



Digital Focus

Newsletter of the Calumet Region Photo Club

January, 2014
Volume 5, Issue 4

Editor: Dave Dornberg

<http://www.calregionphoto.org>

Inside This Issue

- 1 Upcoming Meetings
- 1-2 President's Message
- 2 Matte Board Sales
- 3 5th Annual Photo Clinic
- 3 Board Meeting Minutes

Club Information

Calumet Region Photo Club meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. The 2nd Tuesday is our general meeting, and the 4th Tuesday is competition night (September - March only). Meetings are from 7 pm - 9 pm at the Munster Social Center located in Community Park at 8751 Lions Club Drive.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 14, 2014 - Scott Kelby's "7 Point System" video presented by Raleigh Wolfe - Part 1

Tuesday, February 11, 2014 - Scott Kelby's "7 Point System" video presented by Raleigh Wolfe - Part 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bob Cross

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Another year has passed. I hope the New Year finds you full of photographic energy. CRPC has a balanced program of educational speakers, competitions, field trips and social gatherings. We hope that you will take advantage of the complete package.

Happy New Year to all.

RESCHEDULED PROGRAM

We were all setup to have Jerry Lipski present a Sports Photography program at our January program when he advised us that he would be unable to make his presentation as a result of receiving a request from one of his larger clients to take some photographs at their Minnesota facility. He was not able to change the date. Therefore, we were forced to revert to a DVD program on Scott Kelby's 7 Point System that will be moderated by Raleigh Wolfe. Attendees will find that Mr. Kelby's system can be used with any post-processing photographic program. It should help us all in streamlining our after-the-shot procedures. We owe many thanks to Raleigh for being able to present this program on such a short notice.

We are hoping that we can reschedule

Mr. Lipski's Sports Photography program in the near future. Stay tuned.

DECEMBER PROGRAM

You missed an excellent program if you didn't attend Canon representative Edward Meyers' presentation on lenses. Thanks to Michael Kobe for arranging the program, Mr. Meyers brought a selection of Canon lenses for close inspection. His presentation explained which lens would be best for each situation encountered and why.

2014 CLINIC

Clinic Chairperson Susan Stassin has lined up three speakers for our 2014 Clinic to be held at the Performing Arts Center in Munster on March 15, 2014. Refer to our website for a biography on each of the speakers and their respective subjects. Now that the hard part has been accomplished with regards to the Clinic, we need volunteers to man the various jobs that need to be performed in order to put on another top-notch photography clinic: Publicity, greeters, and information personnel, obtaining and awarding door prizes, etc. Talk with Susan or me if you can help out in one of these areas. There is still a lot of work to do.

Susan has set up a PayPal account so that potential attendees can register over the Internet. We are hopeful that

this improvement will help to increase the Clinic's attendance.

COMPETITION

Competition nights are held every 4th Tuesday night (September through May) at 7:00 PM at the Social Center in Munster. They are well attended. If you are new to competition, come on out and see how it is done. Then, enter some images in the next month's competition and see how you do. You are bound to learn a lot about your favorite hobby. If you have questions regarding how to compete, ask any club officer. They will be able to answer your question or direct you to someone that can.

The procedure for competing in CACCA's Inter-club competition (4th Tuesday at CRPC's meeting) and CACCA's Individual competitions are given on our website. If anyone has questions regarding the procedure, contact me at rpcross@ameritech.net or (708) 799-7778. If I can't answer the question, I will direct you to someone that can.

ADDITIONAL COMPETITIONS

CRPC held three trial competitions that mirrored CACCA's Special Category Themed DPI competitions during October through December 2013. Due to the relatively low participation, the CRPC Board decided to end the trial. However, we are open to additional competitions. If anyone has any ideas, please communicate them to a Board member.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaires have been circulated to enable your Board to determine subjects of interest to the membership at its regular monthly meetings. Ideas for field trips were also solicited. If you haven't filled out a questionnaire, pick one up at the membership table on your way into the next meeting. The questionnaire will also be available on the CRPC website. Results should be recapped and presented in the near future.

PHOTOS OF MUNSTER PARK DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

As part of our obligation to the Munster Park District, we are committed to taking pictures of a few of their events each year. Please contact me at (708) 799-7778 or rpcross@ameritech.net if you can help. We really need to provide the Park District with some up-to-date images.

REMINDER

WE NEED TO VACATE THE SOCIAL CENTER AT 9:00 PM SHARP FOR BOTH PROGRAM AND COMPETITION MEETINGS. Otherwise, the club will incur a fee to cover additional cleaning crew expenses.

DIGITAL FOCUS ROUNDTABLE

Dave Dornberg moderates these meetings and requests that potential attendees reserve a spot as seating is limited. These meetings are held at Mrs. Dornberg's 24 Carrot Cuisine in

Highland IN, usually on the third Sunday of each month. Dave usually requests attendees to bring four images to be critiqued by the group. Thus, it can be a real learning experience for each participant. The next meeting of the Digital Focus Roundtable will be on Sunday, January 19, 2014 at 12:00 Noon.

BOARD MEETINGS

Our last Board meeting was held on Wednesday 1/8/14 at 6:30 PM at the Fitness Pointe in Munster. All Board meetings are open to all CRPC members. Please feel free to join us. Abbreviated minutes are published in the CRPC newsletter. The date, time and location of each Board meeting are published on the CRPC website.

CRPC APPAREL

A newly designed line of apparel with the new CRPC logo is now available at St John Sports on Indianapolis Boulevard in St John. A few of our members are sporting the new clothing. It is high quality and very distinctive. A variety of shirts, sweat-shirts and caps is available. Find an order form on our website or order directly in the store. The clothing will help identify members at future meetings and outings. Note: Pricing is at cost---CRPC does not profit from these sales.

FIELD TRIPS

Last year in 2013 we had a number of field trips which included: Oak Ridge Prairie, Morton Arboretum, Taltree Arboretum, Kankakee River State Park and the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's Pinhook Bog. If you would like to lead another group to one of your favorite locations, let me know so that we can publicize the event via the newsletter and in an e-mail blast to the membership.

We are in the preliminary stages of planning a field trip to the Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids, MI in early May. Hopefully, details will be available next month.

CRPC NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

We need articles for our monthly newsletter. All submittals should be sent to Dave Dornberg at [cpcwebmaster@comcast.net](mailto:crcpcwebmaster@comcast.net). (Note: Dave has changed the due date for inclusion of articles into the newsletter to the Wednesday prior to the Program meeting, which is always the second Tuesday of each month).

To have some of your images included on the website's gallery, send a collection of your best images to Dave at the same web address. Our club takes some great photos. Let's display them on the Internet.

MATTE BOARD SALES

Matte board sales are handled by Dennis Gray.
This is a non-profit activity and is strictly a service to members.

11"x14" black matte board @\$.90
16"x20" black matte board @\$1.25
11"x14" white matte board w/self adhesive @\$.90

CRPC's 5TH ANNUAL PHOTO CLINIC

Our annual clinic will be held Saturday, March 15, 2014, at the Center for Performing Arts in Munster, Indiana. The registration fee is \$60 which includes three exceptional speakers, a continental breakfast and tasty luncheon. During the breaks, there will be vendors displaying the latest photography equipment and services for you to browse and shop. You will not be disappointed with these very talented speakers who will spark your creative juices, teach you new skills and share their wealth of experience.

Our first speaker is **James Cook**. For over three decades, he has been an internationally respected photojournalist with his work appearing in prestigious publications including Time, Newsweek, Forbes and The Washington Post. Many of his images are held in museums, private and corporate collections. His portraits have included presidents and an array of celebrities. Jim has worked extensively for the Associated Press and was prominently featured in a nationally televised PBS special on contemporary photographers for his award winning photographic documentary on Native Americans with these photographs now housed in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C.

Jim will give his presentation entitled "Seeing Things." Creating great images is a matter of seeing them in the first place. Practiced observation plus awareness of light and composition is what enables some photographers to consistently turn seemingly ordinary scenes into exceptional images.

This seminar is about creating art rather than photographs. It starts with a dialog in defining art and what makes a photograph art. The discussion moves on to how to be more observant and to thoughtfully explore visual opportunities. Then it turns to how to work out the best angles and compositions and why one may work better than others. Thoroughly non-technical, this seminar is designed to stimulate your eye and imagination; the key elements to seeing what others overlook.

James Cook's website may be found here:
<http://www.jamescook.biz/>

Our second speaker is **Dean Pennala**. Dean has been an avid nature photographer for thirty years. His goal in photographing a nature subject is to translate his vision and feeling for it into a digital image. He tries to capture the essence of his subject. His photography allows him to slow down mentally, live in the present moment, and see the nuances and details of nature about him.

Being in the field, often times, allows him to feel like his best, his highest self. His photographs have appeared in a variety of publications including Sierra Magazine, Whisper in the Woods Nature Journal, and Lake Superior Magazine and calendars. His nature photography workshops and classes have been presented in several locations in Michigan. Dean teaches nature photography classes at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts.

The program Dean will present is "Photographing Nature's Details." He will share with you how to use natural light to create memorable images of macro nature subjects. Topics to be shared include selecting the best equipment, artful composition, background control, visual hierarchy, how to get maximum sharpness and the use of diffusers and reflectors. Dean will share how you in the field can successfully photograph dew covered insects, wildflowers, frosted subjects, plant oils, and other unique and beautiful details in the natural world. In addition, Dean will discuss how you can develop your own personal style in photography and help you to think about why creating photographs has meaning.

Dean's Pennala's website may be found here:
<http://www.pennalaphotography.com/-/pennalaphotography/>

For our final speaker, we have international travel photographer **Ralph Velasco**. He is a travel photography instructor, author and international tour guide organizing tours around the world which have included Egypt, Mexico's Copper Canyon, Central Europe, Morocco, Spain, Death Valley, Bhutan, Nepal, Cambodia, Chicago and San Francisco. He's the author of several travel photography books explaining tips and tricks he's learned from the road, as well as providing over 100 sample images and interesting quotes. Ralph has a new e-book and digital application developed for his shot list method.

Ralph's presentation, Working from a Shot List to Improve Your Travel Photography, will talk about researching, preparing for and successfully embarking on a trip that focuses on photography. Along with a series of powerful tips for using a shot list in order to create a well- rounded set of photographs that truly captures the essence of a place and tells a complete story, Ralph will discuss a variety of gear and packing tips. Additionally he'll explain his system for image storage and backup.

Ralph Velasco's website may be found here:
<http://ralphvel>

CRPC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

By Nancy DePaoli

CRPC Board met on December 9, 2013, Monday at the Fitness Point in Munster IN at 6:30pm. Present: Bob Cross, Tom Zmigrocki, Susan Stassin, Nancy DePaoli, Raleigh Wolfe.

The Board agreed to accept Pay Pal as a form of payment for our March 15, 2014 Photo Clinic tickets.

Our questionnaires will again be available at our January 14, 2014 meeting for our members to fill out to help us plan our monthly meetings and activities.

We need more volunteers to take pictures at the Munster Park District monthly events. Doing this allows our Club to utilize the social center for our meetings.

March 8, 2014 is the Post card competition, so come to our meeting January 14 and find out more.