At the Sparta Camera Club Meeting on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, we will provide an opportunity for a directed self critique of your photos using the questions outlined below. Each member can talk about the photos they have submitted and why they liked them. SCC Master Photographer members will also provide additional comments and suggestions on each photo.

**Ten important questions to ask yourself when you are critiquing your own photos:**

1. What do you notice first when you look at your photo? Is it the intended subject? If not, what is the intended subject of your photo?
2. Is the exposure correct or is it too dark or too light?
3. Is the subject of your photo sharp? If the subject is an animal or person, is the eye sharp and does it have a catchlight?
4. Is there anything obstructing or overlapping your intended subject?
5. Are there any unnecessary objects on the edges or unnecessary bright spots that may be distracting?
6. Where is the subject located in the picture? Is it consistent with the Golden Rule or Rule of Thirds, i.e. not in the center? If the subject is moving or could move, is there room in front of the subject?
7. What leads your eye through the picture and keeps it within the picture?
8. If your photo has people or animals are they complete or did you cut off part of their anatomy? (Unless it is a portrait or close up of a portion of an animal or person.)
9. If your subject is a macro or close up of a plant or insect, is the background blurred?
10. Are your items of interest arranged in diagonals, triangle or diamond shapes? (What shapes are created as your eye travels through the picture.)
11. Does your photo pop? Is there a “WOW” factor? In competitions, you need this to differentiate your photo from those of other photographers. Note: simple is often better to elicit this emotion.