

Sierra Club

Photo NYC Newsletter

October 2025 ✦



© Sharron Lee Crocker

Portland Head Light © Sharron Lee Crocker

Here's what's to come!

Thank you to everyone who came out to our 50th anniversary celebration! It was an incredible event, with over 50 people filling the room.

This month's speaker, Chris Murray, will present *The Subjective Landscape* for us on Zoom. Get your tickets [HERE](#).

We also have some sad news to share from this past month—we lost longtime member Don Young. Continue reading for a retrospective look at his life and accomplishments.

Lastly, Charles has planned some wonderful outings for October, so keep reading for the details.

In this newsletter you can expect:

Upcoming
Speaker Event

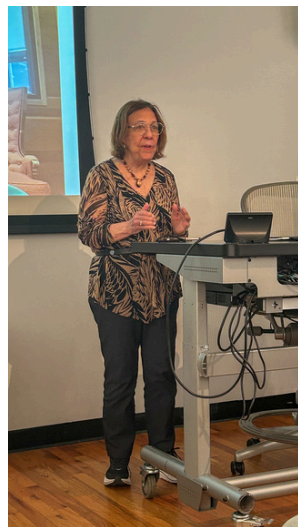
Member News

Members
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Info / Contact

50th Anniversary Celebration



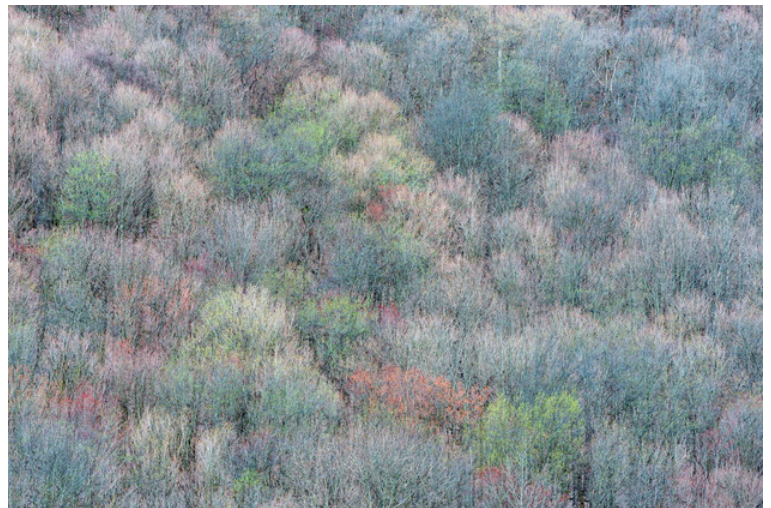
Upcoming Speaker Event

Chris Murray - The Subjective Landscape Tuesday, October 14th - Zoom Only

Many landscape photographs can be considered objective representations that are little more than recordings of actual appearances. However, they can also be subjective in that they are a creative and personally expressive response that reflects the photographer's thoughts and feelings.

In this presentation Chris will distinguish two schools of thought in landscape photography today, what he calls objective and subjective landscapes. He'll discuss the defining qualities of each and how they differ in both approach and intent. He will also discuss ways that we can express and develop our vision to make more subjective, personally expressive images that go beyond mere representation. Finally, he'll conclude with the rewards that come with making subjective photographs.

Tickets for the event can be purchased on [HERE](#), with suggested donation of \$8.



All photos © Chris Murray

You can find Chris at the links below:

[Website](#)
[Workshops](#)
[Instagram](#)

Member News

Remembering Don Young 1933-2025

We are saddened by the passing of longtime member Don Young. He was with the former New York City Sierra Club Photography Committee (now re-named Sierra Club Photo NYC) since the early years of its founding, fifty years ago. He died September 4th at the Amsterdam Nursing Home in New York City from heart problems at the age of 92. He will be buried with his family at the Washington East Memorial Cemetery in Indianapolis, Indiana, where he grew up. When he joined the Photography Committee in the late 1970s, in its early years, he became very active. His participation was instrumental in shaping our group's purpose, organization and the activities that we still pursue today. He was a former chair of our Board, newsletter editor and activity organizer. His quiet charisma brought members together, allowing each to express their point of view. He organized many of our photography exhibits, including *Beside the Golden Door* at the former World Trade Center in 1986 and *The Nature of New York City* at the Museum of Natural History in 1989. He was instrumental in bringing members' photographs together to create traveling slide shows, such as *Contemporary Views of Native America* and *This Fair Land!* (the Centennial show) to promote the work of NYC Sierra Club group.



Sunset Silhouettes

Photo by Don Young

Member News

Remembering Don Young 1933-2025

From our Photography Committee, he went on to become active in the Sierra Club NYC Group and the Atlantic Chapter. Over the years, he became chair of those boards as well, all the while still pursuing his career as a Sierra Club Book Editor and coming to our members nights to share his photography.

His first job was in the editorial department of Grolier Encyclopedia Americana, where he was hired by John Smith, who also was a Sierra Club Photography Committee member. Don went on to write and edit more than 20 books on national parks, wilderness, and historic preservation, including The Sierra Club Guides to the National Parks (5 volumes, editor), Great American Desert, The Sierra Club Book of Our National Parks, Historic Monuments of America, and American Roulette: The History and Dilemma of the Vice Presidency.

He was also significantly active as a coin collector and seller. He advertised and participated in international coin shows and catalogs, including the World Money Fair in Berlin.

Don was always an impassioned environmentalist. He loved the American Southwest and traveled there to photograph it throughout his life. In his photography, he sought to lift public understanding and appreciation of all that we have, value, and need to preserve.

The Sierra Club NYC Group will have a memorial for Don in the next few months. When we have more information about it, we will notify our members via email and newsletter. For those who wish to contribute to his memory, one wilderness preservation organization close to his heart is the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance.



Pancake Rocks

Photo by Don Young-

Member News

Our Active Members Log is now live on our website!

We ask each of you to click the link [HERE](#) to access our members log. Here you will be able to quickly identify if you are an active Sierra Club Photo NYC member in good standings.

Once the page is opened, please fill your Name, Last Speaker Event Attended, Sierra Club ID number and Expiration Date. If you meet the requirements below, you are an active member:

1. Attended a speaker event within the last year
2. Being an active member of the national Sierra Club, the last column will turn green and say "Active Member".

Sierra Club Photo NYC - Active Members Log

A5					
	A	B	C	D	E
1	Sierra Club Photo NYC - Active Member's Log				
2	Name	Last Speaker Event Attended	Sierra Club ID number	Expiration Date	Active Member?
3	Mike Cordone	9/16/2025	55085466	4/1/2026	active member
4	William King	9/16/2025	56300252	4/1/26	active member
5					non-active member
6					non-active member
7					non-active member
8					non-active member
9					non-active member
10					non-active member
11					non-active member
12					non-active member
13					non-active member
14					non-active member

Member News

BWAC suffers a devastating fire

The Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition, home to our group's most recent exhibition *New Yorkers Capturing Nature* in June, suffered a devastating fire on September 18. The historic Civil War-era building sustained extensive damage.

If you are willing and able to help, they have created a GoFundMe page to accept donations for their recovery efforts, with the goal of rebuilding and reopening as soon as possible to continue supporting artists.

You can make a donation [HERE](#).



Members Exhibiting

If you have will be exhibiting any of your work soon, please email the exhibition information to info@sierraphotonyc.com for it to be added here in this section of our newsletter.

Upcoming Outings

Outings outside of city require carpooling. Call Leader Charles Dexter, 917-593-8381 for car meet up locations and to offer help with carpooling. City outings are “meetup” only, accessible by public transportation.

Date: Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2025

Central Park Conservatory Garden & Harlem Meer.

Join Charles and meet YouTube creator Rebeca Galbinsky ([Out & About with Rebeca!](#)) who will lead a free workshop demonstrating the art of cellphone close up flower photography. See her work at [Rebecaphotony](#) on Instagram. Capture October perennial flowers, in fine detail, blooming in the garden. You only need to bring your cellphone! After the workshop, for those who want to see more of the park, Charles will lead a short walk around the Harlem Meer. We will look for geese, ducks, turtles, tall grass, late afternoon water reflections and park scenes.

Meet inside the East 105rd Street gate entrance at 1:00 pm. Around the Meer, shoot until sunset, (6:30 PM) perhaps dinner afterward.

Subway: #6 train to 103 Street Station. Bus: M2, M3, M4

Links: Conservatory Garden: [Conservatory Garden](#) | [Central Park Conservancy](#) ([centralparknyc.org](#)). - Flowers: [Bloom & Tree Guide](#) | [Central Park Conservancy](#) ([centralparknyc.org](#)).

Harlem Meer: [Harlem Meer](#) | [Central Park Conservancy](#) ([centralparknyc.org](#)).

What to Bring / What to know: Bring good walking shoes, rain gear, snacks and water. Garden guards often prohibit tripods.



Lost Lake © Charles Dexter

Upcoming Outings

Date: Thursday, Oct 16, 2025

**Fahnestock State Park: Sunk Mine Road and Cold Spring, NY,
Dockside Park on the Hudson River.**

Photograph colorful fall reflections in a still lily pad pond, stony streams and tall grass marshes Short and uneven rocky trails. In Cold Spring, photograph the sunset behind Storm King Mountain and Breakneck ridge framing the Hudson River.

Meet at 11 AM for 11:15 am NYC start. Call for meet location. Shoot until dusk, dinner afterward. Return: 9:00–9:30 pm.

Link: [Fahnestock State Park \(Clarence Fahnestock\)](#)

What to Bring / What to know: Plan for full day with changeable fall weather. Bring hiking boots, raingear, lunch, snacks and water. Short hikes, some stony trails.

Extra Carpool drivers needed! Call leader Charles Dexter, 917-593-8381, call until 10:30 pm.



Untitled © Sharron Lee Crocker

Upcoming Outings

Date: Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2025

New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY.

Photograph: Fall Blooms, fall foliage, perennials, chrysanthemums, and more.

Hike: Easy paved paths & dirt woods trails. Shoot all day until 5:30PM.

Links: [New York Botanical Garden](#)

What to Bring / What to know: Bring a good sun hat, walking shoes, and water. Dinner afterward at [Emilia's Restaurant](#) on Arthur Avenue, Bronx.

Admission: Free for most outside grounds only, between 10 AM to 11:00 AM. Not free for Inside gardens and after 11 AM. See NYBG website for [Admission fees and policies](#).

Go by Train: 9:55 AM train from Grand Central Station to Botanical Garden station. Meet Charles 10:20 AM, inside the [Moshulu Gate Entrance](#), Walk across street from the RR station. [Metro North Train Schedules](#)

Go by Car: Meet Charles at 10:05 AM inside admission windows at the [Fordham Gate](#) parking lot on Southern Boulevard.

[How to get there link](#) \$22 parking fee for Non Members.

Everyone Meet for lunch at 11:45 AM at [NYBG Pine Tree Cafe](#) by Fordham Gate. There, for those who want to go to diner, we will make a group reservation for diner at [Emilia's Restaurant](#) and plan car transportation from the Garden to the restaurant on Arthur Avenue, Bronx. We leave the Garden at 5:45 PM. Extra Carpool drivers needed to drive people to restaurant and back to NYC. Call leader Charles Dexter, 917-593-8381, call until 10:30 pm.

Date: Thursday, November 6, 2025,

Prospect Park, Brooklyn (Southeast section)

Photograph autumn woods, ponds, falls, birds, lake and people at the Audubon Center Boathouse area and Prospect Park Lake. Stroll 2.5 to 3 miles through the Southeast section, starting from the Lincoln Road entrance and finishing at the Prospect Avenue subway station. Meet 1:15 PM outside of the Prospect Park subway station entrance on Lincoln Road. [Google Map link](#) Subway: B, Q trains to Prospect Park station; use exit stairs at front of train to get to street. Walk starts 1:30 pm. Here is a [Google map link of total hike](#):

Information / Contact

Stay Up-To-Date:

The fastest way to receive our news and updates is by following our website. At the very bottom of the homepage on our website, on the right-hand side, look for the word 'Subscribe'. Click on it, then simply enter your email.

Questions?

All questions should be sent to info@sierraphotonyc.com

Meeting Registration:

Advanced registration is required for all meetings, with a suggested donation of \$8.00 at the time of reservation. You'll need to create an [Eventbrite](#) account with your email and password, if this is your first time using it. You can also visit the Sierra Photo NYC Eventbrite page, [HERE](#) to reserve tickets to future meetings.

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings, including in-person ones, are broadcast via Zoom. On the meeting date, Eventbrite sends two emails to ticket holders: one two hours before and another at the start time, both with the meeting Zoom link. Be sure to sign in to your Eventbrite account in advance. Meetings start at 6:30 pm, with the presenter beginning at 7:00 pm. For in-person attendance, present your Eventbrite confirmation email upon arrival at SVA.

Please share your nature photos with us!

Instagram:

1. When creating a new post, click on "Tag people"
2. Then tap on your photo for the search bar to appear.
3. Lastly, type in and find Sierra Club Photo NYC. Click the name to officially tag us.

Facebook:

1. Post your photos on the group page, Friends of Sierra Club Photo NYC
 2. Wait for a moderator to accept and post your photo.
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Information / Contact

Joining Us In Person?

School of Visual Arts

136 West 21st Street, Room 418F, 4th Floor
New York, NY 10011

Transit:

1 train to 23rd Street

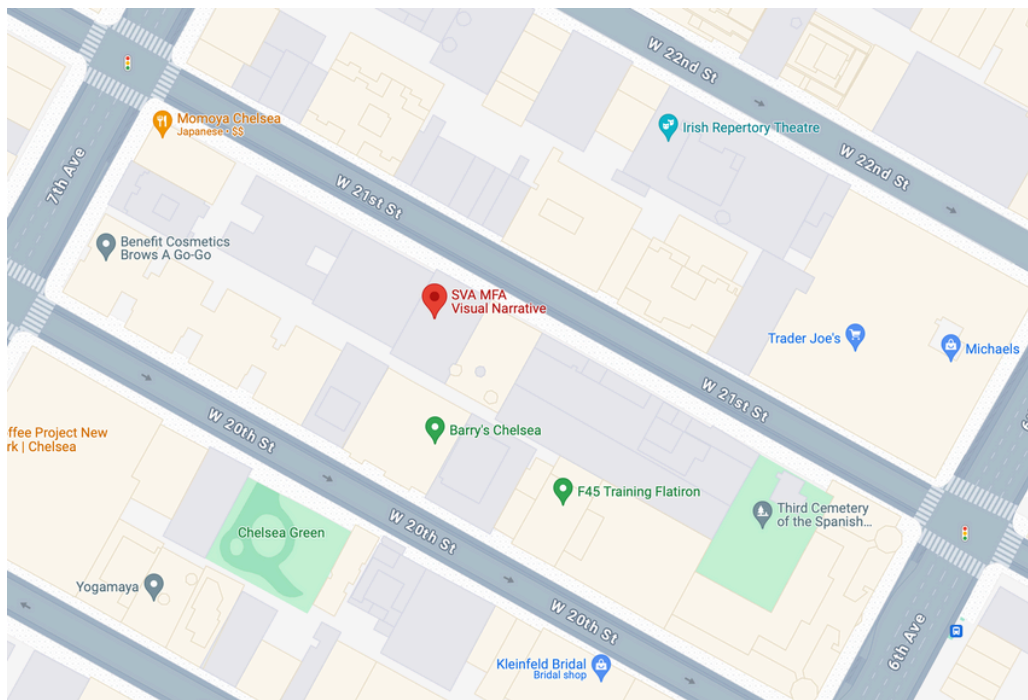
F/M train to 23rd Street

C/E to 23rd Street

M7/M55 Bus to 6th Ave & West 20 Street

Doors open at 6:00pm, program starts at 6:30pm

\$8 suggested donation though Eventbrite



Sierra Photo NYC Board

Michael Cordone - Chairperson / Newsletter

George Courtney - Eventbrite

Charles Dexter - Outings

William King - Art Director / Speaker Coordinator

Harvey Kopel - Treasurer / SVA Contact

Nancy Langer - Speaker Coordinator

Peggy Wortman - Email Communications

-

Kathryn Fortuno - Website

-

Exhibition Sub-Committee

Linda Buongermino - Chairperson

Meeting Schedule for 2025/'26

October 14th - **Chris Murray** - Zoom only

November 11th - **Jessica Kende** - In-person & Zoom

December 16th - **Members Night** - Zoom only

January 20th - **Benjamin Forbes** - In-person & Zoom

February 17th - **Lori Lankford** - Zoom only

March 17th - **Kah-Wai Lin** - In-person & Zoom

April 14th - TBD - Zoom only

May 19th - TBD - In-person & Zoom

June 16th - **Members Night** - Zoom only

SIERRA PHOTO NYC LINKS
<u>Website</u>
<u>Eventbrite</u>
<u>Instagram</u>
<u>Facebook</u>
<u>Email: info@sierraphotonyc.com</u>
