



Crystal Lake Camera Club Newsletter

Serving Crystal Lake and surrounding McHenry County communities since 1980

October, 2013

Year 2013-2014, Issue 2

[CLCC Website Link](#)

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CLCC Officers

(September 2013 - August, 2014)

- **Co-Presidents:**
Al Popp
Chuck Rasmussen
- **Vice President:**
David Jilek
- **Treasurer:**
Larry Swanson

CLCC Support

- **Webmaster:**
Sandy Wittman
- **Newsletter Editor:**
Rich Bickham

Presidents' Column



Story, Indiana October, 2012

Well, can you believe October is nearly upon us? Yes, October! That beautiful time of the year when the leaves begin their magical transformation into so many "take your breath away" colors.

We are approaching our club's first competition of its 2013/2014 new year on October 1st. We can say confidently that it will be interesting. Lyle Anderson has set up the judges for us and has agreed to assist in selecting them in the future as well (thanks, Lyle). We're also expecting some incredible photos to be on display at this meeting /competition since we are all back from summer vacations and road trips with exciting images to share. The judges are going to have a difficult time.

New at the October meeting will be the kick-off of our "Drop In Early" mentoring activity. If you have a particular dilemma regarding photography, cameras, something technical or how to shoot a subject, we will have help there to answer all of your queries from 6:15 p.m. until the start of our meeting at 7:00 p.m. It is a great opportunity to take advantage of expertise within our club, so check it out and call / email either of us with questions.

Hope to see you all at the meeting!

Al & Chuck

Changes to CLCC Communication Media

Recent changes have been made to several of the channels our club uses to communicate with members and the public.

Our [Website](http://www.crystallakecameraclub.org) (<http://www.crystallakecameraclub.org>) has been updated with a new look and user interface. Webmaster *Sandy Wittman* has worked very hard to create a professional looking web page that really presents our club in an inviting atmosphere to on-line visitors. The site is warm, friendly, good looking, has over one hundred photography-related links, and displays our bi-monthly competition photographs beautifully. What a gift she has given us. Thank you, Sandy.

We now have a [Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/CrystalLakeCameraClub) (<https://www.facebook.com/CrystalLakeCameraClub>) which has the potential to be a wonderful avenue for us to share our photographs with each other within the growing world of social media. Look it over and "Like" it to be part of it. Invite your friends to "Like" it too. Our new club Vice President David Jilek created and is handling the page (thanks Dave) . Contact him if you want to put up some pictures or better understand how it works. Have some fun with it.

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MEMBER FOCUS

Longtime member **Paul Litke** had one of his photographs chosen for the cover of the Fall, 2013 issue of Landscapes magazine (published by the McHenry County Conservation District). A scanner version of cover is shown below, with a better resolution photo shown at the top right.



Several other of his photographs also appear in the center pages of the same issue. All photos were shot at one of the District's Trail Of History re-enactments of life in the Northwest Territory during the 1800s. Another example of Paul's work (shown at bottom right) is a shot of the Jesse White Tumblers taken three years ago.

Paul is a charter member of CLCC and is a recognized authority on special effects photography. He has personally designed and built numerous special effects lenses over the years for his own use. He claims some folks have accused him of using Photoshop 20 years before it was developed to achieve his results. He likes shooting at special events and distributes his photos to participants, never taking money for his efforts.

The next Trail of History re-enactment will take place October 19 & 20 at Glacial Park in Ringwood, located west of Route 31 north of McHenry. It's a great photographic opportunity. - Ed

Member **Laura Kohlbrand** is the owner of Lark Creative Studio located across the street from Nick's Pizza in Crystal Lake. Laura hosts The Clicker's Clique, an informal get-together of photographers at her studio similar to our monthly Photobug Breakfasts at the Colonial. The get-togethers are usually on a weekday evening and may be more convenient than our Saturday Photobug breakfasts for some members. Further information can be found on the Lark Creative Studio [Website](http://larkcreativestudio.com) (<http://larkcreativestudio.com>) or you can call her at (779)-220-4257.

Those of you who attended the September meeting no doubt walked away with a good, solid understanding of composition techniques given in "How to Take a Better Photograph" by **Jeff Chemelewski**. It was one of the better educational programs our club has had the privilege of seeing. He gave a professional quality presentation - easy to comprehend material with lots of examples. It doesn't get much better than that. Thanks Jeff, for all your hard work and effort on such short notice - outstanding job!

MEDIA from Page 1

Our newsletter also has a new look (as is obvious). **Rich Bickham** has taken over responsibility as editor and given it a more professional look and feel that we think is needed to attract potential members. His experience precedes him, as he edited the McHenry County Youth Orchestras' newsletter for five years during the 1990s. Al, Chuck and Rich encourage all members to feel free to contribute material to the newsletter. If you have experienced good success with a particular method of photography or have a tip for taking and/or printing better pictures we would love to hear about it, and the newsletter is an excellent method to communicate your success to other members. Please email your inputs to Rich at richbickham@comcast.net - material received two weeks prior to scheduled CLCC meetings will be considered for inclusion in the next newsletter.



TIP OF THE MONTH

From: *Chuck Rasmussen*

I will share a tip probably everyone already knows, but I think is worth repeating. Who knows how many good photographs I have messed up not doing this, even though I know better. I use a polarizing filter a lot - never for the sky, but rather for removing glare and reflection from subjects to capture and saturate the color. I also do a bit of HDR. **The tip:** Don't shoot HDR with the polarizing filter on the lens. It really does mess with the final photograph.

Lyle Anderson mentioned at the September meeting that a polarizing filter should also not be used for panorama shots where multiple images will be 'stitched' together to create a final photograph. - Ed

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS - October, 2013

| DATE | TIME | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | NOTES |
|------------|-----------------------|---|---|-------|
| October 1 | 6:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. | Home State Bank 611 S. Main St. , CL Community Room | "Drop In Early" Mentoring | 1 |
| October 1 | 7:00 p.m. | Home State Bank 611 S. Main St. , CL Community Room | October CLCC Meeting and Member Competition | 1 |
| October 12 | 8:30 a.m. | Colonial Café 5689 Northwest Hwy. , CL | Saturday Morning Photobug Breakfast Meeting | 2 |
| October 19 | 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Home State Bank 611 S. Main St. , CL Community Room | Bill Brown (CACCA) Adobe Elements Seminar | 1,3 |
| October 22 | N/A | N/A | Deadline for Inputs to November CLCC Newsletter | 4 |

Notes:

- 1) CLCC meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month. Home State Bank is located in Crystal Lake. It's the large building behind the Drive-Up, just southeast of the intersection of Route 14 and Main Street . The community room is on the lower level—take the elevator just inside the South entrance.
- 2) The Photobug Breakfast meeting provides an opportunity for open conversations among any who attend related to photography in general. It's a great way to get to know the club members on a more personal level. The food is pretty good too. This event is held the second Saturday of each month.
- 3) Bill Brown (current President of CACCA) has been teaching Elements 'forever' and will demonstrate its inner workings in a manner understandable to every level of photographer. This is an invitation to all. Non-members of CLCC will incur a \$25 fee for attending this seminar, but it will cover the annual club membership and convey all member privileges to participate in future events, competitions and workshops for the current club year.
- 4) Email to Rich at richbickham@comcast.net .

BEYOND OCTOBER

Events of note beyond the current month:

November 5 - For the CLCC November meeting program your "homework assignment" (for those who wish to participate) is to take pictures with Halloween themes (pumpkins, ghosts, witches, ...) and share them with members at the meeting. Just put your images on a thumb drive for projection. This isn't a critique, just an opportunity to show others in the club some of the fun stuff you have been shooting. If you have a particular image that's not Halloween-related, that's OK too. Club members would love to see your recent work.



November 17 - CAPS 2013 (Chicago Area Photographic School), the largest single day photo school in the Midwest, will be held at the Elgin Community College. If you want to enjoy a full day of photography enlightenment this show is worth attending. Cost is minimal and the event is well worth the time and effort. There will be numerous vendors displaying their wares along with demonstrations and the opportunity to make purchases at show discount prices. Presenters of the different categories of material are plentiful, and you will get to choose the sessions you want to attend. Check it out to see what CACCA has to offer us at this show. See the [CACCA Website](http://www.caccaweb.com) (http://www.caccaweb.com) for details.