



SEPTEMBER 2013

THE CURRENTS

River City Camera Club



"Horses at Sunset" by Mike Mitchell

OUR MISSION

We seek to promote the knowledge and enjoyment of photography through education, programs, activities and Competition.

OCTOBER PROGRAM

DOUBLE JUDGE PHOTO CRITIQUE

By Marilyn Keigley

Some people responded to River City's recent survey that they wanted meaningful critiques. The October program will be a "Double Critique" by Larry Heibel and Jeanne Quillan. They will give an ON THE SPOT critique and will not see the images ahead of time. You will better know what a typical judge is thinking, as they judge in a just few seconds. Will the judges agree? We know that judging is not a science but we don't always know why we get good scores sometimes and lower scores other times. Send two photos by September 25 to keigleym@ferris.edu and find out how your photos stack up. You may get similar opinions or perhaps some difference of opinion from the judging critique. Larry and Jeanne have not done this before in this manner either, so it should be fun and interesting. **Your names will not be revealed unless you choose to speak up.**

Jeanne Quillan, GRCC member since 1996 and has competed every month for 17 years. "I believe truly that entering in competition improves your photography." Jeanne was editor of the GRCC newsletter from 1998-2008 and has since been Competition Chair. Jeanne completed a course through the PSA on Critiquing Images and also gives training workshops on judging at GRCC. She has judged competitions for many SWMCCC competitions, and clubs in Michigan. Last year Jeanne won a nature award through Glennie Memorial Nature Salon Competition.

Larry Heibel has been creating images in Grand Rapids and West Michigan since 1993. He also owns and operates WorkShoots. Larry has over 11,000 lifetime points with River City Camera Club and has been active in running the club for many years. Formerly working for the Grand Rapids Press, Larry has carried through with this specialty as an event photojournalist for family and corporate clients. Corporate headshots are also a specialty.

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RCCC MEETING DATES:

October 2, 2013

November 6, 2013

December 4, 2013

January 8, 2014

February 5, 2014

March 5, 2014

April 2, 2014

May 7, 2014

SCHEDULED PROGRAMS 2013

By Marilyn Keigley, Vice President River City Camera Club

NOVEMBER 2013: How to Prepare Photos for Print, Amy Brodowski

From Pro Lab Express will give practical information regarding camera and computer issues for preparing and turning your digital photos into great prints.

DECEMBER 2013: Christmas Party/Food & Competition

JANUARY 2014: Member Mini Programs

FEBRUARY 2014: Gert Wallis, Elements of Composition & Lightning Photography

MARCH 2014: History of Photography/Fine Art, speaker TBD

APRIL 2014: Wayne Pope, Digiscoping Photography



The Cookie Brigade

OCTOBER MEETING

KIM HEIBEL
JIM SHEARER JR.
STEVE SCHERBINSKI

DIGITAL COMPETITION COORDINATOR NEEDED: *To work with and/or replace current Coordinator - Kelly has graciously agreed to continue as our Coordinator for the time being, but travels extensively – so we need a back up. Position involves receiving digital images from RCCC members for the monthly and year-end digital competitions; preparing images for projection during competition, being the caretaker of the RCCC club computer, projector and supporting equipment; prepare the score sheets for each competition prior to the meeting. Requires about 3 hours per month outside of club to prepare images scoring sheet for monthly competition. Also requires about 10 hours in April/May for year-end competition preparation of images.*

Contact: RCCCDigital@RiverCityCameraClub.org or President@RiverCityCameraClub.org

ASSIGNED SUBJECTS 2013-2014

In order to submit 6 images, 2 must be in the assigned category. You may enter up to 2 images in any other category for a total of 6 entries in both Print and Digital

Categories: Assigned, Creative, Nature, Open, Photojournalism, and Portrait

SEPTEMBER: Modes of Travel
OCTOBER: Barns
NOVEMBER: Awesome Autumn
DECEMBER: Contrast
JANUARY: Brilliant Color
FEBRUARY: Pairs
MARCH: Bridges
APRIL: Magnified

2013-2014 ASSIGNED SUBJECTS

By Sharon VanderBoon, Competition Chair, River City Camera Club

September 2013: MODES OF TRAVEL

You have had all summer to see a plethora of modes of transportation. I will list a few methods. There are autos, planes, trucks, tractors, riding lawn mowers, Segways, motorcycles, bicycles, horse-drawn carriages and carts and wagons, golf carts, subway cars, street cars, snowmobiles, horses, camels, donkeys, scooters, buses, unicycles, dune buggies, boats, and ships. They can be new, old, museum pieces, or wrecks. Many festivals have classic car or boat shows as part of their events. If you want to travel to get pictures, there are places like the Gilmore Car Museum or The Henry Ford Museum to visit.

October 2013: BARNs

Michigan and its neighboring states contain many barns, so they are not hard to find. Some are beautiful and well kept, while others are in various stages of decay, which can give them some character, which your average barn may lack. Look for interesting ways to shoot the structure, or an interesting setting, or maybe try to get the image at a certain time of day when lighting suits the subject best. One could include an animal or vehicle to compliment the barn.

November 2013: AWESOME AUTUMN

The Michigan is one of the most beautiful places to be in the fall in the United States. Colors can be seen from late September through early November, depending where in the state you are. Every year is different. There are fall festivals with autumn décor, pumpkins, colorful and interestingly shaped gourds, fall fruits, brilliant colored trees, domestic plants that turn lovely colors in the fall, Halloween decorations and events, and pumpkin or Halloween parades. Objects and nature (barns, bridges, colored tree reflections in water) take on a charm in the fall that they do not have in other seasons.

December 2013: CONTRAST

This subject is not just about lighting techniques, but includes contrasts of various sorts such as: Tall and short, fat and thin, big and small, dark and light, smooth and rough, distinguished and dowdy, pretty and ugly, sharp and dull, happy and sad, soft and hard, and sweet and sour. Maybe make your own tabletop setup of the contrasts of your choice.

January 2014: BRILLIANT COLOR

In the winter we can use more color in our life, so let's bring it out with this subject. Bright colors are all around us. Here are some possibilities: Candles, Christmas decorations, clothes, household objects, cameras, cell phones, ribbon, signs (neon ones especially), flowers, reflections in water, birds, rocks and gems, carnival rides, pottery, store fronts, cars, tractors, trucks, motorcycles, jewelry, murals food, sculptures, toys, fish, dune buggies and paper objects.

February 2014: PAIRS

This subject includes two of a kind, or something that comes in pairs like shoes and socks. This could include twins-animals, birds or people, fish, trees, leaves, mushrooms, flowers, bushes, cars, toys, marbles, technical devices, feet, hands, legs, mittens, fruit, vegetables, insects, pens, pencils, paint brushes, dishware, jewelry, headlights or taillights on a vehicle, a duplicated design in a sculpture or pottery.

March 2014: BRIDGES

Downtown Grand Rapids can supply your need for bridge pictures, either by day or lit at night. To shoot covered bridges, visit Ada, Lowell (Fallasburg), or Smyrna (Whites Bridge near Belding) in Ionia County. They take on a different flare in the fall and winter. Most of us probably have a picture of Mackinac Bridge, but the bridges can be a smaller garden variety as well. Train trestles over land or water qualify as bridges. Experiment with shooting the bridge at different angles and with different types of lighting, or do an abstract, focusing on one aspect of the bridge.

April 2014: MAGNIFIED

Appearing bigger than life size is what is needed here. It can be an abstract of something, or anything that has been zoomed in on. Give us a good close up look at whatever it is you choose to shoot.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

It was great to see everyone at our first meeting September 4th!

Hope you can join us for the October meeting as it will be the first chance members will have the opportunity to enter up to two photos in our new **“Fine Art Showcase” category** – the content of the photo is up to what your definition of ‘fine art’ is and an opportunity to showcase your work. This is a non-judged category and will be shown at the end of regular competition. Read more about it and how to title your photos for entry on the following pages. We gave it a trial run during our first meeting and it seemed to be very well received by the members and perhaps may be the perfect way to end the evening.

Also in October our Program will be a “Double Judge Photo Critique”. Please remember to send one or two of your photos to keigleym@ferris.edu by September 25th. It will be interesting to hear how each judge views the same photo.

The Southwestern Michigan Council of Camera Clubs (SWMCCC) is looking for entries in their Fall 2013 Competition on September 21st and will incorporate a couple of ArtPrize Photo Opportunities as well. Check their website for competition entry details and Photo Walk times – www.swmccc.org.

Other Photo Walk opportunities in downtown Grand Rapids during the month of September are as follows:

***Saturday, September 14, 2013 at 7:30pm. West Michigan Photography Enthusiasts is hosting a ‘Night Photography’ Walk. Meet at Grand Rapids Art Museum and do some evening photography. More information: photo-walks.meetup.com/cities/us/mi/grand_rapids/.*

***Monroe North Business Association and WorkShoots are sponsoring free photo tours of ArtPrize entries in the Monroe North business area. Two walks are planned.*

-The first walk: is Friday September 20 at 7 p.m. photographing indoor exhibits.

-The second walk: is Sunday September 29 at 4 p.m. photographing outdoor exhibits, weather permitting.

Both walks will start at the Monroe Community Church. More information: www.workshoots.com or email lawrence@heibelmedia.com

As always photo opportunities abound. One of my favorites, Fall in Michigan – a beautiful, colorful time of year for outdoor photography. Grab your camera and capture the beauty!

Happy Shooting,
Julie Tamblin

2013-2014 Board and Committees

President:

Julie Tamblin 616.490.4910

President@RiverCityCameraClub.org

Vice President:

Marilyn Keigley

VicePresident@RiverCityCameraClub.org

Treasurer:

Wayne Walkotten

Treasurer@RiverCityCameraClub.org

Secretary:

Kevin Povenz

Secretary@RiverCityCameraClub.org

Digital Coordinator:

Kelly Walkotten

RCCCDigital@RiverCityCameraClub.org

Fundraising Chair:

Steve Scherbinski

Steve.Scherbinski@gmail.com

Competition Chair:

Sharon VanderBoon

Competition@RiverCityCameraClub.org



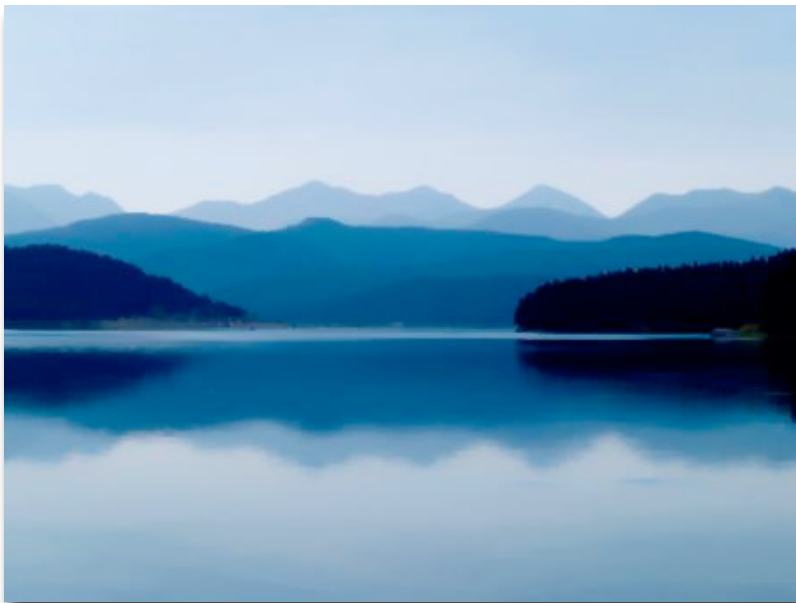
“Yellow Daisy” ©Lori Wysocki

Fine Art Showcase

The Fine Art Showcase is a new non-judged digital category.

The reason for this category is to allow our photographers personal development beyond the requirements of typical camera club guidelines and technical “rules.” Each summer SWMCCC hosts fine art photographers from around the country, such as Andre Cabuche who develop personal visions and styles beyond the standards of a technically “correct” photo. In fact, SWMCCC gave a special award this summer at Hope College (\$150) for a winning photo ***“...its strength will be its originality and its artistic interpretation and expression of the artist’s emotions or feelings.”***

Galleries sell photos for thousands of dollars that might not do so well in camera club [soft focus might be a reason, breaking the rule of 3rds, or added filters.] As a camera club, perhaps we should not limit creativity and personal development. Most of us have been through galleries containing photos that make us gasp with awe, and other photos we would not hang in our basement. However, they are selling for lots of money.



“Lake McDonald ” by Julie Tamblin



“Iris” by Kim Heibel

Fine Art Showcase continued...

The Fine Art Showcase category will be shown without judging at the end of the regular digital competition. One or two photos (maximum 2) can be submitted each month by members, regardless of how many images entered or not entered in regular digital. Showcase photos will not be judged and will be shown for the approximate time an average photo is visible for judging; name and title will be read.

LIMITATION: *A showcase photo cannot be shown later in the regular competition*, but could be submitted in SWMCCC fall or spring competition. This new category could be used to “test” the waters for unique or artistic photos for other competitions.



“Footprints” by Steve Scherbinski

The content of the photo is up to your definition of “fine art.” It could be from nature, photojournalism, portraiture (including environmental portraiture), creative, and so forth. An example that might be different from club competition would be Todd and Brad Reed’s photo of a ‘soft focus’ doe jumping across a country trail, as seen in their new “Tribute to Michigan” book. Other ideas: abstract, macro, out of focus, swirled, painted, filters, and so on.

SUBMITTING AN ENTRY IN ‘FINE ART SHOWCASE’ is the same as entering a regular digital photo, maximum 1024 pixels W or H. Use this format with your *name before the title*: **S_MSmith_EagleInNest.jpg**.

Photo Tip Of the Month

by Kelly Walkotten

Straight Lines with Brushes

To draw a straight line with any of the brush tools, just click, hold the Shift key, and click again where you want the line to end. Photoshop will draw a straight line between the two points! This trick also works with most tools, including erasers and even the highlight tool in the Extract filter.

2013 FALL SWMCCC COMPETITION

REMINDER: The 2013 Fall SWMCCC Competition will be held on **SEPTEMBER 21, 2013** in Grand Rapids. The competition will begin at 1PM, held at the Boy Scouts of America headquarters, 3213 Walker Ave.

*This year we are featuring new place awards - check them out on SWMCCC's website!
<http://swmccc.org/Competition.html>

To make it even more fun, this fall the competition will be held in conjunction with ArtPrize. In addition to the competition, we plan a guided night photo shoot of ArtPrize for all SWMCCC members. This will be held the night of the competition beginning at 7PM, meeting at the Ford Museum near the fountain. A 2nd photo walk will be held on Sunday, Sept 22 at 12:00 noon again meeting at the Ford Museum.

THE DEADLINE FOR COMPETITION ENTRIES IS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

MISC. NOTES... WISC. NOLES...

MONTHLY COMPETITION – PHOTO'S DUE BY:

DIGITAL SUBMISSIONS: WEDNESDAY September 25, 2013 by Midnight
RCCCDigital@RiverCityCameraClub.org

PRINT SUBMISSIONS: (Night of Competition) WEDNESDAY October 2, 2013 by 6:50pm

Monthly Competition Scores

Up-to-Date Monthly Competition Scores can be viewed on our website
RCCCDigital@RiverCityCameraClub.org

Articles-News-Information

Have a photography related article you've written and/or information you would like to share in the next THE CURRENTS issue? Please submit via e-mail: President@RiverCityCameraClub.org by Oct. 2, 2013.



Map:

We meet at

**Covenant Village of the
Great Lakes**

www.covenantgreatlakes.org

2510 Lake Michigan Drive N.W.

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Meetings begin at: 7:00pm