods of Madera Canyon, it is a well-known destination for birders. The area abounds with both birders and photographers seeking everything from





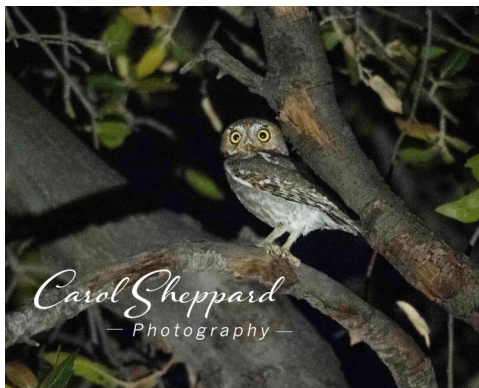
## *Carol Sheppard at Langell Workshop, con't...*

Pygmy Owls to the Elegant Trogon. There are picnic areas, hiking trails, and a small bird-viewing park and gift shop on the Lodge property. While there, I photographed a roaming Coatiundi and an Elf Owl, the smallest owl in North America, and a variety of Woodpeckers, Yellow-Eyed Juncos, Mexican Jays, Summer Tanagers, Vermillion Flycatchers and a whole host of birds I couldn't even begin to identify.

Besides the camaraderie and excitement of successfully photographing numerous hummingbirds in flight, the workshop teaches a technique for setting up to do this at home. Lisa is a patient, helpful and caring instructor. I found the time spent watching and photographing the hummingbirds to be very Zen-like, similar to waterdrop photography. If you are interested in photographing something unusual in a beautiful natural setting, I highly recommend you check this workshop out.

Logistically, Tucson/Mesa is the closest airport and a great city to check out. There are dozens of outdoor murals and mosaic installations, Saguaro National Park, the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, the San Xavier del Bac and Tubac Missions, and all kinds of sanctuaries and wetlands that will appeal to nature photographers. Patagonia, with its Paton Center for Hummingbirds, is an easy half-day's drive, as is Phoenix. The Salt Lake River area was my final destination, where I was lucky enough to photograph a new colt among the wild horses.

If you do go to the area, feel free to contact me for recommendations to some very comfortable AirBNB's. Lisa Langell's workshop fee includes lodging at the Santa Rita Lodge, which is booked up for 1-2 years out. My only regret was not having the time to revisit the more northeastern side of Arizona, which includes Sedona. Arizona offers enough natural beauty to warrant 3-4 weeks, in my opinion, and definitely should be on the to-do list of every nature and landscape photographer.



*A photograph is a moment.. When you press the button it will never come back.*

— Rene Burri

*I give the moment permanence.*

— Manuel Alvarez  
Bravo

*Surprises of every kind lie in wait for the photographer—they open the eyes and quicken the heartbeat of those with a passion for looking.*

— Marc Riboud

*The real voyage of  
discovery consists  
not in seeking new  
landscapes, but in  
having new eyes.*

— Marcel Proust

*I don't enter  
contests. I'm not  
trying to make a  
living from  
photography. I'm  
trying to find myself  
in the world, and in  
my work.*

— Sam Abell on  
Keron Psillas's  
*Creative  
Conversation*,  
April 16, 2021

## *What Our Members are Doing* Lorraine Day—PSA Street Photography Webinar

On May 12, I attended an online webinar on street photography hosted by the Photographic Society of America (PSA). PSA hosts some great webinars from time to time, and many of them are recorded and posted on line.

I particularly enjoyed this one, *Street Photography—from Cities to Suburbs* by James Mahar, because the focus of his talk was the limitations we all have felt during COVID isolation and our inability to travel. He spoke a lot about the techniques involved with street photography (very specific and useful), but also encouraged us all to think closer to home. No need to travel to Morocco (or even Seattle) to get great street photographs! He also points out that 'street photographs' do not need to include people—a very freeing concept for those of us intimidated by photographing strangers.



If you are a PSA member you can watch the recording of this webinar online at <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?webinar-info>. (If you aren't a member, consider joining; PSA is rich with resources for photographers.) You can also watch a very similar version of this talk on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AurUgS3zsPc>.

Mahar has also started a unique subscription service called *Close to Home*. It's an invitation to a global community to pay attention to our own neighborhoods. "Over time, you'll understand how a place changes with the people, the light, and the events that take place," he writes. "You'll get a rare glimpse into the fascinating moments right outside your door, whether you live in a city, suburb, or rural area. And you will come back with intimate portraits of life around you, to share them with other people who just get it."

If you join (I did!), you'll be added to a 25-person peer group made up of photographers from all different backgrounds and locations. You will fill out a profile and create an album inside your group to share your work, and step into a new environment where people comment on your work, collaborate, give thoughtful feedback, and share their unique perspectives. (Reminds me of the early days of Solo Photo Book in a Month, when people from all over the world were taking photos of their own neighborhoods and posting them online. You could take a tour of someone's backyard in Iceland—so fun!)

It's \$10/month to join, and right now you can get a one-month free trial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eltnBKwj1GM> [homephotosalon.com](http://homephotosalon.com), as well as many bonus materials.

## For Sale

### Olympus OMD-1, Mark 1

**\$325 firm**

Professional-grade micro-4/3 mirrorless camera. Has the expected manual, AV, TV and video modes plus many creative zone and art features; focus peaking — to many features to list. I love this camera! It is in mint condition. Batteries and chargers included, and I will throw in a lens so you can get started, plus one hour of Zoom training on its use!

For comparison, Amazon is selling a new Mark I *body only* for \$999. **Contact Carol at 770-366-8186**



### ThinkTank Streetwalker Pro Backpack/Camera Bag (Ver 1)

**\$75.00**

ThinkTank is the leader in professional camera bags ([www.thinktank.com](http://www.thinktank.com)). The current version (2) of this camera bag is selling for \$199.75 on Amazon. This one (Ver 1) is in immaculate, like-new condition, and is **offered for \$75.00**.

The only differences I can see between Ver1 and Ver2 are that Ver2 is about an inch wider and an inch deeper, and includes a tablet/laptop sleeve on the back. All else appears to be identical.

**Contact Lorraine at 206 499 4617 or [mesmerie1@gmail.com](mailto:mesmerie1@gmail.com).**



*We're all just  
looking to get  
kissed and we all  
just want to make  
coasters.*

*You know, crafting  
in general — I've  
become an  
evangelist of  
making things in  
your life. I feel like  
that is a very  
healthy thing for  
our citizenry to be  
doing, because  
when you are  
making anything  
with your hands —  
if it's not wood-  
working you can  
make food or music,  
stained glass  
windows or knit —  
these are all things  
that we make with  
our hands that  
enlarge our lives  
and can add fruits  
to your existence.*

*Not bad. C+.  
Who gives a sh\*t.  
[The perfect is the  
enemy of the good..]*

*— Nick Offerman,  
actor and  
woodworker on You  
Tube*