



# 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, October 13, 2015** - Bill Brown, former CACCA President, will present a program on the use of Photoshop Elements to post process your images.

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

*By Raleigh Wolfe*

Hi Everyone,

October is here and I am penning this letter from the UP of Michigan. Unfortunately, the fall color has not yet reached its peak. Nonetheless, it is scenic here and the weather is beautiful.

Our club is fully into the 2015-16 year. We have had our first program meeting and our first competition meeting. I am happy to say that all went well.

I want to encourage all current and new members to participate fully in all club programs, especially the monthly club competition meeting. The benefits of participation will quickly become obvious. Remember, we are now a two tier club providing excellent learning opportunities and balanced and fair competitive experiences for all who participate. It is a fun and enjoyable way to learn and grow.

October will be a busy and exciting month for our club. By the time you read this letter we will have had our first mentoring group field trip to Oak Ridge Prairie led by Dave Dornberg, who organized the trip.

At our regular meeting on Octo-

ber 13th, Bill Brown will present a program on the use of Photoshop Elements to post process your images. He is a highly skilled photographer and an outstanding teacher who will excite and inspire you to use post-processing techniques to enhance your images.

Our October competition meeting will be on the 27th. Once again, I encourage everyone to attend, if not to compete, in order to view and learn from the competition component of our club's program.

Another big event of October is the club's field trip to Turkey Run State Park, which includes an overnight stay in the park's inn. If you cannot stay overnight, please consider meeting up with the group for a day of image making on either Oct. 28th or 29th. The colors should be at their peak and the photographic opportunities will abound.

I hope to see you soon.

### FUTURE MEETINGS

On Tuesday, November 10, 2015, Member Michael Kobe will present a program on "Aperture and Depth of Field".

## 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](mailto:dennisw.gray@gmail.com) with the number of boards you would like to purchase.

## DIGITAL BITS & BYTES

### How Do I Store My Images?

*By Dave Dornberg*

This is a common question I am asked by photographers and non-photographers. We are shooting more images than ever before. In the film days of yesterday, a photographer might take 100 photos in a single day. Now we might shoot several hundred in a single day. According to Mylio the newest storage firm for photos, "globally we will shoot a mind boggling 1 trillion photos in 2015. We will store 2.7 trillion images and by 2017 we will store 4.9 trillion images."

Every year the cost of storage falls, but as camera sensors keep getting larger and larger, we as photographers need more and more storage and there is no end in sight! Consider, the new Canon 5DS has a 50megapixel sensor, the Nikon D800 a 36mpx sensor and the Sony Alpha 7R II has a 42mpx sensor. The RAW image size coming from each of these cameras is between 36mb to 50mb each, which gives you an idea how much more space you will need for storing these images. The new Gigapan camera has an image that is 1GB in size.

There is no one answer to the question. Some people still like to have their images within arm's reach, so there are external drives that come in sizes from 500GB to 8TB in size.

For those of you who are confused by the size of hard drives, **GB** stands for gigabyte or 1 billion bytes. **TB** stands for terabyte or 1 trillion bytes.

The problem with these external hard drives and the hard drives in your computer is that these drives do not last forever. The drives that still have moving platters may last 3-5 years or as some of the new solid state drives boast 7-9 years, but unfortunately all drives will eventually fail and take all of your photos and files with them. The best option is to have multiple backups for your images on multiple external drives. 500GB external drives are fairly cheap these days and cost about \$60. The 1-3TB drives will cost about \$95 to \$150. 4-8TB to \$150 and up. The other problem with drive storage that sits next to your computer is that if there is a major catastrophe such as a fire, theft or weather disaster, you will again lose your valuable images.

The external drives may also be housed in a multiple drive storage cabinet and which by connecting these drives

together give a large amount of storage. These storage units also allow for RAID and without getting too technical, RAID allows for drive fault tolerance. In the event one drive fails another one can be inserted in its place and the other drives will write the images back to the new drive and no data is lost. An example of this type of system is the DROBO - [www.drobo.com](http://www.drobo.com)

Cloud storage is the new buzzword in the media today. There are too many cloud storage companies to list, but these will give you peace of mind and are housed in very secure facilities that are a lot less likely to suffer from the problems discussed above. These companies are not cheap, but many such as [Adobe](#), [Dropbox](#), [Google Drive](#) and [Micro-soft](#) will give you quite a bit of storage at a low rate. You can research these companies on the web and they will tell you how much you will pay per month for x amount of storage.

One caveat with cloud storage is that depending on the speed of your Internet, uploading your entire photo collection may take days to upload because the upload speed of the Internet is 1/4 of the download speed. So if you have Comcast and your download speed is 29mb/minute your upload speed will only be 6mb/minute. Once you upload all of your images, then any new images will upload much faster.

The newest storage solution is called Mylio and doesn't actually store your images in the cloud, but on many different devices you may have. You may read about it here: [mylio.com/features/](http://mylio.com/features/)

The other type of cloud storage is not really storage at all, but is called **secure cloud backup** and is fairly expensive, but if your computer hard drive crashes or your external drive dies, then this type of backup will save the day because all of the data can be downloaded to a new computer or external drive. Carbonite is an example of this backup solution and costs about \$100 per year. You can read about it here: [www.carbonite.com/](http://www.carbonite.com/)

**Now a word of warning!** Many photographers tell me that they store their images on flash cards such as the type they use in their cameras or on thumb drives because these are cheap and easy to have around. These drives fail at a much higher rate than the external drives and there is no warning when they will fail. The best policy is to **never** store your images on either of these two drives, but to merely use them to move images between your camera and computer.

### Sources used for this article:

Dpreview - [www.dpreview.com](http://www.dpreview.com)

Computer Discount Warehouse - [www.cdw.com](http://www.cdw.com)

Digital Photography School - [digital-photography-school.com](http://digital-photography-school.com)