



Crystal Lake
CAMERA CLUB

Crystal Lake Camera Club Newsletter

Serving Crystal Lake, IL and Surrounding Communities Since 1980

January, 2018

Issue 2018-01



Winter's Beauty © 2014, Jeff Chemelewski

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE



Front Page Image - *Jeff Chemelewski*



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Snowstorm Moving In © 2016, Rich Bickham

2018 CLCC Officers

Co-President [Al Popp](#)
Co-President [Chuck Rasmussen](#)
Vice President [Peter Pelke II](#)
Treasurer [Grace Moline](#)
Secretary **OPEN**
Previous President [Lyle Anderson](#)

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Assistant *Mariela Ryan*
Assistant *Teresa Baber*
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Librarian *Bob Cairone* robertcairone@gmail.com
Mentor Program *Paul Minkus* pminkus@comcast.net

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/>

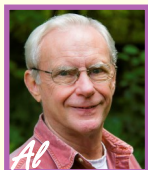


<https://www.psa-photo.org/>

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PRESIDENTS' COLUMN

Wow! The end of 2017 is upon us. Tear off another calendar page and there stands January 2018 in all its glory. What wonderful experiences will this New Year bring?



Many will spend a little time reflecting on events of the past twelve months. What were the banner times? Did we really accomplish all the things we had in mind last January? Some folks will have checked off all of their important items, and some, not so many. Never the less, all of us can take a few moments exercising our brains as we consider the future. This is one chance to look toward new directions for the coming year. Since all of us are photographers, here are a few possible resolutions to use as jumping off points and to help stir the thinking pot.

Resolve to try out different photographic directions.

Many folks find themselves doing the same old things. They take the same types of landscape, portrait, or vacation photos without changing or challenging their thought process. They find formulas that work and decide not to venture from those comfort zones. They probably use the same techniques, over and over, for posing individuals or capturing sunsets over water. Maybe post-processing with the same old programs in the same old manner. Great, but they close their minds to new approaches. Does this really help one to grow in our hobby or trade?

Now is the time to think "outside the box". Consider new approaches. Identify areas to change and thus improve those skills. New ideas will make everyone better photographers.

Resolve to travel more.

Travel allows us to see things from new perspectives and gather fresh viewpoints. How great it would be to plan that perfect photographic getaway - a hoot to venture to some neat spot in our own big country, or maybe an exotic destination we have only dreamed about. Of course we need to consider having the time, and then there's the money thing. But we need not travel far. There are many unexplored photo possibilities to find in our own backyards, or within a few hours drive from our home base.

Try exploring some area maps, or do those Internet searches. You can uncover many treasures just by taking a bit of time to look. Once you find those important spots, then each month venture off to a new location - just enjoy the experience.

Resolve to experiment with angles.

Photographic growth relies on experimentation. Instead of taking all pictures from a standing position, hang loose and move about. This change will result in all new image perspectives, as well as some exercise. Squat or lie down on the ground when photographing low subjects like flowers or small animals. Try standing on a chair or ladder and looking down at the subjects. This is a useful trick for photographing large groups or rooms full of people. You can move right or left from any height to produce interesting images. Photograph toddlers or small children by getting down to their level to understand the world as they see it.

When photographing landscapes or buildings, level lines are the

FROM THE EDITOR

biggieman760@gmail.com

The new year is almost upon us as I am writing this column. Hopefully 2018 will be a good year for all of us.



Of course along with the new year comes New Year resolutions for those who hope to better themselves in one way or another. In the January, 2017 newsletter I shared with you two of my resolutions. The first was to improve the newsletter's appearance, organization and competition photograph presentations, which I managed to deliver. Our newsletter had a whole new look to it starting last February. The club entered the March, 2017 issue into the national PSA annual newsletter contest and it won three awards, including first place in the Large Clubs category. I'll continue the new format for the foreseeable future (if it ain't broke, don't fix it). The second was to start a new column to replace the "Back to the Future of Photography" column that ran monthly through 2016. The "Random Photography Topics" column began its run during 2017 and I have received favorable feedback from several readers on it. So this year I have only one photography resolution - to improve my photography skills by making more time for taking pictures.

Let's talk about this issue. The "Humor" section of page 16 has a couple of items concerning new year resolutions, one of which regards a girl named *Lucy van Pelt* (most of you will recognize her when you see her) who is in no mood to hear anyone suggesting she needs to make resolutions.

While we start a new year, the Iconic Photograph of the Month column on page 8 relates to an era in which millions of people started a new life at Ellis Island (which coincidentally opened on January 1, 1892). Also, this month's "Random Photography Topics" column (pages 6 & 7) features American photographer *Stephen Wilkes*. He has taken many photographs of the decaying remains of portions of Ellis Island and published some of them in a book. Be sure to check out both columns.

There are plenty of other photos in this issue, including winning entries in the club's December competition, many of which are shown on pages 10 to 15. Eleven club members won one or more awards or honorable mentions.

If you carefully look over this issue you will find a photograph of one of our club officers posing with a beauty pageant queen.

Happy New Year and I hope you enjoy looking through this issue.

Rich

norm. However, tilting your camera will provide different representations when trying to capture that certain feeling or mood.

Resolve to seek out people willing to provide useful critiques.

Family members and friends are readily available to give feedback on photos. But do they have the expertise? They may be too biased and only provide pleasing or cursory comments - "I like it."

We all know reputable photo-folks,

See **President**, Page 4

President, from Page 3

especially if we've taken lots of photographs over the years. These pro-photographers, club members, and inner circle acquaintances are your go-to people. They are the people to ask for comments on your work and potential improvement areas. They will give you the most meaningful help, and provide the best learning experiences.

Resolve to find your photographic passion.

Today anyone can go around with a point-and-shoot camera or smartphone and click off hundreds of photos. This is an easy way to gather thousands of different images on unrelated and far-ranging topics, subjects, and styles. But, is there an area of photography for which you feel true passion? A piece of basic advice for a writer is to seek out a topic or subject for which they feel strong emotion and passion. This advice works for a photographer as well. These are the areas in which they will produce their best work.

So think seriously about what kinds of photographs you've shot in the past and zero in on those subjects, whatever they may be. These will provide the most growth in your photography.

Resolve to select a large body, or long-term project of work.

Ever sit and think about what you could accomplish if you grasped hold of a project that required oodles of time? 2018 may be just the year.

Look around, gather inspiration from books and magazines, the internet, talk with others, or simply check out previous photos you've stored in computer files. Most likely, certain images will tickle your interest to develop a particular idea or two. Then set goals. Take a little time each week to concentrate on turning those thoughts into reality. In just a few short months you'll have created that masterwork to show off to your family and friends.

There you have it – a few ideas for New Year resolutions. Sit back, relax, let your mind float and see what suddenly sharpens your focus. 2018 is a new year. Make it a time to strike out and travel new roads of photography. It's the challenge that will provide a most enjoyable journey. After all, photography is fun.

Al & Chuck ☺



It's A 'Santa Mantel' Time

© 2016, Rich Bickham

CLCC PHOTOGRAPHY CLASSES BY PETER PELKE II

Al Popp

Club Director of Education *Peter Pelke* needs your assistance. Shown below is a list of his class offerings either currently available, in process or being considered for development. Each has been custom designed for CLCC members by Peter. He would like your feedback as to the next class or series of classes you would like to see presented.



Crystal Lake Camera Club Classes Available

By Peter J. Pelke II



Class & Content

Photo 101 <u>DSLR- Part 1</u>	1. Basic Camera 2. Aperture- Depth of Field 3. Shutter Speed- Motion 4. ISO Speed 5. Shooting Modes-P, A, S, M
Photo102 <u>DSLR- Part 2</u>	6. Exposure & Histograms 7. White Balance 8. Metering
Photo 103 <u>DSLR- Part 3</u>	9. Focus or Focal Point- "Tack Sharp" Images 10. Lenses & Filters
Photo 104	11. Flash & Studio Lighting

Computer Workflow, Applications, Tips.....

Photo 106	1. Camera to Computer Workflow Saving and Backing Up Digital Negatives (DNEG's)
Photo 107	2. Basic Editing-Photoshop Elements Layers, B&W Conversion, Image Sizing for Output
Photo 108	3. Plug-ins for software- NIK, Exposure X3, ON1 Effects
Photo 109	4. RAW Processing; JPEG & TIFF
Photo 110	5. Lightroom; Import, Edit, Export
Photo 112	6. Software Tips (In Progress)

Advanced Photography

Photo 201	1. Macro
Photo 202	2. Pre Visualization (In Progress)
Photo 203	3. Photo Composition (In Progress)
Photo 204	4. Macro Photography (In Progress)
Photo 205	5. The 4 C's of Photography Composition, Clarity, Contrast, & Color
Photo 206	6. Gestalt Psychology & Photography (In Progress)
Photo 207	7. Before & After
Photo 208	8. Examples: The Making of 40 Photographs
Photo 209	9. Photography: Case Studies (In Progress)
Photo 210	10. Advanced Black & White Images (In Progress)
Photo 211	11. Photo Trip Planning (In Progress)

You can email Peter at

railgrinch@gmail.com

to let him know other topics in which you have an interest. ☺

ASK A PRO**Jim Pierce**

Send your questions to:

downtownprophoto@sbcglobal.netPlease do not submit model-specific questions about cameras.

Jim did not receive any questions this month 😞 but he did get some feedback from Mike McGuigan on Jim's response to his question last month on high key and low key photography:

Goodness, it looks like [I] may be trying to bite off more than [I] can chew!! When I saw those types of images in the PPA book, they were all so captivating, so dramatic. Now I know why the pros are so good at it. In-depth knowledge of lighting concepts and techniques is a must. This will be a slow process as I crawl and then take baby steps on this journey. I can't wait to get the PPA book to see examples of both low and high key images, they will be my inspiration. Thanks a bunch for your in-depth reply. To be sure, it was an eye opener that shows how skilled as a photographer one must be to take these images. There is a lot to think about and learn, but hey, learning (at any age) is a good thing. Mike McGuigan - Crystal Lake, IL 🌀



Alaskan Thaw © 2013, Rich Bickham

JANUARY CLUB MEETING - Ken Farver

Club member Ken Farver will give a presentation on "Action Photos" at the club's January 2 meeting. Ken has been photographing for 40 years. He will show and discuss his photos of motorsports, high school sports, birds in flight, and people in action. He will be glad to answer questions from the audience.

An example of his action photo work is shown below. 🌀



Untitled

© Ken Farver

KNOW YOUR CLUB SUPPORT STAFF

My name is Judy Jorgensen* and I am finally taking some time for my interest in photography.



I worked for more than 22 years for the gas company in sales, transmission, personnel, meter reading, real estate, engineering and my favorite as a construction supervisor. I've done stints with Junior Achievement, Sunday School, starting a Saturday night worship service, and am currently a team leader for the Crystal Lake Food Pantry.

My husband Tom and I bred, trained and compete field dogs, raised two children and have started a few businesses. I've been a riding instructor while satisfying my love of horses. I bought my first horse when I was 17 and put my last one down last spring. I also like sewing, painting and reading.

We started a boarding kennel more than twenty years ago, and tripled its size a few years ago. I got to work seven days a week all year long for most of that time. We now have a retreat in the Michigan Upper Peninsula where we spend as much time as possible, but the kennel is always calling me back.

I've always had point and shoot cameras, and have loved taking pictures. I bought my first nice camera, a Canon AE1, in 1977 when our son was born. My next good camera was a Canon and what freedom it brought me. I didn't have to be economical about film or processing costs, and I didn't have to wait a week to get pictures back. I could take as many shots as I wanted without someone saying I only needed one shot of something.

I have found that my real estate interests in life are generally not shared by those with whom I surround myself. How strange is that? It is also true with photography. No one else in the family cares for photography like my daughter-in-law and I do. That said, we like different subjects. She is into portraits and I love landscapes. We are both busy.

Then I found myself a really nice Nikon so we could share lenses (never happens), and I wanted to learn the art of photography. I tried a couple of classes in Harvard but I looked into local camera clubs a couple of years before coming to the Crystal Lake club. But I was intimidated by the photos on their website, didn't know anyone and had no one to go with me to their meetings. I had a lot of excuses. But again, if I was going to learn how to better use the Nikon I owned it was time to get over it. I did, and I'm so glad. I now have people to answer questions and new friends to learn with. Thanks CLCC! Now, like a lot of you, I just need more free time.

* Judy assists me in the preparation of each newsletter. Specifically, she proofreads a draft of each issue prior to publication. She has an excellent command of English grammar, and corrects my frequent grammatical errors, especially my use (or non-use) of commas. Thanks so much, Judy! - Ed 🌀

RANDOM PHOTOGRAPHY TOPICS - DAY TO NIGHT PROJECT

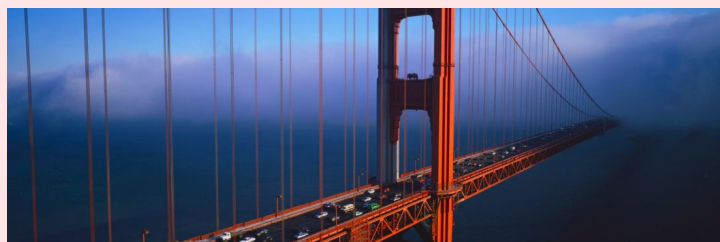
Rich Bickham

American photographer *Stephen Wilkes* (1957 -) started taking photographs when he was twelve years old. His interest continued through high school. He continued his education at Syracuse University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Photography in 1980.

He opened a studio in New York City in 1983. His early work included photographic studies of Mainland China and California's scenic coastal Highway 1 (one California photo is shown below).



Stephen Wilkes - 2016



Golden Gate Bridge

© Stephen Wilkes

This paved the way for future success. Today he is regarded as one of the most iconic photographers in America. He specializes in fine art, commercial and editorial work.

Among his most well-known projects is his documentation of the decaying structures on the south side of Ellis Island between 1998 and 2003. In 2006 his work was published in the book "Ellis Island Ghosts" which includes 77 of his images. Two from that collection are shown below and on the upper right. The work was influential



Corridor #9

© Stephen Wilkes

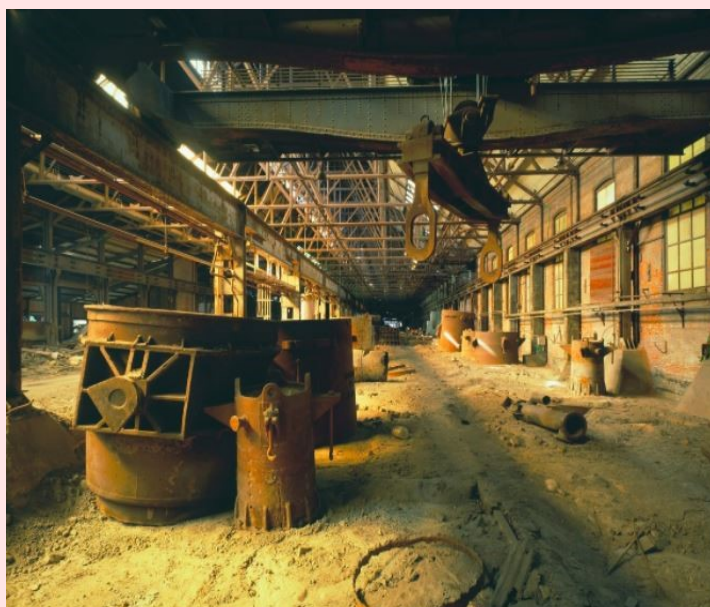
in the decision of the U.S. Congress to allocate \$6 million to support the Ellis Island south side restoration work.



Morgue Prep Room

© Stephen Wilkes

Another Wilkes photo essay documents the abandoned Bethlehem Steel works in Bethlehem, PA which closed in 1995 after 140 years of operation. An example photo is shown below.



Toolshed

© Stephen Wilkes

But perhaps his most interesting and technically challenging project has been "Day to Night" in which he

See Wilkes, Page 7

Wilkes, from Page 6

takes thousands of photographs from a single camera position and orientation. Then through post-processing he combines many of them into a single image which captures the scene as it transitions through a time span which is typically 15 to 18 hours (sometimes more than a full day). Wilkes had dreamed about this in 1996, but had to wait for digital camera technology and image processing to catch up with his imagination. After that happened, in 2009 he began his work on the Day to Night project.

Here's how he goes about creating a Day to Night image (he shoots with a 4x5 camera with a digital back):

- Select an interesting location, set up the gear and orient the camera.
- Choose an appropriate starting time and begin capturing images. Thousands of images are taken continuously over the time span he wants to document.
- Review of all the photos and choice of a small subset (usually about fifty shots) which capture the essence of the "experience" of being there.
- Post-process to seamlessly combine the chosen subset into one image which takes the viewer from one edge of the finished image to an opposite edge as time passes from start to finish. Possible start (stop) image locations are left (right), top (bottom) and upper left corner (lower right corner), or vice-versa.

Two of his Day to Night images are shown here. The first on the right was taken in New York City in 2010. The time span begins in the morning on the lower left corner and ends in the upper right corner at night. The second shown below was taken in 2015 over a time span of about 30 hours in Africa's Serengeti National Park.

Wilkes' various photograph collections are on display at many venues including the George Eastman Museum in Rochester, NY,

the U.S. Library of Congress and the 9/11 Memorial Museum. His photos have appeared on many notable magazine covers including those of Vanity Fair, Fortune, Sports Illustrated and National Geographic. Of his many honors and awards, two stand out as special to him – the *Alfred Eisenstaedt* Award for Magazine Photography and the Breakthrough Photography Award from Adobe. Visit his website at

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



Flatiron 9/11

© 2010, Stephen Wilkes



Day to Night Serengeti

© 2015, Stephen Wilkes

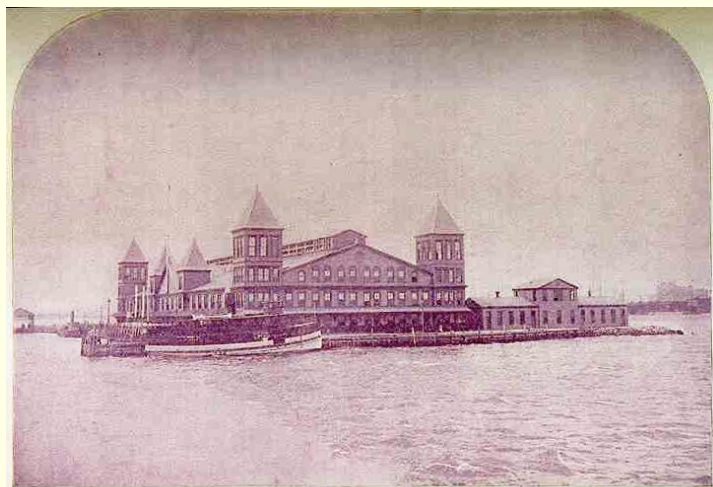
ICONIC PHOTO OF A JANUARY DAY IN HISTORY

Rich Bickham

From its opening on January 1, 1892 until its closing in 1954 an estimated 12 million European immigrants* entered America through the gates of Ellis Island. Located at the mouth of the Hudson River between New York and New Jersey, it is estimated that about 40 percent of current U.S. citizens can trace their lineage to at least one ancestor who had entered the country through Ellis Island. About 2 percent of those seeking entry were turned away for various reasons, primarily disease or undesirability.

The busiest time for Ellis Island was from 1905 to 1914 when about 5,000 immigrants per day were processed. The daily record occurred in April of 1907 when 11,747 immigrants were processed in a single day.

The original Ellis Island Immigration Station building was a wooden structure. It burned to the ground in 1897, after which a new masonry structure was built, which still stands today. The photograph of the original wood building shown below is thought



ELLIS ISLAND: A VIEW OF THE IMMIGRANT STATION IN NEW YORK HARBOR.

to have been taken on January 1, 1892. The photographer is unknown.

Many famous people arrived in America through Ellis Island. Among them are *Isaac Asimov, Irving Berlin, Frank Capra, Max Factor, Felix Frankfurter, Cary Grant, Vladimir Horowitz, Lucky Luciano, Ayn Rand, Hyman Rickover, Knute Rockne and Henny Youngman.*

Upon closure in 1954, the buildings stood vacant and fell into a state of disrepair. Restoration of some of the structures began in the 1960's, after the island received landmark status and became a part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument. The island is now home to the Ellis Island National Museum of Immigration.

From 1998 to 2003 photographer *Stephen Wilkes* documented some of the still-sad conditions on the island with his photographs in a book entitled "*Ellis Island Ghosts*". See the Random Photography Topics column on page 6 for more information on Wilkes.

* When people leave their country to take up permanent residence in another country, they become **emigrants** and **immigrants**. They become **emigrants** upon leaving their homeland and **immigrants** upon arriving at their destination. - Ed

CLCC OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS

At the December club meeting the following club officers were re-elected to serve another term through December, 2018.

Al Popp - Co-President
Chuck Rasmussen - Co-President
Peter Pelke II - Vice President
Grace Moline - Treasurer

The position of club Secretary remains **open** at this time. Please contact Al or Chuck if you have a desire to serve in this position.

Thanks to all of them for their continued service. ☺

CLCC VP HANGIN' WITH A VIP

Club Vice President *Peter Pelke II* met up with 2017 Miss Illinois Teen *Rachel Hodson* at a recent Dole Center art show in Crystal Lake. Club member *Connie Sonnenberg* snapped this photo of them.



Peter Pelke II and Rachel Hodson

© 2017, Connie Sonnenberg

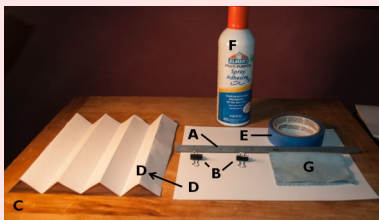
TIP OF THE MONTH

Submitted by: *Rich Bickham*

When I began entering our club competitions, I found the most difficult aspect (aside from taking a good photograph) to be mounting my photo on a mat. I spent a lot of time (and ruined a few prints along the way) trying to get thin, even borders and a well centered image on the mat, while not getting adhesive on the printed image. After several years of experimenting I have finally arrived at what I consider to be a fast, neat and relatively easy method which I thought I would share with you.

Here is what you will need (most items are shown beside list):

- 1 Good quality paper cutter (see bottom of right column)
- 1 Flat straight edge (A)
- 2 Small Binder Clips (B)
- 1 flat work surface (C)
- Printer paper - 24 lb. (D)
- Painter's tape (E)
- Newspaper sheets
- Acid-free spray adhesive (F)
- Lens cloth (G)

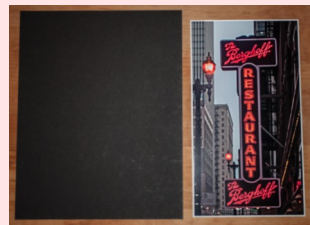


Here's my method:

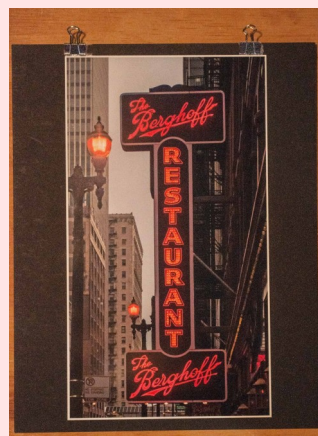
- 1) **Resize** the image so that the longest side is about an inch shorter than the longest mat dimension (i.e. 13" for an 11x14 mat).
- 2) **Print** the image and use the paper cutter to put a thin border (about 1/16 of an inch) around the image.
- 3) **Position** the paper clamps on the top of the narrow edge of the mat, pushed in until top of the clamps are against the edge.
- 4) **Add** the print by pushing it under the lips of the clamps. This will position the height of the print properly on the mat.
- 5) **Move** the print laterally until the width is positioned properly on the mat - I usually just "eyeball" this, but you can measure.
- 6) **Fold** the bottom clamp handles under the mat so they are flush with the back of the mat.
- 7) **Position** the straight edge along the left (or right) edge of the print, with the top extending just above the paper clamp. Affix the straight edge to the mat with the painter's tape at the top, center and bottom, being careful to not overlap the edge abutting the print.
- 8) **Fold** the printer paper into an accordion shape as shown above.
- 9) **Place** the folded paper on newspaper sheets (use a different work surface).
- 10) **Place** the print face down on the folded paper, so that all print edges extend over the sides of the folded paper but do not touch the newspaper.
- 11) **Position** the adhesive spray can nozzle about a foot above the center of the print. Spray left-right then up-down, always toward the edges of the print. The nozzle should never go beyond the print edges so the spray does not go under the printed image. Not much adhesive is needed, but try to cover the whole back surface of the print.
- 12) **Carefully lift** the print off the folded paper, thumb on top surface, two fingers on the printed side (but trying to touch only the border).
- 13) **Carry** it over to the mat and while holding it quite vertically, slide the top edge of the print under the lips of the paper

clamps and slide it laterally so it touches the straight edge. Only the print edge should be touching the mat during this step. Practice this step a few times without applying the adhesive spray until you are comfortable doing it.

- 14) **Using** the top print edge under the lip of the clamp as a "hinge" slowly lay the print down to allow it to adhere to the mat. The print edge should automatically align along the straight edge.
- 15) **Use** the lens cloth to gently tamp down the print onto the mat.
- 16) **Remove** the paper clamps and straight edge from the mat.



STEPS 1 & 2



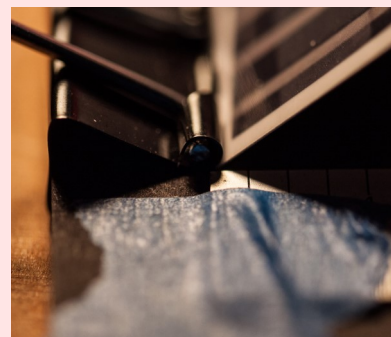
STEPS 3 to 5



STEPS 6 & 7



STEPS 8 to 10



STEP 13



RotaTrim® Mastercut II 20" Cutter

It's easier than it sounds.
Give it a try. ☺

DECEMBER COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to the following members who were winners in the December, 2017 CLCC and CACCA competitions:

Lyle Anderson:

"Denali in Clouds" - Large Monochrome - Honorable Mention
 "Contours" - Small Monochrome - Honorable Mention

Teresa Baber :

"Grafton Ghost Town" - Small Monochrome - Award
 & CACCA Award

Rich Bickham:

"Night Maid at the Hotel California" - DPI - Honorable Mention

Jeff Chemelewski:

"Adobe Chapel" Large Color - Honorable Mention

Norm Kopp:

"Broad-Winged Hawk" - DPI - Award & CACCA Award
 "Bad Hair Day" - Large Color - Award
 "Fenced In" - Large Monochrome - Honorable Mention
 "Caracara" - Small Color - Honorable Mention

Lance Lagoni:

"Declining Splendor" - Large Color - CACCA Honorable Mention
 "Out of My Way" - Individual Photojournalism - CACCA POM

Mike McGuigan:

"Vintage Feather Hat" - Small Color - Award & Print of the Month

Grace Moline:

"Timeless Jewel" - Small Color - Honorable Mention

Bob Popelka:

"Water, Water Everywhere" - Large Color - Honorable Mention

Al Popp:

"After the Rain" - DPI - Honorable Mention

Roger Willingham:

"Cell Block 11" - Small Monochrome - Honorable Mention

Sandra Wittman:

"No More Fires for Me" - Small Color - Award
 "Brooms" - Small Monochrome - Award
 "Two Gondolas at Rest" - Large Monochrome - Award
 & CACCA Award



(L to R) Teresa Baber, Sandra Wittman, Norm Kopp,
 Mike McGuigan & Lance Lagoni
 Photo by Roger Willingham

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

PRINT OF THE MONTH



Vintage Feather Hat

© 2017, Mike McGuigan



Judges John Hewitt (L) and Rob Kopecky (R) critique Bob Popelka's (C) photograph after the competition while other members listen in.
 Photo by Paul Litke

See **Winners**, Page 11

Winners, from Page 10



Night Maid at the Hotel California © 2017, Rich Bickham



After the Rain

© Al Popp

See **Winners 2**, Page 12

Winners 2, from Page 11



Timeless Jewel

© 2017, Grace Moline



Cell Block 11

© Roger Willingham

See Winners 3, Page 13

Winners 3, from Page 12



Contours

© 2006, Lyle Anderson



No More Fires for Me

© 2016, Sandra Wittman

See **Winners 4**, Page 14

Winners 4, from Page 13



Grafton Ghost Town

© Teresa Baber



Bad Hair Day

© 2014, Norm Kopp

See Winners 5, Page 15

Winners 5, from Page 14



Adobe Chapel

© 2007, Jeff Chemelewski



Lance Lagoni's winning images from the December competitions were not available . The image on the right is one of his winning images from the October, 2017 competition that was not previously in the newsletter.

Mystical Box

© Lance Lagoni



DECEMBER PHOTOBUG BREAKFAST



(L to R) Standing: Rich Bickham, Bob Popelka & Lois Shartag
Seated: Jim Petersen, Chuck Rasmussen & Karl Gabbey
Photo by Paul Litke



LINKS OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Sandy Wittman:

The year of 2017 was when we argued about the evidence in front of our eyes:

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-manseau-seeing-not-believing-20171210-story.html>

Submitted by Rich Bickham:

If you have trouble feeding your printer in the winter when your indoor environment becomes dry as you turn up your thermostat, check these tips out:

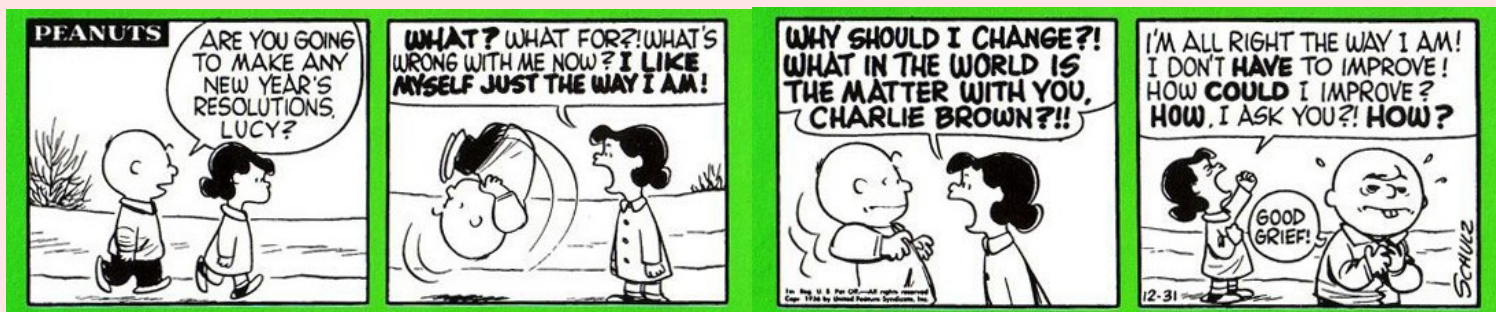
http://www.redrivercatalog.com/infocenter/tips/cold-weather-inkjetprinting.htmltrk_msg=GBN6C9NHAOVK56CP095GIO8VK4&trk_contact=A7U4F1IEAEU5SMJ0VDMJ235BQ8&trk_sid=GJIM8B995QFJN5A795ADADV98&utm_source=listrak&utm_medium=email&utm_term=Cold+Weather+Printing&utm_campaign=Paper+Curling%3f+Read+our+Cold+Weather+Printing+Article+%7c+Spark+Up+Your+Holiday+Photos!+%7c+Photo+Links



RESOLUTION HUMOR FOR THE NEW YEAR



NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL A GOOD NEW YEAR RESOLUTION !



What The Duck

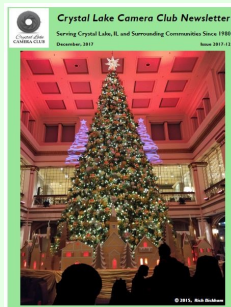


I RESOLVE TO LEARN HOW TO USE ALL OF THE ACCESSORIES AND FEATURES OF MY CAMERA.



READER FEEDBACK

December Issue:



Several readers commented on the "Iconic Photograph of a December Day in History" column about the terrible 1958 Our Lady of the Angels school fire.

Great NL – enjoyed your Random Topics and Iconic Photo. Also, recall 12/1/58 and how all the news feeds stayed with that story for quite some time.

Al Popp - Woodstock, IL

You just brought back the horror of that WGN coverage to me. I was in high school and glued to the TV. 59 years ago already! I wonder about all the families involved today.

Judy Jorgensen - Huntley, IL

Chicago PBS television station WTTW made the Emmy award winning documentary "Angels Too Soon" in 2003 about the tragic fire. It is one hour long, and narrated by the late Chicago journalist John Callaway (1936-2009). It includes interviews shortly before the making of the program with some of the students who escaped from the school that day. It is generally aired each year around the anniversary of the fire. It can be purchased on DVD directly from WTTW. - Ed

<http://interactive.wttw.com/a/chicago-stories-angels-too-soon>

Rich, you've outdone yourself yet again! Your newsletter is as good as any photography magazine and makes for very interesting reading, but without advertising or bias.

Paul Litke - Crystal Lake, IL

Send reader feedback to biggieman760@gmail.com . ☺

JANUARY SHOW & TELL CHALLENGES

" 2017 Moments to Remember "

OR

" Brrrr... "

Bring a thumb drive with up to 3 jpg files of your photographs on either theme (or any theme) to the January 2 meeting. ☺

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

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, and also send a copy to 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 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 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.

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

before the newsletter input deadline. ☺

SMALL GROUPS

Summary of CLCC Small Group activity in January, 2018:

Advanced Post Processing

Host: Maureen Harris - parcon129@gmail.com

Next Meeting*: Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 7:00 to 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

Substitute Host: Chris Raecker - chris@chrisraecker.com

Next Meeting*: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 7:00 to 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

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

Next Meeting*: TBD - Sometime the week of January 15, 2018

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

Lightroom

Host: Paul Minkus - pminkus@comcast.net

Next Meeting*: Thursday, January 25, 2018 - 7:00 to 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.

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. ☺



December Advanced Post Processing Meeting
(L to R) Chris Raecker, Doug Frey & Maureen Harris
Photo by Rich Bickham

NON-CLUB EVENTS & PHOTO-OPS

CHRISTMAS TREE WALK

Over 30 Decorated Christmas Trees on Display
Through Saturday, December 30 - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Woodstock Opera House
121 W. Van Buren St. (on the Square)
Woodstock, IL

ILLUMINATION

Colorful, Spectacular Tree, Shrub & Ground Lights
Now through Monday, January 1
4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. (Last admission 8:30 p.m.)
Youths 2-17 \$9, Adults 18-64 \$14, Seniors 65+ \$12
Morton Arboretum
4100 Illinois Route 53
Lisle, IL

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

Decorated Christmas Trees From Over 50 Countries
Live Holiday Performances
Now Through Sunday, January 7 - 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
5:30 p.m. Close December 26-30 & January 2-5
11:00 a.m. Open January 1
Museum of Science & Industry
5700 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL

INTERNATIONAL WINTER TOURNAMENT

Ski Jumping, Food & Drink
Saturday & Sunday - January 27 & 28
Noon to 4:00 p.m. (Gates open 11:00 a.m.)
Limited Parking
100 Ski Hill Rd.
Fox River Grove, IL

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



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



CALENDAR OF COMING CLUB EVENTS - JANUARY & FEBRUARY, 2018

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
January 2, 2018	6:15 - 7:00 p.m.	Home State Bank	Drop in early mentoring	1
January 2, 2018	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Home State Bank	CLCC January meeting - <i>Ken Farver - Action Photos</i>	1, 5
January 13, 2018	8:30 a.m.	Colonial Café	Saturday morning PhotoBug breakfast meeting	2
January 13, 2018	12:30 p.m.	Christian Church of Arlington Hts.	CACCA January Meeting & Competition	4
January 23, 2018			Deadline for February newsletter inputs	3
January 30, 2018			February newsletter distribution target date	
February 6, 2018	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Home State Bank	CLCC February meeting : <i>Competition Night</i>	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

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 .
- 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 or Royal Pitchford at rpitchford@live.com - you may be able to catch a ride.
- 5) See page 5 for more details.

[illegible]