



# Twin City Camera Club

## ViewFinder

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

March 2010 Roll 74, Exposure 3

Editor Tom McCall [editor@twincitycameraclub.com](mailto:editor@twincitycameraclub.com) Assistant Editor Jackie Volker [thenutcrackersuite@earthlink.net](mailto:thenutcrackersuite@earthlink.net)  
Website: <http://www.twincitycameraclub.com>

## To encourage and develop an interest in photography.

**Competition:** will be on April 12<sup>th</sup> with the Select Subject of "Nautical" (Please review the Select Subjects definitions).

**Digital Entries:** must be in by Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup> (72 dpi, Not to Exceed 500 kb)

**February 22nd Business Meeting:** Secretary Len Anderson reports the meeting was called to order by President Ken McKeown and the purpose of the meeting was given. After the opening statement by the president, new member Shannon Houston was recognized and given her new membership packet. Even though she is a Nikon photographer, she was readily accepted as a member. President Ken shared information on a possible program which would be sponsored by Canon if we could meet a pre-existing condition. In order to get the program at no cost, we would need to assure Canon an attendance of 100 people. Several ideas were discussed and the program is up for further discussion. President Ken also informed the membership that the competition year 2009-2010 would be the last year for the film slide category. If film slides are entered starting in September 2010 and on, they will be scanned and treated as digital entries.

Treasurer Ted Post presented a clear and informative financial report that included a noticeable improvement for the Twin City Camera Club investments in 2009. He informed the members of the club's income and expenditures, detailing each in charts showing comparisons for the past several years. He noted cost cutting changes in the past year that included the Northern Michigan Fieldtrip, the TCCC Annual Awards Banquet and the removal of the buildings telephone service (replaced with a cell phone for 911 calls only). Ted said that since we own the building there are the normal overhead expenses of taxes, insurance, utilities and maintenance of the building. That we also have outlays for the printing and mailing of the newsletter (Ken said we are down to 10 per month), for the competition awards, annual fees and for some monthly programs. Ted pointed out that we had additional expenditures for repairs made to the building, including a major one for a new heating and air conditioning system (Ted saved the club a considerable amount by researching this before the making the recommendation to the board for the purchase). Ted explained the income came from dues and initiation fees, the barber shop rent and the clubs investments (the result of funds invested from the TCCC Travel and Adventure Series). The members thanked Ted for his service and comprehensive report.

Spring wildflower field trips were discussed and Ken McKeown said that Don VanderMolen was looking into a Northern Michigan field trip that could include the Upper Peninsula and Tahquamenon Falls. Ron Bonczkowski said he will be meeting with Kevin Reed and would talk about the spring wildflower shoot on his property. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

**February 22nd Business Meeting continued:** Tom McCall reviewed the Twin City Camera Club's website and how to navigate it, reminding the members to use the refresh button on your browsers so that you can see the updates and changes.

Tom also reviewed some of the TCCC civic contributions provided as a community service. More information follows in this newsletter.

**Website View News:** In 2009 we had 6,371 unique visitors visit our website a total of 11,095 times and view 65,012 pages. A unique visitor is anyone that visits the website and is only counted once each month. This would average out to about 531 different visitors each month.

**March Program Night:** Are you fighting off cabin fever and dreaming of spring? If so, we really have a program for you. Ed Post will present "Michigan Wildflowers" This program features photographs of Michigan wildflowers. The program explores different wildflower groups such as early spring ephemerals, roadside favorites, bog inhabitants and wild native orchids. The wildflower images are grouped by the habitat in which they occur and each wildflower is identified. Ed's programs are always a real treat, with excellent photography, narration and helpful tips and techniques. With the wildflower season coming soon this is a sure way to see some wonderful examples and become inspired to capture some of your own. You won't want to miss this one.

**New Members:** TCCC Welcomes Shannon Huston from Benton Harbor and Richard Bauer Jr. from St. Joseph.

**Healing thoughts:** go out to Justine Drake who recently suffered a mild stroke. We'll be keeping Gorson and Justine in our thoughts and prayers and wish her a complete recovery.

**SWMCCC News:** Spring 2010 Competition will be hosted by St. Johns Camera Club on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Competition categories will be Creative, Nature, Open and Portrait with both Digital and Print competitions. For more information see the SWMCCC website: [www.swmccc.org](http://www.swmccc.org)

SWMCCC Weekend of Photography will be held Thurs. July 29 through Sun. August 1, 2010. TCCC's Elaine Harju will be presenting a workshop "In My Backyard". This is Elaine's fourth workshop for the Summer School. For more details and information see the SWMCCC website: [www.swmccc.org](http://www.swmccc.org)

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

**March Honor Images:** Some of the March Honor Images have been added to a new Album in the Honors for 2009 - 2010 Season Galleries on the TCCC website.

### **March Honors:**

#### **Class A Color Prints**

Barb Creech - Artsy  
Ralph Harju - Green and Terracotta  
Jim Lynch - Conway Special  
Michel M. Rose - Ancient Palace Ruins  
Michel M. Rose - Palm Leaf  
Kristine Sims - Frozen Rays  
Dave Wheeler - Snowy Egret

### **Class B Digital Slides**

Rick Bauer – Red House over Yonder This is Rick's first Digital entry and first Honor.

Don Damron – Sunset Windmill

Lauren Strach – Nearly Blue

### **Class A Digital Slides**

Ron Bonczkowski – Geese in Flight

**Judges:** Tim Schroeder, Photographer; David Knight, Photographer, <http://www.dkfoto.com> and TCCC members Ron Bonczkowski for prints and Dick Lyon for slides.

**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 32 members submitting 192 entries, 101 in Select, 91 in Open, that received 83 Acceptances, 11 Honors and 98 Rejects. That's an acceptance/honor rate of 49% and a rejection rate of 51%.

**Public and Civic Contributions as a community service:** Twin City Camera Club has a long history of public and civic contributions to groups, organizations, libraries, schools, hospitals and communities. From 1935 until 1945 TCCC was the sponsor of the Blossom Festival Salon of Photography. An exhibition of the best photographic art of the foremost camera pictorialists in the United States. This was held each year during the Blossomtime festival. In 1946 it was recommended that an Annual Slide Show be shown to the public. Between 1948 and 2002 TCCC held the Travel & Adventure Series, first at the Benton Harbor High School auditorium and then from 1960 at the St. Joseph High School auditorium. TCCC Members, for a number of years, photographed activities and events at the Berrien County Youth Fair and have provided contributions to many more organizations over the years.

### **The following contributions are for the past year:**

The TCCC Annual Slide Show, consisting of the award winning images for the past competition season, is shown by request to groups and organizations. The 2008-2009 Slide show was developed by Dennis Hafer and was shown by Ken McKeown at the St Joseph Kiwanis Club, the St Joseph Lions Club and the Fairplain Lions Club.

Member Ron Bonczkowski prepared a program "Fayette Picture Rocks and DA Yooppers" and it was shown at the St. Joseph/Lincoln Township senior center, the Coloma senior center and The Whitcomb retirement residence by Ron Bonczkowski and Dick Lyon.

In St. Joseph, The Maud Preston Palenske Public Library requested a program on Digital Photography Basics for their summer program "Imagining Michigan." This was presented by TCCC members Dennis Hafer, Dan Brant and Tom McCall to group of 23 library patrons.

In St. Joseph, the First Church of God hosted a "Special Needs Prom: "an evening with the stars." Berrien County area ministries, schools, businesses and agencies partnered together to create an evening of celebration for Southwest Michigan teens and adults with disabilities. TCCC members Ted Post and Tom McCall handled the coordination, Dennis Hafer and Dan Brant provided Formal Portraits, Mark Parren provided Videography, Len Anderson, Amber Tibone, Ron Bonczkowski, Don Hunt and Barry Nelson, provided (Paparazzi) candid photography for over 300 guests during the approximately 5 hour event.

In St. Joseph, Sponsor of a Photography merit award for the MAAC (Michiana Annual Art Competition) at the Box Factory For The Arts.

In Benton Harbor, at the request of the Orchards Mall, TCCC members Jim Lynch, Barbara Creech, Gorson Drake, Curtis Drake, Elaine Harju, Ralph Harju, Jamie Keffer, Rick Keffer, Jim Thompson, Dick Lyon, Amber Tibone, Sherry Saenz, Jackie Volker, Kristine Sims and Sam Halliburton displayed framed photographs in a storefront window display.

In St Joseph, each year Krasl Art Center hosts the "Krasl Concours Auto Show" and TCCC member Ken McKeown provides photography services for the event.

In St Joseph, the Heritage Museum and Cultural Center's exhibit "Working Waterfronts: Planning & Preserving the Maritime Traditions of St. Joseph & Benton Harbor." has images provided by TCCC members Tom McCall, Dan Penrod and John Penrod.

For Berrien, Cass and Van Buren Counties, the Southwestern Michigan Tourist Council. TCCC member Ken McKeown provides photographic images for their publications and website.

In Southwest Michigan, Lest We Forget, a veterans organization that hosts WWII Re-enactment events. TCCC members Ken McKeown, Bud Friesen, Dennis Hafer, Gorson Drake, Jim Lynch and Jim Thompson provided photography services for the events.

In St. Joseph, Photographs for the rounding boards on the Carousel Society's new carousel were provided by TCCC members Ken McKeown and Tom McCall.

In St. Joseph, TCCC Sponsored a St. Joseph Public Art 2009 Surf 'n Safari wild sculpture. TCCC member Amber Tibone created a gorilla sculpture "Camarilla" for the city art display.

St. Joseph, TCCC members are providing photographs for the City of Saint Joseph for a number of projects, several of which are still ongoing.

Members Dennis Hafer, Dan Brant and Tom McCall, photographs for the 2010 City of St. Joseph Calendar.

Members Dennis Hafer and Tom McCall, photographs for the 2010 Chicago Boat Show display.

Members Dennis Hafer and Tom McCall, photographs for the 2010 Chicago Sailboat Show display.

Members Dennis Hafer and Tom McCall, photographs for the project the City of St. Joseph partnered with Krasl Art Center on "Touch Tone Art."

Member Dennis Hafer a photograph for the Newcomers' Guide.

Member Tom McCall, photographs for Harbor Isle Resort's 2010 Chicago Boat Show display.

Member Tom McCall, photographs for Harbor Isle Resort's 2010 Chicago Sailboat Show display.

**The following are ongoing projects:**

Members Ken McKeown, Ron Bonczkowski, Dennis Hafer and Tom McCall, provided photographs that are displayed on a revolving banner on the homepage of the City of St. Joseph's website.

Member Tom McCall, is working on a project photographing all of the City Parks for the city website.

Members Amber Tibone, Dan Brant, Mark Parren, Ken McKeown, Dennis Hafer, Tom McCall and Ron Bonczkowski, are working on a project with photographs of city employees for the City of St. Joseph 2011 Calendar.

**Get Involved:** We are still looking for lots of sharp full size images taken within the City of St Joseph that we can use for projects like the ones listed and for a new web page to be added to the SJ City website. Photographs of locations and activities in St Joseph that will show residents and visitors alike what the city has to offer. Any subject is acceptable, parades, farmer's market, festivals, art fairs, car shows, fireworks, monuments and statues, pleasing scenes that showcase and promote the city. This is your opportunity to have photos included in future projects. Set up a folder for TCCC Project images, and then send low res 72 dpi full frame copies of the images to Tom McCall, [tmccall@parrett.net](mailto:tmccall@parrett.net) for consideration. When the images are selected for a project the original image can be submitted. Contact Tom McCall if you have questions.

**Editors note:** A Shadows and Highlights web page is being prepared with additional information and photographs used in most of the contributions. Check the TCCC website What's New page for the posting. I've tried to include all contributions and members known to me at this time. If I have omitted something or someone please let me know and I'll include it in a future ViewFinder. When and where space is available, the provided photographs are requested to have the credit line "Photos Courtesy of Twin City Camera Club" photos copyright by photographer name.

**UPDATE:** TCCC NORTHERN MICHIGAN PHOTO OUTING to Mackinaw City with Don VanderMolen, is scheduled for June 4th, 5th and 6th. (Due to Memorial weekend and Memorial Day). This Fieldtrip will be to northern lower Michigan and the Upper Peninsula. Don has a tentative schedule of Friday afternoon on June 4th, for a wildflower shoot at Wilderness State Park, then dinner as a group in the evening. Saturday will be an all-day photo shoot with the group traveling to the Upper Peninsula to photograph at Whitefish Point and Tahquamenon Falls. Lodging will be at the Chippewa Motor Lodge in Mackinaw City. There have been many changes (new construction) at the Chippewa. More information and the itinerary will be posted (sometime in May) in the Members Only section on the website. Please let Ken McKeown, [kennethmckeown@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kennethmckeown@sbcglobal.net) or Don VanderMolen, [vandermolend@charter.net](mailto:vandermolend@charter.net) know that you are planning on making the trip.

**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.

**Reminder:** When preparing digital images remember to title them correctly. Digital Slides must be labeled like this example: Ted Sample - Full Moon.jpg and on the email please list the images with Open or Select and the Class:

1. Open A Ted Sample-Full Moon.jpg

Don't forget the entry card.

Ask to have one made for you if you won't be attending the meeting.

**Keep those shutters clicking...**