



Digital Focus

Newsletter of the Calumet Region Photo Club

November , 2014
Volume 6, Issue 3

Editor: Dave Dornberg

<http://www.calregionphoto.org>

Inside This Issue

1 Upcoming Meeting

President's Message

2 Scheduled Board Meetings

Matte Sales for Competition

CRPC Saturday Morning Photography Breakfast

Digital Bits & Bytes: Remember the Basics of Photography

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, November 11, 2014 - Katrina Sebastian owner of Picture a Moment in Time will be presenting "Outdoor Portraits". She specializes in photographing weddings, families and high school seniors.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Susan Stassin

In the words of actor Matthew McConaughey, "Alright, alright, alright!" All sorts of great things are happening... at least from my perspective. I am excited to hear our November guest speaker, Katrina Sebastian, discuss her portrait style using natural settings and lighting, sharing her special ability to inspire and capture beautiful moments and expressions from her subjects. As a mother of three teenage boys, I am in awe of her talents since the "portraits" I take of my kids look like they're facing a junior firing squad! This will be Katrina's first speaking engagement and she has prepared a slide show highlighting her work. During the refreshment break, there will be two informal roundtables hosted by Dave Dornberg featuring macro photography and Amy Metrich discussing landscapes. Both are very talented photographers and this will be a great opportunity to ask specific questions in a casual format for anyone who wants to participate. Please feel free to bring your cameras to review settings with them.

December 9 will be our holiday party with CRPC providing meat(s), but everyone can participate by bringing an item to share, i.e., side dish, dessert, salad, breads, beverages and/

or paper products. Please let Bobbi know what you might bring so we can get organized. Also, we will take a quick vote on the proposed CRPC Constitution changes.

Our January 13 meeting will feature Chris Smith speaking about night photography and his favorite places to shoot in Chicago. He currently has an eBook, *The Photographer's Guide to Chicago: 100 of the Best Locations and How to Photograph Them* featuring his tips and locations. Several of us had the opportunity to hear Chris speak at a Garden Society meeting and feel he will present an interesting perspective of Chicago and nighttime photography.

For our February meeting, we tentatively have Gerry Hug...but I'll leave that for our next newsletter. Speaking of February, CRPC's 6th Annual Photo Clinic will be Saturday, February 21, 2015 at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts. We have two great speakers, Ed Heaton and Robert Vanelli. Mr. Heaton from Pennsylvania specializes in landscape photography and will present "It's All About the Light" consisting of landscape compositions and using light. Mr. Vanelli is a portrait specialist who will teach his system of 5 Ps. He will teach us a system of how to take photographs, then process and market them through multiple marketing

venues, such as social media. Attendees will receive a free copy of onOne's New Perfect Effects plugin (a \$129 value), which will be demonstrated within his presentation. Stay tuned for more information, but please invite your friends and family to our annual extravaganza — all at the same value price of \$60 per person. More details will be discussed at Tuesday's meeting, so I hope to see you then.

SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

We have scheduled our Board meetings for the upcoming year and everyone is invited to attend. They are held at 6:30 p.m. at The Fitness Pointe across from Centennial Park in Munster, Indiana. If there is a date change, we will notify the membership.

December 3	April 29
January 7	May 27
January 29*(Thurs)	June 24
February 25	July 29
March 25	August 26

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" white matte board w/self adhesive for \$.90 **

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

CRPC SATURDAY MORNING PHOTOGRAPHY BREAKFAST

We'll meet in the back room at Hope's Corner Cafe, which is located at 101 North Broad Street in Griffith IN (corner of Main and Broad Streets). We'll meet at 9:00 AM. I have never been there so I can't vouch for the food, service, atmosphere or parking, but I can guarantee a group of sociable CRPC photographers. By having a room to ourselves, we hope to be able to field photographic questions from the attendees and actually hear the answers. The format is not set in stone. So bring your questions and/or photographic gadgets to show the assembled group. Those with questions regarding how to perform particular actions on their own cameras should bring the camera and its manual.

The Corner Cafe would appreciate knowing approximately how many of us they will need to provide for. Therefore, please respond to this e-mail in the affirmative or call me at (708) 799-7778 so that we can give them an approximate number. If you decide to attend at a late date, call me on my new cell phone at (708) 560-4545. The important thing is to

make certain that you join us.

The Corner Cafe will provide separate checks as a courtesy to our group.

DIGITAL BITS & BYTES

Remember the Basics of Photography

Sometimes we photographers get caught up in the more complex theories and styles of photography like **Focus Stacking**, **HDR**, **Tone Mapping** and we forget the simple tenets of Photography.

Here again are things to think about when out with your camera:

Time of Day – Shoot at sunrise to capture muted colors or sunset for warmer bolder colors

Use a Polarizer – A circular polarizer will deepen the sky, lighten the clouds and remove unwanted highlights from your photos.

Bracket Your Images – When you find something to shoot, be sure to shoot three images at different aperture readings i.e., at the meter reading, ½ stop under & ½ stop over. Check your histogram to be sure

Get Close – Not all of your fall images need to be landscapes, try shooting close-ups of leaves, a single leaf or pumpkins.

Shoot Reflections – Look for water in front of the subject matter such as a lake or pond or a stream running through the trees. Reflections double the effect of bold color. Remember to keep the horizon line above or below the center of your shot.

Shoot after a Rain – Shooting after a rain shower or storm adds drama to the overall image by adding jeweled highlights to leaves and rocks. Also overcast skies bring out the colors more than a high contrast sunny day.

Fog – Foggy mornings or days add mystery and can mute an otherwise high contrast scene. Early morning mists rising from a lake or pond with soft focused colors in the background are eye catching too

Fall Subjects – Trees and leaves are not the only subject matter to shoot in autumn. Remember harvest festivals, pumpkins, migrating birds, Halloween and Thanksgiving are just a few of the many subjects that will illustrate fall.

High & Low Vantage Points – Don't shoot all of your images from eye level. Shoot low to the ground or from a high point looking down to add drama. While lying down, shoot directly up a trunk of a tree to get a different perspective.

Use Natural Frames – When framing an image, try to use a tree trunk, plant stems or trees themselves to add a bit of boldness to the shot. A broken window with the frame still intact can also make a statement about your image.

Telephoto or Wide Angle – You don't need to shoot all of your images with a wide angle lens. Shooting a vista with a telephoto lens will compress the elements of a scene.

Support – Don't forget the tripod or monopod. If you want to accentuate colors shooting at a slow shutter speed from a tripod will tend to make the colors blend together.