



# DIGITAL FOCUS

## Newsletter of the Calumet Region Photo Club

September, 2016

Volume 8, Issue 1

<http://www.calregionphoto.org>

Editor Dave Dornberg

### Upcoming Meeting

Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 7 PM - President Raleigh Wolfe and Michael Kobe will talk about the steps to getting images ready for competition.

### President's Letter

By Raleigh Wolfe

Hello Everyone,  
It is September, and our club's new year has begun nicely. We had our first meeting in our new digs. We are all both pleased and impressed with our new facilities.

Our September program will include a presentation by Michael Kobe and myself. The subject matter will include information about how to mount and prepare your images for club and CACCA competition. Even if you are not participating in competition, the information will be very helpful in preparing your images to display in your home or for gift-giving purposes.

The second part of our presentation will include a discussion and review of the elements that go into making a good image. The information will be useful in terms of understanding what the judges look for in evaluating our images. Also, there will be a review of a few images to identify those elements of a good image. Moreover, being aware of and planful in utilizing these elements will help improve the quality of everyone's photographs.

As you know, Dave Dornberg has initiated the mentoring year with his first meeting on August 30, 2016. A second meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2016. We are hoping for a good turnout.

Steve Kaminsky was instrumental in arranging a field trip to Hamstra's Gardens on October 22, 2016, from 1:00 P.M. to sunset. More information will be provided at the September meeting.

Norm Turner has agreed to lead a nighttime shoot in Chicago in October. A specific date has not been set, but it will be on a weekday evening.

Lastly, our first competition meeting of the year will be on September 27, 2016. I hope to see both old and new competitors at that meeting.

Until then, enjoy the rest of your summer and keep making those good images.

Raleigh Wolfe  
CRPC President

### 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 \$.90**

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

Matte boards are available for purchase at club meetings. Please email [dennis.gray@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.gray@gmail.com) with the number of boards you would like to purchase

## Digital Bits & Bytes

### Play It Safe While Out and About in All Seasons

Photography is usually a solitary pastime and when we go to our favorite haunts to shoot, we don't always think to do so safely. I went for a walk and ended up shooting a few images on Mount Trashmore at Centennial Park in Munster with my cell phone the last weekend of August. It was unusually humid that day and pretty warm with temps in the low 80's. I had walked from home and didn't think I really needed to carry water or a snack, since I figured I would only be gone maybe an hour or so. The park does have drinking fountains which I used during my walk. However when I got to the top and after shooting for awhile I started to get lightheaded after squatting and shooting dried Teasle flowers. It was then I thought, what an idiot for not bringing a bottle of water and perhaps a snack along just in case. There are a lot of people around the park and I did at least have my cell phone with me with a full charge, but I thought what if I was out somewhere else and I didn't have these items with me, what then?

Most photographers normally have some sort of a checklist of items for our cameras and accessories for whatever subject matter we are shooting, but many of us just don't think about being safe by bringing along essential accessories for us. I have a modified checklist that I used when I used to go canoe camping and didn't have the luxury of electricity or running water.

**Checklist** - Some of these items may be carried in your car, but the personal items should be carried in a fanny pack or in your camera backpack. (This is not an exhaustive list, so take whatever you think you might need for your outing)

**First Aid Kit** - carry with you in your computer bag or in your car

**EpiPen** - Epenephrine if allergic to bee stings

**Benadryl** - For allergy to plants especially in Spring or late Summer and Fall

**Large Brimmed Hat** - keeps the sun out off your neck and out of your eyes and keeps the flies from driving you mad

**Long pants** - keeps chiggers, mosquitoes, ticks, poison ivy and thorns away from your legs

**Long sleeves** - same as above

**Insect Repellent** - spray your clothes especially pants around the ankles, shirt sleeves and cuffs

**Sun block** - Don't get burned especially around water or in open areas like grasslands or at the beach

**Water bottle** - take with you on your backpack style or get a holster for your belt

**Protein bar** - if you are gone for a few hours between meals for energy

**Walking staff or stick** - for uneven ground and can double as a monopod for your camera if you aren't carrying a tripod

**Small Flashlight** - for shooting in late afternoon or night and can be used for light painting objects in the dark as well as keeping you from stepping in a hole or tripping over a branch on a dark trail in the woods. If you are an urban explorer, use in a dark building day or night.

**Head lamp** - can be used instead of the flashlight to keep your hands free

**Spare batteries** - for both flashlight and/or headlamp

**Rain jacket or poncho** - if inclement weather is expected or forecast for the area you will be in

**Cell Phone** - fully charged and car charger

**Toilet paper (small roll)** - no detail needed

**Small trowel or shovel** for above item - same as above

**Hand sanitizer** - wash after touching unknown substances such a mushrooms you might have brushed against or the poison ivy you inadvertently touched while moving it out of the way to get a better shot.

*\*Note: For Urban Explorers, you may add gloves, kneepads and a hard hat with goggles attached*

**\*\*Note: Most importantly, let someone know where you are going if you are going out by yourself. If the other person is not home, leave or send a message detailing when you left and where you are going, so in case you don't come home, this person can contact you or the authorities in case of an injury.**

**Remember - Safety First!**