



# Digital Focus

## Newsletter of the Calumet Region Photo Club

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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 -  
Shooting in Winter - Ideas & Tips

### 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, December 9, 2014** - CRPC will have their annual holiday potluck party. This is a time when members can sit and visit with other members, ask questions about photography or get to know new members.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*By Susan Stassin*

It's been a busy few months for our club's Board and all of the volunteer members. We've had several great learning opportunities with our monthly speakers and next year is no exception.

At our January 13 meeting, we will hear a presentation by Chris Smith on nighttime photography and his favorite places in Chicago to shoot. Chris is able to obtain unique perspectives for beautiful photographs and his ebook entitled "The Photographer's Guide to Chicago" can be acquired at <http://outofchicago.com>, a photography website he has created.

For our February meeting, the programming has not been confirmed, but we'll get this info out as soon as it is available.

Jerry Hug, a member of Photographic Society of America, will give his updated presentation on iPhone-ography, which also includes apps for other smartphones at our March meeting. His philosophy of "the best camera is the one you have with you" plays directly in to this type of photography medium. His workshops and seminars are given all across the country and he will surely give us tons of creative and practical information.

CRPC's 6th Annual Photography Clinic will be Saturday, February 21, 2015 at Munster's Center for Visual and Performing Arts. Each year, we strive to bring you great speakers, vendors, food and give aways, but most importantly, a nice day of learning with other enthusiastic photographers. The price remains a value at \$60 per person. Additionally, one of the speakers, Robert Vanelli, will provide a FREE copy of onOne Photo Suite (a \$129 value) so it's almost as if you are being paid to attend! And the give aways...the best we've ever had! A flyer will be emailed to you shortly, so keep a look out, and please let all of your friends know about our event.

Bob Cross has organized a well-attended monthly Saturday breakfast get-together and he's headed back to Jedi Garden on Saturday, January 17, 2015. More information will be forthcoming.

On December 20, some of us will be new member, Juan Andrade's guests on his radio show Nuestra Comunidad NWI at 10:00 a.m. found on WLTH AM 1370. Juan is a very active member in the Latino community and we are honored to have been invited.

The next CACCA meeting is Saturday, December 13, and you are welcome to car pool with Bob Cross. Please contact him at [rpcross@ameritech.net](mailto:rpcross@ameritech.net).

I hope you had a pleasant Thanksgiving this year and as we head in to the December holiday season, I wish you peace and joy with friends and loved ones. See you on Tuesday!

## **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.

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

## **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. Please email Dennis Gray [dennisw.gray@gmail.com](mailto:dennisw.gray@gmail.com) with the number of boards you would like to purchase.

## **CRPC SATURDAY MORNING PHOTOGRAPHY BREAKFAST**

*By Bob Cross*

Our last breakfast meeting at Hope's Corner Cafe in Griffith was well attended. Only one less than our first get-together. And five new faces joined us. To date, 25 CRPC members have joined us at one or both of the breakfasts.

The next CRPC Saturday morning breakfast will be back at Jedi Gardens, also in Griffith, on Saturday, 1/17/2015, at 9:00 AM. Save that date and join us.

Please let me know if anyone knows of a restaurant somewhere near Munster where we can reserve a quiet, dark room so that we can talk photography and, possibly, project images for a critique session. As of this writing, we have not been able to find any. It would be possible to get such a space if we changed our meeting from a Saturday breakfast to a luncheon. It's just that I'm not ready to do that yet.

## **PHOTO SUBMISSION PUBLISHED IN LAKE MICHIGAN SHORE MAGAZINE**

*By Dennis Gray*

"Dunes Ice Shelf", a photo taken by CRPC member Dennis Gray, was published in the December 2014/January 2015 issue of Lake Michigan Shore magazine. It appears on the page titled, "Last Look".

Gray noted, "Lake Michigan Shore is published by The Times of NWI. CRPC members are invited to submit photos.

As stated by the magazine Managing Editor, Kathleen Dorsey, "If you would like to submit photos for consideration, please send links, zipped files or email a low-res version to [kathleen.dorsey@nwi.com](mailto:kathleen.dorsey@nwi.com)."

## **DIGITAL BITS & BYTES**

### **Shooting in Winter - Ideas & Tips**

Winter is almost here, but that doesn't mean the camera should be put away until spring! There are still plenty of subjects to shoot in the great outdoors this winter.

To shoot in extremely cold weather or to capture subjects in highly reflective snow, a few techniques become important.

**Snow is highly reflective** - When shooting subjects surrounded by snow, the camera will compensate for the reflected light and that beautiful white snow will look muddy and under exposed unless exposure compensation is set. Try +.3 to +.7 if using automatic mode. If shooting in manual mode, open up a half stop to a stop. Experiment by taking some test shots.

**Cold affects the camera, lens and batteries** - Cold batteries will decrease the amount of images that can be taken unless they are kept warm, so place them in a pocket close to the body. Condensation can ruin camera equipment, so before going into a warm area, put all equipment into the camera bag, zip it closed and don't open the bag for an hour, which allows the equipment to warm slowly and will keep condensation to a minimum. If the optical viewfinder is still used, take care not to allow the breath to freeze the camera controls. Consider using live view even though it uses more battery than the optical viewfinder.

**Freezing tripod legs** - Before taking the tripod on an all day shoot, consider adding a cover to one of the exposed metal legs if the tripod doesn't already have one. Tripod covers protect the hands from cold and frostbite. Insulated pipe covers make a great cold weather handle for the tripod and they are readily available and reasonably priced from Home Depot, Lowe's or Menard's.

**Keep your hands warm** - Bulky gloves and mittens are no match for small buttons and other controls on digital cameras. Try Glomitts which are fingerless gloves and mittens rolled into one. Hunters use them and many photographers now use them too. You can purchase them at Cabelas or at other online outdoor sporting good stores.

**When shooting in winter, keep your camera and yourself safe and warm, so you can bring home those beautiful images!**

**CRPC Wishes Our Members A Happy, Holiday Season!**