



What is Photo Evaluation and Critique?

Technical analysis: Examining objective elements of the photograph to assess its success.

Exposure: Is the image properly exposed (not too dark or too light)?

Focus and sharpness: Is the subject in focus? Is there any unwanted blur?

Color and contrast: How are colors used? Do they support the mood or detract from it?

Dust and other artifacts: Are there any distracting imperfections?

Artistic and emotional analysis: Evaluating the subjective and creative aspects of the image.

Composition: How is the image framed? How does the arrangement of elements guide the viewer's eye?

Storytelling: Does the photo tell a story or convey a specific narrative?

Mood and emotion: Does the photo evoke a particular feeling in the viewer?

Intent: Is the photographer's goal clear? Does the final image achieve their intention?

Purpose of critique: To help photographers improve and gain new perspectives.

Skill development: Critiques are a tool for improving both technical and artistic skills.

Fresh perspective: An external viewpoint can reveal flaws or strengths the photographer has overlooked.

Self-awareness: Feedback helps photographers understand their own style, potential weaknesses, and how to become more self-editing.

Objective vs. subjective: A critique should balance objective, fact-based observations (like shutter speed) with subjective opinions on emotional impact.



Photo by Brian Loflin



Photo by Barbara Hunley



This Year Has Passed Quickly!

It's hard to realize that it's November already. Turkey Day can't be far away.

This month we are going evaluate images of flying insects for the monthly assignment and a group of images from our annual October scavenger hunt in Luling, Texas.

Next month we will celebrate the end of our club year with our holiday and awards dinner. The event is planned for Friday, December 5 at Waterloo Ice House on Capital of Texas Highway & 2222 (6203 N Capital of Texas Highway). Images from the year will be judged by an outside photographer and awards given for Assignment and General categories as well as photograph of the year.

I am anticipating a year full of activities next year. We will have our monthly meetings with bimonthly evaluations and speakers or programs. Several workshops and field trips are scheduled and other programs during the year as well.

Austin Shutterbug Club is here for you. It's your club and I feel you should do everything you can to get as much out of it as you want. Please speak up and ask for activities and events that you might want to see.

Brian Loflin
President



Holiday Expo

at Precision Camera

November 7th & 8th

Best Prices of the Year!



Assignment Topics for 2025 - 2026

January 2025

Evaluation and review

Doors and Windows - An image where the primary subject is a door(s) and/or window(s) of a building or structure. Composition is the key. Any process. Color or monochrome.

March 2025

Tryptic - Tryptic. A group of three images side by side in one frame that tells a story or sequence. Color.

May 2025

Motion - the passage of time. Long or short. Color or monochrome.

July 2025

Unusual Vantage Point - An unusual perspective of your subject. Monochrome.

September 2025

Significant Detail - An in-focus image that reveals not just detail, but significant detail within the whole. Color.

November 2025



Insect in Flight - Simply that. Color.

January 2026

An Iconic Austin Mural - Must include the architecture that supports the painting. Color.



Photography is a small voice, at best, but sometimes one photograph, or a group of them, can lure our sense of awareness.

- W. Eugene Smith -

Austin Shutterbug Club

Northwest Recreation Center

Meeting Minutes for October 2, 2025

CALLED TO ORDER BY Brian Loflin at 7:00 pm.

Brian read a thank you note from Margie Holland regarding the card and plant the club sent in memory of Pete. He also commented on the sad passing of Dr. Jane Goodall who had been scheduled to speak here next week. Brian requested a head count on those planning to attend the Scavenger Hunt this coming Saturday. It will be in Luling. We are to meet at Zedler Mill, 1170 S Laurel Ave, Luling, TX at 9:00 am. Barbara will send out details to those who are coming. Brian will give a photo list and then we will meet back together at 12:30 for lunch and image discussion.

Brian then introduced member Mike Martin for his presentation on MidJourney, an AI program that creates photographic art. This program creates images in AI in three ways – using a photographic image to start, starting from written descriptions only, and videos. Videos are 4 seconds long but can be stacked up to 16 seconds. Mike demonstrated how the program works and showed multiple images and processes. Mike creates the images in draft form to make the process go more quickly, and he chooses his favorites to upgrade to print quality. The images are not cannot be copyrighted, nor are they eligible to submit to photography competitions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Jill McLain
Secretary



NEXT MEETING DATE!

Thursday, November 6, 2025

7:00pm

Northwest Recreation Center

2913 Northland Dr, Austin, TX 78757

Visitors welcome!



We are on Facebook!

