



DIGITAL FOCUS

Newsletter of the Calumet Region Photo Club

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Editor: Dave Dornberg

Upcoming Meeting

Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 7PM – Member, **Loyce Fandrei** will present “**I Spy a Dragonfly**” program Zoom link will be sent out Monday, October 12.

President's Letter

By Raleigh Wolfe

Hi Everyone,

First, I want to thank the club membership for honoring me with the Michael Kobe Distinguished Service Award for the year 2020. This recognition is deeply appreciated. Thank you.

Next, I want to reflect, review, and comment on my last five years as president of the Calumet Region Photo Club and many years of membership before that. Those years of service have truly taken me on a joyful and memorable journey of leadership, growth, and friendship.

I love the artform of photography and I have spent many hours achieving the images that I have created over the years. I am proud to say that much educational effort and learning have gone into acquiring the skills that I now possess and love to share with others. I've always felt that my creative instincts have been the strongest component of my image-making artistry. However, without the understanding and importance of the compositional components and the postprocessing skills so critical to strong image-making, I was often frustrated and disappointed with my results. While I have spent many hours undertaking the above skills, the real pleasure and joy has come from the shared interest and experiences and the friendships that have developed with members of the club. That has been even more rewarding for me.

I want to thank the administrative board for faithfully serving during the years with me. They are Gail Scott, VP, Thea DeVries, Sec., and Tom Zmigrocki, treasurer. Additionally, I

want to thank Michael Kobe for faithfully serving as our competition chairman and our club delegate to CACCA through the years. I also wish to thank David Dornberg for the outstanding effort and achievement he has produced through the years as our webmaster and as the facilitator of our amazing mentoring group. Lastly, I wish to thank Loretta Sullivan and Dennis Gray respectively for having served as DPI chairwoman and publicity and mat board chairman. Thank you to everyone for stepping up to serve our club membership so well.

I want to especially thank Gail for taking over the presidency for the next year and hopefully a few years beyond. Her acceptance of the position comes at a time in my life when multitasking has become increasingly difficult due to my age, my illness, and my treatment regimen which requires much of my energy and focus. Leaving the office also comes at a time when I want to give my energy and focus to my family and to my incredibly loving and dedicated wife, Louise. Thanks, Gail! Remember, I will be around to offer assistance at any time while serving as Past President.

Now, in closing, I'm reminded of the metaphorical admonition I would offer individuals and/or their families experiencing difficult times or a series of life crises in my work as a clinical psychologist. I would remind them that life is like a big movie filled with a multitude of varying experiences and outcomes that more often than not are positive in nature. However, the movie has a complex and difficult price of admission which can only be paid by confronting and dealing with the myriad of circumstances and situations one is likely to encounter on their journey through life.

Having successfully navigated most of the situations life has thrown our way, we can then sit back and begin to enjoy the show.

I have come to believe that having mostly paid my price of admission, it is now my time to sit back and begin to enjoy the show. Of course the show includes a lifetime of memories both positive and negative, a multitude of experiences, some of which I would not care to share, a 51 year commitment to my clinical practice as a psychologist, my joy, love and excitement with the art of photography, and my many wonderful friendships through the years. These have all been an important part of my life experience. However, standing out in bold relief against all other of my life experiences is the profound love for my family that I have held deeply within my heart. I am grateful that my life with them is matched only by the love I have received from them in return over many wonderful years together.

I have saved my comments about my wife, Louise, to conclude this letter. She has supported all my photographic endeavors through the years, correcting and editing all my president's letters, adjusting the images that I cannot see because of my color vision deficits, and offering thoughtful comments along the way. Her input always guides me and has helped to improve my artistic efforts. She has done so with unconditional love and without hesitation.

On a deeply personal level, Louise has given herself completely and in a manner one can only dream of. She is my life partner, and I will love her absolutely and forever. She has been at my side on our life's journey together, never having wavered or failed to be there for me through the course of my illness, all while frequently putting her interests in activities on the back burner. She is the reason I am where I am today.

Now, thank you for indulging me in this rather lengthy letter. It was very important to me to be able to share my thoughts with you. In conclusion, I wish everyone continued good health and many incredible artistic creations as well. Thank you for everything.

With warm regards,

Raleigh

Raleigh Wolfe receives "Michael Kobe Distinguished Service Award" for 2020
By Michael Kobe,

When the Calumet Region Photo Club started in 2008, there were only a handful of members and one of those

charter members was **Raleigh Wolfe**. From the onset, I became aware that Raleigh was not just a member but was an active member who was willing to help and make the club successful and grow. He volunteered for many activities such as the chair of the constitution committee and also the nomination committee. He brought many ideas to the club and was also willing to implement them. Raleigh was very resourceful and suggested many speakers for club meetings and organized many field trips such as the last farm in Munster where we got a lot of great photos and even some free eggs. He also planned and implemented a field trip to a site in Jasper County where everyone in attendance came home with outstanding landscape photos. Those trips were so successful they were later repeated.

One of the major undertakings of the CRPC is to provide service and education to the community. One of the ways that this was accomplished was with our annual Photography Clinic. Each year Raleigh has sought and secured the main speaker for the clinic. His insight as to a quality presenter has made the clinic a yearly success.

Raleigh's service to the CRPC is appreciated and will always be remembered and will also serve as an inspiration to other club members to serve CRPC. A club needs leadership and service to sustain itself the this is what Raleigh has done over the years. Six years ago, the Board decided to recognize service to the club and adopted the "**Michael Kobe Distinguished Service Award**". I am forever honored to have this award established in my name; but, I am more honored to recognize the recipients. This year a committee of past recipients met and selected the recipient for 2020. It is with great pleasure to announce the recipient of the service award is **Dr. Raleigh Wolfe**.

