



Twin City Camera Club

ViewFinder

Member: Photographic Society of America
and The Southwestern Michigan Council of Camera Clubs

May 2011 Roll 75, Exposure 5

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To encourage and develop an interest in photography.

Our Competition Season: Concludes with the Annual Competition on Saturday June 25th.

June Program Night: Monday June 27th., Tom McCall will present a program on the upcoming 2011 – 2012 Competition Season Select Subjects. The program will include examples that can give you some visual ideas and there will be discussion on how to prepare and improve your images for competition. This program is for everyone that enters images into competition.

Report on the May Program: Nathan Holt presented a program on "Concert Photography." Nathan's program was well received; he had some great photographs, discussed the potential problems that you might encounter at a concert, like rowdy patrons and spilled beverages on you and your equipment. Nathan said for the most part you are separated from the crowds in what is called the photographers pit and normally you are only allowed to take photos during the first three (3) songs.

Nathan described how he got involved in Concert photography, the Do's and Don'ts and the things to remember. He said the number one thing to remember is your ear plugs. The other things to remember in concert photography is to try and find a pattern in the lighting, use "fast glass" (f/ 2.8 or 1.4 if possible) and be ready for anything with a fast shutter speed (1/160 or higher if possible (faster the better), adjusting your ISO accordingly). Make sure you have plenty of battery life and memory available at all times since you never know what will happen when and it's always good to have spare accessories and equipment if an issue arises. Also try and experiment every once and a while with different angles and photo looks when editing and just try to do whatever "feels" right to you like in all of photography. Nathan said a lot of what he does is learn as you go, a seat of your pants kind of thing. He watches a lot of videos on Youtube.com, this is where you can view artists live to try and watch how they move and predict certain lighting to prepare for it. Nathan visits several sites that give useful information (including upcoming concert information): Pollstar.com which offers upcoming concert information and a few pictures for artists, Ticketmaster.com which offers upcoming concerts and tickets, Stubhub.com which is another ticket purchasing network if I need to buy any tickets, ishootshows.com which is a site of another concert photographer Todd, whom has some information on each shoot he does.

Nathan's equipment list currently is: (2) Canon 7D Bodies (1) Canon T2i Body; Black Rapid RS DR-1 Double Strap with (2) FastenR-3 connectors (This is the harness he had during the program), Canon 17-55mm f/2.8 IS Lens, Canon 70-200mm f/2.8 IS II USM Lens, Tokina 10-17mm f/3.5-4.5 Fisheye Lens, Sigma 18-250mm f/3.5-6.3 HSM Lens, 32 GB Sandisk Class 10 SD Card, 16 GB Sandisk Class 10 SD Card, (2) 8 GB Sandisk Compact Flash Cards, (2) 32 GB Sandisk UDMA Compact Flash Cards, 32 GB Sandisk UDMA 6 Compact Flash Card, 128 GB Sandisk UDMA 7 Compact Flash Card, (6) Batteries for 7D's, (4) Batteries for T2i, and a Sony DSC-H20 Point and Shoot Camera.

May Report Continued:

It was a treat to have Nathan with us for his program. You could see how he is learning more and more about photography (as I reported last month, Nathan was one of Dennis Hafer’s students at SWM College) and figuring out how to apply that knowledge in his photography. To see more of Nathan’s great photos, visit his website: www.nholtphoto.com Thanks again Nathan for a wonderful program.

New Member: TCCC welcomes a new member: Jim Long from Baroda.

Editors Note: Special Congratulations to Life Member Curtis Drake who will be 95 years young on June 21st. We were joined by Curt's lovely wife Irene, and his family to share a wonderful birthday cake after the meeting. Many thanks and we all wish you a very Happy Birthday Curt.

Photo Opportunities: NKP # 765 Steam Excursion: June 18th, 19th and July 2nd. Nickel Plate Road steam locomotive No. 765. The train will depart from the Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum in North Judson, Indiana, and will traverse the former Chesapeake & Ohio mainline to LaCrosse, Indiana, and return - a round-trip distance of 20 miles. In May several members traveled to North Judson, Indiana, it’s about 130 miles, to photograph this large 4-8-2 Steam Locomotive. It is quite impressive and I believe everyone had a good time and got some good photos. Visit <http://www.hoosiervalley.org> Use this link to see a Mark Parren video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7kXY6kwXhQg>

Annual Competition Judging: The Annual Competition judging will be held on Saturday June 25th. at 10:00 am. (doors open at 9:30) with a lunch break and continuing into the afternoon. All of your winning Monochrome and Color Prints, Acceptances and Honors, from the 2010 – 2011 competition season are eligible. We request that the prints be at the clubhouse by June 19th. so there is sufficient time to get them counted and ready for the competition. Please put them on the front table. Digital entries will be handled by the Digital Chairperson and do not require you to do anything.

June Stats: are posted on the TCCC website.

June Honor Images: Some of the June Honor Images have been added to a new Album in the Honors for 2010 - 2011 Season Galleries on the TCCC website.

June Honors:

Class B Monochrome Prints
Shannon Closson - Water Lily

Class A Monochrome Prints
Ralph Harju - Little White Flowers
Jim Thompson - 765 Rocker
Jim Thompson - Handrail
Jacqualyn Volker - He ruined my award winning shot

Class B Color Prints
Shannon Closson - One Eye Willy
Royce Cole - Bumblebee Landing
Cindy Lee - Winter Morn
Cindy Lee - Goose Down
Eva Merrick - Seagull in Flight
Dave Zizkovsky - Sunset from the Bluff

This is Royce’s first Print Honor.
This is Cindy’s first Print entry and first Honor.
This is Eva’s first Print entry and first Honor.
This is Dave’s first Print entry and first Honor.

June Honors Continued:

Class A Color Prints

Barbara Creech - Waiting for my next meal
Curt Drake - Many Colors
Sheila Elkins - A Watchful Eye
Ralph Harju - Moth
Jim Lynch - Chipmonk #2
Katheen Mendel - Majestic
Kristine Sims - Superior Sunrise
Jim Thompson - Owl in Snow
Jim Thompson - 3 of a Kind
Amber Tibone - Pink Petal Raindrops
Amber Tibone - Inside a Iris
Jacqualyn Volker - The Prairie Triullium
Dave Wheeler - Oxbow Bend

Class B Digital Slides

Dave Zizkovsky - Honey Bee Landing Zone This is Dave's first Digital Honor.
Rich Covert - Grapes

Class A Digital Slides

Bud Friesen - Concentration
Bud Friesen - Morning Light
Bud Friesen - Two plus One
Dennis Hafer - Lonely Bird
Jacqualyn Volker - Sunbathing
Jim Lynch - Baltimore Oriole Special Congratulations to Jim for Four (4) Honors in Digital.
Jim Lynch - In The Rain
Jim Lynch - Long-eared Owl
Jim Lynch - Ruby Thoart Hummer
Ken McKeown - After the Rain
Ted Post-turkey run waterfall#4
Tom McCall - Maroon Petals

Judges: Amie Witkowski, Photographer, <http://www.meisterphoto.com>

Susan K Johnston, Photographer, <http://susankjohnston.com>

Howard Nahikian, Photographer, TCCC Life Member.

Amie owns a Studio in Stevensville and Susan is a Fine Art Photographer. Check out their websites listed above. We appreciate them taking the time to come and judge for us.

CONGRATULATIONS: to all of the competitors. Thanks for all of your effort in preparing your entries and submitting them into competition. We had a good turnout with 33 members submitting 165 entries, 106 in Select, 59 in Open, that received 91 Acceptances, 38 Honors and 36 Rejects. That's an acceptance/honor rate of 78% and a rejection rate of 22%.

Competition Season Awards: During the monthly competition, points are earned and accumulated until the end of the competition year when awards are given to the top three point winners in each category. If you don't see a category or one that doesn't have three places it's because there is a requirement that a minimum of 45 points must be earned to be eligible for a top three point award.

Our Award winners for the 2010 – 2011 Competition Season are:

Class B Mono Prints

1st. Shannon Closson – 47

Class B Color Prints

1st. Scott Isbrecht – 98

2nd. Shannon Closson – 69

Class B Digital Slides

1st. Rick Bauer – 120

2nd. Randy Willis – 68

3rd. Beth Wharton – 50

Class A Mono Prints

1st. Jacquelyn Volker – 147

2nd. Kristine Sims – 121

3rd. Ralph Harju – 115

Class A Color Prints

1st. Jim Lynch – 166

2nd. Kristine Sims – 138

3rd. Jacquelyn Volker – 133

Class A Digital Slides

1st. Dennis Hafer – 164

2nd. Jim Lynch – 149

3rd. Tom McCall – 141

Congratulations to all of the winners! Along with the feelings of accomplishment for making it into the top three, come the bragging rights and as a small incentive for the next season, a little remuneration comes your way at the Annual Awards Banquet. For the rest of you it's time to set your sights on one of the top spots, review the Select Subjects list, grab your camera equipment, and go out there and capture some exceptional photos. Make sure you have fun doing it.

Competition Advancement: The following Class B Members have achieved the requirements to advance to Class A. Congratulations go to: Scott Isbrecht and Rick Bauer.

DUES NEWS: The new Dues schedule takes affect with 2011 – 2012 Membership year; it is now \$30 for an Individual or \$45 for two (2) adults in the same household. The 2011 Dues Renewal Forms are on the website on the Get Involved, ViewFinder, or SiteMap pages. Please print clearly and include all the information so we can update the roster. We are asking for your Cell phone number so that we can include it in the roster. Life Members that normally wouldn't have to submit a form unless there were changes please submit your Cell phone number. Be an early bird and send your dues in to Ted Post now. If it is more convenient for you, Ted will accept cash or checks at the meetings. Thank You.

NOTE: NO Dues for NEW members that paid AFTER February 1, 2011, your dues are extended through to August 31, 2012.

Select Subjects: The Select Subjects for the 2011 – 2012 Competition Season are now posted on the Announcement, Competition and SiteMap pages.

Members in the News: Lauren Strach takes The Best of Show in the 9th Michiana Annual Art Competition (MAAC) at The Box Factory for the Arts. Lauren's fine art quilt "First Snow" was entered in the Fiber Arts Category and she will receive \$1,000 from the Berrien Community Foundation.

Lauren's Fiber Art is really something to see and I could go on and on about Lauren being featured in The Herald Palladium on June 9th and her other accomplishments but I'll leave all of that for you in the Shadows and Highlights page on the TCCC website. To be Continued...

To be continued soon on the TCCC website Members in the News - SHADOWS AND HIGHLIGHTS page.

TCCC Members that made it into the MAAC Show: Len Anderson, Digital Art, Purchase Award for "Retired"; Ralph Harju, Photography; Mark Parren, Photography; Michel Rose, Photography; Sherry Seanz, Photography; Kristine Sims, Photography, Purchase Award for "Seen Better Days"; Jim Thompson, Photography, Honorable Mention for "Night Fishing" and Jackie Volker, Photography.

Congratulations to all of our members. The MAAC Show runs from June 10 - July 24, 2011.

Member Activities: Elaine Harju and Sherry Seanz (and Sherry's husband Mike) will be among the cast in a series of 10-minute plays presented by the Box Factory Theatre Company "Briefly Speaking" on Saturday, June 18 & 25 at 8 pm and Sunday matinees on June 19 & 26 at 4pm. "Briefly Speaking" continues the efforts of the Box Factory Theatre Company to engage Berrien Artist Guild members and friends in live theater performance. See the flyer on TCCC Announcement page or Visit <http://www.boxfactoryforthearts.org> for more information. Admission fee

Other Member News: If you have questioned why we haven't seen Michel M. Rose in attendance or any of her wonderful photos in competition lately, I have the answer. Michel, an Attorney since 1997, decided that she would add the ability to practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office and become a Patent Attorney. This was no easy feat and involved maintaining all of the regular things like a job, a home and kids, then studying several hours each evening and then all day on the weekends. After many long hours Michel took the tests and passed patent bar in March. Congratulations Michel, we are very proud of you. A little bird told me that Michel rewarded herself with a new lens for this accomplishment, we'll be looking forward to seeing the new award winning photographs taken with it. See the Announcement page for some of Michel's photos at the new Marie Yeager Cancer Center.

Member Exhibit: Jim Lynch has a photography exhibit on display at the Sarett Nature Center. The nature/wildlife exhibit, consisting of 22 photographs is in the Edna Norris classroom, which is located in the main building. There is an admission fee to enter the center. For maps/directions, etc. visit <http://www.sarett.com>

Mark your calendar: Annual Picnic on August 1st. at Riverview Park. It would be great if you could help out in getting some BINGO prizes. Sheila Elkins has graciously agreed to handle the Bingo program this year. She can use some help, do you do business with someone you think might be willing to donate something? It doesn't have to be anything big or of any great value. Thanks for your help...

SWMCCC NEWS: SWMCCC Summer Weekend of Photography and Digital Imaging 2011, at Hope College in Holland, Michigan, July 28 - July 31, 2011. Visit <http://www.swmccc.org>

SWMCCC Spring Competition 2011: Results are posted on the SWMCCC website competition page: <http://www.swmccc.org/Competition.html>

Keep those shutters clicking...