

**ALAMANCE
PHOTOGRAPHY
CLUB**

2012-2026

©

**March 2026
Newsletter**

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Photo by Karen Cole-Loy

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President's Comments—March 2026

By Keith O'Leary

Greetings! What a cold winter we have had this year. I trust you are staying well and like me are looking forward to Spring later this month with warming temperatures. We had a good PhotoShow last month and might have actually broken a record with over 60 photos in the presentation and roughly 30 in attendance. I love it. 😊

A bit of trivia for you this month. Here are some facts about George Eastman, the founder of Eastman Kodak Company:

Early Employment: Following the death of his father and to support his family, Eastman left school at age 14 and began working as a messenger boy for an insurance company in Rochester, New York.

Initial Earnings: His first job earned him \$3 a week.

Career Progression: He later worked as an office boy for another insurance firm, where he began handling policy filing and writing.

Transition to Finance: Seeking a better income, he studied accounting and later secured a position as a junior clerk at the

Rochester Savings Bank, where his salary increased to over \$15 a week.

Path to Innovation: While working in banking, he began experimenting with photography in 1878, eventually developing a dry plate formula that led to the creation of the Eastman Dry Plate Company in 1881.

George invented the name "Kodak" by creating a unique, memorable word that started and ended with his favorite letter 'K', using wordplay with his mother and anagrams to meet criteria for a strong trademark: short, easy to pronounce, and not associated with anything else, despite some myths about it being an acronym or sound.

You won't want to miss our March 16th meeting as our very own Mio Winkle presents a program on "Underwater Photography". Make plans now to attend and invite a visitor.

Stay well, stay warm and happy shooting!

Your President,
Keith O'Leary

APC ACTIVITIES - March 2026

- **Club Meeting** **March 16, 2026**
- **Double Vision Exhibit** **March 3-31**

APC Board with Contact Info



President

Keith O'Leary

alamancephoto@gmail.com

VP/Programs

John Reich

johnreich017@gmail.com

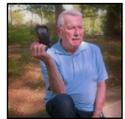
Secretary

Stephan Kiefer

stephankiefer@mac.com

Treasurer

George Siple

georgesiple4775@gmail.com

PhotoShows

David Hall

apcphotoshow@gmail.com

Exhibits

Sean Leahy

photoexhibitapc@gmail.com

Field Trips

Hugh Comfort

apcfieldtrips@gmail.com

Membership

Resi Forrest

apcmembers2@gmail.com

Web Master

Christie O'Leary

alamancephoto@gmail.com

Socials

Mio Winkle

apctabletalkers@gmail.com

Newsletter

Ray Munns

raymunns@bellsouth.net

Programs for 2026

By John Reich

- January - Sterling Stevens of Sterling Stevens Design
Subject - Architectural and Fine Art Photography
- March - Mio Winkle
Subject - Mio's Underwater Photography
- May - Joe McDonald of McDonald Wildlife
Subject - The Best Techniques and Settings for Wildlife Photography
- July - Ann Parks of Ann Marson Annstracts
Subject - Abstract Photography
- September - Steve Dingeldein
Subject - Astrophotography
- November - TBD

March 2026 Program — “Underwater Photography”

By Mio Winkle

I started the hobby of Scuba diving 30 years ago.

The marine world is breathtaking and a canvas full of color and creatures. I've always been very curious. I started underwater photography with disposable cameras, and luckily, I got one with a housing. Although it was only for shallow depths, it gave me the opportunity to want to invest in better specialized underwater equipment. My underwater photography gear: Olympus TG7, housing for the camera, tray to attach the camera, a mini flash and video light! With some floaters to help stabilize the gear.

At that time I was living in Puerto Rico, and I had the opportunity to go scuba diving frequently. Now I go once or twice a year.

I basically started in photography through scuba diving, and it was after several years that I ventured into nature photography.

As someone passionate about adventure and nature, I love that I can combine my adventures with photography.

Mio



WEBMASTER NOTES

Our website: <https://www.alamancephoto.com/> is a great way:

- To introduce potential members to the club.
- To stay up to date on the club events.

Christie O'Leary—Webmaster



Double Vision Exhibit - March 03 thru 31

*at Burlington Artists League
& Fine Arts Gallery*

Reception: Sat. March 14th, 2:00-4:00

Pick Up Dates: Thu-Sat, April 2-4, from 12:00-6:00PM



APRIL PhotoShow - "LIQUID"

David Hall, PhotoShow Chair

This month everyone can submit up to 2 (or 3) photos of a "Liquid".

What is considered a liquid for a subject of your photo along with some ideas follow the Submission Guidelines.

This PhotoShow will be judged by Fran DeRespinis. Fran is quite a photographer in his own right and has been a judge for our club in the past. Check out his photography <https://fpdphotos.me/>.

Submission Guidelines:

Number of Entries: Up to Two or Three (2 or 3) entries per member.

Format: .jpg

File Naming: Please name your photos using the following format:

Firstname.lastname_01, _02, _03

Examples: john.doe_01.jpg john.doe_02.jpg john.doe_03.jpg

Size: Between 1 and 25 MB

Email: Send all images to apcphotoshow@gmail.com

Email Subject Line: include the month of the PhotoShow and your name

Example: Photos for (April) PhotoShow – John Doe

Entry Deadline: **Friday - April 10, 2026**

Please Note:

Submissions that do not adhere to the guidelines above may be returned.

*If you have any issues with formatting or submitting, please let us know at apcphotoshow@gmail.com and we will be happy to assist. Also **let us know if your submitted photo is not acknowledged within a few days and/or by the deadline.***

Photo editing software with AI features (e.g., Affinity Photo, ON1, and Lightroom) is allowed. Total AI creation of photos (e.g., ChatGPT and CoPilot) is not allowed.

Our PhotoShow Theme: Liquid!

At first glance, “Liquid” might sound tricky or oddly specific, but once you start thinking about it, the possibilities open up like... well, a faucet someone forgot to turn off. This theme gives you enormous freedom. If it is liquid or behaves like a liquid, it counts. Subtle, dramatic, scientific, abstract or even everyday.

I’ll bet your photo catalog has a good candidate or two for this subject! Or, you might just enjoy photographing something new to use. Again, your choice.

To help spark ideas, here’s a sample of liquid themed possibilities to get you thinking:

Natural Liquids

- Rain droplets on leaves
- Dew on spider webs
- Puddles with reflections
- Waterfalls or cascades
- Ponds (small)
- Fountains
- Anything ocean-related — waves, foam, spray, or tide pools

Everyday Liquids

- Coffee swirling with cream
- A glass of wine catching the light
- Soda bubbles rising
- Dish soap creating rainbow films
- Condensation on a cold drink

Food & Culinary Liquids

- Honey drizzling in slow motion
- Syrup pouring over breakfast
- Soup or broth swirling in a bowl
- Melting ice cream (before it escapes the cone)
- Adult beverages with layered tones

Urban & Industrial Liquids

- Gasoline rainbow slicks on pavement
- Car-wash soap foam
- Street puddles reflecting neon, commercial or street signs
- Paint - poured, mixed, or splashed

Animals & Nature Interacting With Liquids

- Birds bathing
- Dogs shaking off water (bonus points for mid-shake chaos)
- Raindrops hitting a pond

APC Membership Corner

March, 2026

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their membership; the renewal period is now closed.

Please join me in welcoming our two newest members who joined in February: Kenneth (KJ) Stone and June Siple.

I encourage you to continue inviting family, friends, and community members to our meetings. Potential members are welcome to attend up to two monthly meetings before deciding to join.

Please refer to the monthly newsletter calendar for details on all upcoming meetings and events.

Best regards,

Resi Forrest – Membership Chair

apcmembers2@gmail.com

Field Trips in 2026

Winter: None

Spring: Museum of Life and Science, Durham

Summer: West Point on the Eno/Museum of Photography

Fall: TBD

Detailed information for each field trip will be provided in the first Newsletter of that season. In the meantime, take photos wherever you are.

Hugh Comfort – Outings/Field Trips

2026 Ice - Snow Photos



By Karen Cole-Loy



By Christie O'Leary



By Keith O'Leary

2026 Ice - Snow Photos



By Keith O'Leary

APC Trading Post

Submit brief descriptions of photography items you would like to sell, swap or purchase to Ray Munns (raymunns@bellsouth.net) no later than the 20th of each month. Please include your name, contact info (phone and/or email) and if each item is for sale or something you are looking to purchase. Also notify Ray when items should be removed from the newsletter.

Sony HDR-SR12 Handycam & Accessories. \$250.00

Sony SR12 Handycam & various accessories in very good condition! The SR12 records full HD 1920 x 1080 video to its internal 120GB hard drive and/or to Memory Stick Pro Duo media. Features a 3.2" widescreen pullout/swivel LCD screen. Full fact sheet available upon request or just google it.

Accessories include:

- > 2 extra Sony NP-FH100 InfoLithium Batteries
- > Sony Dual-Bay AC Adaptor/Charger AC-VQH10
- > AC-L200 compact Power Adaptor for continuous recording/playback
- > Sony ECM-HW1R/HW1T Wireless Microphone set
- > Sony VCL-HG0737C Wide Conversion Lens
- > USB cable to connect to laptop
- > Mini HDMI to HDMI adaptor
- > Maxell Camcorder Bag w/shoulder strap

Contact Keith O'Leary if interested at: kfoleary61@gmail.com.



Dappled Light

Techniques for Photographing Speckled Sunlight

Photography is not just about capturing moments, it's about painting with light, and one of the most enchanting ways to do this is by utilizing dappled light. Dappled light, often seen as patterns of light and shadow created when sunlight filters through the leaves of trees, offers a unique and visually striking scenario that can significantly enhance the quality of your photos.



Photo captured by Mats

Creating Depth and Texture

The primary charm of dappled light lies in its ability to add depth and texture to images. The alternating patterns of brightness and shadow cast upon subjects lend a three-dimensional quality to photographs, making them pop. This interplay of light transforms flat, dull scenes into rich, textured visuals that are a pleasure to explore with the eyes.

Highlighting the Subject

Strategically using dappled light can emphasize parts of the subject, drawing the viewer's attention to specific areas of the frame. This technique adds a layer of mystery and intrigue, as the light selectively illuminates segments of the scene, leaving the rest to the imagination.

Enhancing Mood and Atmosphere

The mood set by dappled light can vary immensely—from serene and peaceful to mysterious or dramatic—depending on the intensity and distribution of the light. Photographers can exploit this to convey different emotions and narratives within their work, making dappled light a versatile tool in their artistic arsenal.

Dappled Light: Techniques for Photographing Speckled Sunlight . . . Continued

Challenges in Exposure

However, the beauty of dappled light does not come without its challenges. The high contrast between the lit and shaded areas can complicate exposure settings. Finding the right balance to avoid overexposing the highlights while maintaining detail in the shadows is crucial. Techniques like spot metering are often employed to expose accurately for the desired area of the scene.

Timing and Positioning

The appearance of dappled light changes throughout the day and is influenced by the weather. Early mornings or late afternoons, when the sun is low, typically yield softer and more elongated patterns. Moreover, the position of the photographer can dramatically alter the composition; sometimes, just a few inches can make a significant difference.



Photo captured by Samuel Cesar

Creative Experimentation

Finally, don't hesitate to experiment. Different angles, lenses, and aperture settings can produce a range of effects. A wide aperture might blur the background into a dreamy haze, while a smaller aperture sharpens the details in the light patterns, each adding a unique flair to your photos.

Here are some of the best places and situations where you can find this beautiful light:

- **Wooded Areas:** Forests and wooded areas are classic spots for finding dappled light. The sunlight filtering through the leaves creates natural patterns on the ground or on any subject you're photographing.

Dappled Light: Techniques for Photographing Speckled Sunlight . . . Continued

- **Orchards and Vineyards:** The orderly rows of trees or vines in orchards and vineyards provide excellent opportunities for capturing dappled light, especially when the sun is low in the sky during the early morning or late afternoon.
- **City Parks with Large Trees:** Large, leafy trees in city parks can create interesting patterns of light and shadow, especially on pathways or benches, which can be perfect for portrait and landscape photography.
- **Gardens with Pergolas or Trellises:** Gardens that feature structures with lattice work, like pergolas or trellises covered with climbing plants, can also produce a dappled lighting effect that is great for both portrait and macro photography.
- **Near Buildings with Reflective Windows:** Sometimes, the reflective windows of buildings can cast interesting light patterns on nearby pavements or walls, creating an urban form of dappled light.
- **Mountainous Regions with Scattered Clouds:** If you are in a mountainous region on a day with scattered clouds, the sun peeking through the clouds intermittently can create a dappled effect on the landscape, adding depth and interest to mountain vistas.
- **On Water Near Overhanging Trees:** Light reflecting off water where trees overhang can be especially magical. This scenario is perfect for capturing both the texture of the light on the water and the movement if there is a gentle breeze.

Understanding and effectively using dappled light can elevate your photographic work, adding layers of complexity and emotional depth. Whether you're a novice or a seasoned photographer, mastering this aspect of natural lighting can help you create truly stunning, naturally lit photographs that resonate with viewers. Embrace the challenge and let the speckled sunlight transform your next photographic venture.

About Style

By Christian

I've been thinking about something lately.

It's important to be selective in what we photograph. And even more selective in what we show. Over time, we all develop a visual language. Certain lenses. Certain light. Certain compositions. It becomes recognizable. Comfortable.

But there's a quiet danger in that comfort.

If we stay too confined within our own style, we stop seeing anything else.

When photography becomes a recipe — wide angle, foreground interest, dramatic sky — creative growth slows down. Not because the results are bad. Often they're strong. But they're predictable. Even to ourselves.

Over the past weeks, I caught myself thinking about this a lot.

I've always enjoyed working with dramatic light and strong compositions. But recently I've been drawn toward quieter scenes. Simpler frames. Longer lenses. Less obvious moments. Not because they perform better or look more impressive, but because they force me to pay attention differently.

- ◆ If you always shoot ultra-wide, spend time with a longer lens.
- ◆ If you're always isolating details, challenge yourself to step back.
- ◆ If you're always chasing drama, try working in flat light.

You don't have to publish it. You don't even have to show anyone.

But staying curious matters.

Creative growth rarely comes from repeating what already works.

About Style . . . Continued

Below are a few recent images that felt different for me. Quieter. More restrained. But personally inspiring.



None of these are dramatic. That's kind of the point.



I'm curious, have you ever felt restricted by your own style?

Or are you experimenting with something different lately?

Christian

10 Tips for Taking Great Cityscape Photos

By Rueben Hird

Cities are not only home to many people's residences, businesses and offices – they are also full of energy, power and vitality. There are many things that make a city great and capturing the true essence of a city in one single photograph is a very hard thing to do.



Photo by Vinh Pham

The main thing that encapsulates and defines a city can actually differ depending on the time of the day and even the season. During the morning cities can look peaceful and calm, whilst during the evening or nighttime they can come alive with activity and purpose.

Most of the people that call a particular city home don't take the time to stop and marvel at the magnificent landmarks and sights that make their own home city such a wonderful place to be a part of. A really good city photograph not only shows off the majestic buildings in the heart of the city center, but should also showcase some of the more enthralling aspects and delights that day to day city life has to offer.

1. Choose an Interesting Subject – Make sure you have an interesting subject for the photo, either in the middle section of the photo or in the foreground.

10 Tips for Taking Great Cityscape Photos . . . Continued

2. Have a Mix of Foreground & Background – Ensure that you have a good mix of interesting foreground and background areas in the entire photo.



Photo by Luc Mercelis; ISO 100, f/4.5, 1/1500-second exposure

3. Leave Room to Crop – When you are framing up the photo in the viewfinder make sure that there is some room around the edge of the photo to crop the final image.

4. Use a Level Tripod – Before taking the photo make sure that you use a level tripod so that the horizon is straight. Even though you can fix this later in Photoshop it is easier to do it right in the first place to save yourself the hassle.

5. Keep the Sun behind You – Try and keep the sun behind you so that you get the most amount of light on your city and the sky has a brilliant blue look to it.

6. Choose the Right Time of Day – Try to take photos as early or as late as possible in the day, as these times generally give the best light and produce more shadows and detail on your photos.

7. Use the Correct Exposure – When setting the exposure for a photo, make sure your reading is taken on the brightest part of the photo so that there is no overexposure.



Photo by Kat Northern Lights Man; ISO 1000, f/3.2

10 Tips for Taking Great Cityscape Photos . . . Continued

8. Use a Timer or Remote – Always use a timer or remote control to take the photo so that there is not any camera shake caused by you when you depress the shutter button.

9. Use a Polarizing Filter – On your SLR camera use a polarizing filter to remove the light reflections that bounce off of windows and metal objects.

10. Use a High Quality Wide-Angle Lens – In order to get crisp results from your SLR camera invest in or rent a good quality lens. They may be expensive but it will be well worth the money in the cityscape arena.

By using all of the above tips, you are sure to see a noticeable improvement in any photo that you take of city buildings or skylines. Not only will your cityscapes be clearer and well defined, but they will also have a wide spectrum of color and light, which is the sign of a great photo.



Photo by Alexey Kljatov; ISO 93, f/2.8, 1-second exposure

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