



Crystal Lake Camera Club Newsletter

Serving Crystal Lake, IL and Surrounding Communities Since 1980

June, 2017

Issue 2017-06



© 2017, Roger Willingham

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE



Front Page Image - Roger Willingham



Table of Contents
Club Officers & Support Staff
Club & Meeting Information



Presidents' Column
Editor's Column



CLCC July Meeting Date Change
New CLCC Website URL
Roger Willingham Competes in PSA Contest
Know Your Club Support Staff - Ernie Hagenow



Iconic Photograph of the Month
CLCC Flash Photography Class - Peter Pelke II



World War I Reenactment Photos - Roger Willingham



Ask a Pro - Jim Pierce
Tip of the Month
Link of the Month



Random Photography Topics - Fractals in Nature



April & May Competition Winners



Tom Snitzer HDR Presentation



CLCC Art Exhibit at Dole Mansion
Humor



Reader Feedback
Help Wanted & Opportunities
For Sale or Wanted for Purchase



Small Groups Update
Upcoming Events & Photo-Ops



Club Calendars

Cruising Down the River © 2015, Rich Bickham

2017 CLCC Officers

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Co-President [Chuck Rasmussen](#)
Vice President [Peter Pelke II](#)
Treasurer [Grace Moline](#)
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CLUB INFORMATION

The Crystal Lake Camera Club (CLCC) normally meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every month at

Home State Bank
611 S. Main Street - Crystal Lake, IL
Community Room (lower level)

Guests are always welcome at our monthly meetings. Our competition season starts in October and ends in May of the following year. It is comprised of four competitions (held during regular monthly meetings in October, December, February and April, followed by a May competition to determine the club's Print of the Year award). Our fiscal year runs from January 1 through December 31. Dues are \$25 per person per fiscal year.

We currently have about ninety members whose level of photography expertise runs the range from novice to professional. The benefits of membership include basic to advanced classes, differing levels of mentoring, small group opportunities, competitions, photo outings and meetings featuring presentations on specific topics.

The club newsletter is published and distributed electronically twelve times a year on the last Tuesday of every month. ☺

CLCC IS A MEMBER OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS



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



<https://www.psa-photo.org/>

PRESIDENTS' COLUMN

Well, the "End of the Year" competition is over, and if Maureen Harris ever comes down from "cloud nine" after winning, I'd love to congratulate her on becoming one of the elite in our club. Well done, Maureen; it is a beautiful photograph you produced to win the 2016/2017 Print of the Year Award (see page 9) - just outstanding.



Rummaging my way through Europe this spring on a beautiful river cruise, I realized that the beauty we seek to photograph really is wherever we are. I'm not suggesting you never travel. Actually, I encourage it. What I am saying is the beauty in Europe, as exciting as a trip like that may be, consists of the very same elements here at home. Sky, color, subject matter and lighting all contribute to making wonderful photographs. These elements exist everywhere we go, even to the depths of the sea or the dank, creepy caverns we find so intriguing inside Mother Earth. The excitement of a new location, the opportunity to view what you may never again have the opportunity to see and photograph, rev up your creative juices. They put you in a mindset that mandates, you miss nothing. Yes, schedules may be tight, weather may not be perfect, and you may forget something important when you go out to shoot. But all this chaotic pace and urgency contribute to that little voice only you can hear that speaks, and says, "Hurry up, and don't miss anything." Ah, the panic mode takes over. So we scurry and snap, snap, snap. Drop to a knee, stretch to new heights, change settings, change lenses and shoot, shoot, shoot. Whew! Boy, is this ever fun!

Back to the hotel, riverboat, or wherever you are staying, to make the download of the day's "snaps". "Wow, I only shot six gigs today - I must be slacking off. Yesterday I shot eight gigs." Oh, no! You hear that little voice again, as it asks you, "What did you miss?" Arrrrgh! Can I go back and re-do? Nope, the boat is sailing, time has run out and I have what I have. Tomorrow is another day. I'm beginning to feel like a Chicago Cubs fan, because there is always next year. Hmmm, can I say that now? We won! Oh well, back to the message.

Wait, this is a vacation, right? Relaxing, sightseeing, tasting the foods. So why the panic? Not sure there is an answer to that. But we all feel it, and it is a powerful emotion that drives us because, by golly, we are **photographers**, not vacationers. We feel naked without that camera in our hands. We are like a hockey player with no stick if we don't have that camera. We feel worthless, and we bounce around like ping pong balls from object to object trying to find that perfect angle, lighting scenario, and that perfect ... what? Oh, do we ever work. We are constantly on the prowl for a new subject, looking for that ultimate perspective. And the little voice keeps buzzing in our ears, "Hurry, hurry up, don't miss anything." You respond back, "Be quiet, be quiet, I don't need this."

When all is said and done, you begin to cull your multitude of newly clicked photographs after you return home. If you are lucky, one will jump out at you, make you stop and take notice. You think, "Wow, when did I take this one?" You look and stare at the picture and think, "I can't believe I got this lucky. I didn't even plan on how good this is. This is a really good photograph."

That seems to be how life is sometimes, when you are on vacation.

FROM THE EDITOR

richbickham@comcast.net

Hello readers and welcome to the June, 2017 issue of the Crystal Lake Camera Club newsletter. I hope you will find the contents of this issue interesting.



First, I want to alert you to something that is very important. Our club has a new website address. It is

<http://www.crystallakecameraclub.com>

It is essential that readers check out the article on the top of page 4 for more details. If you continue to use our old address you will be connected to a site our club no longer controls.

Now let's take a look at what's in this issue.

Club member Roger Willingham has taken some great photographs at the recent reenactment of World War I at the Midway Village Museum in Rockford, IL. He shares several of them with us on page 6, and one of his images is also featured on this month's front page. Roger is an individual member of PSA (Photographic Society of America) and as such is eligible to compete in their various competitions. One of his photographs has been selected to compete in PSA's nation-wide, inter-chapter competition, representing the Chicago Chapter. See details on page 4. Congratulations Roger!

Our club's competition for Print of the Year results are also featured on pages 9 to 14. Congratulations to Maureen Harris who won top honors. Additionally, more winning photos from regular April CLCC competition are shown, as well as winners in the CACCA May and April Post Card competitions.

CLCC Education Director Peter Pelke II will be presenting the class he put together on flash photography in June. Details are on page 5. Check it out - Peter's classes are always very informative.

We will be back at the Lakeside Legacy Arts Park (Dole Mansion) in Crystal Lake this fall for another display of our members' favorite photographs. It will again be open to the public. Thanks to club members Peter Pelke II and Connie Sonnenberg for their work to make this happen. Details for participation are on page 15.

Part two of my column on fractal photography on page 8 focusses on inorganic (non-living) natural objects. There are examples of photographs taken by both club members and non-members with accompanying similar fractals, so be sure to check it out.

There is plenty to enjoy in this issue - happy reading! Rich ☺

Schedules, weather, little voices, panic and forgotten equipment, all seem to fall into place at the end, and one picture, stands out and screams, "I'm the one."

Now, as you peruse this beauty, you know this is the time you can get that cup of coffee, sit down at the computer, pull up the file for editing and truly relax and enjoy the pleasure of turning your lucky "snap" into the most beautiful photograph possible. After all, isn't it all about having fun?

Chuck & Al ☺

JULY CLUB MEETING RESCHEDULED

Due to Independence Day falling on a Tuesday this year, the CLCC July meeting has been moved to **Thursday, July 6**. The time and location remain unchanged. ☺

NEW CLCC WEBSITE URL

This is to alert you to the fact that our club has a new website address. It is

<http://www.crystallakecameraclub.com>

Look familiar? Not quite - the slight change is at the very end of the above URL, which upon close inspection, you will see now ends in **.com** instead of **.org**. If you have visited the old address recently you may have noticed it had not been updated in a while and many of the links were broken. This was due to a number of problems related to disputed ownership and our domain host. These issues were best addressed by changing the domain host and switching to the .com domain. The website user interface and content have not changed. We no longer own or control the old .org website - if you go there it may still look like ours, but it's not. Please update your address books with this change.

Many thanks to our webmaster *Sandy Wittman*, who has put in many frustrating hours to troubleshoot and resolve the recently encountered problems. ☺

ROGER WILLINGHAM TO COMPETE IN PSA INTER-CHAPTER PHOTO COMPETITION

Club Member *Roger Willingham*'s image "Magnificent Virginia Water Lily", winner of the CLCC 2015/16 Print-of-the-Year award, was selected as one of the images to represent the Chicago Chapter of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) in this year's inter-chapter competition. His photograph is shown below.



Magnificent Virginia Water Lily © 2014, *Roger Willingham*

Other images chosen to compete by the Chicago Chapter of the PSA can be found in the May, 2017 issue of the chapter's newsletter, *Windy City News*. You can download a copy at

<http://lawrencegolla.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=2c26f39d393e68b74eb0c7944&id=e5ca19e6c5&e=61a92f279e> .



KNOW YOUR CLUB SUPPORT STAFF

My name is *Ernie Hagenow* and I am an avid photographer, problem solver, teacher and technology lover. If you are a regular club meeting attendee, you have probably seen me assisting at the club print competitions with scoring, determining the number of awards and honorable mentions given in each print category and data collection.



I caught the photo-bug early in life, intrigued by my uncle's cameras and darkroom. I started off using my dad's Kodak Brownie Starmite II 127 film camera. Then in high school I made a big jump up to a 35mm Contax RTS SLR with a Zeiss 50mm f/1.4 lens. I leaped into the digital realm in 2002. I now create images with a Canon 7D DSLR and a variety of Canon lenses and Speedlites.

My only formal training was taking high school photography classes where I learned basic lighting techniques, developed film and created black & white prints in the darkroom. The process was so captivating that I built a wet darkroom in the basement of my parents' home and used it regularly for years.

As time passed, so did the evolution of my photography. Through high school and for several years after, I shot countless rolls of 35mm slide film, mostly candid shots for the church youth group. Every week the slide film was processed and readied for the following week. Those images were projected on a large screen and accompanied by live music. For the next decade photography took a backseat to work and life. It then shifted to documenting vacations, children and family events. In the late 90's prices for digital camera equipment were within reach and the gear search began.

Photography has always been a big part of my life. I often took on self-assignments to photograph events of friends and family at weddings, proms, homecomings and holidays. I gifted the images with prints in an album, and in recent years on an online gallery too. The kind words of appreciation for the beautiful images fueled me to dive deeper into photography.

For the last couple of decades, most of my training was through mentoring from photographer friends. I also fuel my love for photography by listening to numerous photo-specific podcasts and watching online video training. This autodidact method has blossomed with broadband internet and countless online video resources. Now with digital tools readily available, I manage my photography workflow on Apple computers. Utilizing professional software, editing, adjusting color or creating monochrome images is really the icing on the digital photographer's artistic cake. I regularly enter photographs into Crystal Lake Camera Club competitions and into local juried art exhibits.

Follow me on

Twitter: [@genuine240](https://twitter.com/genuine240) ,

Google+ : <https://plus.google.com/+ErnieHagenow> ,

Gallery : <http://genuine240.smugmug.com> ,

Blog : <http://www.hagenow.com> .



ICONIC PHOTO OF A JUNE DAY IN HISTORY

Rich Bickham

During the turbulent decade of the 1960's in our country, 1968 was the most tumultuous year. Then-U.S. president *Lyndon B. Johnson* had succeeded to the office after the assassination of *John F. Kennedy* in 1963. He retained the office in the 1964 presidential election and for the next four years oversaw the escalation of the Vietnam War. It was an unpopular war, primarily with the youth of the country, and caused a growing polarization between the upcoming "Baby Boomer" generation and their parents (who came to be known as the "Greatest Generation"). At the same time the country was being further divided over racial lines, with many young whites aligning with black Americans (young and old) against poverty and the war.

Johnson was under constant attack because of the war during his elected term in office. So much so that he announced in a March 31, 1968 nationally televised prime time speech, "I shall not seek, and I will not accept, the nomination of my party for another term as your president." With the Presidential election seven months away, and the Democratic National Convention in Chicago five months away the Democratic nomination was up for grabs.

The U.S. Senator from New York *Robert (Bobby) Kennedy* was in the running for the nomination. He was popular among the nation's youth, many of whom were disillusioned by the assassination of his brother John in 1963. With the assassination of *Dr. Martin Luther King* on April 4, outrage among both black and white youth put his popularity on the rise as the convention approached. He continued his campaign and on June 4 won the California Democratic Primary. He gave a victory speech at the Los Angeles Ambassador Hotel

shortly after midnight, in the wee hours of June 5, where he declared "...now it's on to Chicago and let's win there."



Boris Yaro (L.A. Times)

The above photograph (taken by Los Angeles Times photographer *Boris Yaro* using a Nikon FTn and 28mm lens and Kodak Tri-X film in the dimly lit kitchen area) shows Kennedy lying mortally wounded on the floor of the Ambassador Hotel kitchen area immediately after the shooting. He is being held by busboy *Juan Romero* with whom he was shaking hands at the time.

Sirhan was immediately wrestled to the floor, disarmed and taken into custody. At his subsequent 1969 trial he was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment. He is currently in the *Richard J. Donovan* Correctional Facility in San Diego County, California. He has been denied parole 15 times.

His motives for the shooting are unclear. He claims to have no

CLCC FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS

Al Popp

Mark your calendars for **June 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Community Room of Home State Bank, at the corner of Rte. 14 and Main Street, in Crystal Lake. This is your chance to learn all about lighting using on-camera flash, and speedlites. *Peter Pelke II* prepared and will present this class. He will host a second workshop on studio lighting at a later date.

And now you ask, "What should I bring along that evening?" Bring your camera with pop-up flash, speedlite (if you have one), and something on which to record his notes of wisdom.

Crystal Lake Camera Club Presents:

Flash Baby!!!

June 13, 2017

7 pm

Questions: 847.346.9957



Pop Up's
Speedlites

Be
There!!!

Light 'em Up!!!

Home State Bank 611 S. Main Street Crystal Lake IL 60014

Sign up-send email with Name and Phone Number to:

chuckr@camira.com & clccworkshops@gmail.com

As always, our classes are free to members of the Crystal Lake Camera Club. Just send an email to *Chuck Rasmussen* chuckr@camira.com and *Peter Pelke II* clccworkshops@gmail.com and say "Sign me up." Not a member? Not a problem. Bring \$25 (exact cash or check) that evening, enjoy the class, and voila – you've become a CLCC member in good standing through 2017. ☺

memory of shooting Kennedy. Conspiracy theories involving a second gunman circulate to this day.

** I vividly remember this. I was in college at the time and stayed up to watch election returns. I turned off the television right after Kennedy left the podium, and heard the news the next morning. Had I watched for a minute longer, I probably would have been up the rest of the night watching coverage, and not gotten any sleep. - Ed ☺*

WORLD WAR I REENACTMENT PHOTOGRAPHS

This issue's front page image was taken by club member Roger Willingham at the World War I re-enactment at Midway Village in Rockford, IL on April 8, 2017. He used his Nikon D7100 with an 18-200mm lens, and set on aperture priority or shutter priority depending on the situation. Four more of his favorite images are shown here. The images were post processed using Adobe Photoshop Elements 15 to achieve the effects. His use of highlighting the main subject of his images in color against a monochrome background immediately draws attention to his desired point of viewer attention despite its position in the photograph. A good example of this technique is shown on the right, where one's attention is clearly focused on the odd soldier on the far left of the photograph.



© 2017, Roger Willingham



© 2017, Roger Willingham



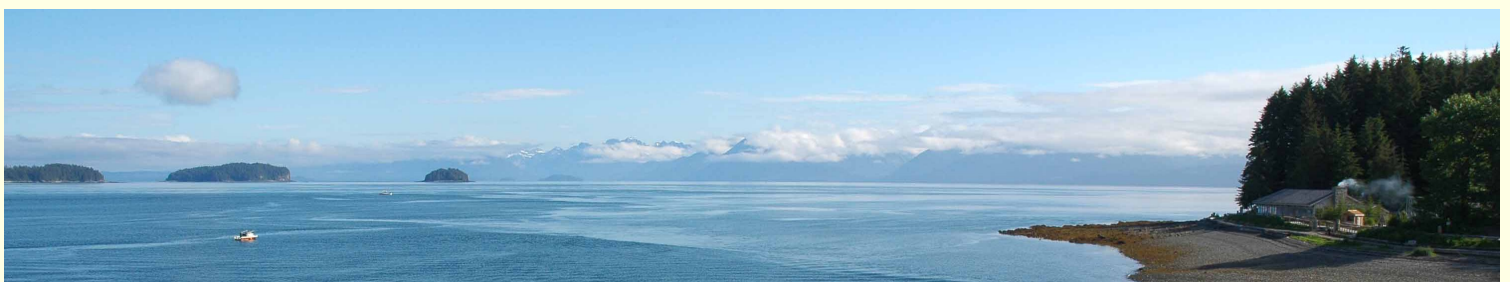
© 2017, Roger Willingham



© 2017, Roger Willingham

The photographs in this article are untitled. Roger feels that the images speak for themselves, and tell a story with no additional explanation required.

Roger is a frequent visitor to historical reenactments. The CLCC newsletter has featured his images from other similar events in the past. Examples include both the 2013 and 2015 annual Revolutionary War Reenactment and Encampment events at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, IL. Some of those photographs appeared in the January, 2014 and October, 2015 CLCC newsletter issues respectively. The issues are available in the newsletter archives on the club's website. 🌀



Alaska Cruise Scene

© 2007, Paul Litke

TIP OF THE MONTH

Submitted by *Rich Bickham*

PHOTOGRAPHING REFLECTIONS

While recently experimenting with shooting scenes containing reflections, I decided to search the internet for some suggestions. Below is a compilation of tips I found from various sources.

LANDSCAPES WITH WATER:

- Use of a small aperture will tie the main subject and reflection together in the mind of the viewer, while using a wider aperture will draw the viewer's attention to one or the other, depending on which is in focus.
- Shoot early or late in the day and use a circular polarizing filter to control the reflection so it is not too distracting to the viewer. Take several shots with different polarizer rotation angles.
- While normally discouraged, placing the axis of symmetry in the middle of the image is generally acceptable for landscape reflections.
- Don't necessarily shoot with a very wide-angle lens while photographing mountains and their reflections, since the reflections will be minimized. It may be better to zoom in on a particular section of the broad landscape to make the reflection a larger part of the image.
- Be patient and wait for the wind to die down on gusty days to get as smooth a water surface as possible.
- The closer you get your camera to the ground, the more you can bring the reflections into the foreground.

SHINEY OBJECTS (MIRRORS, POLISHED SURFACES, ...

- On-camera flash is not recommended for straight-on shots since it might be reflected back into the lens. If more light is needed try lighting from above or behind your subject.
- Try photographing reflections of different subjects to see what effects you can get.
- Clean the surface to improved the quality of the reflected image.
- If the subject includes a face, it should be in focus, unless there is a good reason for it to be out of focus.
- A textured reflecting surface can add interesting distortions to the reflected image. Perhaps a distorted metallic surface, a wet cobblestone pavement or a puddle with ripples (try tossing a stone into it right before you shoot).

Keep some of these tips in mind the next time you run across an opportunity. ☺

LINK OF THE MONTH

Submitted by *Rich Bickham*

Here's a website that shows some interesting and fun examples of what can be accomplished with a fisheye lens. It makes me want to go out and rent one to mess around with.

<https://digital-photography-school.com/5-ways-to-get-creative-with-a-fisheye-lens/> ☺



ASK A PRO

Jim Pierce

Send your questions to:
downtownprophoto@sbcglobal.net

Please do not submit
model-specific camera questions.

Submitted by *Ed Zeek*:

Q When taking a photo through a chain link fence at the zoo or through tall grass/twigs outdoors, and I focus on a subject beyond, does that obstruction degrade the photo (clarity, resolution, color, etc.)? How does this differ from having a spot on the lens itself? Thanks.

A Anything in front of the lens that is out of focus will degrade the quality of the image. Depending on how it is in front of the lens will determine the way that it does. A chain link fence or tall grass that is out of focus in front of the subject that the focal point is on can cause a color or density shift. A slight softness might occur depending on the closeness and grouping density of the objects. This is because for any lens there is only one plane that is actually in focus. As you go farther away from that plane either forward or back, objects become increasingly out of focus.

Light rays from a point on a focused-on object create a cone of light that spreads as it travels to the lens. They are then bent by the front lens element such that all of the rays are parallel to the lens axis as they travel toward the middle lens elements, which "do their thing". The 'processed' rays are then sent to the rear lens which reconverges the cones to single points on the image sensor. Any out-of-focus points converge to a point either behind or in front of the image sensor depending on if the objects are in back or in front of the in-focus subject respectively. These light cones project as circular areas of light on the image sensor. Their size depends on the distance between the in-focus and out-of-focus objects.

This effect is called Circles of Confusion. It gives us that beautiful bokeh look for shallow depth of field portraits. So what happens with thin objects in front of the camera that are so out of focus that the circles are large enough to be completely unrecognizable as objects? In this situation the color and density of the circles will become a sort of fog, which interacts with the more in-focus planes and adds some of its value to the overall image. So the main subject can remain in focus, but it will have some more exposure added to it in terms of color and or density from the Circles of Confusion created by the objects closer to the lens.

A smudge on the lens will look like an out of focus area on your image. A smudge will change the refraction value of the glass and cause the light entering it at that spot to have a different focus plane than the rest of the lens. So when everything else is in focus, light from that spot won't be, and will cause Circles of Confusion locally instead of globally. There is no added light from circles created by close objects, so there isn't any distortion of color or density (unless the smudge has a color or density to it).

Using Circles of Confusion creatively can lead to some very artistic images. The most recognizable is the bokeh for shallow depth of field shots from objects located behind the main subject. Good placement of foreground objects and keeping the circles within a certain size range can create a sense of depth in an image. As with anything artistic, personal taste is the guideline.

I hope that answers your question. Thanks, *Jim* ☺

RANDOM PHOTOGRAPHY TOPICS – FRACTALS IN NATURE - Part 2

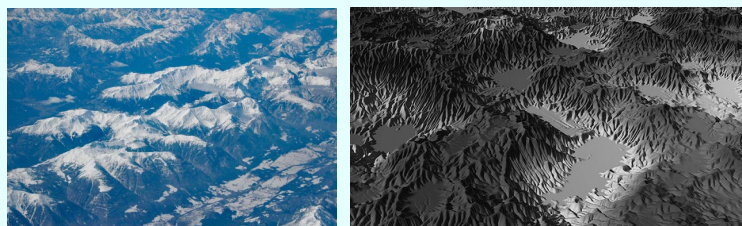
Rich Bickham

In last month's newsletter we talked about fractals - what they are and how common they are in the natural world. They are everywhere, waiting to be photographed. We looked at various examples of photographs with fractal-like qualities, and compared each to a mathematically generated fractal of a similar nature. All examples were from nature, but were restricted to photographs of organic (living) subjects. This month we look at some examples of inorganic (non-living) subjects that occur in nature.

Let's quickly review fractals and their creation. Fractals come in infinite varieties and can be created using simple mathematical equations with computer iteration algorithms. The color scheme in fractal images is chosen by the creator, but is not totally arbitrary. Each color is a mapping of a mathematical property of the fractal at each point in the image (much like a television weather report maps precipitation over a geographic area using a color key). The fractal mapping may be as simple as a numeric value at each point, or as complex as the number of iterations required for convergence of a numeric series at a point.

For each example to follow, two side-by-side images are shown. The left-most is an actual photograph and the right-most image is a computer generated fractal similar to features of the photograph. First, let's look at a couple of CLCC member photographs.

Paul Litke photographed our first example from an airplane. It shows the mountainous terrain of the Alps in Europe.



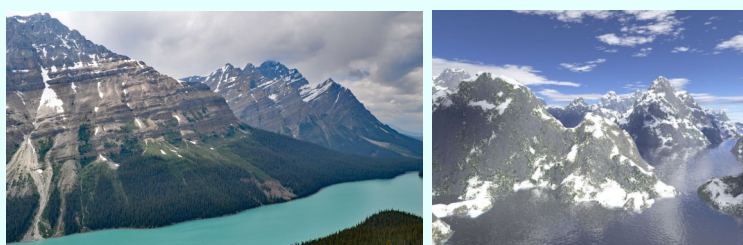
© 2008, Paul Litke

Jeff Chemelewski shot this dramatic mountain scene "Last Light".



© 2015, Jeff Chemelewski

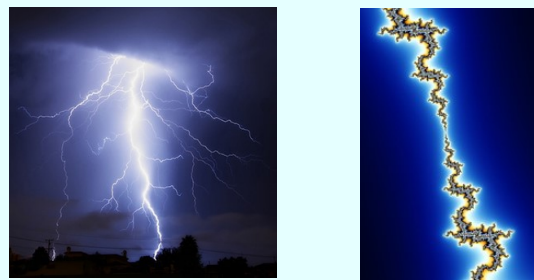
Here is a mountain scene I shot near Lake Louise in Canada.



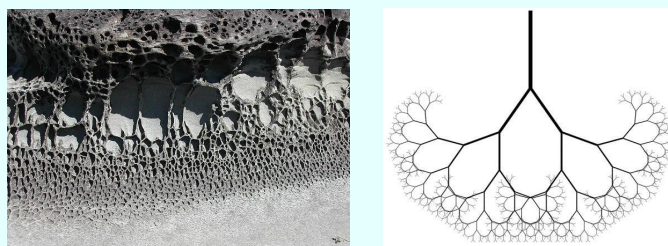
© 2015, Rich Bickham

The examples below were taken from the internet. As before, the left-most images are actual photographs and the right-most images are fractal constructs that are similar to the photographs.

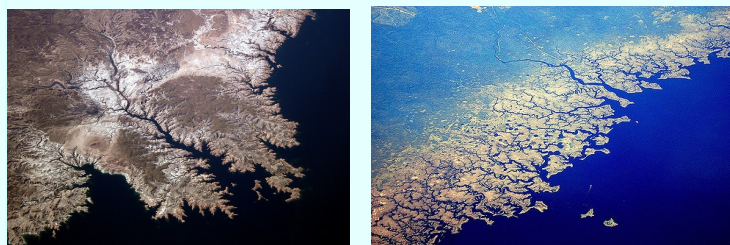
Lightning :



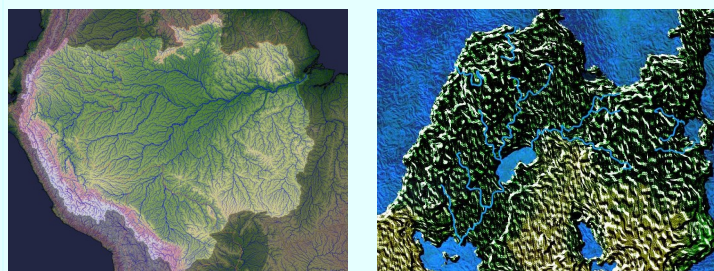
Erosion (Photograph is sandstone) :



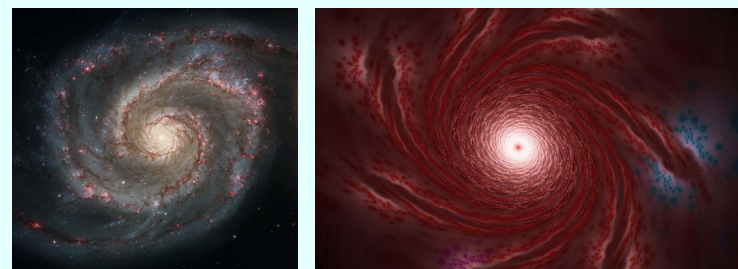
Coastline (Photograph is Britain) :



River Basin (Photograph is the Amazon) :



Galaxy (Photograph is the M51 Whirlpool Galaxy) :



Many other examples exist, among them snowflakes, cloud formations, mud flats, Hurricanes, - keep an eye out for them. They are excellent photographic subjects. ☯

CLCC AND CACCA COMPETITION RESULTS

Congratulations to the following winners in the May CLCC Print of the Year competition and the May CACCA competitions:

Rich Bickham :

"The Story Inn - Story, Indiana" - Post Card -

CACCA Honorable Mention

Christine M. Caldwell :

"Our National Treasures" - Post Card -

CACCA Honorable Mention

Jeff Gathman :

"Sunrise in the City" - Large Color - **CACCA Honorable Mention**

Maureen Harris :

"Dinner at Sunset" - Best Large Color Print 2016 - 2017
& **CLCC PRINT OF THE YEAR**

Lance Lagoni :

"Mr. Scrooge" - Best Large Monochrome Print 2016 - 2017
"Snake Dancer" - Best Small Monochrome Print 2016 - 2017



(L to R) Grace Moline (holding *Ilma Udrenas'* print), Maureen Harris and Lance Lagoni.
Photograph by Roger Willingham

Bob Popelka :

"Old Mill": - Large Color - **CACCA Honorable Mention**

Ilma Udrenas :

"Happy Solitude" - Best Small Color Print 2016 - 2017

Roger Willingham :

"Old World Barn" - Large Monochrome - **CACCA Honorable Mention**



Dinner at Sunset

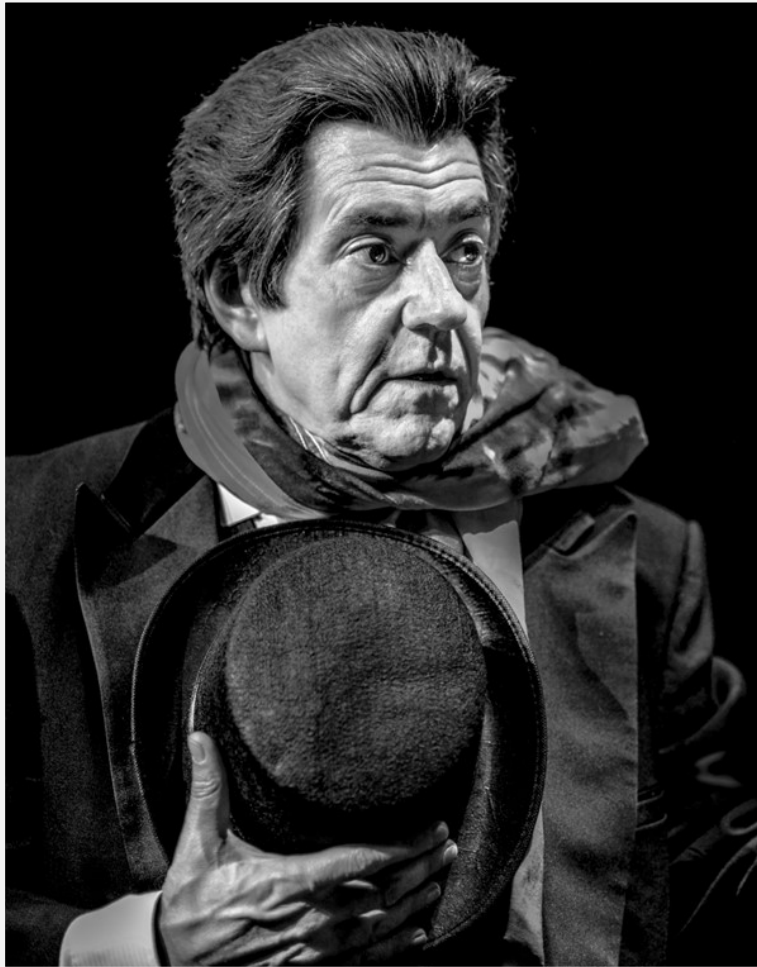
© 2014, Maureen Harris

All winning photos shown on pages 9 through 14 are uncropped, and sized such that each has the same printed area while retaining its original aspect ratio. Sizing exception - Print of the Year is larger. See **Winners 2**, Page 10

Winners 2, from Page 9

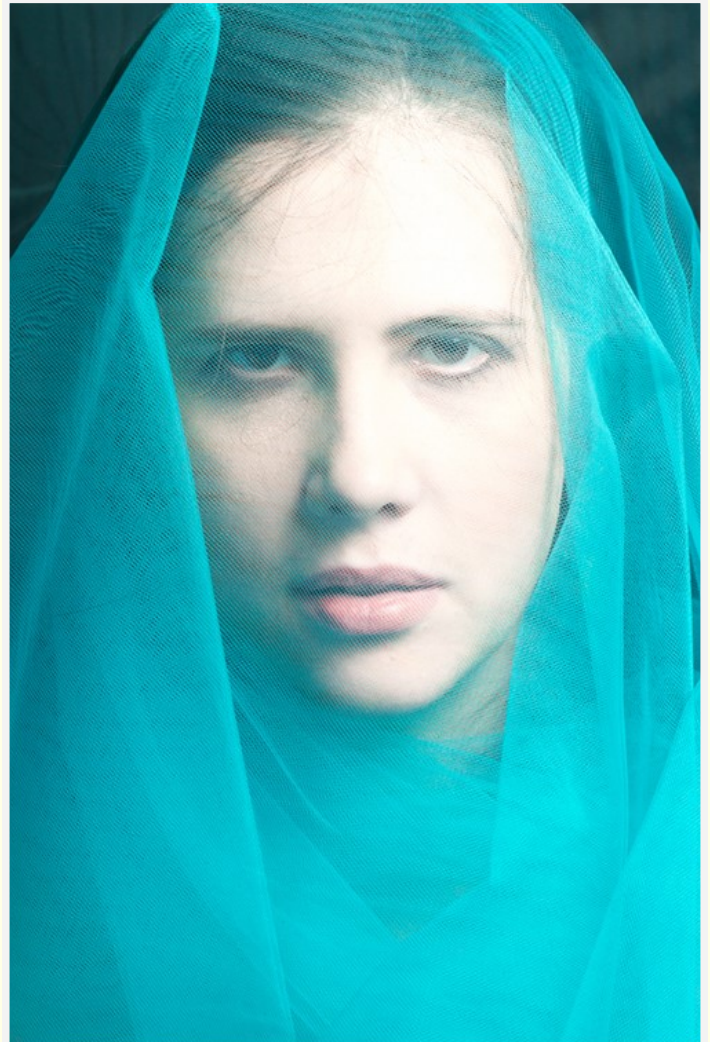
COMPETITION WINNING PHOTOGRAPHS

LARGE MONOCHROME PRINT OF THE YEAR



Mr. Scrooge

© 2016, *Lance Lagoni*



Veiled Woman

© 2017, *Theresa Hart*

See **Winners 3**, Page 11

Winners 3, from Page 10

COMPETITION WINNING PHOTOGRAPHS

SMALL COLOR PRINT OF THE YEAR



Happy Solitude

© 2016, *Ilma Udrenas*

Irish Lass

© 2017, *Lance Lagoni*See **Winners 4**, Page 12

Winners 4, from Page 11

COMPETITION WINNING PHOTOGRAPHS



An Illinois Landscape

© 2017, Jeff Chemelewski



Millhouse at Midway Village

© 2016, Roger Willingham

See **Winners 5**, Page 13

Winners 5, from Page 12

COMPETITION WINNING PHOTOGRAPHS

SMALL MONOCHROME PRINT OF THE YEAR



Snake Dancer

© 2016, Lance Lagoni

CACCA 2017 POST CARD COMPETITION - HONORABLE MENTION



Our National Treasures

© 2017, Christine Caldwell

See **Winners 6**, Page 14

Winners 6, from Page 13

COMPETITION WINNING PHOTOGRAPHS

CACCA 2017 POST CARD COMPETITION - HONORABLE MENTION



The Story Inn - Story, Indiana

© 2017, Rich Bickham



TOM SNITZER SPEAKS ABOUT HDR

Accomplished photographer Tom Snitzer spoke to over thirty CLCC members and guests on May 23 in a two hour special presentation on High Dynamic Range (HDR) photography.



Attendees

© 2017, Paul Litke

Tom's discussion on how to achieve a quality image of scenes with a very wide range of light included techniques using both camera equipment and post processing.

Tom prefers to do as much with his equipment while shooting the image

so that little or nothing has to be done in software. One of his favorite tools for achieving this is the Graduated Neutral Density (GND) filter.

He stressed the importance of always shooting in raw mode and monitoring the in-camera histogram while shooting. Shooting in RAW mode provides about 1.5 stops more of exposure detail on both sides of the histogram than you get with jpg.

It is possible to recover about twice as much



Tom Presents

© 2017, Paul Litke

detail in under-exposed areas than in over-exposed areas (up to 5 stops & 2.5 stops respectively) in post processing. That is why it is important to get the bright areas (like the sky) exposed properly, so



GND Filter Demo


© 2017, Paul Litke

he recommends always metering on them at the expense of dark areas of a scene. In landscape photos the GND filter provides an excellent way to darken the sky while leaving the darker areas unaffected. Adjust the filter position with the horizon location in mind.

Another of Tom's recommendations is to shoot in Manual mode whenever possible in order to better control bright areas that might become blown out.

If you want to use post processing with a landscape, another of Tom's suggestions is to make two exposures of the scene, one metered for the sky and another metered for the foreground.

There was lots of Q & A during the presentation.

Thanks, Tom! 



Tom & Paul

Photographer Unknown

DOLE GALLERY SHOW

The Crystal Lake Camera Club, in coordination with the Lakeside Arts Park at Dole Mansion, is hereby calling for your best prints. The club is going to be displaying its images at the Sage Hallway Gallery in the Dole Mansion during the October, 2017 art show. All CLCC members are encouraged to submit framed prints of their best or favorite works of photographic art for display. The prints must be framed with a wire across the back for easy display. An 8X10 print matted to an 11X14 black frame is the size for display. There is a minimum of two prints per member based on member participation (less participation more prints in multiples of two, more participation limited to only two). The art can be listed for sale with a 30% commission to the gallery.

Please submit a business card size (2" x 3.5") title card, to be mounted on the wall next to your print, which can be a typed piece of paper with your name, title of print and price or NFS if piece if Not For Sale. An example is shown below

Peter J. Pelke II
Red Barn
\$150 (or NFS)

On the back of the framed image please affix a label with your name, print title, phone number and email address.

Members are encouraged to attend this 1st Friday event to showcase their art to family, friends and contacts. This is a FREE event (donations welcome) with a cash bar.

Peter Pelke II and the Lakeside Legacy Arts Park at the Dole Mansion will need a list of participating artists by September 15, 2017 in order to properly promote the event through their website, newspapers and social media. Contact Peter as soon as

possible if you wish to participate in this event. You may also submit a brief Artistic Statement along with your artwork, no larger than one 8.5" by 11" inch piece of paper on foam-core for durability and mounting.

The art must be submitted during Monday and Tuesday October 2 & 3, 2017 from noon to 5:00 p.m. to be ready for the 1st Friday Gallery event on October 6, 2017 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Drop off accepted works of art to the following location:

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

<http://www.lakesidelegacy.org> or (815)-455-8000

If you have questions, contact:

CLCC Vice President Peter Pelke II
(847)-346-9957 or raingrinch@gmail.com

or

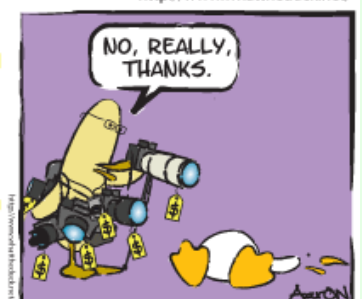
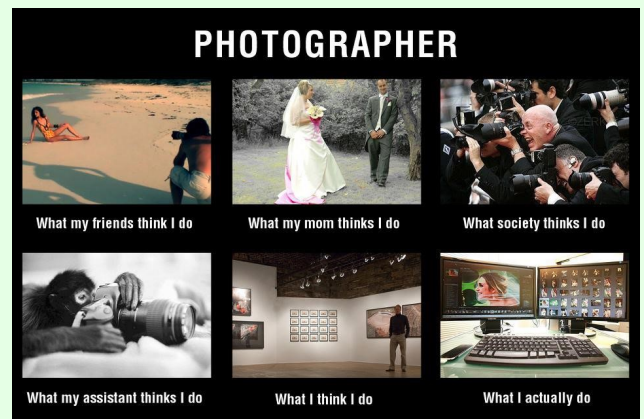
CLCC Gallery Coordinator Connie Sonnenberg
(815)-351-2721 or artbyconnie@hotmail.com

◇◇◇ The art must be picked up on October 26 & 27, 2017 ◇◇◇

This is an awesome way for the club and the members to gain exposure in the community. Please frame some prints and drop them off for this outstanding event.

The club will need a few volunteers to help collect and display the prints on Monday and Tuesday, October 2 & 3, 2017 from noon to 5:00 p.m. Please contact Connie Sonnenberg at the above email or telephone for details. ☺

SOME HUMOR TO START OFF YOUR SUMMER



READER FEEDBACK

May, 2017 Issue:



Great newsletter as always! [I] read it all, front to back. I particularly liked the articles on Monkey Business, Fractals, Superresolution and the enlarged photos so we can see the details. Your organization by color really makes it easier to follow articles on another page. I also like the faded background picture on the organizational page. Good job! ... I also like your new look. My husband did the same thing about eight years ago minus the PS tryout. Grace Moline - Crystal Lake, IL

Grace's 'new look' comment references the Editor's Column in which I related shaving off my 46 year old mustache after first removing it in PhotoShop (PS) to see how I would look. - Ed ☺

SHOW & TELL CHALLENGE

The subject for the Tuesday, June 6 club meeting is:

“A JUNE NIGHT, THE MUSIC AND YOU”.

As usual, bring up to 3 images (jpg files on a thumb drive) to the meeting, either on the suggested theme, or photographs with any theme that you want to share with the members. ☺

ROOMMATE NEEDED FOR 2018 PHOTOGRAPHY TRIP

CLCC member Jim Stevens is seeking a roommate (to avoid the single room supplement) on a Nature Photography Adventures (NPA) trip to Machu Picchu **next year** from June 4 through June 12, 2018, (with optional extension to Lake Titicaca from June 12-16). See <http://www.naturephotographyadventures.com> for the particulars. Read the details carefully since airfare from O'Hare to Lima, gratuities, lunches, and some dinners, etc., are additional.

I've traveled with NPA's Bob Harvey and Diane Kelsey before. They have a lot of experience with both photography & travel. Bob was Photography Department chairman at Colorado State University for many years and worked for many state promotions agencies for several Western states before focusing on just photographic travel. They scout out the best places and times to shoot. I spent a great week with them shooting Winter in Yellowstone last January. At Machu Picchu, they've scheduled the maximum three 3½ hour sessions (spread over two days) that are allowed (because of recent UNESCO Heritage site limitations) so as to access differing lighting and weather conditions. This is something I couldn't find with other groups going there. Size is typically limited at 6 to 10 people of varying abilities. Save \$400 by paying the full amount by July 1, 2017; otherwise, by December 31. I've signed up for the extension to Lake Titicaca, but roommate is not obligated for this.

You can call me with any questions on my landline: (847)-516-5465, or email me at st3v3nsji@outlook.com. If you miss me leave a message. I'll get back to you ASAP. Thanks, Jim ☺

CORRECTION

In the May issue, the second sentence in Sandra Wittman's article "No More Monkey Business" on page 5 should have been "There is a popular book for cat lovers called *Why Cats Paint*." ☺

OPPORTUNITIES

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

The front page cover picture of the newsletter will be chosen from entries received from club members. Your entry must be received by the newsletter input deadline shown in the club calendar on the last page. 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 image should be in portrait orientation with an aspect ratio of approximately 1.2. Although not required, preference will be given to seasonal images. ☺

HELP WANTED

CLCC is in need of a volunteers to assist with the publication of the monthly newsletter. Responsibilities may include some of the following:

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

Those interested should contact Rich Bickham at

richbickham@comcast.net.

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

richbickham@comcast.net

before the newsletter input deadline. ☺

FOR SALE or WANTED FOR PURCHASE *

Nikon D80 camera body with original box. One owner, excellent condition with very low shutter use. Includes battery & charger, strap and 512MB memory card (lenses not included). I'd rather not sell but wife insists two camera bodies are enough. Asking \$150. Contact Richard Smolen at richard_smolen@icloud.com or phone (847)-669-9031.

* Ad placers must be paid up club members. Items are restricted to photography equipment only, and must be in a functional condition. Ads will run in one issue per submittal (you must submit another request for each subsequent issue). Ads are published for the convenience of club members. All transactions are to be conducted solely between the buyer and seller - CLCC will not be a part of any negotiations, and will assume no responsibility for equipment quality or seller claims. Each ad should include a description (brief) of the item(s), condition, contact information and asking price (optional). CLCC reserves the right to edit requests that are deemed too lengthy. All requests should be sent to

richbickham@comcast.net

with the subject line "Ad Request". Requests received on or prior to the newsletter input deadline will be published in the next newsletter. ☺

SMALL GROUPS

Advanced Post Processing and NIK Software

Host: Maureen Harris - parcon129@gmail.com

Next Meeting*: June 14

Learning various aspects of post processing with topics suggested by the group, including the Google plug-in NIK which contains many specialized modules.

Architecture Photography

Host: Grace Moline - [Grace Moline](mailto:Grace.Moline@gmail.com)

Next Meeting*: TBA

Taking field trips to different sites, then discussing photos and techniques.

Macro Photography

Host: Open

Next Meeting: Inactive

Exploring methods and techniques of extreme close up photography, where the subject is shown near or larger than life size.

Nature & Landscape

Host: Chuck Rasmussen - [Chuck Rasmussen](mailto:Chuck.Rasmussen@gmail.com)

Next Meeting*: TBA

Enjoying the blended camaraderie of likeminded friends who desire to learn all the many facets involved in taking beautiful photographs of anything in nature.

Photo 101

Host: Chuck Rasmussen - [Chuck Rasmussen](mailto:Chuck.Rasmussen@gmail.com)

Next Meeting*: TBA

Understanding the basics of photography including, but not limited to, aperture, shutter speed and ISO, and the coordinated interaction of those three elements.

Photoshop Elements

Host: Al Popp - [Al Popp](mailto:Al.Popp@gmail.com)

Next Meeting*: June 13, 14 or 15 (TBA)

Join in the fun exploring the many tools Elements offers for creating great images.

Lightroom

Host: John Delaware - jndelware@comcast.net

Next Meeting*: TBA

Learning to use Adobe Lightroom software starting from the basics.

Street Photography

Host: Open

Next Meeting: Inactive

Examining techniques, laws and equipment for developing photographs taken in public places.

If you have any problems with your group or would like to start a new group contact Maureen Harris at parcon129@gmail.com. We will accommodate you if we can locate a volunteer host, and have enough people to form a group. We do keep a waiting list for new groups. If you have any other questions, email them to Maureen.

* Next meeting dates are correct as of the newsletter publication date (the last Tuesday of the preceding month), are always subject to change, and should be verified by contacting the host in case of any changes. ☺

NON-CLUB EVENTS & PHOTO-OPS

BUTTERFLIES & BLOOMS

Hundreds of Live Butterflies From 5 Continents

Immerse Yourself In Their 2,800 ft² Habitat

No Tripods in the Habitat

May 27 - September 4, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Daily

Chicago Botanic Garden

1000 Lake Cook Road

Glencoe, IL

HARVARD MILK DAYS

Parade, Rides, Games, Fireworks, Tractor & Car Shows & More

Friday - Sunday, June 2 - 4

<http://www.milkdays.com>

Harvard, IL

CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS

Elephants, Horses, Dogs, Acrobats & More

Wednesday & Thursday, June 7 & 8

Two 2-hour shows each day - 4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Adults \$20, Kids \$12 at gate (lower advance or online)

<http://www.carsonbarnescircus.com>

Kane County Fairgrounds

525 South Randall Road

St. Charles, IL

HISTORIC TROLLEY TOURS OF CRYSTAL LAKE

Tour Neighborhood around Dole Mansion

Sunday, June 11 - 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Cost \$12

WAUCONDA FEST

Carnival Rides, Taste of Wauconda, Car Show and More

Thursday - Sunday, June 22 - 25

\$3 entry for all four days

Hours: See website

<https://www.evensi.us/wauconda-fest-wauconda-park-district/209580764>

Cook Park

600 North Main Street

Wauconda, IL



CALENDAR OF COMING CLUB EVENTS - JUNE & JULY, 2017

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
June 6, 2017	6:15 - 7:00 p.m.	Home State Bank	"Drop in Early" mentoring	1
June 6, 2017	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Home State Bank	CLCC June meeting - <i>Chris Smith - Out of Chicago</i>	1
June 10, 2017	8:30 a.m.	Colonial Café	Saturday morning PhotoBug breakfast meeting	2
June 13, 2017	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Home State Bank	CLCC Class - presented by <i>Peter Pelke II</i> Flash Photography Part I - (Pop-up & Speedlight)	4
June 20, 2017			Deadline for July newsletter inputs	3
June 27, 2017			Target date July newsletter distribution	
July 6, 2017	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Home State Bank	CLCC July meeting - Speaker TBA	5
July 8, 2017	8:30 a.m.	Colonial Café	Saturday morning PhotoBug breakfast meeting	2

Notes:









- 1) CLCC meetings are normally held the first Tuesday of every month at the Home State Bank, located at 611 S. Main St. in Crystal Lake. It's the large building behind the drive-up facility just southeast of the intersection of Route 14 and Main Street. The meeting is in the Community Room on the lower level - take the elevator just inside the south entrance.
- 2) The PhotoBug Breakfast is held at the Colonial Café at 5689 Northwest Highway in Crystal Lake. It provides an opportunity for open photography conversation plus good food and fun. You may take home some great tips and ideas that help you capture better pictures. It's a good way to get to know club members on a more personal level. Come at 8:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month.
- 3) Email to richbickham@comcast.net.
- 4) Paid-up CLCC members - Free ; Non-members \$25 which includes membership through 2017.
- 5) Note the date change due to Independence Day holiday falling on a Tuesday this year. The July CLCC meeting will be Thursday, July 6. Same time and same location as usual. ☯

2017

January							February							March							April							
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2017
YEAR AT A GLANCE

CLCC events only.

-  Meeting
-  Meeting & Competition
-  PhotoBug Breakfast
-  Newsletter Input Deadline
-  Newsletter Distribution
-  CLCC Class
-  Outing
-  Special Presentation

Blank Calendar Template © calendarlabs.com

