



# Twin City Camera Club

## ViewFinder

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

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**“To me, photography is an art of observation. It's about finding something interesting in an ordinary place... I've found it has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them.”~ Elliott Erwitt**

**Our Competition Season:** continues on February 13<sup>th</sup> with the Select Subject of **“Water Designs”**. (Please review the Select Subjects definitions)

**Digital Entries:** must be in by **Midnight**, Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. (72 dpi, Not to Exceed 500 kb)

**January 23rd Program Night:** Pete and Susan Mathews will present a program on their trip to Ecuador last year. Pete says it will cover their time spent in Quito, the Capitol, and several other towns, markets and parks we saw while in that part (the highlands) of the country. They also traveled to Guayaquil, the largest city in Ecuador, on the coast, and will include images from that city and area as well. The main thrust of the presentation is the architecture of the country, as well as the culture of its people, both those of European descent and the vast majority which are Amerindian or Indian European mix, as well as its religion and history. Ecuador, of course, gets its name because it straddles the Equator. There are some interesting images related to that as well. Come join us on January 23rd as we travel once again with Pete and Susan Mathews... See the Announcements page for photos and more information.

**New Members:** TCCC Welcomes 2 new members this month. Please welcome Judy Walker of Stevensville and Becky Kliss of St. Joseph. We are looking forward to seeing you at the meetings and your competition entries. Judy jumped right into the fray and garnered her first Honors on her very first attempt in Class B Color Prints and Class B Digital Competitions. Congratulations!

**Put on your thinking caps:** It's not too early to start thinking about suggestions and ideas to discuss at the February Business Meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Think about what kinds of things the membership might be interested in doing, what improvements we could make to the competitions, programs, building, etc. your ideas are appreciated. This is a Members only meeting.

**Clubhouse Changes:** The members that attended the January Competition and/or the Digital Workshop Classes will have noticed that the large film slide projection stand with the steps and the ledge for the Name Tags that was just inside of the clubroom door is no longer there. Building Chairman Rich Freridge, assisted by Ted Post and Ron Bonczkowski, removed it during December. It opened up the area and now provides for a little more seating area. The Name Tags are now located on the scoring table. Be aware that the area can become congested very easily, blocking people coming into the room, so please keep it in mind when you stop there to pick up your name tag or drop off entry cards.

**January Stats:** are posted on the TCCC website.

**January Honor Images:** Some of the January Honor Images have been added to a new Album in the Honors for 2011 - 2012 Season Galleries on the TCCC website.

**January Honors:**

**Class A Monochrome Prints**

Rick Bauer - Corn Stubble  
Michel M. Rose - Watchful Seal  
Sherry Saenz - Abstract in Charcoal  
Jim Thompson - Drive Train  
Jacqualyn Volker - Simply a Swamp  
Jacqualyn Volker - Snowfall at the Drakes

**Class B Color Prints**

Judy Walker - Nautilus This was Judy's first Competition and first Print Honor.

**Class A Color Prints**

Curtis Drake - The Bombs red Glare  
Elaine Harju - Painted Lady  
Jim Lynch - Harry Even Bridge  
Jim Lynch - Grain Elevators  
Jim Lynch - Texas Home  
Sherry Saenz - Akron Abstract #1  
Sherry Saenz - Akron Abstract #2  
Kristine Sims - Had Enough

**Class B Digital Slides**

Steve Campbell - Abstract Covered Bridge  
Steve Campbell - Abstract Blue  
Judy Walker - Silent Night This was Judy's first Competition and first Digital Honor.

**Class A Digital Slides**

Bud Friesen - Old n Rusty  
Ted Post - Floating Bubbles

**Judges:** Jennifer Mayo, Photographer, [www.jmstudios.com](http://www.jmstudios.com), Randy Veldman, Art/Photography Teacher, New Buffalo Schools, Ice Carver, [www.michianaice.com](http://www.michianaice.com) and John Hopkins, Photographer, [www.hopkinsstudioonline.com](http://www.hopkinsstudioonline.com) 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 196 entries, 137 in Select, 59 in Open, that received 104 Acceptances, 20 Honors and 72 Rejects. That's an acceptance/honor rate of 63% and a rejection rate of 37%.

**Corrections:** We have a couple of scoring issues that involved Honors scored as Acceptances. Kathleen Mendel had a Monochrome Print “Lakeshore View” that received an Honor and Dave Wheeler had a Color Print “The Tree” that also received an Honor. The scoring for December Stats will be corrected to reflect these changes. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. This brings me to the next topic.

**Reminder “Quiet Please”:** The July 2011 ViewFinder listed changes to the Competition Rules and one of the listings is JUDGING, and it says: “Take a seat and enjoy and learn from the judging. Please do not comment upon entries during the competition.” Actually this has always been part of the competitions; we just haven’t maintained it very well. Proper etiquette is important for several reasons.

We all know that judging is very subjective. What you might not know, unless you have had the occasion to judge, is that most judges try to do the very best job possible and distractions and technical problems can have an impact on how they do the job. None of the members want a distraction to have an affect on one of their images, so we all have to be part of minimizing it.

Distractions can have an impact on your scores. The Score Keepers are trying to do their jobs in semi-darkness, finding the cards associated with the image, marking it and trying to keep the process going quickly so not to take up a lot of time and the distractions can make their job more difficult, especially talking or things which make it harder for them to hear and that can result in errors and/or omissions.

It is important to all of us, that everyone enjoys participating in the club’s activities, including the competitions and programs. There will always be the occasional image that will come up that causes some kind of spontaneous laughter, we understand and expect that, but please try to minimize the distractions and please don’t make comments. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Saturday Digital Workshop Class:** We have set Saturday January 14<sup>th</sup> for a Digital Workshop Class from 10 am. Until 2 pm. This will be conducted by Dennis Hafer, Dan Brant and Tom McCall and it will be all about the Camera. This is similar to the class we held last year covering the digital camera operations and settings. With demonstrations to help you understand Histograms, Setting the White Balance, Custom White Balance, ISO speed, depth of field preview, etc. Dan Brant will reveal some new ways to get great results in Camera Raw.

These are the things that everyone needs to be reminded of and/or learn to get the best out of your camera. I know I need to refresh my memory from time to time and especially when I haven’t worked with some of it for a while. For those of you that participated last year it’s a way to reinforce what you learned. We plan to have a camera connected to a computer so that we can project onto the screen what the camera is doing so that everyone can experience it. You need to bring your camera and make sure you also bring the camera manual. Since there are many different makes and models of cameras we might not be able to answer specific questions about a particular camera but we hope to be able to point you in the right direction to find any answers you might need. For TCCC members only please.

**Turkey Run Wildflower Field Trip Reminder:** Don’t forget to make your reservations for the spring photo trip at Turkey Run State Park before the 24th of January which is the last day for the reserved rooms they are holding for TCCC in the Turkey Run State Park Inn. Go to the Members Only page and click on the Fieldtrip Information tab and you will find more information including the telephone number and a group code for the special rates. Ted said once you make your reservations to please let him know so he can keep track of who will be going. Check out these web sites:  
<http://www.turkeyrunstatepark.com> and <http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2964.htm>

**Chicago Auto Show:** A group of TCCC Members are planning on going to the Chicago Auto Show in February. It is held at McCormick Place and I believe the trip will be on the 19th. Contact Ken McKeown if you are interested in going or would like more information.

**Name Tags:** The TCCC Member Name Tags have a pin with a clasp on the back to fasten it to your clothing. President Ken McKeown had his changed to a magnet with a bar that works by putting the magnetic piece inside of your clothing in back of the name tag. Ken has used his for some time and is pleased with the way it works. He checked with the company that engraves our name tags and learned they are willing to change the backs to the magnets for \$2.00 each. If you are interested contact Ken and when he gets a number of them to do, he will take them in to be changed over.

**Webmaster's Notes:** I've just completed the process of updating all of the pages on the TCCC website. There are several places on the pages that include a yearly date, like the Celebrating Over 75 Years banner 1933 - 2012 or in the Copyright information at the bottom of the pages. The dates along with other changes have to be updated and all of the links have to be tested, corrected and/or deleted. For most of you, the first time you visit a website the pages are saved or put in cache memory on your computer and retrieved for faster viewing the next time you visit the same website. So sometimes when you visit a website you aren't seeing the most recent information. On the browser you are using for viewing the web and seeing the pages is a "Refresh" or "Reload" button or text to click on that will reload the page using the most recent version. So from time to time you might want to use the "Refresh" or "Reload" button to make sure you are getting the updated pages.

**Classifieds:** we have plenty of room to list your FOR SALE and/or WANTED TO BUY items. Please review the Classifieds page for more information. Contact Tom McCall if you have questions.

**Closing Thoughts:** Our competition year is from September through June, however all other functions of the club are on a calendar year of January through December. It's the contributions of members, volunteering of their time, ideas, energy and efforts, that make up the Twin City Camera Club. I would like to take this opportunity to say a big **THANK YOU** to all of the hardworking members that contributed their time and talents in keeping Twin City Camera Club one of the finest camera clubs in the state in 2011. Some of these members we see often but there are lots more behind the scenes, check out the club's By Laws and Organization Chart to learn about some of the responsibilities these volunteers have undertaken. Plus the many others that don't show up on a list or chart, they just help out when ever there is a need. To all, we offer our heartfelt thanks. You are the best...

## **Thoughts for a winter wish...**

**“Some beach somewhere, there’s a big umbrella casting shade over an empty chair. Palm trees are growing, warm breezes blowing. I picture myself there, some beach somewhere.” ~ Unknown**

## **Keep those shutters clicking...**