



Digital Focus

Newsletter of the Calumet Region Photo Club

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<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, June 10, 2014 - Members are asked to bring in equipment they would like to know how to use and the more experienced members will help them.

Tuesday, July 8, 2014 - CPRC Annual Picnic at Veterans Park in Munster. We will start shooting at 6:00PM and eat at 7:00 PM -

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bob Cross

If you're reading this, you must have survived the winter of 2013-14. That was not easy, given the many snowstorms, low temperatures and blustery winds. Now, we are stuck with potholes and high gasoline prices. And, I've even heard people complain of the relatively high temperatures in the past few weeks. Just wait until they are joined by high humidity. I guess that you can't win, no matter what happens.

We have had a very busy Spring: Some excellent programs and four field trips. And, now, we are getting ready to tackle one of CRPC's main thrusts—teaching its members how to use their cameras and take better photographs. Keep reading. You may see something that interests you.

VOLUNTEERS

Your Board is busy trying to fill the slate of officers to be elected to run the club next year. Sounds easy. But, it isn't as so many of us are involved in other activities that we can't give up. And, not only do we need to slate members to serve as officers of the club, but we need volunteers to run the activities that make our club what it is. As I write this message, we need to fill the following jobs: Print Chairperson, CACCA Representative, Recorder of Competition Statistics

and Procurer of Judges. These jobs must be filled in order for CRPC to continue to operate as a first class camera club.

Please see me if you could donate some of your time and talents to CRPC. We can also use volunteers to lead field trips and help mentor other members in the field of photography.

RECENT PROGRAMS

We have had some especially interesting programs this Spring. March's Sports Photography program by Jerry Lipski (now a new member) and May's program by Goran Vrcel, which covered histograms, organizing images and backing up your photos. April's program was presented by five CRPC members and related to taking pictures of flowers and wildflowers. Special thanks go to Mylinda Cane (equipment), Michael Kobe (shooting wildflowers), Raleigh Wolfe (another point of view) and Dave Dornberg (shooting macro shots in nature). Special thanks to Vicki Jostes, who wasn't able to present her subject (shooting garden scenes) due to the incompatibility of her program with the software available that night. If you know of a speaker with a subject that would be of interest to other CRPC members, let any Board member know about him/her and we will see if we can get them to present a program to our membership.

JUNE PROGRAM

This month's program will be in a question-answer format. It is described elsewhere in this newsletter. We hope that it will be a good teaching tool for all of our members.

JULY PICNIC

Set aside Tuesday, July 8th, for our annual picnic. (My apologies for typing the incorrect date in last month's newsletter. Correct your calendar if need be.) It will be held again in Veterans Park in Munster. Our plan this year is to meet earlier at 6:00 PM in order to take advantage of the light for a shoot in the park before dinner at 7:00 PM. Hopefully, mentors will be available to answer any questions that might arise and to help members take better pictures. After dinner, we will hold a short meeting in which the Print-of-the-Year awards will be made. After that, members can continue shooting in the park with what light is still available. The picnic is free to all members and their spouses. So, come one, come all. The pavilion is covered, so we will still hold the picnic in case of inclement weather.

COMPETITION

Our last competition for CACCA's 2013-14 season was held on Tuesday, April 22nd. On Tuesday, May 27th, we held our Print-of-the-Year competition at the Social Center. Participants were able to view the best images taken by CRPC members this past year. Judges for this competition were John Hewitt of the Wright Camera Club and Phyllis Brauer and Lynn Polyak of the Foresters Camera Club. Winners will be awarded certificates at the club's picnic on July 8th. The winners were:

DPI - Bath Time by Beverly Zmigrocki

Small Color Print - Golden Fern by Michael Kobe

Large Color Print - Mallard Lift-off by Michael Kobe

Small Monochrome - Goat's Beard by Michael Kobe

Large Monochrome - Saguaro Cactus Mountainside by Amy Metrich

PHOTOSHOP CLASSES

Member Steve Kaminsky has held two Photoshop classes at his home. Basically, Steve helps the participants improve their own images on a variety of software programs. If you are interested in this one-on-one learning process, contact Steve (stevek1173@aol.com) to determine if he can help your situation.

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 THE PROGRAM AND COMPETITION MEETINGS. Otherwise, the club will incur a fee to cover additional cleaning crew expenses. It is very helpful when members help put away the chairs and tables. Thank you in advance.

BOARD MEETINGS

The next Board meeting will be on Monday, June 9th at the relatively new Griffith Library (1250 East Glen Park Avenue at Colfax Avenue in Griffith). 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 also published on the CRPC website.

DONATION

At our Print-of-the-Year Competition meeting on May 27th, Arin Paskewicz, a seventh grader from Munster, gave a presentation relating to her acceptance into the People to People World Leadership Forum. People to People suggests that each participant take part in paying for their own trip to Washington D.C. Your Board responded by donating \$100 towards her expenses. Erin will be back at our June 10th program meeting to again explain her involvement in the program. She will also have framed photographs for sale (free will donation) to further enhance her efforts to pay for her upcoming trip. Refer to Louise Chickee-Wolfe's article elsewhere in this newsletter.

CRPC 2014-15 NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE

We hold elections for officers at our August program meeting. Therefore, it is time to appoint members to serve on this year's Nominating Committee. If you are interested in serving your club as an officer or would like to be a member of the Nominating Committee, please contact me. Your club has dedicated members that tend to the club's business matters. We need to continue that tradition . . . and members like yourselves can contribute by nominating another group of individuals that have the best interests of CRPC at heart. Better yet, if you are interested in serving your club as a member of the Board, contact me ASAP. Elected officers are President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

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

Participation at the four field trips this year (Taltree, Meijer Gardens, Voyageur Rendezvous and Oak Ridge Prairie) has averaged nine members per outing. If anyone is interested in

a field trip sometime in the July through September period to the Renaissance Faire in Bristol WI, let Steve Kaminsky know. He attends every year and would be happy to organize it.

CRPC will be happy to offer more field trips if more members volunteer to lead them. The following destinations would probably appeal to the most members: Brookfield Zoo, Chicago Botanical Garden, Downtown Chicago at night, Old World Wisconsin. But, other destinations can be selected. Most of our field trips have the participants drive themselves to the destination. But, CRPC is also open to the idea of renting a maxi-van or bus and, possibly, paying the parking and/or admission fees of participants if the Board feels that the particular field trip would appeal to a substantial number of members. Please feel free to contact me if you can lead a field trip of this sort.

JUNE MEETING PROGRAM

we're going to see three very brief videos on focus, aperture and depth of field, and megapixels/ISO which will be the first half hour of the meeting. These videos are fairly basic but they give a great review on how to manipulate your shutter speed with apertures with ISOs so that you can better use your manual setting to achieve the photos you are envisioning.

The remainder of the meeting will be for all of us to bring in our cameras and any gear we have accumulated (flashes, lighting kits, remote shutters, lenses, extension tubes, etc.), but couldn't quite get to function or understand. Some of our experienced members will help us assemble or demonstrate these items (at least we'll give it our very best try), so please bring any instructions that came with the gear as well. This will be a great opportunity for us to dust off those miscellaneous items we've collected but never really understood how to operate.

We'll also get to practice all of this at our upcoming picnic July 8 at Munster's Centennial Park. Remember, we'll be taking photographs for an hour before we eat to get better use of the light. Hope to see everyone on Tuesday.

DON'T MISS THIS PHOTOGRAPHY EXPO

By Dr. Louise Chickee-Wolfe

Describing her love of nature and photography, and showing several of her prints that incorporate leading lines, attention to texture, patterns, form, composition, and color, Erin Paskewicz recently told members of the Calumet Region Photo Club of her upcoming Photography Expo. What was so remarkable about this presentation? Erin is 12 years old.

Selected to attend the People to People Student Ambassador program in Washington DC for academic achievement and outstanding citizenship, Erin was faced with the task of creating a fund-raiser to pay for her trip. When she could not secure enough babysitting jobs to fund this remarkable opportunity, Erin decided to use her love of photography to raise the money she needs. She printed 40 of her photos, asked family and friends to donate frames, and rented a space to display and sell her work. Erin needs a big turnout and lots of support to reach her goal.

Providing another Sneak Peak, Erin will stop by at our June 10th meeting, and some of her work will be available to us at that time. Donations are welcome!

Erin's Photography Expo is on Wednesday, June 11, 2014, in Salon II of the Centennial Park Club House in Munster, Indiana from 6:30 – 8:30 P.M. Our Club supports Erin's efforts. We will make a donation to help her out, and we encourage all of our members and their friends to attend this young budding artist's photography exhibit on June 11th.

JUNE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Our Board met last on May 12, 2014 at 6:30 PM in Munster at The Fitness Point. The Board is working on filling the Club's positions for our new slate to be presented for voting at our August meeting. Nine people went on the Michigan field trip to Meijer Gardens. Eight people went on the Taltree excursion with Vicki Jostes narrating the variety of flowers. As of 5/12/2014, CRPC has a balance of \$4,844.57. Monthly income was \$162.00; total expenses were \$507.03, \$290.00 of which was a donation to the Dunes Learning Center for an Olympus camera kit to be used by disadvantaged youth. Our current membership is 72.

DIGITAL BITS & BYTES

External Storage for your Images

To safely store your images, it is imperative that you not store all of them on your computer's hard drive alone. You should purchase 1 or 2 external hard drives and keep one with your computer and one at a different location in case of theft or a natural disaster.

External hard drives are relatively cheap for 1 to 2 TB. **Seagate** and **Western Digital** are some of the most popular on the market currently.

You may also keep some of your best images in the Cloud in locations such as Dropbox 2GB free or Google Drive 15GB free, but there are many more to choose from in the Cloud, just be sure to pick a reputable service. Also most services offer free space, but then will charge on a monthly basis for more space.

To read about Dropbox and view their tutorial, click on the address below.

<https://www.dropbox.com/>

For information about Google Drive, click on the address below:

<https://www.google.com/intl/en/drive/index.html>