



Digital Focus

Newsletter of the Calumet Region Photo Club

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<http://www.calregionphoto.org>

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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, February 12 - Selected members will present an image and tell how they shot and processed it.

Tuesday, March 12 - Jimmy Sommers from Goose's Scuba Shack will speak about Underwater Photography. Member George Kvarta will speak about Sports Photography

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bob Cross

I hope that you have registered for our all-day clinic at the Performing Arts Center on Ridge Road in Munster on Saturday, 2/16/2013. It will start at 8:00 AM with a continental breakfast. Lunch will be served at Noon.

Lewis Kemper will address the group in two sessions: Taking Advantage of Digital in the morning, which will cover the following topics: Raw processing, Custom white balance, High Dynamic Range (HDR) imagery, High ISO photography, Panoramic stitching, Increasing /Decreasing Depth-of-Field, Tone mapping, Time lapse and more.

In the afternoon, Mr. Lewis's presentation will be Light, Color and Composition and cover the quality, quantity and direction of light, including an explanation of the color wheel and color relationships and how to use this knowledge to make dynamic images. The art of incorporating color, line, form and light together can change an

ordinary image into an extraordinary image.

In the afternoon, Gary Gullett, President of Photo Safari Network, will demonstrate how one can take eye-popping images in the harsh environment of Alaska. His presentation is titled Alaska - Rugged Photography.

There will be door prizes and a raffle. The clinic will be an extraordinary event and we hope that you and your photographic friends will take advantage of the low \$60.00 registration fee. Students with an ID will be admitted for \$15.00, which also includes the breakfast and luncheon.

Mr. Kemper is an influential photographer as evidenced by his designation as a Canon Explorer of Light. Because of this, we expect a large attendance. So, sign up now and assure yourself of admittance to this event. The clinic flyer can be found on the Calumet Region website.

Attendance at our monthly competition meetings is holding steady. I would like to see an increase. If any members are confused about the rules, contact me and I will put you in touch with someone that can help (it might even be me!). We also have members that can help explain how to most efficiently mount prints on matte boards. It's easy to do . . . and you are guaranteed to learn a lot and improve the quality of your overall images. Try it. You might like it.

Dave's January program, Tabletop Photography, was well received. His presentation was followed by a hands-on shooting session. Dave was helped by John Roquet and Raleigh Wolfe, who both set up tabletop arrangements and helped members make the right camera settings in order to obtain good images. Thanks to all three for a very interesting and entertaining program.

My wife, Julie, seems to have taken the Tabletop program as a challenge. She appropriated one room in our house and has set up a tabletop studio. She uses sunlight, hand-held photo lights and even flashlights for illumination. She is having problems with depth-of-field--a problem that needs to be solved in respect to all macro photography. As the days go by, her images are getting better and better. I guess that there's nothing like a little experimentation. All I can say: It look easy -- but, it isn't.

Our next program (Tuesday February 12th at 7:00 PM) will feature approximately ten CRPC members that will be describing the Why, Where, What (including Who, if applicable), When and How of one particular image. Basically, they will describe their image. I am hoping that members of the audience will start up a discussion on the matters that most interest them. The following CRPC members have agreed to share their image and knowledge: Adam Bykowski, Bill Coughlin, Julie Cross, Dave Dornberg, Irene Ganas, Dennis Gray, Vicki Jostes, Scott Kaminski, Tim Kennedy, Michael Kobe and Raleigh Wolfe. I really appreciate all of them for volunteering the time and effort required to present this program. A wide cross-section of images will be presented. Maybe the presentations will help the rest of us start taking images that are out-of-the box from our normal picture-taking. In any case, it should be a really educational program.

If you have an idea for a future program, let me know and we will see if we can find an appropriate speaker.

One bit of bad news: We received a notice from the Munster Parks and Recreation Department to the effect that we will be liable for an additional fee if we are still in the building during the time when the cleaning crew is performing their duties. Thus, we need to vacate the Social Center at 9:00 PM sharp for both program and competition meetings. I repeat: WE NEED TO VACATE THE SOCIAL CENTER AT 9:00 PM SHARP FOR BOTH PROGRAM AND COMPETITION MEETINGS. Due to this constriction, I will attempt to move along our agenda with the utmost efficiency. Hopefully, all CRPC members will cooperate.

Everyone is invited to attend our Board meetings. The date and time will be published on the website for all those interested. The next meeting will be held at the

Munster Library on Calumet Avenue in Munster at 6:45 PM on Monday, February 25th.

Michael Kobe has designed a line of apparel with the new CRPC logo. A variety of shirts and sweatshirts is available. Pick up an order form at a meeting or find one on our website. The clothing will help identify members at future meetings and outings. Note: Pricing is at cost---CRPC does not profit from these sales. The first order will be placed as soon as we reach the minimum number that was specified by the sports shop.

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR OUR ALL-DAY CLINIC ON FEBRUARY 16th.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 16, 2013 - CRPC Photography Clinic

CACCA NEWSLETTER

By Bob Cross

Have you been reading the CACCA newsletter? Our CACCA representative, Michael Kobe (Alternate = Louisa Murzyn), brings back a bunch of issues each month. They are available on one of the tables in the back of the meeting room at the Social Center at each meeting. Each issue contains articles relating to some phase of photography. Many of these articles are interesting and informative. For those that are not able to attend a meeting, the newsletter is also available on the web at

http://caccaweb.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=63&Itemid=229 .

The January 2013 issue mentions five articles that were published in the Lake County (Illinois) Camera Club's December 2012 issue that covers the subject of printing fine art photos, whether by a commercial photo lab or at home. They are well worth reading---especially for anyone contemplating the purchase of a photo printer. I had trouble clicking on Lake County's newsletter link, so the author sent me a direct link. It worked fine and you may want to try it: <http://lakecountycameraclub.org/newsletters/lccc2012dec.pdf> .

WHAT WE NEED

By Bob Cross

Our club is functioning well. But, we could use some help in order to offer members more with regards to programs and activities that relate to photography. If the following functions were filled, I'm positive that we could offer all the members more educational and hands-on programs. If you agree, and would like to

take on one of the following tasks, let me know, The whole club will benefit.

PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON – This is probably the most important job in CRPC. At the present time, the job is vacant and is being accomplished by the Board of Directors. We need someone to obtain out-of-club speakers and plan in-house clinics such as Dave Dornberg's Tabletop presentation in January). Program presenters can come from CACCA or the local area.

FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR – CRPC has not sponsored a field trip in quite a while. Some attempts were made, but the lack of publicity kept attendance down. We need someone to plan photo shooting events on a regular basis in order to help increase the picture-taking skills of all members.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES – A list of places to shoot pictures could be made available in the monthly newsletter so that members would have a heads-up as to county fairs, reenactments, special events, etc. that would enhance their picture-taking abilities. Once the list was started, it would be easy to maintain.

LIBRARIAN – We used to have someone that kept track of magazines brought in by members for reading by other members. That was a real service and we should reinstitute the practice.

HISTORIAN – Anyone that could document the goings-on of our club over its four-year life would provide an interesting document for today's and future members.

If anyone is willing to fill one of these jobs (or any other job that you notice is not being fulfilled), see me at a meeting, send me an e-mail at rpcross@ameritech.net or call me at (708) 799-7778. Your efforts will be appreciated.

SOCIAL CENTER HOURS

By Bob Cross

The Munster Parks & Recreation Department has notified us that we must vacate the building by 9:00 PM or incur an additional charge for being in the building at the same time as the cleaning crew. This will make it much harder to conduct a meeting. We will need to start on time (7:00 PM for both the program and competition meetings); limit announcements to their bare essentials; cut our refreshment/social period to a set period of time (10 or 15 minutes?) and leave the building promptly at the end of each meeting. It will help if members are in their seats by 7:00 PM and return to those seats at the designated time after our refreshment break. These steps will be hard to undertake---but, I'm sure that no one wants to incur the additional charges. So, please bear with us as we try to move along from one part of the program to another.

This policy is not in keeping with the goals of our club. We will no longer be able to socialize or discuss photography problems with other members at the end of our meetings except in the warmer months when we can linger outside in the patio area. We will all have to learn how to be more efficient.

Therefore, if anyone knows of another relatively inexpensive meeting place, let one of the Board members know so that we can investigate it. The Social Center offers the following advantages: Central location, excellent parking, safe, large space, ability to add tables as needed, locked storage for CRPC items (light box and screen), separate room for refreshments and assembling prints for competition, clean restrooms and kitchen. Its main disadvantages include: Must vacate building by 9:00 PM and need to provide pictures of Parks Department activities to keep the cost down,

VIVIAN MAIER

By Bob Cross

Are you familiar with Vivian Maier? If not, you should be. She was the nanny that took a multitude of pictures in and around the Chicago area. The images were discovered by a young man that ended up purchasing most of her images at an estate sale. Exhibitions of these images have been held at the Art Institute of Chicago and Chicago's Cultural Center. Now, a selection of them is on display at the Chicago History Museum in Lincoln Park. The exhibition will run through the summer of 2013. Admission to the museum is \$14 (\$12 for seniors). Illinois residents take note: Admission is free to Illinois residents between February 4th and February 28th. If you are

interested in viewing some excellent pictures of everyday scenes, don't miss this exhibition. Try this website for more information:
<http://www.chicagohs.org/> .

MOUNTING BOARDS FOR PURCHASE

The club has purchased photo matte boards in the following sizes and prices:

11"x14" black matte board @ \$.85

16"x20" black matte board @ \$1.25

11"x14" white matte board w/self adhesive @ \$.85

The matte boards will be available for purchase at club meetings and competition nights by CRPC members for their personal use . Please contact Dennis Gray (dennisw.gray@gmail.com) with the number of boards you would like to purchase. Payment can be by cash or check (payable to "CRPC").

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

David Blocher

James Ebben

John Kiest

CRPC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

By Amy Metrich

January 10, 2013, Munster Library, Munster Indiana
Secretary's Report: Accepted as written

Treasurer's Report: Previous Balance: \$3,306.19
Ending Balance: \$3,921.18
Changes in treasury are a result of expenses from Pot Luck and income totaling \$631.25 from dues, clinic, matt boards.

Clinic: Chairperson Stassin reported that flyers have been distributed from the original batch 300. CACCA Delegates received email blast detailing the Clinic. Both general information and flyer are on the website. Chairperson Stassin has been working on other avenues of publicity including another email blast. Michael Kobe will share information with CACCA Delegates as he sees fit at the next CACCA meeting. Deadline has been extended until February 11 and the flyer will be updated to reflect this deadline change. Stassin has contacted numerous colleges through Fine Arts departments and listed off the colleges that she has personally contacted. She will have a list ready to

present to Lewis Kemper upon request. President Cross suggested other local colleges; Chairperson Stassin will contact those colleges as well. Board members were encouraged to send out flyers to their contacts. Stassin shared the Clinic Evaluation with Board Members and asked for input. Menu options for the day were shared. Former President Wolfe motioned that menu included the \$14 menu choice. Vice President Gray seconded the motion. Gray sent out press releases this week to local newspapers and will follow-up with a second round. Our flyer is posted on the SWMCCC website. Chairperson Stassin discussed the idea of having a banner ad running in the Southland Region of the Hammond Times. To use the banner ad, the club would need to request an EIN Number. Wolfe makes a motion to apply for the EIN Number. Gray seconds it. Gray made a motion that the club pay no more than \$400 to advertise in the Hammond Times. Wolfe seconded the motion. Stassin will ask to cover more than one region with the second region being the South Suburbs of Chicago. This vote was not unanimous as President Cross would like the flyer to cover the North Region of NWI. Gary Camera, Dave's Camera, and Calumet Photo have been contacted by Stassin for vendors. Board Members have been asked to look for raffle donations. Clinic volunteers will be asked to act as ambassadors. Treasurer Zmigrocki will create the name badges and run the registration table.

Programs: Stassin volunteered to ask her contact about underwater photography for February. President Cross secured a speaker for May--John Roquet has agreed to present. Cross has also asked Michael Kobe to present as well as make contact with Al Alvis about doing another presentation. Another suggestion for a program would be to ask members to bring a photo and share how they captured the photo.

REFRESHMENTS

Our February refreshments will be provided by Richard Smyers and Julie Cross.

CRPC COMPETITION MEETINGS

Competition Dates are as follows:

February 26, 2013
March 26, 2013
April 23, 2013
May 21, 2013