



Twin City Camera Club

ViewFinder

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

January 2010 Roll 74, Exposure 1

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You don't take a photograph, you make it. - Ansel Adams

Competition: will continue on February 8th with the Select Subject of "Farm Scenes" (Please review the Select Subjects definitions)

Digital Entries: must be in by Monday, February 1st (72 dpi, Not to Exceed 500 kb)

January 25th Program Night: Kristine Sims and Ted Post will demonstrate the High Dynamic Range (HDR) photography process. Kristine and Ted have been using these techniques and will be showing you the steps necessary both in the camera and computer that they use. HDR Photography allows photographers to capture a greater range of tonal detail than any camera could capture thru a single photo. It is a process of combining 3 or more exposures of the same image. The idea behind high dynamic range photography is to highlight the best exposure for different parts of the same photograph. The HDR process uses several over and under exposed images, the dynamic range, that are combined together to create a new image. Although HDR can be used for types of special effects, it was originally used for high-contrast exposure problems. In many situations there are dark shadows and bright highlights and getting the proper exposure is next to impossible. Even bracketing or using neutral-density filters can help but doesn't always solve the problems of capturing the full range of light to dark tones. The HDR process is one way to deal with high-contrast subjects and make them appear just as they looked to you with detail in the shadows and no blown out highlights or you can use HDR to create something that is slightly enhanced or maybe you might want to create something that is really out of this world, it is up to you. It might surprise you to know that the idea of using several exposures to fix a too-extreme range of luminance was pioneered as early as the 1850s by Gustave Le Gray. Anyway you look at it; this is one program you won't want to miss. It isn't everyday that you get a behind the scenes look at how someone has been using a process and program to achieve award winning results. Check out the Announcements page on our website for more information and to see some example HDR photos.

New Member: TCCC Welcomes Alfred Greer from Bangor.

In the News: Twin City Camera Club President and Life Member Ken McKeown was featured in the December 2009 RSVP Southwest Michigan publication. In an article titled "It's All in the Eye", by Jane Ammeson, Ken talks about his love of photography. See the full article and photos in the Shadows and Highlights page on the TCCC website.

Healing thoughts: go out to Howard Nahikian who recently underwent additional surgery. We'll be keeping Howard in our thoughts and prayers and wish for a speedy recovery.

Special Thanks: to Jackie Volker who still put together the competition program and assisted with the stats even though she had to fly to Florida to be with her mother who is very ill. Thanks Jackie and our thoughts and prayers are coming your way.

Many Thanks go out to John and Dan Penrod for the wonderful 2010 Penrod Hiawatha Calendars that Dan dropped off for the members at the clubhouse. These are always a treat and just looking at the great images can get you fired up to want to go out and try and capture some of your own.

Thanks to Gorson Drake for shoveling the snow from the clubhouse sidewalk to make it easier on everyone to enter the building for the competition meeting. It really helps and we appreciate it Gorson, thank you very much.

Report on the Digital Workshop Class: A Digital Workshop Class was held on Saturday January 9th. from 10 am. Until 2 pm. Dan Brant explained and demonstrated using the Camera Raw program. Showing how you can easily adjust several aspects of an image, i.e. exposure, clipping, tint, color balance and sharpness just to name a few. After making the adjustments, the image can be opened into Elements or Photoshop to continue your work. This can have a lot of usable applications to get more out of an image. After Dan's demonstration the group moved downstairs to receive hands on assistance while working on images in either their own computers or ones that were provided. Besides individual instruction, there always is the sharing of information and "How To's" between members. It's gratifying to hear comments like "I learn more in a couple of hours here than I do in months on my own." Dennis, Dan and I are glad to be able to share our knowledge to assist the members in learning more about using these image enhancement programs. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dan Brant and Dennis Hafer for all of their assistance with the Digital Workshop Classes it really makes a difference. Thanks guys...

Building News: The Good News, if you noticed that it seemed a little more comfortable in the building recently it's because a new furnace and air conditioner was installed. The old one was experiencing problems and even with several repairs the A/C unit still needed a lot of work and parts were becoming harder to obtain. So it was decided that it would be best to replace both the furnace and a/c as a unit to eliminate a lot of headaches in the future. Now all we need is for the weather to warm up so we can see how the new air conditioner works.

The Bad News, another reason to wish for warm weather is that when we arrived at the building for our competition meeting on Monday evening we found water leaking in from the ceiling near the northwest corner. A look outside identified the problem of ice building up creating an ice dam on the roof. Performing ice dam removal is very risky with the potential for personal injury and damage to the roof if not done properly. So a roofing contractor was hired to remove the snow treat the ice so that it will melt without causing more damage to the building. We have experienced other roof problems in the last several years, so we will have to consider our options about the roof and also look into possible solutions of properly venting and insulation to keep from having other ice problems in the future.

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 22nd. 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.

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 2009 - 2010 Season Galleries on the TCCC website.

January Honors:

Class B Color Prints

Helen Petlick – Mountain Stream

Helen Petlick – Fountain in the Fall

Class A Color Prints

Jim Lynch - Phasant

Jim Thompson – Teddy Bear Cactus

Jim Thompson – American Icon

Class B Digital Slides

Lauren Strach – Flower Shower

Class A Digital Slides

Dennis Hafer – Who's a Parrot Head

Jim Lynch – Eyes for You

Judges: Chuck Hires, Photographer; Bob Williams, Artist from the Box Factory for the Arts and TCCC Member Rod Krieger.

Special Note: The scoring devices were inspected, adjusted and cleaned by Norm Rizzo from R Radio in Benton Harbor and your editor. Hopefully that has corrected the problems we were having with them.

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 31 members submitting 197 entries, 83 in Select, 114 in Open, that received 144 Acceptances, 8 Honors and 45 Rejects. That's an acceptance/honor rate of 77% and a rejection rate of 23%.

Photos Needed: We are still looking for sharp, full size images taken within the City of St Joseph that we can use on their website. Any subject is acceptable, but pleasing scenes would most likely be selected. Photographs of locations and activities in St Joseph that will show residents and visitors alike what the city has to offer. If recognizable persons appear in your images, a photo release might be required. Contact Tom McCall if you have questions.

FOR SALE: Nikon EN-EL3e Rechargeable Li-ion Battery Pack for Nikon D50, D70, D70s, D80, D90, D100, D200, D300 and D700 Digital Cameras. (Nikon factory product) \$20 **Nikon MB-D200**, Multi-Function Vertical Grip / Battery Holder for the D-200 Digital Camera. \$90 **MAT CUTTING TABLE** 36" x 36" Built-in Metal Straight Edge, Also Serves as a Large Light Box, 3 Shelves, Steel Construction, \$35 You Pick It Up --- or --- \$50 Delivered See the Classified page for photos. Contact Dennis Mally 269-468-7833 drmally@comcast.net

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.

A Cautionary Note: We all have seen or received invitations to enter photo contests or display images on websites. Some of them offer prizes and the opportunity to have your images published. If you aren't careful and do a little research and read all of the fine print, you might find that your images will be published and published and published all over the place, without any credit or compensation for you. I've wanted to get the word out on this since I first discovered it and recently I received an invitation from Pure Michigan Photo Club that has some real troubling conditions, so now is the time.

<http://puremichiganphotoclub.com/seasonal-contest/rules/>

5. GENERAL CONDITIONS

By entering the Contest, you grant to the Sponsors, the Affiliates, and their licensees a non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable license to use, copy, distribute, perform, display the image and also to prepare derivative works based upon the image without payment, royalties, or any other compensation for the following purposes:

- 1. to publish the image in the Pure Michigan-Scenic Places book;**
- 2. to publish and license the image on and through the Michigan.org Image Gallery/Library;**
- 3. to publish the image on the Sponsors' websites, in the Sponsors' printed materials, and in or on any other of the Sponsor's media forms, now known or later developed.**

Further, by entering the Contest, you grant to the Sponsors and the Affiliates the right to use and publish your name, likeness, and state of residence online, in print, and all other media for editorial, advertising, and promotional purposes in connection with the Contest without payment or additional compensation unless prohibited by law. Also by entering the Contest, you agree to release and hold harmless the Sponsors and the Affiliates from any and all liability for any injuries, loss, claim, action, demand, or damage of any kind arising from or in connection with the Contest or Contest prize.

As you can see that just by entering their contests, not just the winners but all entries, become theirs to use, copy, distribute, perform, display the image, etc. basically **however and forever!** That's what a perpetual, irrevocable license gives them. They don't need your permission to modify the images, don't need to provide a credit and will not be paying you, period. In the paragraph above you are also agreeing to hold them harmless which should be the other way around, they should be holding you harmless for any action since they are the ones publishing the images.

I can't emphasize this enough, these conditions are really bad for you, great for them and they get a multitude of images free for what ever purpose they want.

Although "Firefly Productions, the State of Michigan, and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, their parents, members, directors, officers, employees, attorneys, agents, and representatives, affiliates, subsidiaries, and related companies ("Sponsors"), and the Sponsor's advertising and promotional agencies and licensees ("Affiliates")" that are listed within the Pure Michigan contest, are not the only people or organizations that have these kinds of conditions, I'm really disappointed they do. This definitely turned me away from this one.

Please read and understand **ALL** of the rules, conditions, etc. before you enter contests or put images on websites. If there is something you don't agree with or understand, **STOP** and ask about it.

Keep those shutters clicking...