



## Habits of Successful Photographers

By Val Sleger

You alone get to define what “success” means in terms of your photography. Are you successful if you find a unique way to photograph an iconic landmark? Are you a professional who measures success by the satisfaction of clients and a positive bottom line in your spreadsheet? Are you a beginner who feels successful in mastering Manual mode? Any of these scenarios can be a measure of success, so skim the metrics below to see if you are hitting your personal goals.

1. Be ready to learn. No matter where you are in your photography journey, there is always something new to understand or master. Approach this hobby with an open mind.
2. Know your equipment. Dig into the manual. Experiment with different settings and options.
3. Practice. Practice, practice, practice. Planning a hike to photograph birds? Before the day comes, practice shooting photos of your backyard visitors. Going on a trip and planning to catch the sunrise while on vacation? Get up early and take some shots close to home.
4. Learn to use productivity tools. No matter how good we are, chances are that you'll have to fine-tune your photos when you get home using post-processing software. There are many good options available, and most will offer short-term free trials so you can find the program that works best for you.
5. Look for inspiration. Join a camera club (see what I did there?) Follow a photography blog or Instagram site. Look through the website of places you want to visit.
6. Seek out and accept feedback. While photography is an art, and not everyone sees artistic work the same way, asking for and receiving feedback can help you improve your skills.
7. Back up your photos. There are plenty of options to complete this essential task. Back up to Google Photos, OneDrive, iCloud, Backblaze, CrashPlan, or just to a second hard drive. Automate the task with simple backup software. I use Ashampoo Pro to back up to an external hard drive.

Below are some links that inspired this article. Check them out for more ideas.

[10 Habits of a Successful Photographer](#)

[10 Habits of Successful Photographers](#) (different article)

[21 Habits of Successful Photographers](#) (YouTube playlist; each video is less than 1 minute long)

## Weekly Challenge

We're changing up the challenge words this year. At each meeting of the Club, held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, four challenge prompts will be presented for the following month. Focus on one word or phrase each week to complete all four to share at the following month's meeting. Folks who can't attend the meetings will get the list in the newsletter. March challenge photos will be shown at the March meeting and included in the April newsletter.

**March**  
Button  
Inspiration

Inspiration  
My Town  
Song: Up with the Birds (by Coldplay)

### Meeting Schedule

Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at the Sierra Vista Police Station Training Room, 911 Coronado, Sierra Vista. Meetings begin at 4 PM. The meeting topic for March is a trip report on birding in Cuba, given by Bob Luce.

★ **Congratulations** to members **Joyce Genske** and **Bob Bosier** for having photos chosen to be placed on display in the City of Sierra Vista Council Chambers. Well done! ★

### Share Your Knowledge

We all know something about photography, right? Why not volunteer to give a presentation at one of the monthly meetings? You could teach a new skill, lead a discussion about a YouTube video you found interesting or challenging, or share photos from your latest photo adventure. Talk to one of the officers if you are interested. We'd all love to see what you come up with!

### Officers

**President:** Mark Hanna  
**Vice-President & Program Coordinator:** Bob Luce  
**Secretary:** Joyce Genske  
**Treasurer:** Madeleine Charron

### Is it time to evaluate your passwords?

Mark Hanna sent in this thought-provoking table. Give your own passwords a thought. With password requirements getting longer and more complex, maybe it's time to consider password management software.



## Password Strength Table

**TIME IT TAKES FOR A HACKER TO CRACK YOUR PASSWORD**

Number of Characters	Numbers Only	Lowercase Letters	Upper and Lowercase Letters	Numbers, Upper and Lowercase Letters	Numbers, Upper and Lowercase Letters, Symbols
4	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
5	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
6	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	1 sec	5 secs
7	Instantly	Instantly	25 secs	1 min	6 mins
8	Instantly	5 secs	22 mins	1 hour	8 hours
9	Instantly	2 mins	19 hours	3 days	3 weeks
10	Instantly	58 mins	1 month	7 months	3 years
11	2 secs	1 day	5 years	41 years	400 years
12	25 secs	3 weeks	300 years	2k years	34k years
13	4 mins	1 year	16k years	100k years	2m years
14	41 mins	51 years	800k years	9m years	200m years
15	6 hours	1k years	43m years	600m years	15 bn years
16	2 days	34k years	2bn years	37bn years	11n years
17	4 weeks	800k years	100bn years	2n years	93tn years
18	9 months	23m years	61n years	100 tn years	7qd years


Cybersecurity that's approachable.  
Find out more at [hivesystems.io](https://hivesystems.io)

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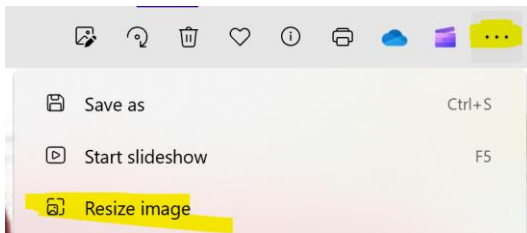
## Submitting Files for the Web Site?

Our President, Mark Hanna, manages the Club web site. To help him keep submitted photos organized and the file sizes small, he has asked that members follow certain file naming and file size conventions. Here's what you need to know.

Bring files to the monthly meeting, on a flash drive labeled with your name. Mark will keep the drive and return it at the following meeting, so you'll want to have two drives available.

Name your files as follows: **Meeting-Your First Name-01**, **Meeting-Your First Name-02**, etc. If you want to add additional characters following the number, such as a description of the image, please keep the total number of characters (including the name and number) to about 30.

Resize your images to be 700 px on the longest side. You can do this in Windows Photos. Open the photo in Photos. Click on the 3-dot menu, choose Resize image, and enter a dimension of 700 px on the long side. The short side will resize automatically.



You can also resize Images in either Photoshop Elements or Photoshop, or in a native Mac application. Hit up Google for specific instructions.

Mark keeps a separate section for photos from Club outings. To submit those, please use the same naming conventions as described above, substituting the word Outing for Meeting.

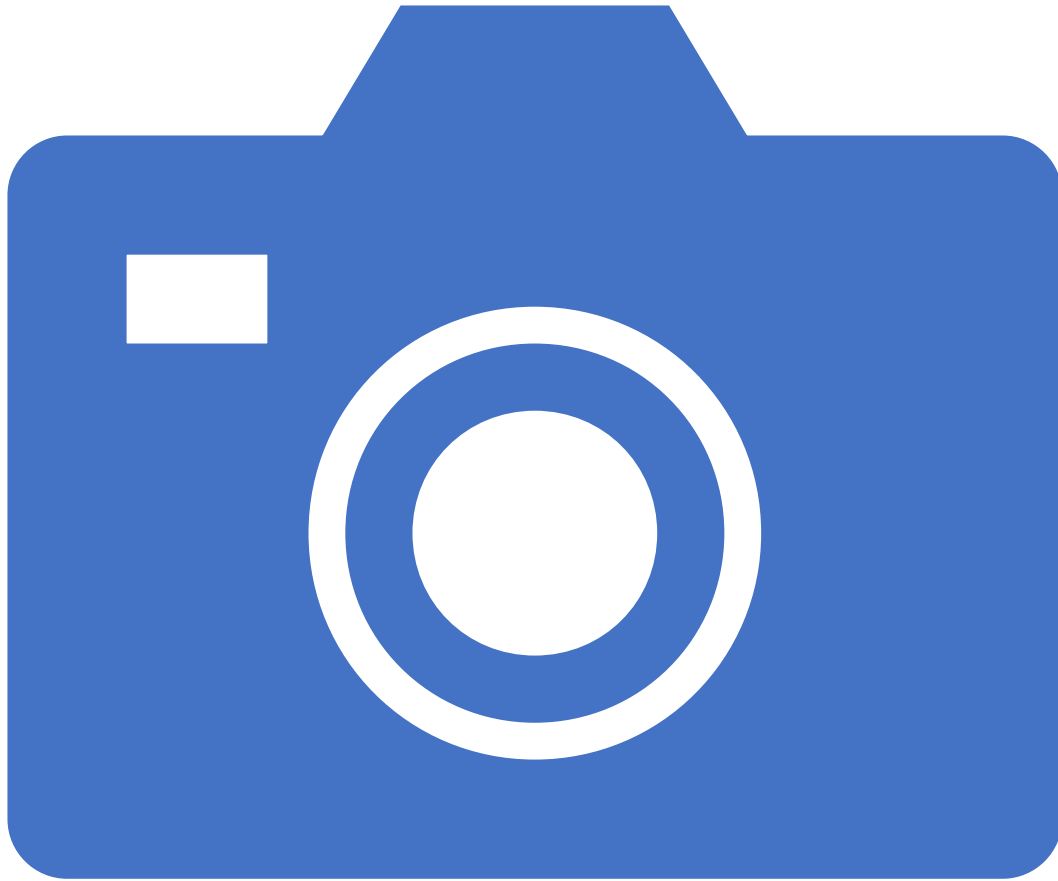
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## Giddy-Up, Club Members

Anyone interested in trying out your photography skills at the Cochise College Rodeo? Anyone interested will need to get a pass to get on post (free), so get that taken care of ahead of time.

A promotional poster for the Cochise College Rodeo. The main title 'COCHISE COLLEGE RODEO' is in large, bold, red letters. Below it, it says 'With the Sierra Vista Riding Club' and 'MARCH 16-17, 2024' in large black letters. The location is 'Wren Arena • Fort Huachuca'. The poster lists ticket prices: 'ADVANCE TICKETS \$8', 'TICKETS AT GATE \$10', 'Children 6 and Under and Active Duty Military with ID: FREE', and '2-DAY WRISTBAND \$15'. It also includes contact information: 'INFO 520-533-2404' and logos for 'COCHISE COLLEGE' and 'MWR'. The bottom of the poster features an illustration of several rodeo riders on horseback.





## Member Photos

We love to see your photos – even if you aren't looking for challenge words.  
We showcase them in the newsletter, and you are encouraged to bring  
them to the meeting on a flash drive!

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**January challenge words:**

Circles

Technology

Homemade

Song: Sound of Music

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*Submitted by Ava Englund. These were inadvertently left out of the February newsletter.*



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Sound of Music



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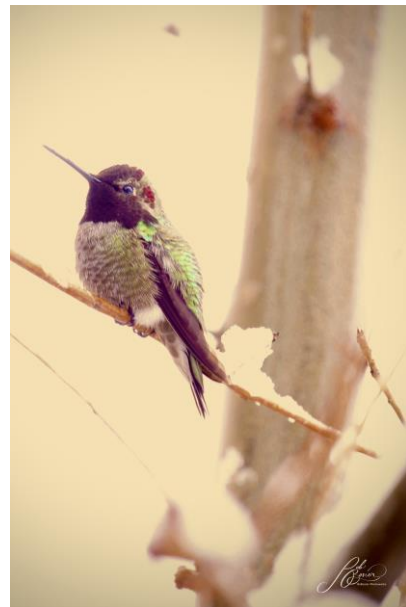
Hobby

Leading Lines

(Song) Power of Love

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*Submitted by Bob Bosier.*



Crisp

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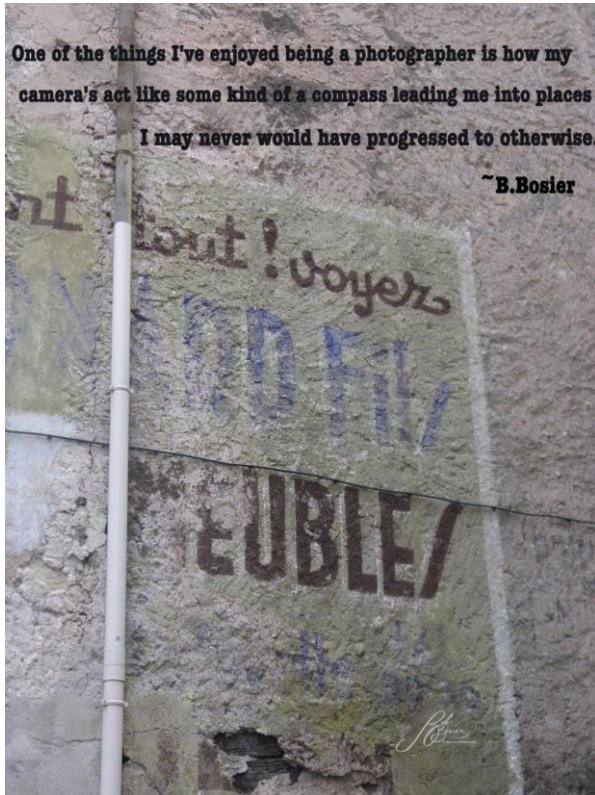
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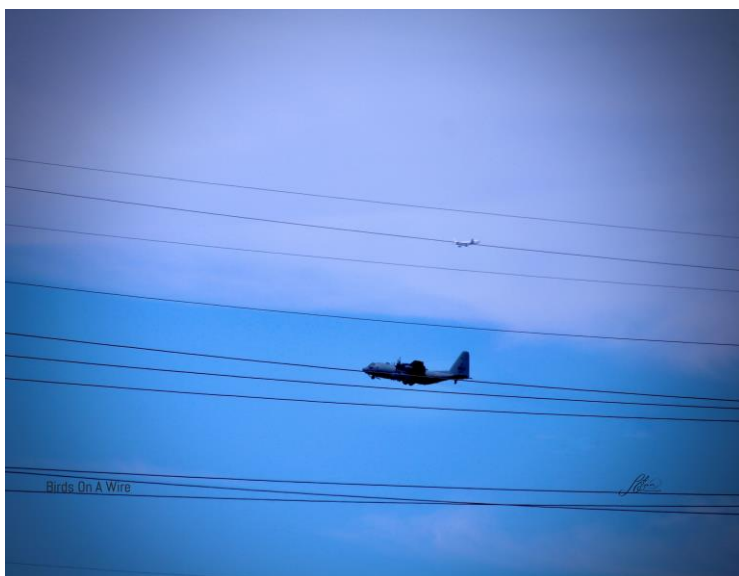
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The Power of Love



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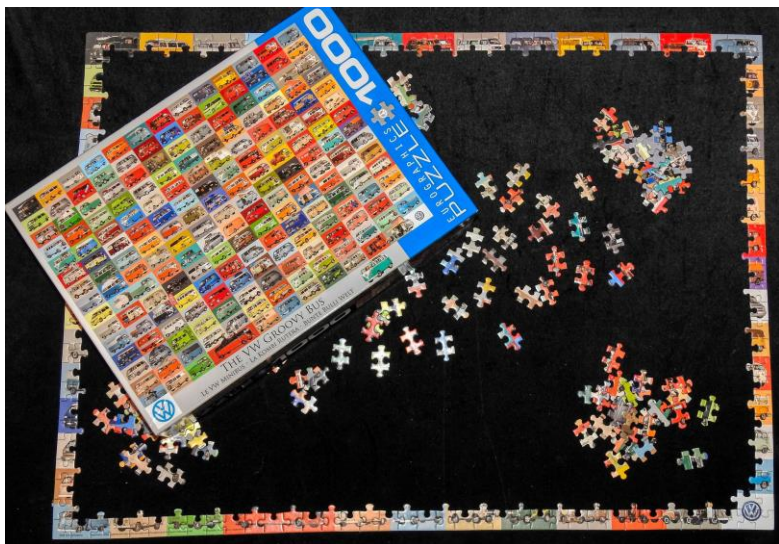
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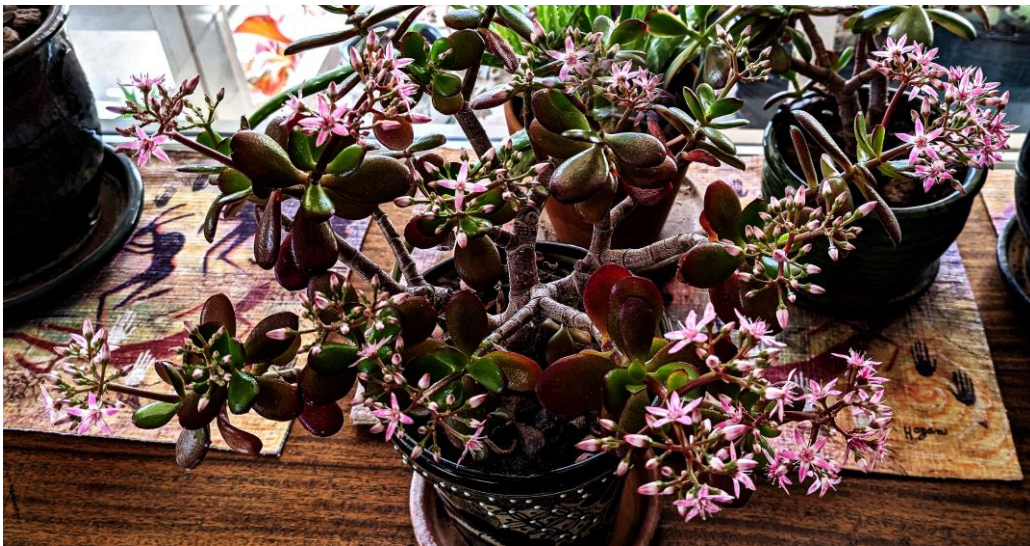
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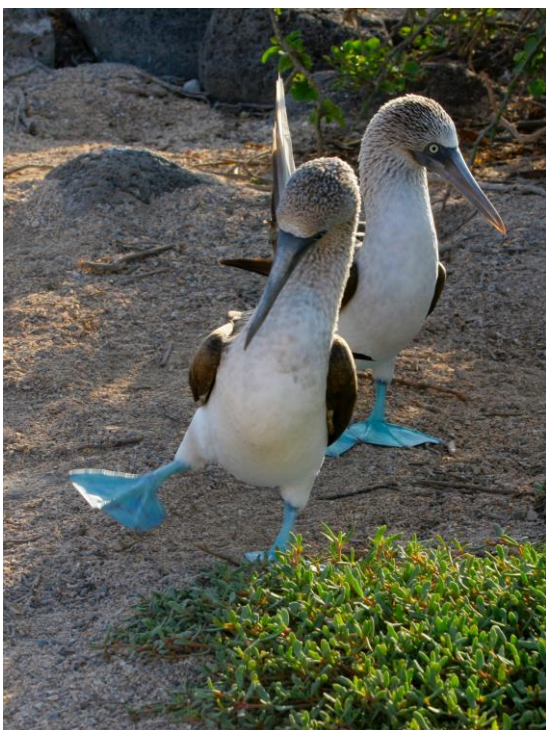
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*Submitted by Betsy Kunzer.*



The Power of Love



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**Members are always invited to submit photos that do not fall into the Challenge categories.**

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*Submitted by Ande Savage.*

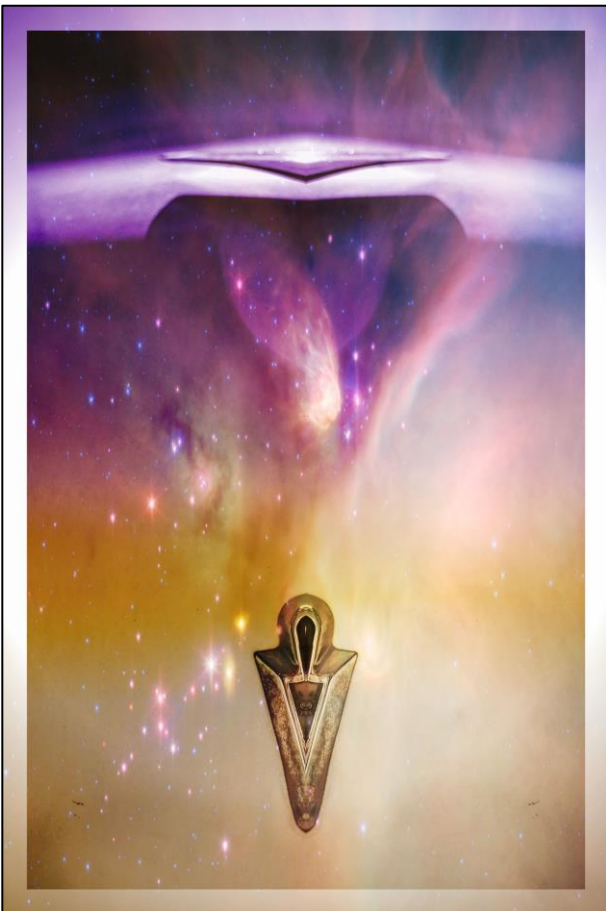
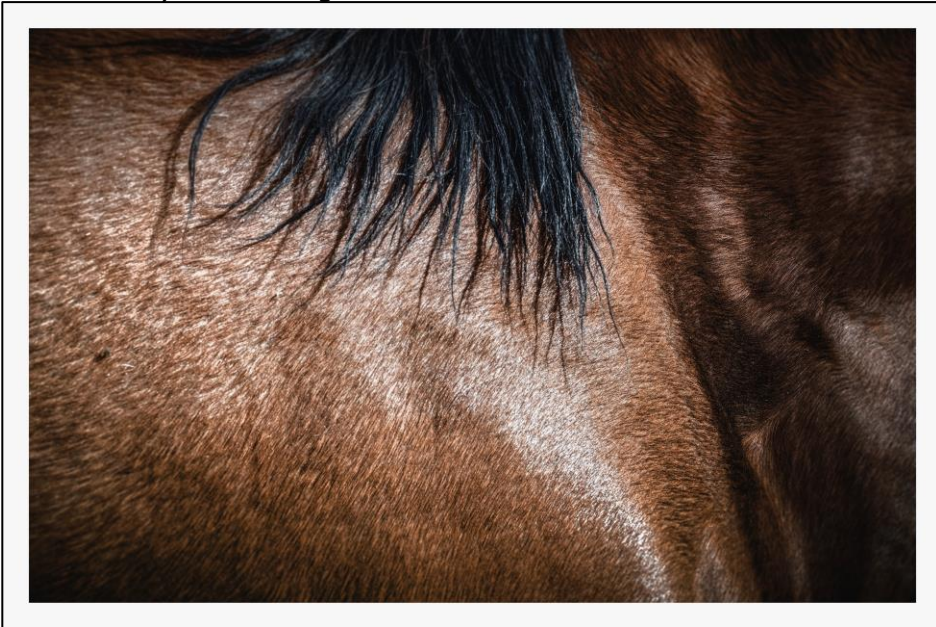


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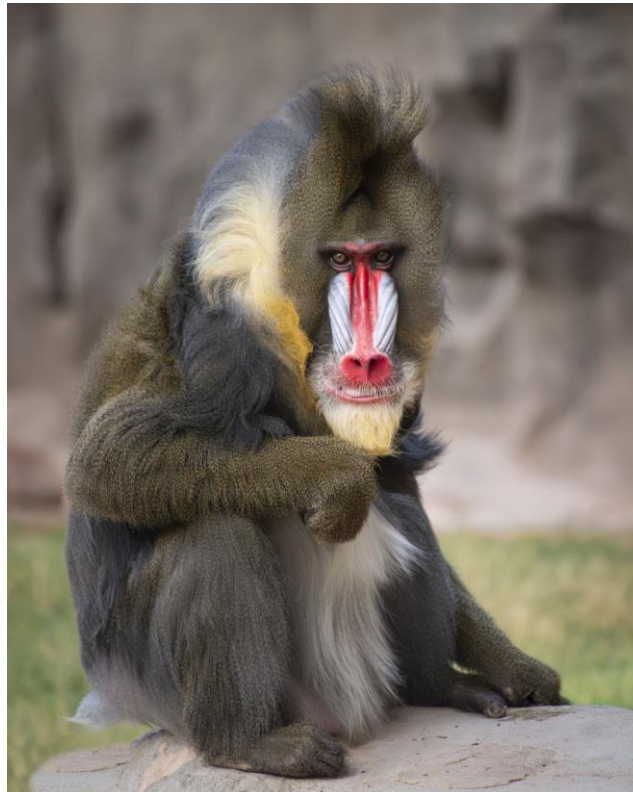


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