

February 2026 Newsletter

FlagpolePhotographers.com

Meetings are free and open to everyone. Arrive 30 minutes early for the social time.

February 5

[Mentor Night: You Be the Judge Topic by
Chane Cullens](#)
Online

February 11

[Flagpole Photo Selection for New Haven vs
Flagpole Showdown](#)
Online

February 12

[Recreate This Photo: A Hands-On Program](#)
Newtown Senior Center

February 17

[Interclub Competition – New Haven vs
Flagpole Showdown](#)
Newtown Senior Center and Online

February 26

[Competition – Vintage, Nature, Color,
Monochrome and Monthly Challenge Ice](#)
Newtown Senior Center and Online

Calendar Hiccups

Due to an outage with our calendar provider, we are currently rebuilding the club schedule. The full calendar will be available again shortly. Upload is working.

Flagpole Photographers Camera Club

Posts

2026 January Competition Results, All Photos
& Video

1. Congratulations to our winners!
2. Results
3. Video of the Judges Discussing the Photos

[Read more](#)



Learning to Feel and Understand Landscape Photography



The "Zen of Landscape Photography" program with John Munno was a success! For those who joined us on January 8th, it was an inspiring evening that went beyond the technical settings of a camera. John Munno provided a unique and insightful learning experience, blending his Zen philosophy with the art of landscape photography. One of the standout aspects of the ...

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Botanical Garden Field Trip - Fun for All

On January 10, 2026 Flagpole members and guests visited the Holiday Train Show at the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx as their first field trip of the new year. The Haupt Conservatory at the Garden featured model trains running both inside and outside of the building delighting both young and old alike! Replicas of iconic New York City ...



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Get Ready for the Club vs Club Showdown!



We are excited to announce our participation in a thrilling photography competition against New Haven Camera Club on February 17, 2026. The competition will be conducted virtually, where an esteemed judge will carefully select the "best" photo from each category. The club that secures the most wins across the 25 categories will be crowned the ultimate winner. We've got a ...

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Photography Ideas

Ideas for our **Assigned Subject - Vintage** and **Monthly Challenge - Ice**.

Note - the monthly subjects' meaning is always open to your interpretation, don't allow these ideas to impact your creativity!

Vintage

The Challenge: Vintage isn't just about photographing old objects; it's about evoking a specific feeling of nostalgia and the passage of time. The goal is to make the viewer feel like they are looking into the past, using texture and lighting to sell the illusion.

Subject Ideas

- Classic "Tech": Old film cameras, manual typewriters, or rotary phones. Look for dust, rust, or worn lettering that shows age.
- Heirloom Portraits: A person holding old objects or wearing period-correct clothing (hats, lace, suspenders).
- Automotive Details: You don't need the whole car. Focus on a chrome hood ornament, a rusted fender, or a cracked leather dashboard.

Key Techniques

- Post-Processing Style: While you can shoot in color, "Vintage" often benefits from a Sepia tone or Black & White conversion in post. Adding a slight "grain" effect can also mimic old film stock.

- Lighting: Avoid modern, harsh LED lighting. Use window light or warm incandescent bulbs to create soft, moody shadows that enhance the "old" atmosphere.

Ice

The Challenge: Ice is transparent and reflective, making it difficult for autofocus systems to lock onto.

Subject Ideas

- Macro Frost: If you have a macro lens, look for the feather-like ice crystals that form on car windows or garden vegetation in the early morning.

- Icicles & Edges: Capture the sun shining through an icicle hanging from a roofline. The refraction creates beautiful light patterns.

- Kitchen Creations: If the weather is warm, freeze flowers or fruit inside a block of ice in your freezer and photograph the textures and bubbles that form around the object.

Key Techniques

- Backlighting: To make ice look like crystal rather than gray slush, light it from behind. This highlights the transparency and internal fractures.

- White Balance: Auto White Balance might try to "warm up" the scene. Manually set your White Balance to "Daylight" or slightly cooler (lower Kelvin) to preserve the crisp, blue tones associated with cold.

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