



Digital Focus

Newsletter of the Calumet Region Photo Club

January, 2015
Volume 6, Issue 5

Editor: Dave Dornberg

<http://www.calregionphoto.org>

Inside This Issue

1 Upcoming Meeting

President's Message

2 Scheduled Board Meetings

Matte Sales for Competition

CRPC Saturday Morning Photography Breakfast

2-3 Digital Bits & Bytes

The 3 States of Water in Winter

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 MEETING

Tuesday, January 13, 2015 - Chris Smith will give a presentation on "Shooting at Night in Chicago".

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Susan Stassin

Hello CRPC Members. I hope you all have had a nice holiday season and are looking forward to all the photographic opportunities upcoming in 2015! But boy, is it cold out there!

For those of you unable to attend our annual Holiday Party, you missed some great food and conversation. Bobbi Czajka organized another wonderful party and on behalf of the Board, thank you so much, Bobbi.

Our next club meeting is Tuesday, January 13, and our presenter will be Chris Smith who is a member of the Garden Society club. He will give a presentation on night time photography and his favorite places to photograph around Chicago. Amongst his many activities, Chris manages the website outofchicago.com for photographers and has organized the 2015 Out of Chicago Photography Conference. This year's conference June 26-28, 2015 will have highly regarded photographers Bryan Peterson, Elia Locardi, Jim Harmer, Marie Laigneau, Mike Moats and several others giving workshops covering a variety of topics. Registration has just opened and if you read the email forwarded by Bob Cross, super early bird registration was \$100 (due by January 6), but the early bird price of \$299 is

available through April 15. Full registration price is \$399 after April 15. It sounds like a great event!

A couple of weeks ago, Raleigh and I were invited to be guests on Juan Andrade's radio program Nuestra Comunidad NWI on WLTH AM 1370. We had the opportunity to promote CRPC, the Clinic, and photography as a hobby/business in general. Juan was very welcoming, helping us to feel comfortable in the spot light, and I want to thank him for giving us this publicity opportunity. I haven't been "on air" since I called in to the Jonathan Brandmeier Show years ago.

Our 6th Annual Photography Clinic on February 21 is zipping along. Registration flyers have been distributed amongst the CACCA clubs and Bob has forwarded the email copy to all CRPC members. I am really excited about these speakers and hope that you will all try to attend. The Clinic is a great value at \$60 and this year, all attendees will receive a free copy of onOne's Perfect Enhance software. Please make sure if you are members of other photography clubs to promote our clinic there as well as the profits generated from this event help fund CRPC activities. Dennis Gray has been instrumental in publicizing the Clinic as well as each of our monthly club activities, but it helps to have as many members as possible

to spread the word about the Clinic. As we get closer to the event, I will be asking for volunteers to help us with the day's activities.

While many of us feel like hibernating this time of year, there are still opportunities for field trips. Please do not hesitate to give the Board your suggestions, and if you would like to coordinate or lead a trip, we encourage you to let us know. Hope to see you on Tuesday.

SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

We have scheduled our Board meetings for the upcoming year and everyone is invited to attend. They are held at 6:30 p.m. at The Fitness Pointe across from Centennial Park in Munster, Indiana. If there is a date change, we will notify the membership.

January 29 (Thurs)	June 24
February 25	July 29
March 25	August 26
April 29	
May 27	

MATTE BOARD SALES FOR COMPETITION

The club provides photo matte boards to current Calumet Region Photo Club members. Boards in the following sizes and prices are:

11"x14" black matte board w/out adhesive for \$.90

16"x20" black matte board w/out adhesive for \$1.25

Matte boards are available for purchase at club meetings. Please email Dennis Gray dennisw.gray@gmail.com with the number of boards you would like to purchase.

CRPC SATURDAY MORNING PHOTOGRAPHY BREAKFAST

By Bob Cross

Our last breakfast meeting at Hope's Corner Cafe in Griffith was well attended. Only one less than our first get-together. And five new faces joined us. To date, 25 CRPC members have joined us at one or both of the breakfasts.

The next CRPC Saturday morning breakfast will be back at Jedi Gardens, also in Griffith, on Saturday, 1/17/2015, at 9:00 AM. Save that date and join us.

Please let me know if anyone knows of a restaurant somewhere near Munster where we can reserve a quiet, dark room so that we can talk photography and, possibly, project images for a critique session. As of this writing, we have not been able to find any. It would be possible to get such a space if we changed our meeting from a Saturday breakfast to a luncheon. It's just that I'm not ready to do that yet.

DIGITAL BITS & BYTES

The 3 States of Water in Winter

When the temps dip, many warm weather photographers go into hibernation and wait until spring to start shooting again. Winter provides endless photo opportunities and some may be as close as your backyard or a local forest preserve that has a pond, lake or stream.

It's best to scout streams, ponds or other bodies of water before they are covered in snow.

Look for patterns in ice where air has become trapped beneath it. When thawing occurs, water may run for a short period of time creating strange patterns, complete with different shades of white, gray and black. Sometimes other colors will be present especially when plants are part of the freezing process.



Planetary Collision by Dave Dornberg

High contrast and texture creates striking abstracts. Use a macro lens, tripod and remote release and get close to the ice to capture subjects such as ice crystals sitting on the surface of the ice when the air temperature is extremely cold as in the case below. This crystal was sitting on my pond.



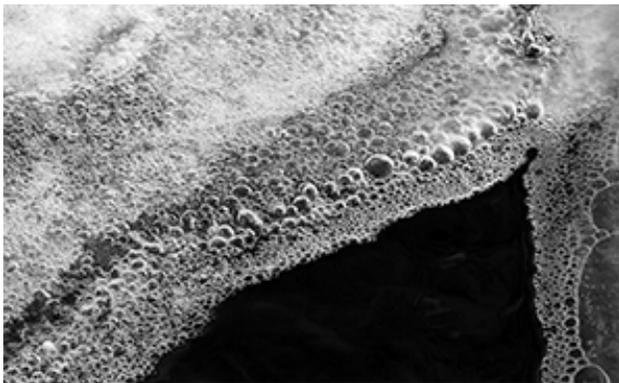
Ice Crystal by Dave Dornberg

Objects such as leaves, twigs or other plant materials that are frozen either under the ice or sitting on top of it can make interesting macro shots too.



Crystallized Leaflet by Dave Dornberg

Showing water in different states such as ice, snow, liquid, air bubbles or running water adds a sense of action to the overall photo. Again using a tripod and a macro lens, I shot the image below showing liquid water, air bubbles not frozen and finally frozen air bubbles.



Ice Bubbles by Dave Dornberg

Other types of beautiful ice sculptures await on window panes in winter, so a photographer never needs to leave the warmth of the house on a sub zero day. Hoarfrost forms at low temperatures and creates beautiful abstracts. Again using a macro lens, a tripod and remote release, I shot the following image between two panes of thermal glass.

The hoarfrost was shot with a beautiful blue sky behind it.

Details: Canon 65mm MP-E lens at F9, 1/25th, ISO 200 to capture these crystals at 5 times life size. Temperature outside -4F



Blue Hoarfrost by Dave Dornberg

If snowflakes are your game, then get the macro lens, tripod and remote release and go hunting for them when the temperature dips to around 10 degrees or lower. The lower the temperature the better the odds of capturing a single flake or flakes before they sublime or evaporate from a solid.

I used a Canon Powershot G3 point and shoot with a normal 50mm F1.4 lens attached in reverse to capture the snowflake below.



Snowflake by Dave Dornberg

So don't sit still this winter while the cold wind blows, get outside or better still go to your nearest window pane and look for hoarfrost and start shooting nature's finest abstracts.

Remember to carry extra batteries next to your body to keep them warm because shooting in low temperature causes the battery in the camera to give you less time the lower the temperature drops.