

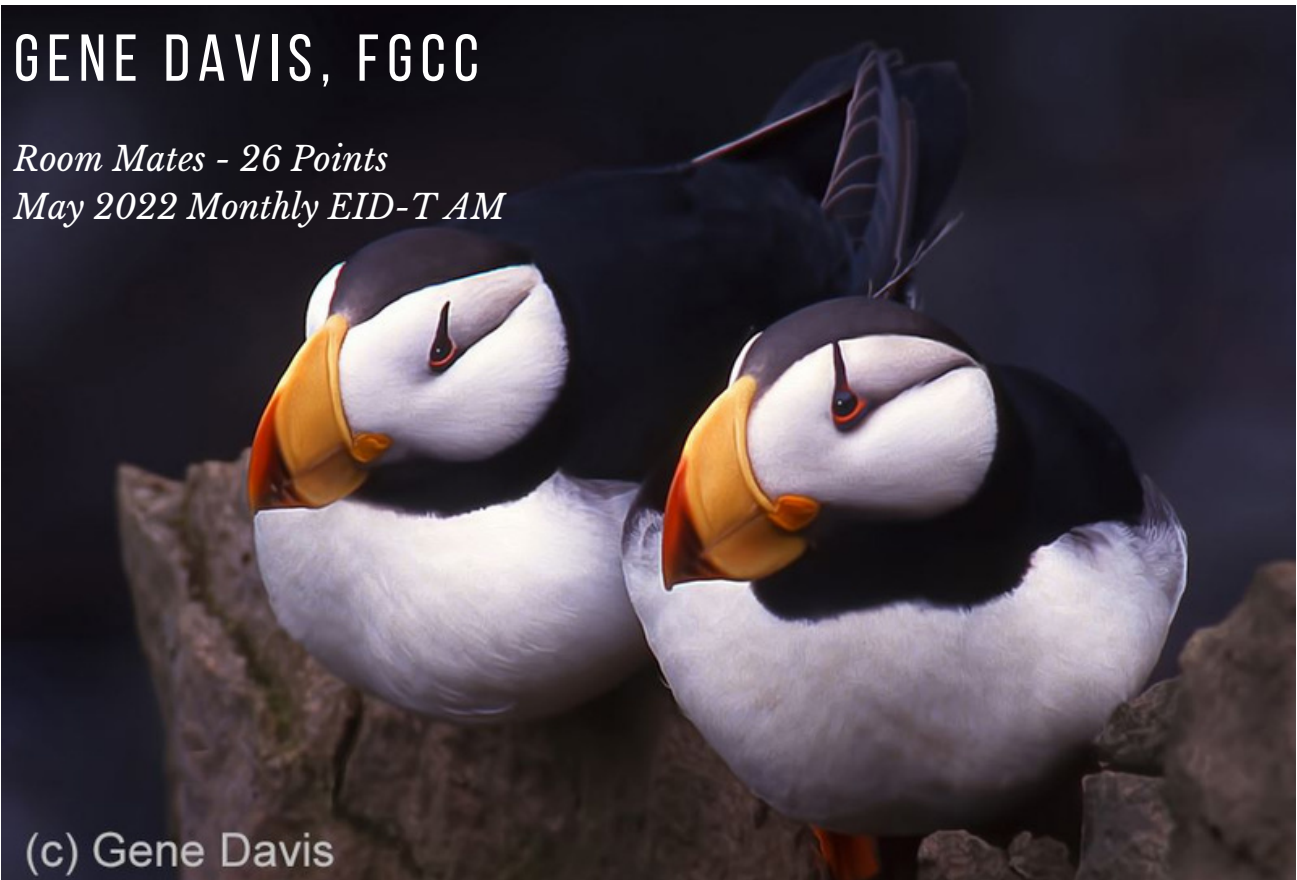


# THE 4C'S NEWS

GENE DAVIS, FGCC

*Room Mates - 26 Points*

*May 2022 Monthly EID-T AM*

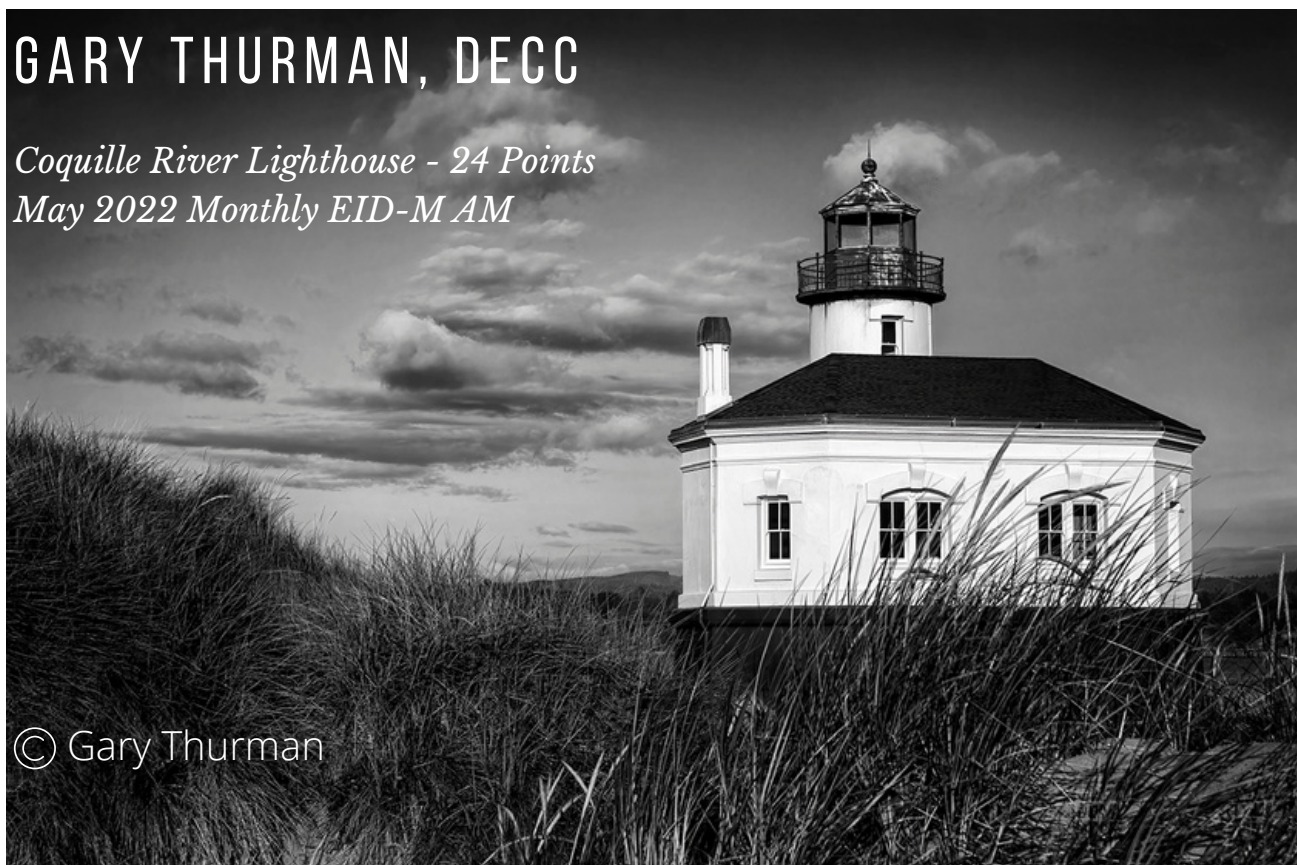


(c) Gene Davis

GARY THURMAN, DECC

*Coquille River Lighthouse - 24 Points*

*May 2022 Monthly EID-M AM*



© Gary Thurman

# FROM THE EDITOR

Dear colleagues,

I am hoping that this organization made of people that create beautiful, powerful, thought provoking, interesting, intriguing photographs will stay united by filling positions that we must fill. I am into my 12th year volunteering for the 4C's which represents a lot of photographers in 32 different clubs. I am volunteering, as is everyone else who does something to help their own club, or the parent club, 4C's function.



The current Vice President role remains unfilled and the ballots were sent out to club reps on June 5th. There is still time! Would you fill that role for one year, and then chair for one year? Would you co-chair something?

What happens if no one volunteers for the jobs of President, Vice President and Secretary? Our bylaws require that those 3 offices are filled. Are we jeopardizing our non-profit status? I don't know the answer to this question and I hope we don't have to find out.

The reason I volunteer is because I believe in the value of the camera club and the council. Sure we can all carry a cell phone and snap photos everywhere we go, everyone can. But to master our craft, to better our technique, to improve the final product is what it's all about. Not just having another snapshot but having a piece of art.

Please think creatively about how you can find some time to take one of these jobs, even for a period of 1 year.

## UPDATED 07/07/2022

### UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

The July Board meeting will be held via Zoom on July 16th at 9:30am. Login info will be emailed along with the agenda.

### DEADLINES & EVENTS

#### July 2022

07/16 Quarterly Reps meeting

07/31 Quarterly EID Submission deadline

#### August 2022

Invitational Submissions (no date determined yet)

#### September 2022

09/15 Invitational Entry deadline

09/30 Monthly EID entries due

09/30 Print mailing deadline

09/30 Quarterly EID Submission deadline

#### October 2022

10/31 Monthly EID entries due

10/31 Prints mailing deadline



## MARK HUDDLESTON, SOPA

*Ashland Plaza- 21 Points*

*May 2022 Monthly EID-S AM*



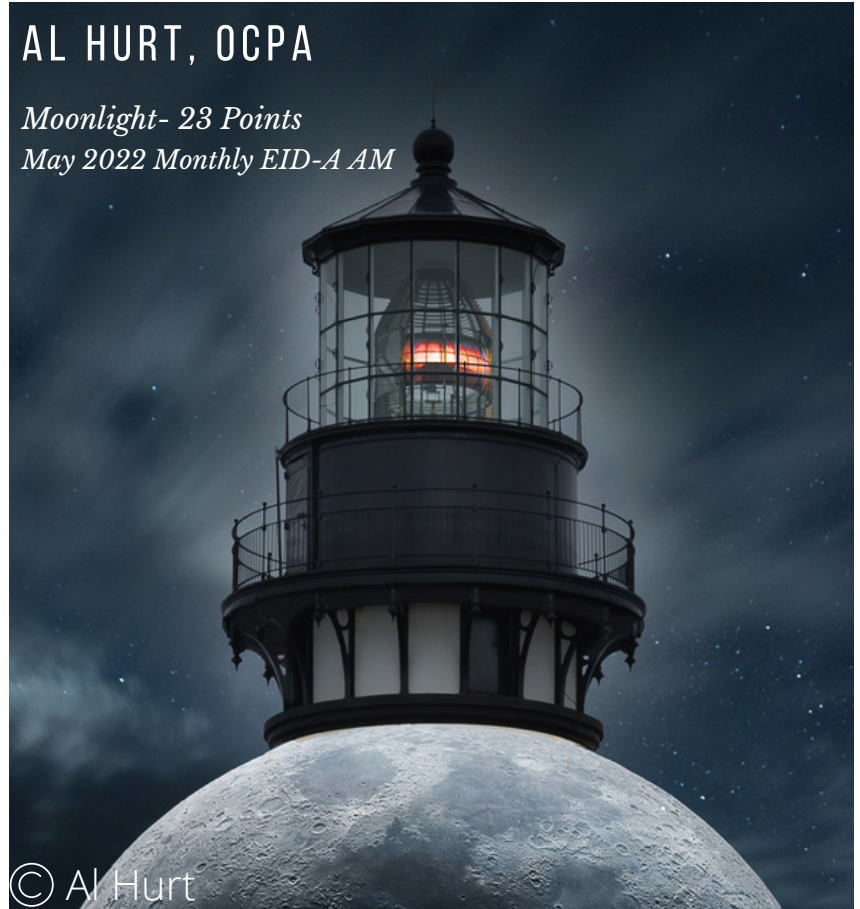
## 4C'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

We are actively working on the conference and definitely plan to have it in person, live this October or November!

## AL HURT, OCPA

*Moonlight- 23 Points*

*May 2022 Monthly EID-A AM*



## PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA - PSA

PSA has a new website, check it out: <https://psa-photo.org/default.aspx> · Join PSA, the member perks are great - the cost is only \$45 per year. Monthly Journal, Competitions, Exhibitions, Educational Materials and Webinars, On-line Classes, Study Groups · Check out the on-line classes: at <https://psa-photo.org/page/online-courses>. New 2022 Version of the PSA Image Evaluation Class is available now

# **Photography Club Basics: Why You Should Join a Camera Club**

**JOHN TUNNEY [www.jtunney.com](http://www.jtunney.com)**

If you want to become a better photographer, learn more, get and stay inspired, meet others who share your passion, and make new friends, well, nothing beats a camera club (also known as a photography club). Joining a club might even help lead you to a new career. I know it did for me and many other photographers.

The idea of photographers getting together to share tips, techniques, and camaraderie stretches back to the early days of photography. In the US, the Boston Camera Club and the Camera Club of New York got their start in the early 1880s. In the UK, the Royal Photographic Society got its start in 1853. Today, there are hundreds of camera clubs and photo societies in countries around the world.

## **What Camera Clubs Do**

So what happens at a photography club? All kinds of things related to photography. Most clubs meet one to four times a month. Some meetings may feature a guest speaker, a competition, image sharing, workshop, photo shoot, or some other photo activity. Some clubs are into competitions while others are more interested in education. Some focus on nature or landscape, while others may be more interested in portraiture, street photography, or whatever. The members decide the tone and direction of the club.

There's a social element to clubs, too. It's great to hang out with people who share your interest in photography. I've made many new friends through my local club. You never know where things will lead. Years ago, a bunch of us from the club would set up a big tent at a local art show and sell prints. This whet my appetite for "show business" and it morphed into a business for me. I now spend about half my year selling prints at art shows.

## **Club Photography Competitions**

Some people love club photography competitions and some people hate them. I see them as learning opportunities. As a teacher, I encourage my students to join camera clubs and participate in competitions.

There are several benefits. First, you'll get an objective (more or less) appraisal of your work. Your friends and family may tell you that you are great, but a competition – or critique – will point out strengths and weaknesses in your images. It's invaluable input. You may pick up a few technical tips during the discussion, too. Most importantly for beginners, you'll learn to evaluate images and see them as photographs rather than just pictures of things.

Competition judges look for a combination of technical proficiency and overall visual impact. On the technical side, things are pretty objective. Is the subject in focus, properly exposed, and so on. However, there's a lot of subjectivity involved, too. While a poorly executed image is easy to spot, scoring several high-quality photographs can be a challenge. One judge may score a well-executed image higher or lower than another judge. It's just the way it goes.

When evaluating your image, a good judge will offer a few constructive comments on what's working and what's not working, and then give it a score. After you get a few competitions under your belt, you'll start to anticipate a judge's comments as he or she reviews your pictures and those of other competitors. Sometimes you'll agree with the comments and sometimes you won't. Regardless, you'll be developing your eye and will be able to apply that experience and skill when you evaluate your own images.

Don't let the prospect of competing intimidate you if you're a beginner. Everybody has to start somewhere. Many clubs try to level the field a bit by sorting members into groups based on skill level such as beginner, intermediate and advanced. This way new photographers aren't competing against experienced pros.

And don't take it too hard if you get a low score or the judge says something negative about your picture. Live and learn. Win or lose – handle it with grace. Remember, too, that judges are human. Sometimes they make mistakes. Take away whatever you find useful from a competition and leave the rest behind.

## **In-Person and Zoom**

The pandemic changed the way photography clubs operate. Clubs used to meet in person, but COVID-19 moved things online for a while with meetings being held via Zoom. Clubs are now starting to drift back to in-person meetings or with hybrid meetings where some people gather and others attend via Zoom.

## **How to Start a Camera Club**

Ironically, one advantage of the pandemic is that it has opened up clubs to the possibility of inviting speakers from all over the country, or even the world, to present via Zoom. Beaming in speakers via Zoom has opened up more opportunities for clubs and for presenters. This probably won't change.

## **How to Find a Photography Club**

Finding a camera club to join is very straightforward. Just do a Google search for "camera clubs" in your area. In addition to looking for traditional camera clubs, check out Meetup.com for photography meetup groups.

If you can't find a local club you can always start one of your own. All you really need are a few photo enthusiasts and a place to meet.

Enlist the help of a few friends as a core group to help get things up and running. Find a venue. Libraries, churches, local art centers, and other civic groups often have space available, sometimes for free or a modest fee. It doesn't have to be fancy.

Create a plan. How often will you meet? What will you do? Have a guest speaker? Competitions? Image sharing? Will you need equipment like a digital projector? Your local library may have one you can use in their meeting room. Maybe one of your members has one you can borrow.

Will you charge dues to offset expenses? If so, create a budget. Most clubs charge dues from around \$20 to \$100 or so a year. In addition, look into other fundraising activities. For example, you could organize a print sale with proceeds going to the club or split between the photographer and club. Some clubs sponsor a photography exhibition and charge an entry fee. After paying for awards, the proceeds go into the club's coffers. Another way to raise money is to host a big-name speaker and charge admission.

Publicize your club at a local camera store or anywhere people meet. Create a Facebook page and get your friends to like and share information about the club. Post a notice on Craigslist and any other community website. Send an announcement to the local newspaper. Do that a couple of weeks before each meeting.

## **Conclusion**

Photography is a practice. A good photography club will give you the support and opportunities you need to help develop your practice. You'll learn, grow and make new friends. Considering the relatively low cost of membership, a camera club is the best value in photography.



**DAVID ALLEN, CSC**  
**Quality Watch Repair**

*Watch Repair- 26 Points*  
*Spring 2022 Quarterly EID-A AM*



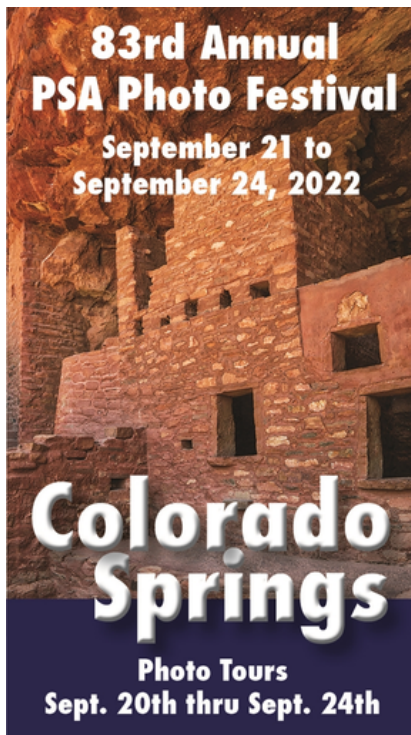
Like to Write? We're looking for technical articles, photo trip experiences, bios, or any other photo related article from those of you who love writing or just want to give it a try. Send articles, etc. to Lisa at [secretary@columbiacameraclubs.org](mailto:secretary@columbiacameraclubs.org).

**83rd Annual  
PSA Photo Festival**

**September 21 to  
September 24, 2022**

**Colorado  
Springs**

**Photo Tours  
Sept. 20th thru Sept. 24th**



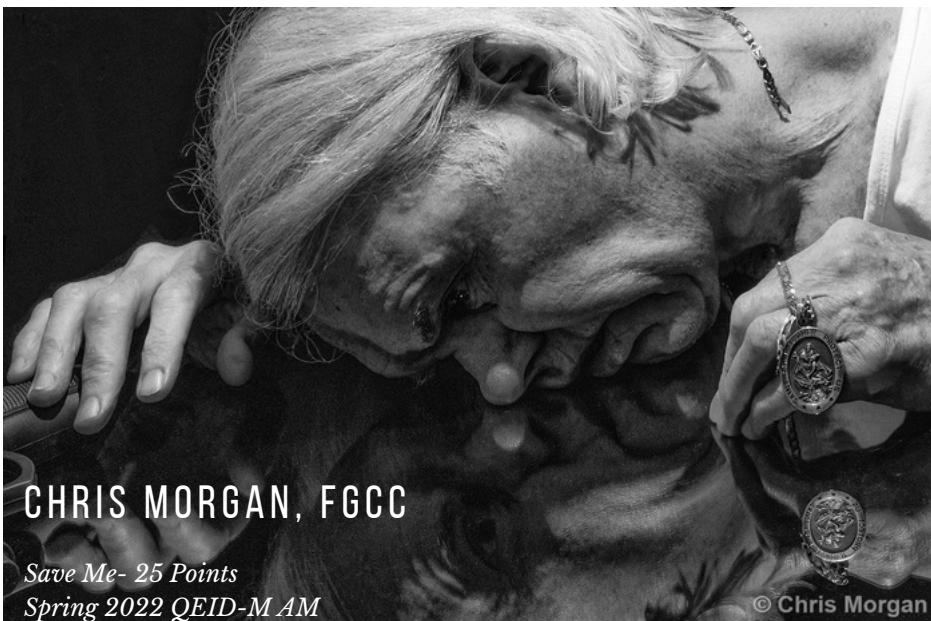
**CYNTHIA BRISENO, CAVE**

*Reflection- 26 Points*  
*Spring 2022 Quarterly EID-T AM*

© Cynthia Briseno

**CHRIS MORGAN, FGCC**

*Save Me- 25 Points*  
*Spring 2022 QEID-M AM*



© Chris Morgan



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# 4C's Member Clubs

Oregon	Oregon Continued
CAPA Cape Arago Photography Association	TRCC Two Rivers Camera Club
CAVE Caveman Camera Club	VVCC Valley Viewfinders Camera Club
CGCC Columbia Gorge Camera Club	WVCC West Valley Camera Club
CSC Cascade Stereoscopic Club	YAAP Yaquina Art Association Photographers
DECC Double Exposure Camera Club	YVCC Yamhill Valley Camera Club
EPS Emerald Photographic Society	<b>Washington</b>
FGCC Forest Grove Camera Club	BMPC Blue Mountain Photo Club
GPC Gorge Photography Club	FPCC Film Pack Camera Club
GRCC Grande Ronde Camera Club	LLP Lazy Lion Photography
KCCC King City Camera Club	MCC Monticello Camera Club
OCCC Oregon City Camera Club	SCC Spokane Camera Club
OCPA Oregon Coast Photographers Association	SVCC Spokane Valley Camera Club
PPS Portland Photographic Society	TPC Tri-City Photography Club
RDA Rogue Digital Artists	TVCC Treasure Valley Camera Club
SAPC Sisters Area Photography Club	<b>California</b>
SOPA Southern Oregon Photographic Assoc.	RCC Redwood Camera Club
SVF Siuslaw Viewfinders	<b>Idaho</b>
TCPC Tryon Creek Photo Club	BCC Boise Camera Club

## Facebook Chatter Group:

Do you know about our private ChatterGroup on Facebook? Head on over to Facebook and search Columbia Council of Camera Clubs Chatter Group. Answer the questions and we will allow entrance to the group. We have a weekly theme (Snap-It Wednesday) and share any 4C's info as it comes up.

"Taking pictures is savoring life intensely, every hundredth of a second."  
– Marc Riboud



# 2021-2022 Board of Directors

**President.....**Carol Pomes, CAPA.....**chair@columbiacameraclubs.org**  
**Vice-Chair.....**VACANT.....**vice\_chair@columbiacameraclubs.org**  
**Secretary.....**Lisa Diaz, MCC.....**secretary@columbiacameraclubs.org**  
**Treasurer.....**Vivian McAleavey, SOPA.....**treasurer@columbiacameraclubs.org**  
**Mono Print Chair.....**VACANT.....**monochrome@columbiacameraclubs.org**  
**Color Print Chair.....**VACANT.....**color@columbiacameraclubs.org**  
**EID-T Monthly Chair.....**Irene Fields, GPC.....**MEID\_T@columbiacameraclubs.org**  
**EID-ARMS Monthly Chair....**Lisa Diaz, MCC....**MEID\_ARM@columbiacameraclubs.org**  
**EID Quarterly Chair.....***Eileen Hartmann, WVCC*.....**eidquarterly@columbiacameraclubs.org**  
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**Exec Committee.....**Elise Ciralo, OCPA  
**Exec Committee.....***Gordon Battaile, FGCC*  
**Newsletter Editor.....**Lisa Diaz, MCC.....**secretary@columbiacameraclubs.org**

## Changes for 2022-2023

**Vice-Chair.....**YOUR NAME HERE .....**vice\_chair@columbiacameraclubs.org**  
**Mono Print Chair.....**Allen Brooks, VVCC .....**monochrome@columbiacameraclubs.org**  
**Color Print Chair.....**Allen Brooks, VVCC.....**color@columbiacameraclubs.org**  
**EID-T Monthly Chair.....**Charles Edelson, FGCC.....**MEID\_T@columbiacameraclubs.org**

**Website** [www.columbiacameraclubs.org](http://www.columbiacameraclubs.org)

Please make sure you look at the website as it is updated on a regular basis with new information and upcoming events. We hope to keep improving the site, with new information in the near future. If your club is on the 4C's website, please let us know of any changes, so we can keep your club's info current.

Only Club Rep's and Chairs need a login, all information is public unless it is personal addresses and the likes.



Proud member of the PSA