

JULY, 2023

Crystal Lake Camera Club

Serving Crystal Lake, IL and Surrounding Communities Since 1980
crystallakecameraclub.com



Prairie Coneflowers at Boloria Meadows

by Doug Frey

from the Crystal Lake Camera Club Group Chat Facebook Page

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Tips and Snippets

Submitted by Judy Jorgensen, CLCC President

(Editor's Note: This will be a regular feature highlighting a few points that can "up your game." Everyone can learn from these ideas, whether a beginner or more experienced. Judy was given permission to use the information in "23 Photography Tips for Beginners in 2023" by Spencer Cox, published in [Photography Life](#). She will summarize a few tips each month.)

Work with Your Composition

- To take engaging photos you need to be engaged with what you're doing.
- Don't just take a snapshot, put some thought into your composition and try to make your photos as good as possible.
- Good photos start with knowing the basics of composition:
 - Don't cut off important parts of your subject – feet, tops of heads, tops of buildings, etc
 - Keep horizons level – especially bodies of water, tops of buildings, windows, etc.
 - Try to eliminate distractions – stray tree branches coming into frame, posts, signs, parts of vehicles, etc. by adjusting your position, focal length, placement of subject, etc.
- Good photos have a sense of balance and simplicity. If yours don't, keep shooting.
- Keep shooting anyway, walk around and try a different angle.



NIKON D800E + 24-70mm f/2.8 @ 24mm, ISO 400, 1/100, f/5.6.

Photo by Nasim Mansurov.

(Tips and Snippets, continued)

Use the Camera You Already Have

Camera gear is not all that important, as a general rule, as most of it these days is excellent. Granted, some gear is better suited for specific projects, but much more important are your creative skills and your knowledge of camera settings. Focus your effort on those, not on collecting camera equipment.



Taken with the Nikon Z50, an entry-level mirrorless camera

The Future of CLCC

Notes and News from June 13, 2023

Submitted by Gail Schulz, CLCC Treasurer

At the June meeting, fourteen members attended.

- There was a discussion about re-starting the small group meetings. Possible locations for the Saturday Morning Breakfast Groups include Burnt Toast on Randall Road in Algonquin, and Triple Berry Cafe, 435 Angela Lane, Crystal Lake. Karl Gabbey will check on Triple Berry Cafe.
- Linda Hope gave a demonstration on isolating an object in an iPhone image. Hold your finger on the object, and it will appear in your photo library without the background.
- Judy Jorgensen spoke about using different shutter speeds to photograph water, to give it a realist look or a smooth, silky appearance.
- Discussed the possible return to Home State Bank for meetings. Rich Bickham will check out the bank and its amenities.
- Peter Pelke presented Show & Tell images, and a Before & After comparison, sharing what processing he did.
- Karl Gabbey also presented Show & Tell Images.
- Judy Jorgensen brought photos printed on card stock and canvas, and a photo book to continue the previous discussion about what we do with our photos.
- Gail Schulz made a presentation of photos from South Africa and Botswana.
- Doug Frey shared information about the Land Conservancy of McHenry County. They currently are accepting entries to the 2023 photo contest. When you sign up to enter, you are assigned a location to photograph.
- There was a lively discussion centered about street photography, which led to the topic of photo rights.
- ISO was discussed and how that differs in film and digital images.
- If you have suggestions for group outings, please share them with the officers.
- Members were reminded to submit a photo of themselves for the group identification page that will be distributed to all members when complete.
- The next meeting is July 11, 7PM at the Algonquin Township Building, 3702 Northwest Hwy, Crystal Lake, in Meeting Room 2. Enter at the back of the building.

Good things are happening at CLCC -

We hope to see many more of you at our next meeting!

It's time to pay CLCC dues for 2023. Dues are \$25.00 for the year (such a deal!). Please give a check to our treasurer, Gail Schulz, or mail it to:

**Crystal Lake Camera Club
PO Box 2193
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-2193**

IMAGES POSTED ON THE CLCC FACEBOOK GROUP CHAT PAGE

*Editor's Note: CLCC has a **group chat** page on FaceBook where you can freely post images that you'd like to share. Only page members can see who's in the group and what is posted. Here's the direct link to the page and a QR Code to scan. [CLCC Group Chat FB Page](#)*



The Star Of The Show
by Gail Schulz



Just A Weed (Prairie Clover)
by Gail Schulz

IMAGES POSTED ON THE CLCC FACEBOOK GROUP CHAT PAGE

*Mamma Wren At Feeding Time*

By Doug Frey



IMAGES POSTED ON THE CLCC FACEBOOK GROUP CHAT PAGE



Curtiss JN-4D 'Jenny'

by Ken Farver

Ken's comment about this image: *I received a phone call that this plane was going to fly from the museum in Poplar Grove to Galt Airport for their Barnstormer's Day.*

I didn't get ready in time to use a slow enough shutter speed on the 600mm lens to blur the propellor, but the wooden propellor sure looks nice, doesn't it?

More about the plane here: [**The 'Jenny' Project**](#)



Small chapel on the Island of Mykonos in the Aegean Sea

by Steven Szalaj

GALLERIES, STORIES AND VIDEOS ON THE WEB

Lisl Steiner, Photographer Who Glimpsed Luminaries Up Close, Dies at 95

Lisl Steiner was a flamboyant photojournalist with the moxie to stand up to autocrats; she captured the intimate moments of leading figures of the 20th century. She was known for capturing luminaries of the 20th century in unguarded moments backstage, in hotel rooms, in limousines and on city streets. There are more samples of her work at www.lislsteiner.com

If You Don't Have a Mirrorless Camera (or Want a New One) Watch This Video

Pentax has been making diligent efforts to keep DSLRs alive, but there's no doubt that the rest of the photo industry has shifted to mirrorless cameras—likely for good. This article gives an exploration of what you need to know before you make the switch (or even if you have...). It also addresses what you might be up against if you don't make the switch.

Winging It: Photograph Garden Birds On A Budget

With a little forethought, patience, and perseverance, you can transform your own back garden into a haven to photograph wild birds, on a budget, providing you with endless photographic opportunities all year round, says author Ben Hall.

Stunning Seaweed Prints Capture Life Underwater

Free diver Oriana Poindexter creates cyanotypes of kelp collected off the California coast. When she first moved to San Diego in 2013, the ample kelp forests that lined the coast were somewhat of a hindrance. The peaceful glide of her longboard along the waves often came to an abrupt halt when her trailing leash became entangled in the thick seaweed beneath the swell. The kelp forest was abundant, dense with tall trees, flourishing with sea life. In time, the kelp would become the central focus of not only her passions, but also her career path.

Paul McCartney's photos of early Beatlemania are in a book and on display in London

*A famous moment in music history is now visible from a different angle. Any capsule history of rock music, or pop music, or the 1960's will include the Beatles' arrival in the United States in early 1964. The images are all familiar — young men with bowl haircuts (that they'd later grow out) and businesslike suits (which they'd later trade for more exotic sixties fashions) and their catchy hit songs (which they'd later make weirder and more psychedelic), and the screaming fans (who would remain about the same for decades). What's different about the photos in Paul McCartney's book *1964: Eyes of the Storm* is the point of view of the photographer: McCartney himself.*

CRYSTAL LAKE CAMERA CLUB OFFICERS

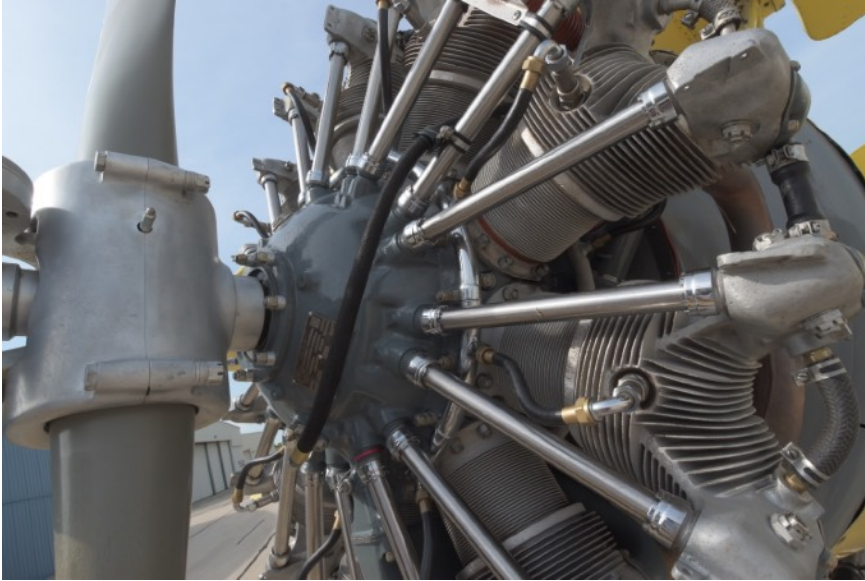
See The Club Directory For Contact Information

Co-Presidents	(POSITION OPEN) Judy Jorgensen
Secretary	Kim Walkup
Treasurer	Gail Schulz

YOUR IDEAS MATTER!

Do you have a story, images, trip, post-processing technique, event, etc. that would be good for Camera Club members to know about? Your submissions will make this newsletter valuable! Write it up, and send it to **[Steven Szalaj](#)**, Newsletter Editor at the email address in the club directory. Please make your submission by the 22nd of the month.

BEFORE & AFTER FROM THE JUNE MEETING

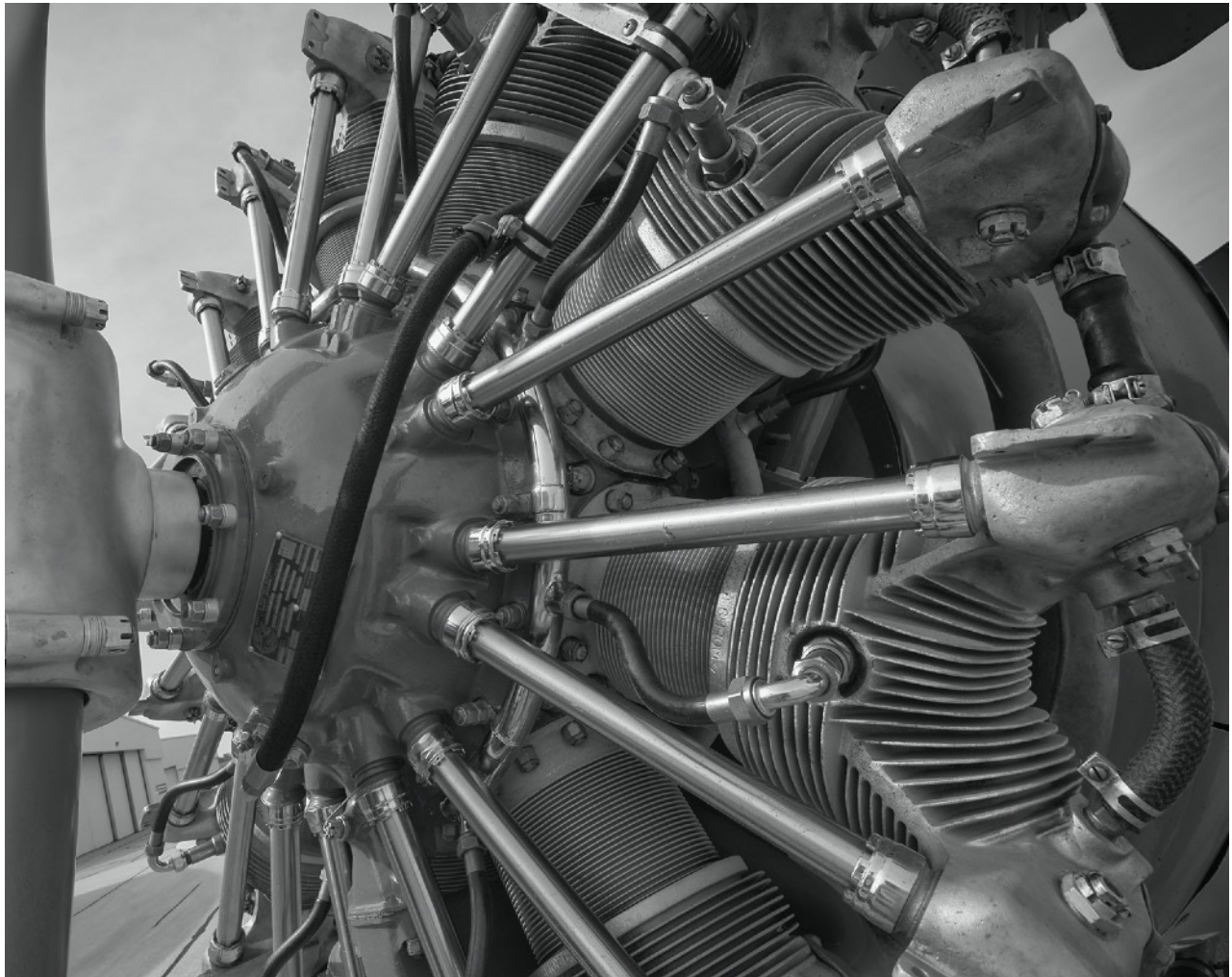


Aircraft Engine

by Peter Pelke

Edited version below, cropped and sized for an 8x10 print

Edited in NIK (www.dxo.com) in the Silver EFX Pro plugin for Photoshop Elements



SHOW & TELL FROM THE JUNE MEETING



Great Blue Heron
by Peter Pelke

Infrared image processed in NIK
in Silver EFX Pro plugin for
Photoshop Elements



The Park Bench
by Peter Pelke

Infrared image processed in NIK
in Silver EFX Pro plugin for
Photoshop Elements

Morton Arboretum Sculpture Show



Mind Eye (2015) by Olga Ziemska
Locally reclaimed wood logs, metal armature Permanent Outdoor Sculpture
RespirArt Sculpture Park, Dolomite Mountains, Italy

Of the Earth

Now Open!

Five large-scale sculptures by Polish American artist Olga Ziemska will be created exclusively for a new exhibition at The Morton Arboretum, **Of the Earth**.

The exhibition will explore the artist's expression and philosophy that, she says, "We are nature." Ziemska said that her aim is to remind people that "everything in life is derived from the same basic elements that form everything in nature, including ourselves. There is no separation." In Polish, Ziemska means "of the earth."

The artist's work will be created from reclaimed tree branches and other natural materials gathered from various locations throughout the Arboretum's 1,700 acres. "I am giving reclaimed natural materials a new life and transforming them from nature into new forms," Ziemska said.



Stillness in Motion (2002) by Olga Ziemska
Locally reclaimed willow branches, wire, metal
armature
Centre of Polish Sculpture, Chapel Gallery,
Oronsko, Poland

TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOW YOUR IMAGES

4th FRIDAYS AT STARLINE

300 W. Front Street

Harvard IL 60033

815-943-4805

4th Friday Event: July 28, 2023

Submission Deadline: Monday, July 17 at 11:59 PM

Fee to Enter: \$25 for 3 Pieces

<https://starlinefactory.com/call-for-art-2/>

The optional theme for July is “Family & Friends.” Themes are not required for participation or awards.

Awards available for the juried show include:

- Best of Show (Art or Photography) \$50 Cash Prize and Starline Medal
- 1st Place for Art (any Artwork but Photography) \$25 Starline Gift Card and Starline Medal
- 1st Place for Photography (any Photography) \$25 Starline Gift Card and Starline Medal
- People’s Choice (Art or Photography) \$25 Starline Gift Card and Starline Medal
- Judge’s Option Honorable Mention (Art or Photography) \$20 Starline Gift Card

Click here for the **SUBMISSION APPLICATION**

Click here for the **PROSPECTUS**

Click here for directions on **HOW TO ENTER ART INTO THE STARLINE 4TH FRIDAY ART EVENT**



4th FRIDAYS ART EVENT AT THE DOLE

401 Country Club Rd

Crystal Lake, IL 60014

815-347-8535

4th Friday Event: July 28, 2023

Submission Deadline for the July 28 Event: Sunday, July 16, by midnight

Non-refundable submission fee: \$35 for up to 5 pieces

Cash Awards:

- Best of Show: \$100 cash, a Featured Artist Solo Show in a 4th Fridays 2023 event.
- Nancy Merklings Choice: \$50 cash
- 4th Fridays Team Choice: \$50 cash
- 3 Honorable Mentions: \$50 cash each
- People’s Choice Award: \$50 cash

Click here for the **PROSPECTUS**

McHenry County Land Conservancy

Art of the Land Amateur Photography Contest

<https://conservemc.org/photo-contest/>

The Land Conservancy of McHenry County (TLC) hosts the Art of the Land Amateur Photography Contest each year to highlight the inspiring natural landscapes found throughout McHenry County.

Once you sign up TLC will match you with a site and send notifications on what's blooming around the county, tips and tricks for taking winning photos, and which invasive species are in bloom that should NOT be photographed.

The contest is open now, and entries must be received on or before Sunday, October 9, 2023. There is a \$10 entry fee. The winning photos will be announced and showcased at the 2023 Art of the Land event in November.

The contest is open to all amateur photographers. "Amateur" here is defined as earning less than a maximum of \$2,000 annually from photographic work. Those under 17 years of age must have permission from a parent in writing.

At this link, there are images of the 2022 winners, and links to purchase all previous image catalogs.

CLUB MEETING CALENDAR

All meetings start at 7PM and are at the Algonquin Township Building, 3702 Northwest Hwy, Crystal Lake in **Meeting Room 2**. Enter at the back of the building.

July 11	Member Presentations Show & Tell, Before & After
August 8	TBA
September 12	TBA
October 10	Competition

CLCC SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Newsletter Editor	<u>Steven Szalai</u>	Publicity	OPEN
Webmaster	Sandy Wittman	Competition Chairman	Rich Bickham
CACCA Delegate 1	Lance Lagoni	Competition Assistant	John Williams
CACCA Delegate 2	OPEN	Competition Assistant	Ernie Hagenow
Education	Peter Pelke II	Small Groups	Maureen Harris
Advisor	David Jilek	Outings	OPEN
Advisor	Jim Pierce	Refreshments	Larry Swanson
Facebook Administrator	Scott Migaldi	Librarian	OPEN
Membership	OPEN	Mentor Program	Paul Minkus