



*Crystal Lake*  
CAMERA CLUB

# ***Crystal Lake Camera Club Newsletter***

**Serving Crystal Lake, IL and Surrounding Communities Since 1980**

**February, 2018**

**Issue 2018-02**



**Athabasca Falls    © 2015, Rich Bickham**



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A Raft of Mallards © 2018, *Jessica Bickham*

### 2018 CLCC Officers

Co-President ..... [Al Popp](#)  
Co-President ..... [Chuck Rasmussen](#)  
Vice President ..... [Peter Pelke II](#)  
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### CLUB INFORMATION

The Crystal Lake Camera Club (CLCC) normally meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. 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. Dues are \$25 per person per calendar year.

We currently have over 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

**H**ave you ever taken golf lessons? Maybe several, perhaps? Have you ever incorporated it into a video of you swinging your golf club? Can you hear your instructor say "Okay, knees bent, back straight, wrists aligned, feet firm and planted correctly, eyes on the ball, elbow straight, hips twist, rotate on down swing, release, and follow through."? There's just too many things to remember. Still, you display a dedicated concentration and a determined passion. After many lessons, with a much lighter bank account and a very positive attitude, you head for the golf course. Okay, you think, this might not be so hard. Knees bent, back straight, ... You swing that new magic swing you have so diligently practiced. You hear the sweet crack of the club head hit the ball, and you look up, and watch that beautiful white ball streak into the bright blue sky, hang slightly in the air, then curve hard right, and go "plunk" into the water. "Arghhhhhhhh, I can't take it anymore."

Someone once said there are hundreds of little things you must do to have a great golf shot. Forget just one of them, and the ball goes somewhere not intended. Well, yea - ... ya think?

Sometimes photography can feel that way too. On a DSLR for example, there may be more than 20 separate buttons on the body alone that let you do, what? Thousands of combinations? Oh, I forgot the on/off switch. And reading the manual, well try and interpret that several hundred page monster; it's impossible for sure. But in your mind you think "I know I can do this." Really, how hard is it to press the shutter release and take a great photograph? But, just to be on the safe side, you decide to sign up for a basic photography class.

**W**hen you attend the photography class, you quickly learn there are simply three things to remember - ISO, aperture and shutter speed. Well, that sure was easy enough; you certainly can remember three things to take a good picture. As the classes continue you learn that there are actually more than three; maybe there are ten things to remember. It's a small mental struggle to remember ten, but you can handle that, right? You can take notes. Wait, there's more? Maybe 50! Even more, you say "Arghhhhhhhh" - I can't take it anymore. Are you getting the picture? (pardon the pun).

**W**hen you think of the myriad of settings and considerations necessary to get a good photograph, you might just want to take up lounging with a margarita for a fun time.

**T**his is beginning to sound depressing and impossible. Well, the great news is it isn't. True, there are numerous facets to a good photograph. None of them are impossible to master, nor are they so difficult it becomes a mental struggle. Like the golf shot, when you learn to relax and have fun, the shot starts to become easier, and with every swing of the club, and every click of the shutter, you can get better and better.

**T**he one element that stands out in all of this is the fact that if you wish to do anything well, you have to PRACTICE doing it.

**P**hotography is such a giving hobby. It can elicit every emotion you possess. It demands your attention, yet allows you the most relaxing times and joyous of feelings. Going out for a fun day of



## FROM THE EDITOR

[biggieman760@gmail.com](mailto:biggieman760@gmail.com)



**T**he year-end holidays are over, the cold weather has set in and it's a time for many of us to focus on indoor photography. Of course there are many who are not averse to braving the elements to capture those snowy landscapes and other scenes unique to winter. Not all winter weather is bad though - check out *Larry Lezon's* image from February, 2011 on page 4.

**M**y daughter Jessica is a birder and board member of the McHenry County Audubon Society. She is not afraid to go out in search of birds and photo-ops during this time of the year, frequently leaving in the pre-dawn hours to distant locations. One of her photos is featured this month as the background image in the table of contents on page 2. She used a Nikon D5000 to capture the image.

**R**ight now I am working both indoors and outdoors on my new year's resolution to learn more about my Christmas gift (a Nikon D7500 with an 18-300mm lens) as well as devoting more time to learning about my photo editing software, delving into some of the features and capabilities that I have not previously used.

**B**ut enough about me and my family. Let's talk about some things of interest in this issue. This month's "Know Your Support Staff" column features *Theresa Hart*, our new membership coordinator. Find out more about her on page 4.

**T**here are a couple of items dealing with faces. This month's "Random Photography Topics" on page 6 contains several photographs taken by photographer *Alexandra Hager*, also known as "The Puppet Master" because of her subject's doll-like faces. On page 5 *Sandra Wittman's* article "Scary use of Photo Editing Software" describes an alleged photo-editing debacle which is raising controversy on the internet.

*Sandra Wittman* also reviews a current policy change regarding photographers' use of tripods in Zion National Park on page 5.

**T**he "Iconic Photograph of the Month" on page 7 celebrates the bravery of the U.S. Marines and dates back to the war in the Pacific during the last year of World War II. In addition to the photo itself, there is also a "stamp of approval" included. Like *Sandra's* scary editing article mentioned above, the photograph also involves some controversy.

**O**n page 4 there's an interesting summary of member participation in our club print competitions over the past several years.

**T**here's other stuff too! I hope you enjoy the issue!

Rich

shooting, and then returning to see the results on your computer screen is so much fun. As you peruse all the many photos you took, you come upon one that just absolutely knocks your socks off, lean back in your chair, nod your head and think, "Oh, yea."

**T**hat feeling, my friends, is what photography is all about. Getting that 'hole-in-one' photograph with your camera is what makes us keep coming back for more. Really, isn't it all about the fun?

Chuck & Al



## FEBRUARY WATER SPORTS ON THE FOX RIVER

Larry Lezon

I took the picture shown below looking west near the Pearl Street Bridge in McHenry, IL on February 17, 2011\*.



Cool Rider

© 2011, Larry Lezon

It's not something you see every day in the winter (brrr). At the time it was shot I was taking the "Introduction to Digital Photography" class at McHenry County College. I was shooting by the Fox River with my first DSLR (a Canon T1i) because of the contrast of the snow, water, concrete and steel of the bridge.

\* The high temperature in Chicago that day was in the mid 50's with winds 15-20 mph. I don't know what the water temperature of the Fox River was, but no doubt it was mighty cold. - Ed

## CLCC PRINT COMPETITION PARTICIPATION STATISTICS

Rich Bickham

I have compiled data on the number of CLCC members who have participated in our print competitions over the past 3½ years. I have also compared that data to the club membership over the same time period.

The results are shown in the graph on the right. The horizontal axis is a time scale showing the competition month from October, 2013 on the left to April, 2017 on the right. The blue diamond points are the number of different members who competed that month, the red square points are the number of different members who competed in the four competitions ending in that month (April in all cases) and the green triangular points are the club membership counts for all months for which data is available. The red percentages show the percent of club members who competed for the years ending in April. The colored lines are linear curve fits\* for the three data sets.

In general, membership has risen substantially over the time span shown, while the number of members competing in the print categories has stayed relatively constant, but has generally declined in terms of percent of membership. One reason for the decline may be the large influx of new members over the past several years, many of whom are beginners who do not feel confident enough to compete during their first year or two of membership. Another reason may be that some members are switching from the print competitions to the DPI competition. The graph does not include

## KNOW YOUR CLUB SUPPORT STAFF

Hello. My name is Theresa Hart and I handle membership duties for the club. If you attend our meetings you've likely seen me greeting new members at the door each month.



I am the type of person who has always had to have a creative outlet to feel like I am being true to myself. That's not to say I think I'm terribly talented, just that I like to have something to do other than work. For many years it was music and theatre. Community theatre, after marriage and children.

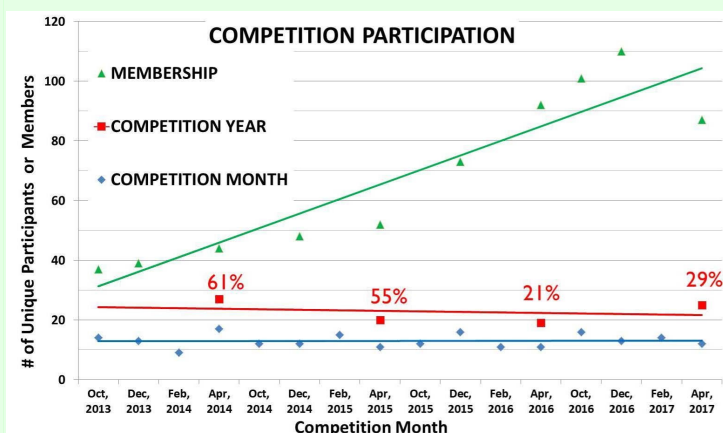
I had an interest in photography going back to when I was 18, and had an SLR by the time I was married, but never really learned to do anything with it. When health problems curtailed my community theatre involvement, I decided to pursue photography, since I could be active when I was able. I joined the Des Plaines Camera Club, and quickly learned from the good people there that the digital camera I had then just wasn't going to cut it, so I upgraded to a Canon 7D.

I will photograph anything, I think, except birds and sports - I couldn't handle the lenses- but I particularly enjoy macro, flowers, and portraits. Sometimes I think flower photography is just a different kind of portraiture. Just like people, flowers have their own unique beauty and personality. I look forward to learning more about lighting both subjects.

This coming year politics may take up much of my time. I'm running for Precinct Committeeman in the March primary, and will spend a fair amount of what free time I have canvassing, but I hope to have some time to spend having fun with my camera as well.



DPI competitors, since data is not available for DPI entrants prior to December of 2017.



For those readers interested in detailed results for winners during the most recently completed competition year (October, 2016 to April, 2017) see pages 10 & 11 of the July, 2017 newsletter.

\* Method of Least Squares was used. - Ed



## SCARY USE OF PHOTO EDITING SOFTWARE

Sandra Wittman

So you want to have a nice photograph of your family taken and you plan to ask a friend or even a professional whose work you have not seen to do it. Better check out the photographer's photo editing skills!

Pam Zaring, of Hillsborough, Missouri, recently posted the result of a photo editing project gone wrong on her Facebook page under the caption "This is NOT a joke!"



The Zarings allegedly paid a professional photographer \$250 for the family photo shoot. Zaring says, "She [the photographer] said the shadows were really bad on the beautiful, clear, sunny day and that her professor never taught her to retouch photos."

The post has gone viral on the Internet, been reported in newspapers and is giving those on social media a good laugh. Zaring said "I literally have not laughed this hard in YEARS."

Hall supposedly stands by her work and won't return the \$250 to the Zarings. This is publicity that she shouldn't want.

Now, however, there are questions as to whether the story of these photos is real or a clever marketing ploy instead.

The editors of the website rojaPOT ( <https://www.rojakpot.com/> ) felt that no photographer would actually do this kind of work, so they did a little sleuthing of their own. They found two spoof sites on the image and what appeared to be a real photography site by a Lesa Hall. They also contacted Hall from the apparently legitimate site. The conversation raised more questions than it answered. Is there even a real Lesa Hall? To see the transcript of the conversations go to the rojaPOT site:

<https://www.rojakpot.com/imagery-lesa-hall-photoshop-fail/> .

Lastly, or maybe not, wedding and portrait photographer Rahim Mastafa of Toronto weighed in with a video "Why I believe photos by Lesa Hall of Pam & Dave Zaring are fake!", which he posted on Youtube ( <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g0chDKt6iuM> ).

In the middle of all of this, the Zarings continued to insist that the photos are real and other sites following the case on the Internet seem to agree. Apparently, it will forever be a photo editing mystery with no resolution. Check out more of the close-ups of

## ZION NATIONAL PARK BANS TRIPODS IN PHOTO WORKSHOPS

Sandra Wittman

Zion National Park has had some restrictions on the use of tripods in the park for the past two years although they were permitted on some trails and other areas of the park. As of April, 2018, however, they are only permitted in paved areas and pullouts. All of the park's trails are to be tripod-free. Monopods are allowed.



These new regulations will affect commercial photographers and those leading photography workshops. Leaders of photography workshops in the park must obtain a "Commercial Use Authorization," and each group is limited to 12 photographers. In addition, the regulation states that, "Permittees are responsible for the conduct of their clients and must advise clients to stay on trails, walk single file, and allow the public to pass."

The banning of tripods will be a problem for landscape photographers wanting to shoot HDR, long exposures, and panoramas. Night photography workshops themselves are banned due to the restriction.

Supposedly, the ban is to prevent photographers from getting in the way of "the general visiting public" in the park. However, the new guidelines don't apply to an individual hobbyist photographer visiting Zion National Park - it's only a restriction on photography in a commercial capacity and in the context of a photo workshop.

The policy can be found here:

<https://www.nps.gov/zion/planyourvisit/upload/2018-Operation-Plan-Photography-Painting-Workshops.pdf> 🌀

the controversial photos here:

<https://boingboing.net/2018/01/13/photographer-botches-family-po.html> .

At least the dogs look good.

*More fallout from this includes the plight of at least one professional photographer named Lisa Hall (I found several on the internet), who is being confused with the person or persons responsible for the above photo editing work. Lisa is currently trying to do damage control as best she can. Since the story first hit the internet, she has received many derogatory messages from folks (mostly unknown to her) blaming her for the terrible work. Good luck, Lisa. - Ed 🌀*



## RANDOM PHOTOGRAPHY TOPICS - THE PUPPET MASTER

Rich Bickham

Professional Austrian Photographer Alexandra Hager (1971 - ) works in advertising with fashion models and has had many of her photos appear on magazine covers. However, I think her most interesting and intriguing work is unrelated to advertising, and is quite surreal.



Alexandra Hager

It's hard to categorize it as belonging to a particular genre. Her images show human models (many are children) in Victorian attire placed in scenes of that era or in other odd environments. Her use of flash makes the models appear doll-like, for which she has earned the nickname "The Puppet Master". It is not unusual for people to mistake her images for paintings, but they are all very creatively edited photographic constructs.

Several of her intriguing images are shown below and in the right column, along with my brief interpretations on each.



Stubborn Son

© Alexandra Hager

Stubborn Son conveys a look of determination on the young man's face, perhaps as he prepares to go against his parents' wishes in the kitchen area of family home.



Searching

© Alexandra Hager

Searching brings out the curiosity of children as they travel through their voyage to adulthood, perhaps seeking to escape from a gloomy existence.



Lifeboat

© Alexandra Hager

To me Lifeboat portrays a child in peril, from both the sea and the sky, her astonished look expressing a fear of an unknown fate.



Desolation

© Alexandra Hager

In Desolation, I see a child expressing a loneliness in her face as if lost in a friendless and unknown world, perhaps cast out by her church.



Lost Girl

© Alexandra Hager

The Lost Girl image suggests a child caught between anger and tears, lost in a world she cannot understand. ☹



## ICONIC PHOTO OF A FEBRUARY DAY IN HISTORY

Rich Bickham

In February, 1945 the United States had just begun its fourth year of waging a war on two fronts – the war in the Pacific against Japan (declared by the United States as a result of the attack on Pearl Harbor) and the war in Europe (subsequently declared by Japan's allies Germany and Italy against the United States). While the war in Europe would end in three months (May), the war in the Pacific would not be over for six months (August).

During that February the U.S. Marines invaded the Japanese island of Iwo Jima. Its total land area was eight square miles. The assault was the first direct U.S. ground attack of the war on a Japanese territory. Located about 760 miles from the Japanese mainland, its capture and control was critical for the launch of an Allied invasion of the Japan mainland, thought necessity to defeat Japan. The battle of Iwo Jima lasted for over a month, during which some of the most brutal and fierce fighting of World War II occurred. The Japanese were entrenched in bunkers, caves and in over ten miles of tunnels on the island. They fought viciously to the death – many chose suicide rather than surrender as the end neared. Of the 21,000 Japanese soldiers on the island at the start of fighting, nearly 20,000 were killed and more than 1,000 were captured. The last two soldiers on the island did not surrender until April of 1947, having hidden in the jungle for over 1½ years after the war's end. U.S. casualties were 6,800 Marines killed (about one third of all Marines killed during all of World War II) and 19,000 wounded.

The Marines landed on a beachhead adjacent to 528 foot tall Mt. Suribachi, the highest point on the island, on February 19. After four days of fighting they controlled the mountain and erected the United States flag on its summit on February 23. A few hours later the Marines decided to replace it with a larger flag. Using a 4x5 Graflex Speed Graphic camera, AP photographer *Joe Rosenthal* (1911-2006) took the iconic photograph of the second flag raising



Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima

Joe Rosenthal (AP)

shown above. Six Marines took part in the flag raising (two are mostly blocked from view). It would become known as "Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima". He also took a photo (which he posed) of a few dozen cheering Marines posing at the base of the flag after it had been raised; it would become known as "Gung Ho". Rosenthal sent the negatives to Guam for processing by AP. He included a



### ASK A PRO

Jim Pierce

Send your questions to:

[downtownprophoto@sbcglobal.net](mailto:downtownprophoto@sbcglobal.net)

Please do not submit model-specific questions about cameras.

Jim did not receive any questions this month.



note to whomever might write a story to go with the photos. The note also stated that the photos concerned the second flag raising. He never saw the photos or the written story until he was in Guam a few days later, after the photograph had been published by AP member newspapers in the U.S. five days after it was shot.

It won the 1945 Pulitzer Prize for journalism only two months after it was taken.\* It was also featured on a U.S. commemorative postage stamp (shown on the right) about five months after it was taken.\*\* Nine years later the photograph became the model for the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, VA. However, it began a controversy that would last for decades.



The controversy started when Rosenthal got back to Guam when he found out that one of his photos had been published, but was not told which. He was asked if the photo was posed and replied yes, thinking the questioner was referring to the "Gung Ho" picture (readers should note that effective communications at the time and circumstances, 1942 in the middle of WWII, were confused and at times chaotic). The situation quickly got out of control.

After a Time-Life correspondent wired Rosenthal's "staged" comment back to the U.S., the news was broadcast on the radio show "Time Views the News". Even though the story was retracted by Time several days later along with an apology to Rosenthal, the 'staging story' spread like a wildfire. Rosenthal's reputation as a photojournalist quickly became tarnished and he was saddled with suspicion for the rest of his life. In 1991 it was suggested by some that his Pulitzer Prize should be taken back by the committee. Then in 1994 noted (and sometimes controversial) newspaper columnist *Jack Anderson* resurrected the story as fact. He to ultimately apologizing to Rosenthal as the Times had done nearly fifty years earlier. Both incidents brought the controversy once again into the public eye.

As he got on in years, when asked about the photograph Rosenthal would only say "I took the picture, the Marines took Iwo Jima." He died in 2006 of natural causes. His photograph remains one of the best known photographs of WWII.

\* The Pulitzer Prize Committee had a policy of only considering photographs from the previous year to be eligible for consideration. Due to the tremendous impact Rosenthal's photograph had made on America's public and military morale, they made an exception in 1945.

\*\* The stamp was issued July 11, 1945. The idea of issuing it so quickly was originally rejected by the U.S. Post Office Department, citing its policy that "No living person(s) can appear on a US stamp." on its date of issue. At that time, three of the six Marines in the photograph had died on Iwo Jima. Public demand resulted in an exception being made for the same reason as cited by the Pulitzer Prize Committee. ☺



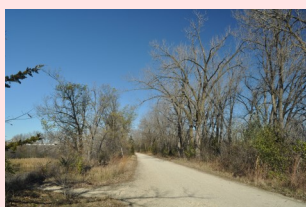
## TIP OF THE MONTH

Submitted by: *Rich Bickham*

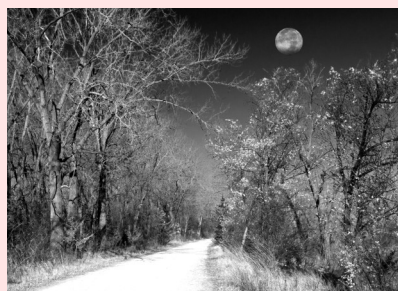
**H**ave you ever returned from a few hours of photo shooting to discover that all of your images were a disappointment? It has happened to me. No doubt it has happened to many of you too. What did you do - delete them or store them away, never to be viewed again? Perhaps you spent a few hours with your photo editing software, trying to recapture the scenes you wanted to capture. But there is another alternative that I sometimes pursue.

**Be** creative and morph an image into something unlike the scene or subject you photographed, but appealing to viewers in a different way. Perhaps it's a similar scene that looks still real, or an artistic creation. Here's three examples that I have created.

The first is a scene that I shot on a warm, sunny mid-November day at The Hollows in Cary. On the left is the original and on the right is after few hours of work with Photoshop Elements.



Untitled *Rich Bickham*



Moonrise © 2016, *Rich Bickham*

The transformation was a result of some cropping & a horizontal flip, conversion to black & white with the infrared option, some tonal adjustment and the addition of a moon, cropped from another of my own images. What was an unspectacular daylight photo of a gravel road became a night image of a snow-covered moonlit trail. It scored 22 at a CLCC competition and 21 at a CACCA competition.

The next example is a photo (below left) of an interesting 3D



Untitled *Rich Bickham*



Untitled *Rich Bickham*



Twisted Twigs © 2017, *Rich Bickham*

three images at a CLCC club meeting Show & Tell a while ago when former CACCA President Bill Brown was in attendance (he was the speaker for the evening). He commented that I had taken a pretty bad photograph and created something really special with it, and cited it as an example of why we should never throw any photographs away.

The final example (below right) is similar to the first one. This was shot in Veteran Acres Park in Crystal Lake in mid-March.

**Also** flipped horizontally and converted to black & white (with infrared option), I added a layer of noise and did a slight motion blur on it. The result resembles a windy winter scene just after a snowfall has begun.



Untitled

*Rich Bickham*



Snowstorm Moving In

© 2016, *Rich Bickham*

The possibilities are endless. Give it a try! 🌀

## LINKS OF THE MONTH

Submitted by *Sandy Wittman*:

**T**he Stories Behind the Top Photos of 2017:

[http://time.com/top-10-photos-of-2017/?utm\\_source=time.com&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=the-brief&utm\\_content=2017122612pm&xid=newsletter-brief](http://time.com/top-10-photos-of-2017/?utm_source=time.com&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=the-brief&utm_content=2017122612pm&xid=newsletter-brief)

**Ethics From Empathy:**

**How** to increase your chances of capturing beautiful wildlife photographs without compromising your subject's welfare:

[https://www.outdoorphotographer.com/pro-perspectives/melissa-groo/ethics-from-empathy/?utm\\_source=nlweekly&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=traffic](https://www.outdoorphotographer.com/pro-perspectives/melissa-groo/ethics-from-empathy/?utm_source=nlweekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=traffic)

Submitted by *Roger Willingham*:

These tutorials are very helpful for Photoshop Elements users:

<https://helpx.adobe.com/photoshop-elements/tutorials.html> 🌀



## COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to *Kimberly Wilson* who was a winner in the January **CACCA** competitions:

**Kimberly Wilson:**

“Looking In”- Large Color - CACCA Award

Kimberly’s photograph is not available for publication this month.

Some winning photographs in the December, 2017 CLCC competition which were not shown in the January, 2018 newsletter are shown below and on the following page.

All photographs are uncropped and have been resized such that each has the same printed area while retaining its original aspect ratio.



Fenced In

© 2011, Norm Kopp



Two Gondolas at Rest

© 2017, Sandra Wittman

See **Winners**, Page 10



Winners, from Page 9



Bad Hair Day

© 2017, Norm Kopp



Brooms

© 2013, Sandra Wittman



## JANUARY PHOTOBUG BREAKFAST

On Saturday, January 13 eight club members met up at the Colonial Café in Crystal Lake for a delicious breakfast and a lively discussion about photography including cameras, photo editing and sharing photographs. The breakfast meeting is open to anyone having an interest in photography (club members or guests). The time is 8:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month. We order off the menu, get individual checks and have a private room all to ourselves.



(L to R) Sandra South, Herb Rangl, Al Popp, Roger Willingham, Jim Petersen, Rich Bickham and Bob Popelka

Photograph by Paul Litke

Feel free to join us. No need to make arrangements - just show up. ☺

## “WELL, IT’S GROUNDHOG DAY - AGAIN” HUMOR



© 2011 CHUCK INGWERSEN, captainscratchy.com

off the mark.com by Mark Parisi



© Mark Parisi, Permission required for use.

off the mark.com by Mark Parisi



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## READER FEEDBACK

### January Issue:



Each month I look forward to your release of the Newsletter with its interesting topics and info. January's is great!! Especially outstanding was the "Tip of the Month". As a relatively new member of CLCC I enjoy the photography competitions. Your step by step instructions on mounting has provided the info needed in a workable format which resulted in a New Year's resolution to try entering the print competition – many thanks!

Larry Lezon - McHenry, IL

Send reader feedback to [biggieman760@gmail.com](mailto:biggieman760@gmail.com) . ☺

## FUTURE CLUB MEETING SPEAKERS

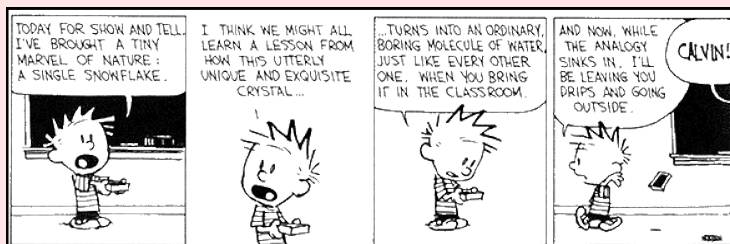
Since the January meeting was cancelled due to cold weather, Ken Farver's presentation on Action Photos has been rescheduled for the May 1 meeting. Other future meeting speakers currently scheduled are:

- June 5 - Hank Erdmann - Presentation TBA
- July 3 or August 7 - Presentation TBA

Dates and speakers are tentative - always check the club calendar on the last page of the newsletter every month for the latest information. ☺

## FEBRUARY SHOW & TELL CHALLENGE

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



Calvin didn't bring a photo but you can next month! ☺

## FOR SALE or WANTED FOR PURCHASE \*

### NO ADS THIS MONTH

\* Ad placers must be paid up club members or "friends of the club". Items are restricted to functional photography equipment only. Ads will run in only 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. Ads should include a brief description of the item(s), condition, contact information and asking price (optional). CLCC reserves the right to edit requests that are deemed too lengthy. Requests must be sent to

[biggieman760@gmail.com](mailto:biggieman760@gmail.com)

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



**2017 PSA Newsletter Contest**  
**Large Clubs Category**  
**FIRST PLACE Overall**  
**Best Use of Color**  
**Best Calendar Presentation**



**2015 PSA Newsletter Contest**  
**Small Clubs Category**  
**THIRD PLACE Overall**  
**Best Variety of Material**

## OPPORTUNITIES

Get your photography questions answered or your problems solved with our "Ask A Pro" program. Submit your queries to [downtownprophoto@sbcglobal.net](mailto:downtownprophoto@sbcglobal.net), and also send a copy to [biggieman760@gmail.com](mailto:biggieman760@gmail.com). 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 image 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 of each issue. Email a jpg image to [biggieman760@gmail.com](mailto:biggieman760@gmail.com) 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. While not required, preference will be given to seasonal images.

CLCC members who would like to share their knowledge or learn more about photography are encouraged to participate in the club's Mentor program. Its purpose is to forge cooperative relationships that will help improve member photographic skills. If you have a particular skill or expertise that you are willing to teach others, or if there is a particular skill that you are trying to learn or improve, Mentor program coordinator Paul Minkus will try to pair you up with someone. Just contact Paul at [pminkus@comcast.net](mailto:pminkus@comcast.net) or at (847)-975-9946 if you are interested in participating. ☺

## 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 [biggieman760@gmail.com](mailto:biggieman760@gmail.com).

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

[biggieman760@gmail.com](mailto:biggieman760@gmail.com)

before the newsletter input deadline. ☺





Winter in the Hollows

© 2018, Rich Bickham

## SMALL GROUPS

Summary of CLCC Small Group activity in February, 2018:

### Advanced Post Processing

Host: Maureen Harris - [parcon129@gmail.com](mailto:parcon129@gmail.com)

Next Meeting\*: Thursday, February 15 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Learning various aspects of post processing with topics suggested by the group. Discussions on Lightroom, Photoshop, Elements and other currently available post processing software.

### Nature & Landscape

Host: Chuck Rasmussen - [Chuck.Rasmussen](mailto:Chuck.Rasmussen)

Next Meeting\*: Wednesday, February 14 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

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)

Next Meeting: Meeting format being reworked.

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)

Next Meeting\*: Tuesday or Thursday, February 13 or 15 - 7:00 p.m.

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

### Lightroom

Host: Paul Minkus - [pminkus@comcast.net](mailto:pminkus@comcast.net)

Next Meeting\*: Tuesday, February 20 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Learning to use Adobe Lightroom software.

The **Architecture Photography**, **Macro Photography** and **Street Photography** small groups are currently inactive and need hosts. If you have interest in hosting any one of them, contact Maureen Harris at [parcon129@gmail.com](mailto:parcon129@gmail.com).

Also contact Maureen if you have questions or problems with your small group, or would like to start a new small group.

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

## NON-CLUB EVENTS & PHOTO-OPS

### LAKE GENEVA WINTERFEST

Live Music, Food & Drink, Magic, Dog Sled Race & More  
Snow Sculpting Contest (see next item)

Saturday, January 27 to Sunday, February 4 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Lake Geneva, WI

### U.S. NATIONAL SNOW SCULPTING COMPETITION

15 Teams From Across the Country Carve 8'x9' Snow Blocks  
Wednesday, January 31 - Saturday, February 3 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Downtown Area  
Lake Geneva, IL

### WOODSTOCK GROUNDHOG DAYS

Four Days of Groundhog Day Events  
Music, Food & Drink, Movie, Trivia, Tours and Much More  
Thursday to Sunday, February 1- 4  
Woodstock Willie Appears Friday, February 2 at 7:07 a.m.  
For Complete Events Schedule See:

<https://www.realwoodstock.com/events>

Town Square  
Woodstock, IL

### THE ORCHID SHOW

More Than 12,000 Orchids From Around the World  
Saturday, February 10 Through Sunday, March 25

No Tripods or Monopods Except Wednesdays, Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Exhibit Fee (Members/Nonmembers):

Adults \$10/\$12: Seniors (62+) & Kids (3-12): \$8/\$10

Parking Extra

<https://www.chicagobotanic.org>

Chicago Botanic Garden  
1000 Lake Cook Road  
Glencoe, IL

### SKY CIRCUS ON ICE

Kite Performers, Ice & Snow Carvers, Snow Slide & More  
Friday to Sunday, February 16 - 18

<https://www.lakelawnresort.com/events/sky-circus-ice/>

Lake Lawn Resort  
2400 East Geneva Street  
Some Events in Downtown Delavan  
Delavan, WI



<https://psa-photo.org/index.php?2018-psa-conference>



## CALENDAR OF COMING CLUB EVENTS - FEBRUARY & MARCH, 2018

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
February 6, 2018	6:15 - 7:00 p.m.	Home State Bank	Drop in early mentoring	1
February 6, 2018	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Home State Bank	CLCC February meeting : <b>Competition Night</b>	1
February 10, 2018	8:30 a.m.	Colonial Café	Saturday morning PhotoBug breakfast meeting	2
February 10, 2018	12:30 p.m.	Christian Church of Arlington Hts.	CACCA February Meeting & Competition	4
February 20, 2018			Deadline for March newsletter inputs	3
February 27, 2018			March newsletter distribution target date	
March 6, 2018	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Home State Bank	CLCC March meeting : <b>Speaker TBD</b>	1
March 10, 2018	8:30 a.m.	Colonial Café	Saturday morning PhotoBug breakfast meeting	2
March 10, 2018	12:30 p.m.	Christian Church of Arlington Hts.	CACCA March Meeting & Competition	4

### 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 east 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 [biggieman760@gmail.com](mailto:biggieman760@gmail.com) .
- 4) The monthly CACCA delegates meeting and interclub competitions are held on the second Saturday during the months of October through the following May at the church at 333 W. Thomas Street in Arlington Heights. Those interested in attending should contact Lyle Anderson at [crystallake\\_cameraclub@yahoo.com](mailto:crystallake_cameraclub@yahoo.com) or Royal Pitchford at [rpitchford@live.com](mailto:rpitchford@live.com) - you may be able to catch a ride.

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