



Crystal Lake Camera Club Newsletter

Serving Crystal Lake, IL and surrounding communities since 1980

February, 2016

Year 2016, Issue 2

CLCC Links

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CACCA Delegate: Royal Pitchford

Advisor: David Jilek

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Assist: Margie Paffrath

Membership: Mariela Ryan

Publicity: Roger Willingham

Competition: Jeff Chemelewski

Outings: Rinus Lammers

Refreshments: Larry Swanson

FEBRUARY SEASONAL IMAGE



"Winter Tree"

Sandra Wittman

Congratulations to Sandra Wittman whose above photograph "Winter Tree" was chosen as the February Seasonal Image of the Month. It was taken during a 2008 winter snowstorm on Huntley Road in Carpentersville, IL.

Your photograph can be here next month - see the "Opportunities" section on page 8 for the entry procedure. ♦



Give
it a
shot !



Presidents' Column

So what is a "Small Group"?

During the January, 2016 club meeting, we spelled out ideas we wanted to initiate to get the New Year going in the right direction for the club. Small Groups was one idea presented. Here is why.

We meet as a group once a month at the Home State Bank - and we either enjoy a presentation or attend an excellent competition evening. However, not all of us have the same interests in photography. As hard as we try, we cannot deliver a program for everyone's particular photographic desire in those areas they wish to learn more about.

Today, there are thousands of facets and types of photography and software. What if there existed an entire encyclopedia covering all the possible variables? Think Mayo Clinic, where the best doctors in the world cover every aspect of the human body. You wouldn't go there to see every doctor, just the one that knew how to deal with your situation. Relating this example to photography would be like attending a specialized photo session to learn specifically what you want to know and help make you a better photographer.

What if there was a convenient, periodic gathering of fellow photographers meeting to discuss

See **President**, Page 2



your particular photography interest? This meeting would be held in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere set at the home of one of our club members for you to learn more about a specific photographic topic. You set your own pace, you cover the topic at a speed you are comfortable with, and you all learn, practice and work together. This, my friends, is a SMALL GROUP (SG).

So how do we begin this new journey? What are the steps necessary to start a SG? Well, it really is very simple. Let's set up an example. Joe Smith is a camera club member who likes macro-photography, but isn't sure about the procedures or processes to get a really good macro photo and wants to learn more. All Joe has to do is contact Al (skip3917@sbcglobal.net) or Chuck (chuckr@camira.com) via phone or email and relay his desire to host a macro-photography group in his/her home on such and such a date and time. Al or Chuck will send out an email to the club members with Joe's information. Those having an interest will contact Joe directly. This way Joe is able to organize and control the number of people attending his SG.

Theoretically, we could have several SG meetings going on during the same month. Now our members will have the opportunity to see what is available. If there are no hosts for a subject for which they have an interest, that member can initiate a group by being a host themselves.

The possibilities are many. How to set up a camera; how to understand aperture and shutter speed, or maybe how to better understand Lightroom or Elements. If you have a desire to better understand a facet of photography like taking and editing videos, the opportunity would be available to you. Either attend a SG, or create one at your home and send out the invitation. Does speed light use, portraiture & lighting, special effects, software or perhaps landscape photography intrigue you? With a SG there would be a way to discover how to do it and have a fun time learning.

Don't grasp the concept of how to back up your work? Maybe you want to take a cute shot of your new baby or grandchild, and don't know what lens to use. Is a fast lens a good buy? What printer should I consider? Anyone know anything about how to buy photo paper or printing inks? Anyone want to go out and do some practice shooting to put in play what they have learned or are learning? Again, think about the possibilities and benefits of SG. The group can meet as often as it likes, when it likes and new friendships which develop will certainly become common.

If this SG thing really begins to grow, and more information is desired beyond the abilities of a particular group, the host may request a mentor to attend one of their meetings to answer questions and demonstrate proper techniques. These requests can again be made through Al or Chuck.

Developing Small Groups, allows us to get to know each other better, learn more about photography, and have the ability to commit more time to what we love to do. After all, photography really is fun!

Chuck & Al ◇



There's light at the end of the tunnel.

We are nearly half way through winter.

KNOW YOUR CLUB OFFICERS

I learned photography in High School and also from electives in college, I was in the United States Air Force from June, 1986 through September, 2007. I was on active duty for four years and in the Reserves the rest of the time, retiring with an Honorable Discharge. I currently work for Union Pacific Railroad as a Locomotive Engineer operating Metra trains in commuter service to and from Chicago on the old Chicago & North Western tracks.



Peter Pelke II

I have been a part time professional photographer since about 2000, when I was asked by a friend to photograph his wedding. My current clients typically hire me for events, car and motorcycle shows, senior portraits, and a few corporate head shots. I have been published in Trains magazine and have been recognized in two photo contests, one for Trains magazine and the other for the Dundee Township Park District. I am currently serving as the Club's Vice President and Director of Education.

Please call or email me if you have any questions about all things photography. My phone number is (847)-346-9957, my email is isephoto@outlook.com and you can visit my website at isephoto.fototime.com . ◇

STORM CHASER PHOTOGRAPHER

Grace Moline

Lightning has been Greg McCown's passion for the past seven years. Through trial and error, Greg learned how to shoot lightning. He studies the sky and radar before heading out. As he became a storm chaser, he connected with three other storm chasers/photographers, Mike Olbinski, Bryan Snider and Chris Frailey - you can Google them to see their work. Storm chasers use an app called RadarScope to access high-quality weather radar. This way they can pinpoint the storm and also each other's locations. Arizona is an ideal place to photograph storms since they often have isolated rain shafts, so photographers can stay out of the rain and not get their equipment and themselves wet. The open landscapes afford them the vivid lightning as well as a clear view 60-70 miles away. McCown also learned the importance of "lightning trigger" for his camera which senses the lightning and shoots the photo faster than a person can. Photographing lightning is difficult. It happens too fast for the brain and fingers to react said McCown. After years of trying, McCown was finally successful in getting the lightning and rainbow picture shown below! McCown was shooting when on the freeway with Snider and Frailey



when a microburst hit and visibility went down to 20 feet. Greg said, Bryan and Chris headed northwest back towards home and I headed southeast towards a rainbow. I was just trying to find a foreground without telephone poles or other junk in the way. Found it just in time as this was the last bolt to strike before the storm dissipated into nothing." When he posted his photograph on Facebook last August, it spread like wildfire. His photo was first noticed in Norway when he got a call from a Norwegian newspaper. After that, he's heard from The Times of London, NBC News and numerous other organizations. McCown has even licensed his photo to be used in a movie and elsewhere. McCown's web page is <http://saguaropictures.com/#!/page/home/> . You might also want to check out his Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/mccowngreg> . ◇

ICONIC PHOTO OF A FEBRUARY DAY IN HISTORY

Rich Bickham

Last month's featured photograph was the "Miracle on the Hudson", so this month I thought I'd stay with the water theme and feature what is now widely known as the "Miracle on Ice".

It was February of 1980, and a low point in America's self-confidence and prestige in the global scheme of things. Three months earlier, more than sixty American hostages were taken by Iranian students belonging to "Muslim Student Followers of the Imam's Line" who took over the American embassy in Iran's capital city Tehran by force. This followed in the wake of the overthrow of the Shah of Iran (a staunch U.S. ally with a strong military presence in the region) who was forced into exile earlier in 1979. It would be 444 days before the hostages would be released. Then, in January of 1980 the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan (much the same as they had done 24 years earlier in Hungary, and 12 years earlier in Czechoslovakia), hoping to cause another 'domino' of Eastern Europe to fall into the Communist bloc. Then U.S. President Jimmy Carter had just entered his last year of what was an ineffective, single term presidency in which he was blocked by Congress from getting much of his agenda implemented due to his adversarial relationship with them as a "political outsider". Against that backdrop, the country needed a morale boost, and the XIII Olympic Winter Games, being hosted in 1980 by the U.S. in Lake Placid, NY, provided the opportunity.

The venue for the hockey competition was the ice arena in the Olympic Center. At that time, professional athletes were still barred from participating in Olympic competition. The U.S. hockey team had therefore always been comprised of college athletes, as had most other competing teams. The 'exceptions' were Eastern European teams (the most talented of which at the time were Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union). They got around the rules by their government subsidizing all of the training and living expenses for them and their families. This included other perks, allowing them to have a much higher standard of living than the vast majority of their fellow countrymen (as long as they won). Thus every four years the Eastern European nations fielded teams of what were effectively professional caliber players against teams of true amateurs, with the Soviets and the Czechs usually dominating the competition. From 1954 to 1991 the Soviets won nearly every World Hockey Championship and Olympic tournament in which they competed. Their 1980 Olympic team roster was comprised of players ranging in age from 19 to 35 years (average 25.9 years).



"Miracle on Ice" Heinz Klutmeier (SI)

the Soviets won nearly every World Hockey Championship and Olympic tournament in which they competed. Their 1980 Olympic team roster was comprised of players ranging in age from 19 to 35 years (average 25.9 years).

Head Coach *Herb Brooks* and Assistant Coach *Craig Patrick* coached the U.S. team of the 20 players they had selected from six American universities and trained over the past half year. They ranged in age from 20 to 25 years (average 21.6 years).

In the preliminary round of competition, the U.S. convincingly beat the heavily favored Czechoslovakian team 7-3, setting the stage for a semi-final matchup with the Soviets, who had outscored their opponents 45-7 thus far. On February 22, the U.S. team upset the Soviets by a 4-3 score in what Sports Illustrated magazine voted "... the greatest moment in twentieth century sports history." The cover of the March 3, 1980 issue of Sports Illustrated (shown above) captured the team's celebration seconds after the game ended. It was recently selected as the most iconic Sports Illustrated cover ever published. In what is arguably one of the most anticlimactic championship games ever played, the U.S. team won their next game with Finland two days later to win the gold medal.

Afterward many members of the U.S. team had careers in the National Hockey League. One exception was team Captain *Mike Eruzione* (Boston University) who considered his participation in the 1980 Olympic Winter Games to be his pinnacle achievement in hockey, never to be surpassed. Brooks went on to coach in the NHL. He died in a car accident in 2003. In 2005 the Olympic Ice arena was renamed the Herb Brooks Arena.

At the time, most Americans considered the hockey competition more than just a sports victory over the Soviets. They considered it a moral victory as well. ♦



ASK A PRO

Jim Pierce

Send your questions to:

downtownprophoto@sbcglobal.net

Please do not submit model-specific questions about cameras.

Jim did not receive a question this month. 😞 ♦

TIP OF THE MONTH *

Lose the Winter Blues

Submitted by *Sandy Wittman*

Here are ten ways to capture the unique scenes of the season offered up by Alaskan photographer *Tom Bol*.

- 1) Photograph during the blue hours.
- 2) Look for shadows.
- 3) Seek out ice.
- 4) Capture juxtapositions.
- 5) Look for tracks.
- 6) Photograph the stars.
- 7) Shoot in a blizzard or snow storm.
- 8) Use sun stars in your composition.
- 9) Photograph alpenglow.
- 10) Fog is your friend.



Each of the above tips are elaborated on in the below website, which also includes images for most (example shown above).

<http://www.dpmag.com/how-to/shooting/lose-the-winter-blues> .

* The subject of last month's tip was HOW to photograph in the winter, while this month's tip addresses WHAT to photograph. - Ed ♦

LINKS OF THE MONTH

Submitted by *Roger Willingham*

This site is for photographers, by photographers. Take a look - it offers a lot of useful information:

<http://www.rockynook.com/>

Submitted by *Paul Litke*

The 100 best photographs ever taken without Photoshop*:

<http://brightside.me/article/100-best-photographs-without-photoshop-46555/?image=215455#image213205>

* Great images, but some of them look like they have been edited. - Ed ♦



MORE MEMBER COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to all the following CLCC members who were winners in the competition held at the CACCA January meeting:

Lyle Anderson:

"Pioneer Farm Kitchen" - Small Monochrome - Honorable Mention

Roger Willingham:

"Khelm Day Lily" - DPI - **CACCA Award**

Sandra Wittman:

"Boneyard Beach Sunrise" - Small Color - **CACCA Award**



Boneyard Beach Sunrise

Sandra Wittman

Lance Lagoni had two winning photographs from the December, 2015 CLCC competition that were not available for the January newsletter. Both large color prints won Honorable Mention. One is shown below.



Corner Tap

Lance Lagoni

Lyle Anderson's winning print was not available at publication time.

Roger Willingham's photograph was shown in the January, 2015 newsletter.

The winning images shown above are uncropped and sized such that each has the same printed area while retaining its original aspect ratio. ◇



BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!

Sandy Wittman

Two young photographers were trying to descend the facade of the Four Seasons Hotel in Midtown Manhattan on New Year's Eve, 2015 after snapping photos of the city skyline. One of them fell and died. This, unfortunately, is not a rare event in a type of photography which is called *urbex* - Urban Exploration. If you use the search terms "urbex" and "photography death" in Google you will see the many ways photographers have gotten themselves killed for a photo.

Being a fan of photographing ruined buildings, I know how dangerous this can be. I also realize that no great photo is worth risking death or dying for. I recently wrote an article for this newsletter discussing the dangers of photographing on or near train tracks and railroad property*, but these are not the only places where tragedy has happened. A woman in Minnesota fell down a grain elevator. A young man in Toronto fell from a catwalk inside a power plant. Another man drowned in a storm drain in Australia. There are many more tragic examples.

If this is your type of photography, check out the sites on the Internet that deal with how to keep safe while photographing, such as:

"Urban Exploration Photography Tips – A Beginner's Guide"
<http://expertphotography.com/urban-exploration-photography-tips/>

Working to stay safe while photographing extends to general photography as well. Watch where you are standing when photographing in the mountains. Be careful when you pull your car to the side of the road to grab a landscape shot. Look where you are when taking selfies. There was the man who tried to take a selfie with a bear - the bear killed him.

Here are more sites to explore if you are into urbex:

"Urbex Photographer's Death Should Be a Warning to Others"
<http://www.dpmag.com/blog/urbex-photographers-death-should-be-a-warning-to-others>

"How Urban Explorers Are Risking Arrest and Death to Explore NYC With Their Cameras"
<http://petapixel.com/2015/03/04/how-urban-explorers-are-risking-arrest-and-death-to-explore-nyc-with-their-cameras/>

Let's all try to stay safe while photographing this year.

* See April, 2015 CLCC newsletter, page 4. - Ed ◇

SNOW SCULPTURE COMPETITION

Paul Litke

The annual Snow Sculpture Contest in Breckenridge, Colorado attracts visitors and contestants from all over the world. Competition dates for this year's event are January 26 to February 2. Here are four pictures from previous years that I received via email - not sure who took the photographs.



Talk about a "Snow Job"! More photos can be seen at

https://www.google.com/search?q=breckenridge+snow+sculpture&rlz=1T4GGLS_enUS670US670&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKewjSmLb_gMjKAhVK6yYKHVmfAA0QsAQIlw&biw=1041&bih=571 ◇

WHEN NATURE IMAGES ARE MANIPULATED

Sandra Wittman

Rodney Lough Jr., a professional nature photographer based in Oregon, wrote an interesting article recently in the January, 2016 issue of Popular Photography. Titled "The Implicit Lie", it discusses the manipulation of nature photographs. In the article he notes that many nature photographers he has spoken with feel they have no obligation to tell the viewer if any part of their photographs have been manipulated, including changing a sky, time of day, season, or any additions such as adding a tree. They say that this is part of the creative process.

Lough certainly disagrees. He calls this lying, saying "... landscape and nature photography are inherently representative. The creative part comes from framing, not inventing, an exquisite composition. If photographers alter an image, do they have a responsibility to inform viewers explicitly? I believe they do." He goes on to say that these photographers often quote Ansel Adams, who said, "The negative is the equivalent of the composer's score, and the print the performance." Lough feels that these photographers don't remember Adams' other famous quote, "Not everyone trusts paintings but people believe photographs."

Unfortunately, as Lough mentions, that train has left the station. Some newspaper journalists have been fired for even small alterations to photographs, but then we have to hold news photographs to a higher standard. Many nature photography clubs have strict rules about what may be done to a photograph, even where it can be taken. But what about the rest of photography? We often hear the comment "Was that photoshopped?", and many times it is so obvious to viewers that they don't have to ask. Where does one draw the line between being truthful and being creative? That is a good topic for argument among photographers.

The complete article may be found at the below link:

<http://www.rodneyloughjr.com/the-implicit-lie/> . ◇

CLCC PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS

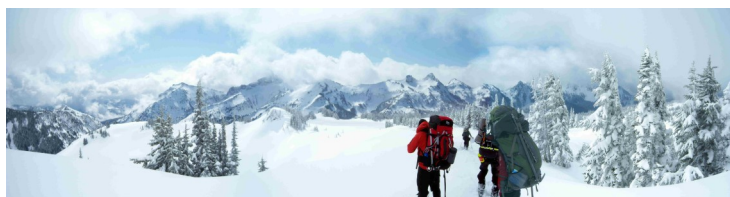
Over thirty club members were in attendance on Tuesday evening, January 12 at CLCC's latest photography class "Work the Flow - Photo Workflow". Club Vice President Peter Pelke II taught the class which showed the various steps involved in getting an image from the camera to a "finished product", which includes taking the photograph, transferring to a computer, import to photo editing software, organization & sorting, post-processing, exporting, back-up and printing. During the two hour presentation, Peter answered many questions from the attendees.



Peter Pelke II (left) speaking at Work Flow Class

Paul Litke

More classes on new topics are in the works. ◇



CLCC EXHIBITION AT DOLE MANSION

Club members Peter Pelke II and Connie Sonnenberg have arranged a showing of CLCC members' photographs during February, 2016 at the Lakeside Legacy Arts Park (Dole Mansion) in Crystal Lake. The showing will be open to the general public, however a special viewing will take place on Friday, February 5 for CLCC members to showcase their art to their families, friends and any contacts they may have. Details are shown below.

As a Part of Lakeside Legacy's 1st Friday Art Show
The Crystal Lake Camera Club
is Hosting a

Members' Photography Show

Friday February 5, 2015 from 5-8PM

Lakeside Legacy Arts Park
(Dole Mansion)
401 Country Club Road
Crystal Lake, IL 60014



\$\$\$\$\$\$
**CASH
BAR**
\$\$\$\$\$\$

Please join us in the Sage Hallway Gallery on February 5, 2015 from 5-8 pm.
The camera club will be showing all genres of photographs from the members.
There is a cash bar available and donations are greatly appreciated.

Questions?? Please Call:
Connie: 815.479.0100, Peter: 847.346.9957 or Mary: 815.455.8000

The photographs will remain on display from Saturday, February 6 through Wednesday, February 24 during normal business hours.

All CLCC members who will have prints on display (25 members have signed up so far - member sign-up will remain open through the end of January) must deliver them on Monday or Tuesday, February 1 and 2 between the hours of noon and 5:00 p.m. to

Lakeside Legacy Arts Park (Dole Mansion)
401 Country Club Road
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Volunteers are needed to help collect and display the prints during those times - contact Connie Sonnenberg (aetbyconnie@hotmail.com or 815-479-0100). The prints must be framed with a wire across the back for easy display. An 8x10 print mounted to an 11x14 black mat is the recommended minimum size, but any size is acceptable. There is a minimum of 2 prints per member based on member participation (less participation - more prints in multiples of 2; more participation - limited to only two). A title card, to be mounted on the wall next to your print, the size of a business card (2 inches tall by 3.5 inches wide), which can be a typed piece of paper with your name, title of print and price (or NFS if piece is Not For Sale) must also be supplied. The back of the framed image must be labeled with your name, print title, phone number and email address. You may also submit a brief artistic statement along with your artwork, limited to one 8.5 x 11" piece of paper on foam core for durability.

All photographs must be picked up on February 25 or 26. ◇

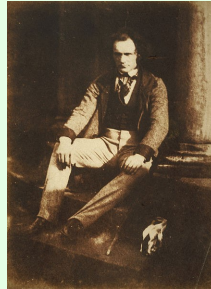
BACK TO THE FUTURE OF PHOTOGRAPHY *

Rich Bickham

State of the Art: 1840 -1859

As discussed in last month's column, at the end of 1839 monochrome photography had become available to the general public, but was still not in widespread use. Equipment was expensive and bulky, exposure times were long (tens of seconds were typical in good light), processing was complex and could be deadly, and resolution was just beginning to become of reasonable quality. We now go on to the next twenty years.

In 1840 British scientist, inventor and photography pioneer **William Henry Fox Talbot** (1820-1891) invented the calotype process. It used high-quality writing paper coated with silver iodide upon which a negative image could be exposed in a minute or two in good light. Multiple positive images could then be made by simple contact printing. Exposure time was shorter than that required with the public domain daguerreotype process discussed in last month's column. However, the calotype process produced images of a poorer quality. That, coupled with Talbot having patented his process, limited its popularity. An example of a calotype print (circa 1844) is shown on the right. It was taken by Hill & Adamson (in 1843 **David Hill** and **Robert Adamson** formed the first photographic studio in Scotland).



"Thomas Duncan"
Hills & Adamson



Also in 1840 American dentist and machinist **Alexander Wolcott** (1804-1844) was issued the first patent (U.S. #1,582) for a daguerreotype mirror camera (a model supplied by Wolcott to the U.S. Patent Office is shown on the left). It had no lens, but employed a concave metal reflecting mirror to direct an image onto a plate.

In 1848, French physicist **Alexandre-Edmond Becquerel** (1820 -1891) discovered that color images could be captured photographically. This was as a result of his earlier work in which he discovered that silver halides (which were at the time being used in several photographic processes, but were insensitive to red and yellow light) could be made sensitive to those colors by exposure to blue, violet and ultraviolet light. Unfortunately Becquerel's images required lengthy exposure times, and they quickly faded away when exposed to natural light.

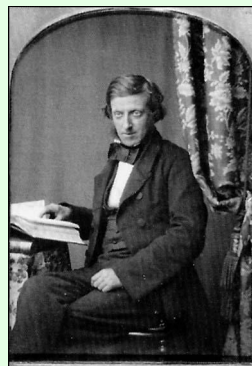


19th Century Portable Darkroom
Photographer Unknown

The invention of the collodion process in 1851 by British sculptor **Frederick Scott Archer** (1813-1857) made glass negatives possible. Although fragile and difficult to work with, glass plate negatives had three significant advantages over paper negatives and previous processes - a high level of detail (due to their smoother surface and inflexibility), were capable of producing many more prints, and exposure times were faster (typically several seconds). The collodion process was a "wet" process in which glass plates were

chemically prepared and used immediately in the field. Preparation, exposure and development had to occur within a fifteen minute window, requiring a portable darkroom (example shown above) for field work. By 1850 the collodion process had largely replaced the older daguerreotype process. A photograph of Archer made in 1855 using his process is shown on the right. Unlike Talbot, Archer failed to patent his process, and died a pauper despite his process having greatly increased the popularity of photography.

In 1859 English photographer, author and inventor **Thomas Sutton** (1819-1875) invented the world's first panoramic camera. Its wide angle lens was a glass sphere filled with water, which focused the image onto a curved plate - it had a 120° field of view. See the photograph at the top of the right hand column for more detail. Archer also founded the journal "Photographic Notes" and edited it for eleven years.



Frederick Scott Archer
Robert Cade

Such was the state-of-the art of photography in 1859.



Details of the *Thomas Sutton Panoramic Camera*

Predictions for Photography's Future - circa 1859

During this era, predictions were mainly limited to future uses of photography, or its impact on society. Most work was in the area of process improvement more so than camera improvement. Here are a few predictions I was able to find.

- 1) It was predicted in 1859 (origin of quote unknown) that photography would be able to visually document future wars 'perfectly' and objectively by creating 'precise' documentation of battles, fortifications, landscapes, military officials and soldiers.
- 2) Photography enthusiast, poet and writer **Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr.** (1809-1894) predicted photography would alter forever the way we see and understand the world around us, and that the "... image would become more important than the object, which would become disposable".
- 3) In 1857 British historian, author and art critic **Elizabeth (Lady) Eastlake** (1809-1893) published an essay on the relationship between photography and art. In it she predicted that no further improvements in photographic processes could be realized except for the possible attainment of color photography.

Back to the Future

So how did those predictions fare?

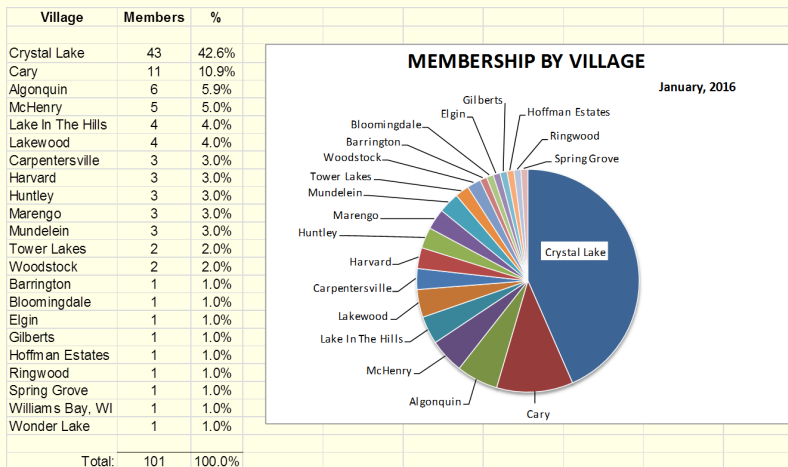
- 1) While photography has never achieved 'perfection' in documenting warfare, this prediction is pretty much on target. From the U.S. Civil War through the present day it has certainly exposed the general public to the 'horrors of war' and influenced public opinion. Combined with aerospace technology, it also became a key aspect of military intelligence gathered through the use of manned reconnaissance aircraft and unmanned drones & satellites.
- 2) Holmes was partially right. Photographs have definitely changed the way we see the world (and other worlds) in the scientific endeavors involving the very small such as microscopy (in which the object is often disposable) and the very large such as planetary exploration. Images have evolved to capture a level of detail that is often missed by real life observers. This allowed the study of events (such as crimes), evidence (details of crime scenes) and circumstances that contribute to them (such as the relative positions of pieces of evidence), which quickly rendered the preservation of the crime scene itself unnecessary. However, taken as a general statement, objects becoming disposable is quite an overstatement.
- 3) Eastlake did not foresee developments in camera and process technology that would lead to tremendous advancements in both. There would continue to be significant improvements made in monochrome photography of a quality unimaginable at the time.

* This is the second in a series of columns which look back in time (starting in 1810) at the state-of-the-art of photography, and the predictions of where photography was going made by people in the field at the particular time span in history being considered. It also summarizes the accuracy of those predictions. - Ed ◇

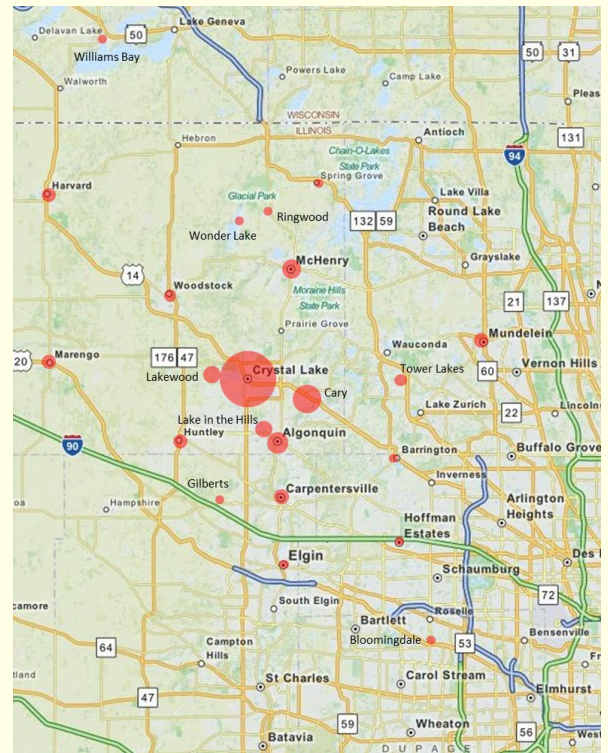
CHARTS & STATISTICS

Rich Bickham / Roger Willingham

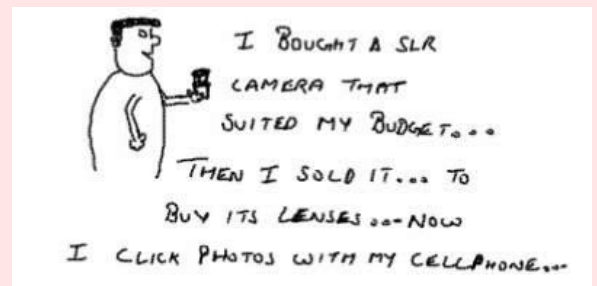
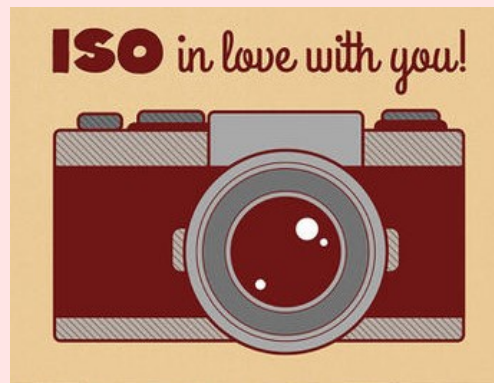
The chart below shows Crystal Lake Camera Club membership by village as of January, 2016. The club's total membership is now 101. The map on the far right shows membership geographical distribution with the area of each red circle proportional to the number of members in that village. Our members come from as far away as Williams Bay, WI to the north, Mundelein to the east, Bloomington to the south and Marengo & Harvard to the west.



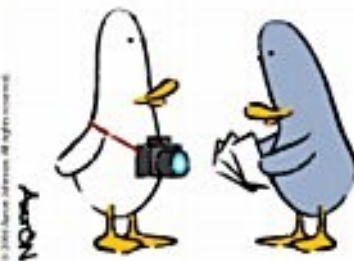
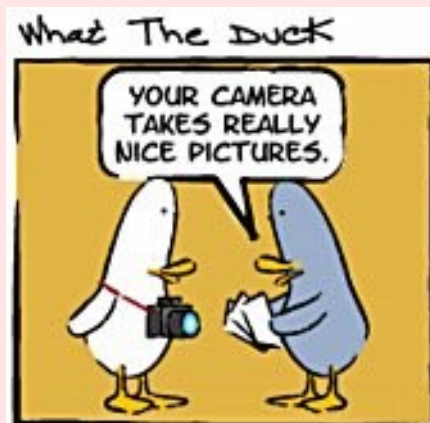
The graph on the immediate right shows the club's membership growth versus time over the past two and a half years. A linear trend line was added which shows a near-constant growth rate of about 2.1 members per month for the time period shown. ◇



HUMOR



DON'T FORGET VALENTINES DAY!



CLCC IS A MEMBER OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS



Click Icons to Link



2015 PSA Newsletter Contest - Small Clubs Category

Third Place overall

Best Variety of Material

READER FEEDBACK

There was no reader feedback this month. 🙄

Reader feedback should be sent to richbickham@comcast.net. ♦

FROM THE EDITOR

Rich Bickham

This month's Presidents' Column introduces the concept of "Small Groups", which will enable our members to get together outside of the club's regular monthly meetings with other members who share similar photographic interests. Such interests can be in photographic genre or technical areas that members may want to share their knowledge and/or learn more about a particular topic. One of the things the club is doing is constructing a database which contains much of our member's individual interests related to genre. Genre-specific information for individual members is being used to populate the database. You might ask, "Where does this information come from?" Well, it comes directly from each member, specifically what they filled out on the CLCC Application Form (which is available on the club website). If you have not already filled out the form, your interests will not be a part of the database; if your interests have changed since filling out the form, the information in the database will be incomplete or wrong. Either way, you may miss out on connecting with other club members who share your photographic interests. Not sure if you are up to date? Just download a copy of the form from the website and send it to Al or Chuck.

It is an unfortunate consequence of our club's continued growth (see the "Charts and Statistics" section on page 7) that as we grow in membership we also tend to become more impersonal. Starting in this month's issue, and continuing on a monthly basis going forward, the newsletter will feature a brief biography of one of the club's Officers (in no particular order) in their own words. We hope this will go toward making the club a closer knit organization. This month on page 2, club Vice President Peter Pelke II is featured. This feature will continue with members of the club support staff after bios of our five officers have appeared. ♦



EAST COAST SNOWSTORM AFTERMATH - 2016

HELP WANTED

CLCC is in need of a volunteer to become assistant editor of the newsletter. Beginning responsibilities may include some of the following:

- Pre-publication review of newsletter drafts for typos and other errors,
- Solicit inputs from members for future newsletters,
- Check and vet websites used in the newsletter,
- Contribute and/or create material for the newsletter.

The position may lead to editor responsibilities should the then-current editor be unable to perform duties in any given month(s). Rich Bickham will provide training and guidance. Interested individuals should contact Rich at

richbickham@comcast.net.

We are always looking for good photography tips for the "Tip of the Month" and interesting links for the "Link of the Month" sections of the newsletter. If you have something helpful or interesting to share with our club members (which includes both novices and professionals so both basic and advanced topics are welcome), send them to richbickham@comcast.net before the newsletter input deadline. ♦

CLCC PUBLICITY - GETTING THE WORD OUT

Roger Willingham

Sources available for publicizing our club include the club members themselves, the Northwest Herald newspaper, and the club's newsletter, website and Facebook page.

Club members promote the club by word-of-mouth and distribution of our club business cards to interested parties. You can obtain a supply of the business cards by asking at the welcome desk during club meetings.

The Northwest Herald is the only daily newspaper in McHenry county and has widespread circulation. The club's monthly meetings are published in the Herald's "Plant" column of Community section, and at <http://www.PlanitNorthwest.com>. Additionally, the pictures of our competition winners are published in the Herald's Community section. Going forward we also want to include winners of the DPI competition along with winners of the print competition. It would be very nice to see the proud, smiling faces of all winners.

The URLs for the club's website and Facebook page can be found at the bottom of each page of the newsletter. ♦

FEBUARY MEETING CHANGE OF DATE

The February club meeting has been moved out one day to

WEDNESDAY, February 3

due to a scheduling conflict. The time and location are unchanged (see the club calendar on page 9). ♦

FEBUARY MEETING SHOW & TELL CHALLENGE

There will be no Show & Tell Challenge at the February club meeting since it is a competition night.

The next Show & Tell will be in March, for which the challenge will be "Spring is Just Around the Corner." ♦

OPPORTUNITIES

Get your photography questions answered or your problems solved with our "Ask a Pro" program. Submit queries to downtownprophoto@sbcglobal.net, and Jim Pierce will provide an answer or solution to your inquiry in the next newsletter.

The front page picture (Seasonal Image of the Month) of the newsletter will be chosen from entries received from club members. Your entry must be received by the newsletter input deadline. Email a jpg image to richbickham@comcast.net with the subject line "Front Page Image Entry - Month" where Month is the intended newsletter issue month. The picture should have a seasonal theme.

Member photos are on display at several venues throughout the area. There are spots available for additional photos. The photographs need not be competition winners. All entries must be mounted on either 11x14 or 16x20 inch black mats, and have a business-card-size white label mounted in the lower right corner of the mat with the photograph's title, photographer's name, and the location at which the photograph was taken. Contact Chuck Rasmussen at chuckr@camira.com if you have questions or wish to participate. ♦

CALENDAR OF COMING CLUB EVENTS - February & March, 2016

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
February 1 & 2, 2016	Noon - 5:00 p.m.	Dole Mansion 401 Country Club Rd., CL	Framed print drop-off for Dole Mansion Members Photography Show	5
February 5, 2016	5:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Dole Mansion 401 Country Club Rd., CL	CLCC Members Photography Show	5
February 3, 2016	6:15 - 7:00 p.m.	Home State Bank 611 S. Main St., CL Community Room	"Drop in Early" mentoring	1,6
February 3, 2016	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Home State Bank 611 S. Main St., CL Community Room	CLCC February meeting - Competition night Donuts & coffee from Country Donuts in Crystal Lake are provided by club member <i>Larry Swanson</i> .	1,6
February 13, 2016	8:30 a.m.	Colonial Café 5689 Northwest Hwy., CL	Saturday morning PhotoBug breakfast meeting	2
February 13, 2016	12:30 p.m.	Christian Church of Arlington Hts. 333 W. Thomas St., AH	CACCA Seminar, meeting & competition judging	4
February 16, 2016			Deadline for March newsletter inputs	3
February 23, 2016			Target date for March newsletter email distribution	
March 1, 2016	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Home State Bank	CLCC March meeting - To Be Announced	1
March 12, 2016	8:30 a.m.	Colonial Café	Saturday morning PhotoBug breakfast meeting	2
March 12, 2016	12:30 p.m.	Christian Church of Arlington Hts. 333 W. Thomas St., AH	CACCA Seminar, meeting & competition judging	4

Notes:

- 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.
- The PhotoBug Breakfast meeting provides an opportunity for open conversation related to photography in general, plus good food and fun. Who knows, you may take home some great tips and ideas that help you capture better pictures. Don't dress up - it's all informal. It's a great way to get to know the club members on a more personal level too. This event is held at 8:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month.
- Email to richbickham@comcast.net.
- The monthly CACCA delegates meeting and interclub competitions are held on the second Saturday of each month. Those interested in attending should contact Lyle Anderson at lyleandr@sbcglobal.net or Royal Pitchford at rpitchford@live.com - you may be able to catch a ride with one of them.
- See "CLCC Exhibition at Dole Mansion" on page 5 for more details.
- The monthly club meeting for February has been moved to Wednesday, February 3. Same time & same location as usual.** ◇

UPCOMING NON-CLUB PHOTO-OPS OF POTENTIAL INTEREST



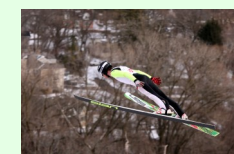
Lake Geneva Winterfest
Snow Sculpting Competition and Winter Carnival
Wednesday, February 3 to Friday, February 5
All Day
Driehaus Plaza & Flat Iron Park
Lake Geneva, WI



The Abominable Snow Race
A 3.5 Mile Winter Course with 24 Obstacles
Saturday, January 30
All day from 7:00 a.m.
Veteran Acres Park
431 Walkup Road
Crystal Lake, IL



Norge Winter International Ski Jump Tournament
Ski Jumpers from Around the World - 70 Meter Hill
Saturday & Sunday, January 30 & 31- \$10 Admission
100 Ski Hill Road
Fox River Grove, IL



Annual Groundhog Days Celebration
Various Fun Activities
Thursday, January 28 to Tuesday, February 2
Town Square
Woodstock, IL

http://www.visitmchenrycounty.com/events_details.cfm?eventer=1839 ◇

