



# Digital Focus

## Newsletter of the Calumet Region Photo Club

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Editor: Dave Dornberg

<http://www.calregionphoto.org>

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### 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, April 9** - Alvin Alvis will give a presentation on "Unnatural Nature", see below for more information or check out our website

**Tuesday, May 14** - "Adobe's Lightroom 4 Image Workflow" by John Roquet

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*By Bob Cross*

#### 2013 ALL-DAY CLINIC

Now it can be told. The all-day clinic last February 16<sup>th</sup> was a resounding success. We owe Susan Stassin a big thank-you for a job well done in obtaining two top-notch speakers and handling all of the details necessary to hold such an event. Attendance of 103 broke all previous records. The club's treasury is approximately \$2,300 better off (more about that later). Most comments on the Evaluation Forms were positive. Feedback to the public address system was our biggest problem. Hopefully, we will be able to minimize this type of glitch when we next sponsor a clinic. So, when you next see Susan, let her know how much we appreciate her efforts. It will be hard to sponsor another all-day clinic in the future as informative and enjoyable as this one.

### PROGRAMS

Due to a short vacation in Florida, I missed the Underwater Photography presentation by Jimmy Sommer of Goose's Scuba Shack in Dyer. I hear that it was very interesting and was sorry that I wasn't there to absorb some new knowledge. Our future programs also have a lot to offer.

*Tuesday 4/9 Unnatural Nature by Al Alvis*

This timely program will get us ready to shoot cultivated flowers. Al is an accomplished photographer and will give us many tips for getting good images. He is a member of the Oak Lawn Camera Club, among many others.

*Tuesday 5/14 "Lightroom 4 Image Workflow" by John Roquet*

John is a member of CRPC and President of Image Makers in Chesterton IN. He is well versed in Lightroom and will demonstrate why so many photographers are using it.

*Tuesday 6/11 "Photographing Birds at Wolf Lake" by Michael Kobe*

Wolf Lake is one of Michael's favorite sites for photographing birds. To prep yourself for his presentation, refer to his article in the [March issue of the CACCA newsletter](#).

*Tuesday 7/9 CRPC picnic at Veteran's Park in Munster.*

After dinner, we will break into small groups to photograph the Memorial or across the street in Centennial Park. Instruction will be provided to those with questions. Don't miss this free dinner and chance to socialize with other club members.

## COMPETITION

Our Competition nights are in need of more photographer-competitors. The quality of the images being judged each night is high. It would be nice if more images were entered. So, start taking photos (or scour your hard drive) and bring some images to our Competition night (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday). You won't be sorry and you just might learn something.

At our May Competition Night meeting on 5/28, we will again hold our Print-of-the-Year competition by category (DPI, Small Color, Large Color, Small Monochrome and Large Monochrome). The categories are the same as the ones that are judged on a monthly basis. Each CRPC member can enter up to four images in each category, but these images must have been previously entered into a CRPC competition during the 2012-13 year. Note: There will be no distinction between Class A and Class B entries in our Print-of-the-Year competition.

## 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.

## BOARD MEETING

Our next Board meeting, scheduled for Wednesday 4/3, will have taken place by the time you read this. 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 and time 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 variety of shirts and sweatshirts is available. Pick up an order form at a meeting, find one 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.

## OUT-OF-CLUB JUDGES

We owe a round of thanks to the three CRPC volunteers that will judge the Blue Island Camera Club's Salon on Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Michael Kobe, Louisa Murzyn and Raleigh Wolfe for their time and effort. During the 2012-13 year, CRPC will have provided a total of nine judges for competitions at other clubs. Only by doing this can we be assured of a ready supply of judges for our own competitions. Many thanks to all of them: Julie Cross, Irene Ganas, Vic Garrison, Vickie Jostes, Michael Kobe, Louisa Murzyn, Raleigh Wolfe, and Tom Zmigrocki.

## FIELD TRIPS

Hopefully, CRPC will be offering some field trips/photo shoots in the coming months. Ideas include Chicago's lake front at night, Chicago Botanical Garden in Glencoe IL, Brookfield

or Lincoln Park Zoos, Bristol Renaissance Fair in Kenosha WI, Colony in Naperville, Fermi Lab in Batavia, Cantigny in Wheaton, Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Railroad museums in South Elgin and Union IL, Japanese Gardens near Museum of Science & Industry, Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids MI, Kankakee River State Park, Oak Ridge Prairie in Hobart, St Joseph and Grand Haven MI and Michigan City lighthouse. I'm certain that the list can be extended indefinitely. Please let me know of photo shoot destinations that you would like to add to the above list. Better yet, volunteer to lead a small group to one of these places and we will advertise the trip at our next meeting and in the CRPC newsletter.

## TREASURY

The current Board is in the process of determining what to do with the money that we made on this year's clinic. Ideas to date include: Have the club's projector calibrated and profiled to obtain more accurate colors on projected images (requires the same procedure to the computer that is used with the projector), buy a computer for the club, subsidize (partially or 100%) the cost of field trips, offer to reimburse speakers for their mileage, pay for speakers at our monthly meetings, increase our efforts to increase membership by advertising, subsidize out-of-club judges for their gas mileage, keep the surplus in the treasury for a rainy day, etc. I'm certain that the many CRPC members can add to this list. Just let any Board member know of your idea. It just may be the perfect way to spend the clinic's profit.

## CRPC NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

We still need articles for our monthly newsletter. All submittals should be sent to Dave Dornberg at [crpcwebmaster@comcast.net](mailto:crpcwebmaster@comcast.net). We also need the photo gallery on our website updated. Send a collection of your best images to Dave at the same address. Our club takes some great photos. Let's show the photographic community the quality of our efforts.

## USED EQUIPMENT SALES

If you have used equipment that you would like to sell, bring it to a meeting and put it on a table in the back of the room. You can set a firm sale price or negotiate with the potential buyer. My suggestion is that you attach a small card with your price and name. Write "firm" after the price if you do not want to negotiate. Interested buyers will find you as the meeting progresses. This is another service provided by your club. We do NOT make money on sales of equipment by members.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

I hope to announce the members of this year's Nominating Committee at the 4/9 CRPC meeting. Hopefully, the slate of officers to be voted on will be known by the 5/14 meeting. If you are interested in helping the club by running for one of the elective offices, let me (or any Board member) know and you will be considered for a spot. Elected officers include: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Past President and Webmaster are also members of the Board..

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

By Amy Metrich

Calumet Region Photo Club

Board Meeting

February 25, 2013

Munster Library, Munster Indiana

Members Present: Vice President Dennis Gray, Treasurer Tom Zmigrocki, Webmaster Dave Dornberg, Other CRPC Member Steve Kaminiski

Secretaries Report: Minutes Accepted As Distributed

Treasurer's Report: Previous Balance: \$3,366.96

After expenses with CRPC Check Stamp, Digitizing Fee from St. John Sports, CACCA Travel Reimbursement and Income of Dues and Clinic, brings Present Balance to \$5,809.82

Report accepted as presented.

Photography Clinic: Chairperson Stassin shared a report summarizing outcome of clinic. Overall feedback was extremely positive. Cross emailed in suggestions regarding the clinic. He suggested contacting the attendees via email to thank for their attendance at the clinic. Board decided to not send a Thank You email to participants. Board discussed reserving the venue now for 2014 Clinic. Stassin will check into a March 1, 2014 date. Stassin will provide follow-up information to participants regarding local camera clubs.

Competition Night: Judges have been secured.

Programs:

*April: "Photographing Flowers" by Al Alvis*

*May: John Roquet "Lightroom 4 Image Workflow"*

*June: "Photographing Birds at Wolf Lake" by Michael Kobe*

*July: Club Picnic at Munster Veterans Park*

Should we move the event? Maybe Centennial Park? Oak Ridge Prairie?

*August: None Scheduled--Perhaps Dave Kaminsky demonstrating portraits.*

Someone will need to contact speakers to see how much time is needed--Perhaps a second program isn't needed. A concern for the board is: How do we incorporate education and improve networking of members. Perhaps should we should incorporate a Know Your Camera segment again.

**Newsletter:** Articles need to be sent to Dave Dornberg. Vice President Gray will send around a sign-up sheet to drum up info for articles, field trip and club picnic.

**New Business:** How to spend moneys generated by the clinic. Some ideas included: Club Laptop, Club Monitor Calibration System, Field Trip ideas, Lens Rental/Equipment Checkout, Rent Studios for Portraits.

**Gordon Award:** No one presently meets the criteria.

**Field Trips:** Board wanting to provide Field Trips that will meet the needs of the members. This topic will again be discussed at a later date.

**Library:** Who has the library? An electronic library exists on the CRPC website.

**Other concerns:** The Board discussed whether the club is out of balance with Education with Competition? Should we try to refocus our efforts? Should we ask members for feedback? Again, this topic should be discussed at a later time.

## JURIED PHOTO EXHIBIT

The President of the Heartland Camera Club in Plymouth IN, Tom Mathewson, has invited all CRPC members to enter their 10<sup>th</sup> annual juried Regional Photo Exhibit 2013, which will take place Friday 5/3 through Sunday 5/5 at the Life Enrichment Center, 1305 West Harrison Street, in Plymouth.

A brochure giving the exhibit's rules including entry forms will be available at CRPC's next program meeting on 4/9. Entries must be received by Sunday 4/28. There is a \$10 fee for each photograph entered. Tom has offered to pick up prints for entry at the next meeting of the Image Makers in Chesterton IN on Thursday 4/25.

John Roquet is President of Image Makers and a member of CRPC. They meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at the Chesterton Library Annex. Tom has also offered to return the prints at the Image Makers meeting in May. These offers by Tom will save each exhibit entrant a total of approximately four hours of driving to and from Plymouth. For those that desire to view the exhibit, you might want to coordinate your visit with a reception that will be held from 2:00 to 5:00 PM on Sunday 5/5.

## CRPC WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Darlene Barron

Linda & Robert Friedrich

Bob Howard

Brad Piniak

## APRIL MEETING REFRESHMENTS

Nancy DePaoli, Dave Blocher, Tom and Bev Zmigrocki

## DIGITAL BITS & BYTES

### Portable Storage Options for Travel

For those of you who are travelers, the spring season is here! Many people in our club ask, "how can I store all the images I shoot while on the road?"

There are a range of options, but you need to ask yourself a few questions, so that you get the one device you need.

- **How many images are you likely to shoot on the trip?**
- **How large are the images?**
- **Will you be storing RAW or JPG or both?**
- **Do you need to view the images?**
- **How much space will you have, e.g., will this be a wilderness trek by backpack, car, bus or train?**
- **How much will the storage cost**

**Memory Cards:** The cheapest option is to buy more storage cards for your camera and when you fill up one, switch it out.

**Pros:** Cheap, small cards are easy to transport, fast throughput from sensor to memory card

**Cons:** Your images are in just one place and if the memory card becomes unreadable, your photos will also be gone. Ditto if someone steals your camera equipment, same will be true.

**Notebook/MAC Computer:** If space is not limited, then take a small notebook computer with you. The hard drive will allow you to store large amounts of photos

**Pros:** You will be able to view as well as store your photos while you travel. You will have your images in two locations

**Cons:** Weight, not terribly portable on a backpacking trip. Costly due to theft. Battery life not that great if power is not readily available

**Portable Hard Drives:** These handy devices allow the transfer of images from the camera directly to the device without the need for a computer.

Examples of these are as follows:

[Digital Foci Picture Porter 35 Portable Digital Photo Manager](#) which stores both digital images and video.

**Pros:** Has a playback feature for both stills and video, lightweight and can read many types of memory cards. Fast transfer rate and reasonably priced at \$300+ For 500GB of storage.

**Cons:** Reviewers of product had many problems with shutdowns and failures. Also controls may not be that intuitive.

[Nexto DI 750GB NVS1501 Photo and Video Storage](#) able to store stills and video.

**Pros:** 750GB of storage space, can copy data to other devices and copies and verifies data. Images and video can be viewed by device. Long recharge time for batteries.

**Cons:** Slow to moderate transfer rate, very expensive at \$1000+

[Sanho 1.0 TB HyperDrive Colorspace UDMA2 storage device.](#)

**Pros:** Will hold vast amounts of images, small device, can be used with CF, SD, SDHC, SDXC and MMC memory cards. Can also view the images stored on the device.

**Cons:** Expensive \$600+

[Wolverine PicPac II 500GB digital and video backup](#) is a cheaper solution, but is half the size of the Sanho solution.

**Pros:** Lightweight, built in card reader supports most types of memory cards, cheap at \$153

**Cons:** Slower image transfer rate, can't view images stored on the device

There are other devices on the market, so be sure to do the research before purchasing portable storage devices.