



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 MEETING

Tuesday, May 12, 2015 - Member Norm Turner will give his "Blue Light Night Photography" presentation. The "blue light hour" is the magical light right after sunset but before the sky goes dark.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Susan Stassin

Spring has sprung and aren't the flowers and blooming trees beautiful! Without a doubt, many of you have been out getting great photographs along with some much needed fresh air.

We have had many interesting and inspiring presentations at our regular club meetings and last month's hands-on tabletop meeting provided us the opportunity to try a few new techniques, ask lots of questions and share our enjoyment in photography. Many thanks to Dave Dornberg, Norman Turner and Amy Metrich for all their hard work preparing their tabletops and presentations.

This month's program on Tuesday, May 12, will be **Norm Turner's Blue Light** presentation. He will discuss how to capture the moments just around sunset and after when the sky turns a beautiful cobalt blue. His presentation will include examples of his work, settings, and recommended locales. As a follow up, Norm will host a photo walk in downtown Chicago on **Thursday, May 14 at 6:00 p.m.**

We are organizing a car pool and will need to know how many people would be interested in riding together; otherwise, you can meet us down there. There will be a sign-up sheet at

Tuesday's meeting or you can email me with your name and cell phone number.

Amy Metrich, a frequent CACCA award winner, will be our featured speaker for the **June 9 meeting discussing landscape photography**. You may have had the opportunity to see some of her beautiful photographs during last month's meeting, and thanks to her recent travels out west, she will have even more photographs to show us.

Member, Dave Dornberg, is developing a multi-faceted educational program for interested CRPC members to be offered in the fall. He recently sent everyone an email requesting assistance from our more experienced members to participate as educators; however, he also asked us to provide him with the topics that appeal to you. Please respond to him directly at www.crpcwebmaster@comcast.net so that he can prepare a targeted program.

Our slate of officers for next year's CRPC Board will be discussed on Tuesday, but currently, they are as follows:

President - Raleigh Wolf
Vice President - Amy Metrich
Treasurer - Tom Zmigrocki
Secretary - Bonny Klootwyk

If you have an interest in holding any of these positions, please let me know, as they are all up for vote at our June meeting.

Recently, I've read several social media posts by a popular Chicago photographer mocking "fauxtographers" who are out and about enjoying their hobby. I'm not sure what specifically causes one to be deemed a fauxtographer, but it seems to be very mean-spirited snobbery, especially as this photographer offers photo walks presumably to educate those of us who would likely fall within this designation. As a member of the Calumet Region Photo Club, I have never experienced even a hint of this type of attitude within our club. No matter your equipment (I primarily use my iPhone), your preferred subject, skill or interest level, everyone is welcome. Our members are very generous with their time and information, so no one should ever feel uncomfortable at meetings or outings. I would appreciate your feedback if you feel this is not the case.

See you Tuesday!

AREA PHOTOGRAPHY OPPORTUNITIES

By Susan Stassin

- **May 15 - 17 Voyageur Rendezvous** at Big Maple Lakes, Deep River Park: An 18th Century Fur-trader Era Re-enactment www.lakecountyparks.com
- **May 1 - 30 Fairy House Exhibit** at Talltree Arboretum & Gardens
- Every Thursday May 14 - September 24 4 PM-8 PM Crown Point Car Cruise
- **Car Shows:** May 17 9 AM-2 PM Porter County Expo (\$5)
- May 24 9 AM-4 PM Valpo-Fest (\$10)
- May 30 3 PM-7 PM Highland (free)

CRPC SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

Bob Cross is hosting the Saturday morning social get together on May 16th beginning at 9:00 a.m. at Skillets, located at 2040 45th Street in Highland.

INDIANA DUNES STATE PARK EPHEMERAL PONDS AND WILDFLOWER FIELD TRIP

In lieu of the Digital Focus Roundtable on Sunday May 17, Dave Dornberg will be leading a trip to trail 2 at the Indiana Dunes State Park to photograph the ephemeral ponds that form in the spring. We will also shoot the many wildflowers that grow along the trail.

We will meet at 9 AM at the large parking lot at the picnic grounds, which is the lot just past the nature center. For more information, please see our website.

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, so please email Dennis Gray dennisw.gray@gmail.com with the number of boards you would like to purchase.

HUNT'S PHOTO AND VIDEO SALE

One of our clinic vendor's Hunt's Photo and Video is having a sale. For sale items, please click on their web link:

<http://www.wbhunt.com/specials/digital-days/>

DIGITAL BITS & BYTES

By Dave Dornberg

Color Versus Black & White and Monochrome

Ever since the arrival of color photography in the 1930's, color has been all the rage. However, some photos still look better in black and white or as a monochrome. Monochrome means the use of one color. When we shoot in RAW, the image has all of the data that can be captured from the sensor. When the RAW file is converted to JPG, TIF, PSD or DNG by post processing software, it is possible to convert the image to black and white or a monochrome.

Consider for a moment that images of a graphic nature, such as bold patterns, textures, lines or shapes may actually be enhanced by removing the color. Color in some instances may lessen the impact of the statement you wish to make with your image.



Boulder and Buckwheat by Dave Dornberg

Look at these two photos and judge for yourself which you think is the more powerful of the two. I myself like the image of the boulder and buckwheat on the right in black and white better than the color one on the left.

Your next assignment is to look through your images and try converting some of them to black and white or monochrome after first making a copy of the original.