

MARCH, 2023

Crystal Lake Camera Club

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



Lapland January Sun
by CLCC Member Larry Swanson

EXPLORE THIS ISSUE

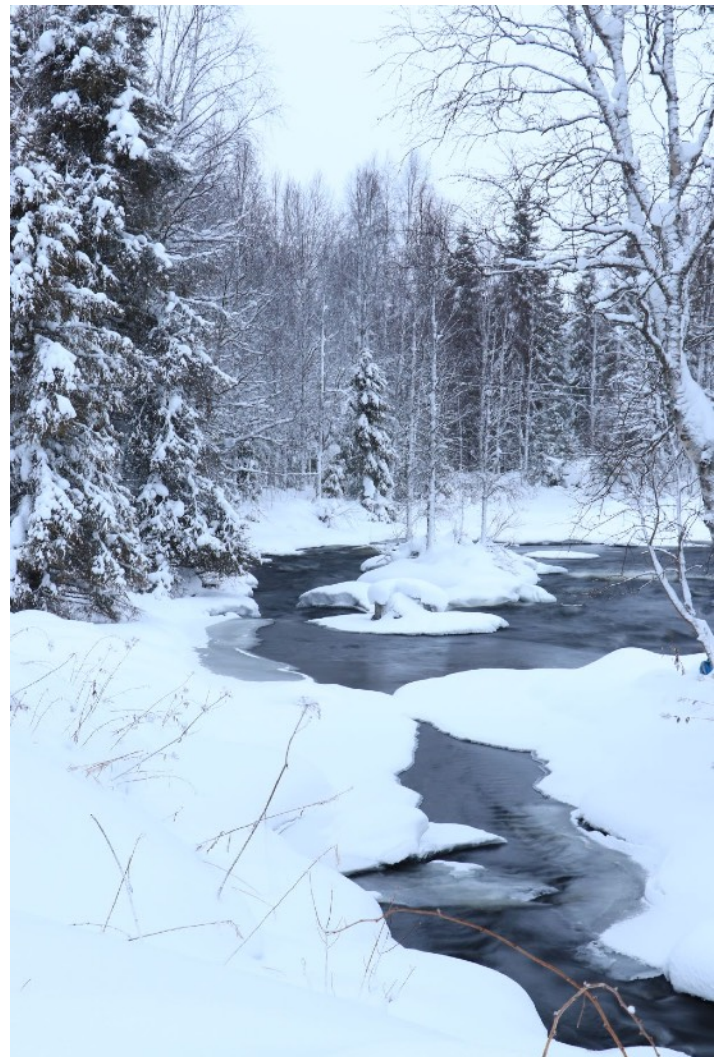
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IMAGES FROM FEBRUARY 2023 SHOW & TELL



Lapland River and Mill

DPI Color by Larry Swanson



Lapland Open Water Stream

DPI Color by Larry Swanson

IMAGES FROM FEBRUARY 2023 SHOW & TELL



Lone Capybara
DPI Color by Scott Larsen



Crowded Den (Otters)
DPI Color by Scott Larsen



Odd Beast (Tapir)
DPI Color by Scott Larsen

IMAGES FROM FEBRUARY 2023 SHOW & TELL



*Cana Island
Breaking Waves*

DPI Color
by Rich Bickham



Spare Change, DPI Color by Rich Bickham



*Juneau Whale
Watching Scene
(Sea Lion)*

DPI Color by Rich
Bickham

IMAGES FROM FEBRUARY 2023 SHOW & TELL



Short-Eared Owl
DPI Color by Ken Farver



Short-Eared Owl
DPI Color by Ken Farver

The Future of CLCC

Notes and News from February 14, 2023

Submitted by Steve Szalaj

The CLCC met in-person on February 14, 2023, at the Algonquin Township building with 15 people in attendance. We had two new members join the club! A hearty welcome to Tom Hughes and Branda Vodicka. We hope you enjoy being a part of CLCC!

There was no competition this month; there were not enough entries. The next competition is for the April meeting. Please consider submitting images! Guidelines for the competition are on **Page 13**.

Action follow-up:

- **CLCC Facebook page:** Judy requested that members please post one image a week if you can to make the page more active. Photos do not have to be “perfect.” In fact, kind feedback on how a photo can be made better would help those of us less experienced.
- If you have not paid your \$25 for 2023 club member dues, please contact Gail Schulz, the CLCC Treasurer, at Gail.Schulz@gmail.com. The member list is being updated.
- **We are in need of another Co-President.** Please consider helping the CLCC move forward by being part of the club leadership.
- **Suggestions** for small groups, club activities & meeting topics? Let your officers know!

Show and Tell: This month’s *Show and Tell* had submissions from six members, with excellent discussions about the images.

- Scott Larsen: Crowded Den, Lone Capybara, Odd Beast
- Rich Bickham: coins, seal, island shore in Door County
- Ken Farver: two photos of owls in flight
- Judy Jorgensen: Farm wagon in the UP, the wagon in B&W, the wagon in the fog, Lake Superior sunrise in the UP
- Tom Esser: Star barn, Blooming Gardens, three tulips, barn with truck, Lake Geneva boat pier
- Larry Swanson: Lapland river & mill, Lapland January sun, open water stream, frosty, cozy cabin

There were two discussions at this meeting:

Discussion #1: Getting prints of your photos. See the related story on **Page 9**.

Discussion #2: Editing vs. “getting it right in the camera” - Judy shared a metaphor that she had read regarding this. She said it was like creating a meal: All the ingredients are in your kitchen, you take those ingredients and create a delicious meal. When you take a photo, the “ingredients” are all there in the file; you use post-processing to create a beautiful image. Rich also shared some *Before and After* images, and listed the post-processing steps that he used in each image.

The next in-person meeting is the Second Tuesday of the month:

- March 14, 2023, 7 pm - **Show & Tell** and **Before & After** (see description on Page)
- Show and Tell - submit up to 3 JPG images to Rich (richbickham@comcast.net) by **Thurs., March 9**
- Before & After - submit JPG images to Rich (richbickham@comcast.net) by **Thurs., March 9**
 - See information about participating in this activity in ***Before & After*** on **Pages 7-8**.
- Tom Esser is going to set up a Photo Booth to take member pictures for our club roster.
- Algonquin Township Building, 3702 Northwest Highway, Crystal Lake
- **NOTE: This month we are in Meeting Room #1** - enter at the rear of the building, not the front door
- Newsletters are emailed monthly and also posted on the website.

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

Before & After

An opportunity to show how you enhance your images with post-processing

Submitted by Steve Szalaj, Newsletter Editor

At the last two meetings, we have had club members Judy Jorgensen and Rich Bickham talk about some of the post-processing work they have done with their photos. We are inviting any club members who are willing to share their post-processing ideas to do the same.

This can be done in two ways. You can submit the original image and the finished image, and prepare a short narrative about the changes you made and why. Judy did this, and then, at my request, made an article that was published in the February 2023 newsletter.

You can also do as Rich did at the February 2023 meeting. He prepared PowerPoint slides with the original and finished images. He included a text list under the finished image with the processing steps. Here are four examples from Rich's presentation:



- 1) Change Vertical Perspective
- 2) Crop out right House & Biker
- 3) Lighten Shadows
- 4) Clear lettering on pavement
- 5) Remove Speed Limit sign



- 1) Change Vertical Perspective
- 2) Brighten
- 3) Crop & Rotate
- 4) Other



- 1) Brighten
- 2) Crop
- 3) Crop & Rotate
- 4) Pull back branches slightly
- 5) Saturate sky & contrast clouds
- 6) Remove car traffic



- 1) Created separate layer of window
- 2) Filled layer using wall color
- 3) Saturated and brightened color

We would like other club members to share a *Before & After* at the March 14 meeting. Submit both your original, unedited image, and your post-processed image. Then, at the meeting, tell us what software you used, and what you did to enhance your image.

Before & After JPG images must be sent to Rich Bickham (richbickham@comcast.net) by **Thursday, March 9, 2023**.

We need your participation - let's make this new opportunity for participation a valuable experience for all!

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**

Print Labs

Submitted by Doug Frey

Here are six (6) professional photo print services that will consistently provide great results and give you quality images that you can share with customers, loved ones, or keep for yourself. All of the companies offer many media and paper types, metal, acrylic, canvas, and photo-books.

1. Nations Photo Lab

- Always ranked high on list of best photo labs

2. Printique (was Adoramapix)

- High end professional printing
- Premium service at an affordable price

3. MPix

- Very good quality, and good reviews
- Great customization
- A bit pricy

4. Bay Photo

- Great balance between price and quality
- Great customer support and packaging is top-notch, but slightly higher in cost.

5. Shutterfly

- Best Budget and more consumer oriented rather than professional.

I only have experience with *Costco* and *Printique*. *Costco* was about 20% cheaper than *Printique*. I now see that *Costco* is transferring their photo processing to *Shutterfly*. *Costco* members will receive 51% off every *Shutterfly* order plus free shipping on orders over \$49. I am very satisfied with *Printique*, had paper prints, metal prints, photo-books and framed photos.

CLUB MEETING CALENDAR

All meetings start at 7PM and are at the Algonquin Township Building, 3702 Northwest Hwy, Crystal Lake in **Meeting Room 1 (March Only)**. Enter at the back of the building.

March 14

Show & Tell - submit up to 3 JPG images to Rich (richbickham@comcast.net) by **Thursday, March 9**
Before & After - See information on Page

April 11

Competition (see guidelines on [Page 13](#))

May 9

Member Presentations about how they are using their photos

The Best Photographer In The World

It could be you!

Text & Photography By Ken Kaminesky

from Outdoor Photographer, March 2023 Issue



Unstad Beach – Vestvågøy, Norway

By Ken Kaminesky

Photography is an art, not a sport. There's no winning at photography, and no one should be keeping score. This is my belief, and I've stuck to it my whole career. I've never entered a photography competition or contest, and I never will. Don't get me wrong; I find nothing wrong with photographers who see merit in entering competitions. I think shooting for a contest can be an excellent exercise in developing your talent. Being competitive isn't something I feel helps me grow as I'm my worst critic and always think I can do better.

Art is subjective, and it cannot be given a grade. You can like or dislike a photograph and have favorite images that move you for different reasons, but I don't see how you can give a picture a numeric score.

(The Best Photographer In The World, continued)

Yes, you could judge a photo on technical criteria such as composition, use of color, framing, sharpness and lighting. These points are all excellent for improving your technique. However, what about the subjective elements of a photo like humor, creativity, originality and emotional response? Everyone feels different in different ways, and no two people will react similarly to how a photograph moves them.

So, as you can see, I'm sitting on both sides of this fence. On the one hand, I enjoy seeing entries to photo contests and have been a judge in several of these contests over the years. On the other hand, I just want photography to be done for the love of it and not to feed anyone's ego or to keep score.

For those of you who participate in these photography competitions, I'd urge you to also look at getting your work critiqued by other photographers whose work you love. It isn't always easy to listen to someone as they tell you that you could improve your art and technique, but it can offer you a creative epiphany from someone you respect. While you won't get bragging rights out of a critique, your prize is a potential forward step in the evolution of your craft, and it may even help you win that next contest you enter.

Remember to always have as much fun as possible with your photography. To me, this should be the goal with anything creative. If something you do brings joy into your life, you're more likely to keep doing that thing.

I'm often asked who I think is the best photographer in the world, and my answer is always the same: The one having the most fun.

Photo Opportunity: Chicago Botanic Garden Orchid Show

The Orchid Show: Magnified

Now – March 26, Daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m

Adults: \$7/\$19; Children age 3–12: \$5/\$14; Free for children age 2 and under

<https://www.chicagobotanic.org/orchid/tickets>

A 25-foot-wide orchid. Huge hanging columns of color. And a chance to step in and become part of the bloom. This year's all-new Orchid Show is big, bold, and beautiful. Expect the unexpected and explore the brighter side of winter at the Orchid Show: Magnified.

Nonmembers: Your Orchid Show ticket includes admission to the Garden; parking not included. Free Garden admission days do not include Orchid Show tickets.

Members: If you have complimentary, one-time use Orchid Show tickets, don't forget to bring them! Entry is subject to availability; best availability on weekdays. Members may buy tickets at a discounted rate.

Photographers Hour: Tuesdays, February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 2023, 8:15 – 9:45 a.m.

Tripods and monopods allowed; no screens or backdrops please. Regular parking and Garden admission fees apply for nonmembers; capacity is limited.

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

Opens May 26, 2023

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

GALLERIES, STORIES AND VIDEOS ON THE WEB

NYT Photographers in Ukraine on the Images They Can't Forget

In a year of war, New York Times photographers have reported from the front line, from cities and villages and in the footsteps of refugees. These pictures stayed with them.

Ten Of The Best Wildlife Photographers To Follow

It's never easy to photograph wildlife in its natural habitat. It can take an entire day of waiting just to catch a glimpse of an elusive animal. And if it catches you unaware, there's the chance you miss it or don't get the frame you wanted. These ten wildlife photographers have some impressive skills to showcase. Check out their interviews with [The Phoblographer](#).

8 Famous Photos and the Cameras They Were Captured On

From [Gizmodo.com](#): Some of the human race's most daring, heartbreaking, and emotional moments have been captured on film as lessons and reminders of things to come. As we are a tech website, let us walk down memory lane and revisit some of history's most famous photographs and the cameras they were taken on.

The icy patience of an Arctic photographer

Award-winning French photographer and filmmaker Florian Ledoux has spent the last two winters on the Arctic sea ice, filming iconic scenes for the BBC's nature documentary series "Frozen Planet" and the Disney film "Polar Bear" among others. Driven by a passion to preserve nature, his extraordinary aerial photography has earned him awards such as the 2018 Siena International Photo Awards drone photographer of the year and Nature TTL's photographer of the year in 2020.

In Pictures: Historic Photographer of the Year 2022

The website [HistoryHit.com](#) has a Historic Photographer of the Year contest. In 2022, they received over 1,200 entries from professional and amateur photographers alike. The shortlisted entries ranged from beautiful cathedrals bathed in sunlight to stunning ancient desert temples.

GET READY FOR THE APRIL COMPETITION!

Our next intra-club competition will take place for the April 11, 2023 meeting. Here's what you need to know:

- Only DPI images (JPG) will be accepted for entry (no prints).
- No more than 2 Color images and 4 Mono images per entrant.
- Maximum JPG image size is 1400 pixels wide x 1050 pixels high.
- **The deadline for jpg entries is Sunday, March 26.**
- Entries must be sent to [**richbickham@comcast.net**](mailto:richbickham@comcast.net) by March 26.
- The judges will be emailed the images on Tuesday, March 28 and will have one week to score the images.
- The judges' scores will be submitted to Rich by Tuesday, April 4.
- The scores will be tallied and the results will be presented at the Tuesday, April 11 meeting. Images and scores will be discussed by anyone who cares to comment.

TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOW YOUR IMAGES

4th FRIDAYS AT STARLINE

300 W. Front Street
Harvard IL 60033
815-943-4805

4th Friday Event: March 24, 2023

Submission Deadline: Monday, March 13 at 11:59 PM

Fee to Enter: \$25 for 3 Pieces

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

The optional theme for March is “Lucky Charms.” 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**



4th FRIDAYS ART EVENT AT THE DOLE

401 Country Club Rd
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
815-347-8535

4th Friday Event: March 24, 2023

Submission Deadline for the March 24 Event: Sunday, March 12, 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**

6X6 PROJECT ART AUCTION AND FUNDRAISER

Raue Center's **6×6 PROJECT** fundraiser and online art auction & exhibition celebrates its fifth year of supporting arts with Art! All proceeds benefit Raue Center's fine arts education programs, Mission Imagination (MI) and Raue Center School For The Arts (RSCA), which have been enriching the lives of over 20,000 kids a year in the local community since 2001.

Artists of all ages and abilities are invited to participate by creating original works of art, in a variety of mediums, on 6×6" canvases. Since our inaugural event in 2019, 6×6 Project has raised over \$50,000 for MI and RCSA with canvases coming from around the nation!



All artwork submitted to the **6×6 PROJECT** will be available for viewing and bidding online at Auctria.com starting June 5, 2023. Artists and the public are cordially invited to our reception on June 24, 2023 from 5:30-8 pm to mix, mingle and bid on your favorite pieces!

Create a mini-masterpiece and support the arts in your community!

Several of our CLCC members have participated in this event. It is a good way to get your images seen by a public that loves art, and you are supporting an arts venue right here in McHenry County. Entering is easy! Complete instructions are at the [**6x6 PROJECT WEBSITE**](#).

Purchase one or two 6" X 6" canvases from the project partners (listed on the website and the links below) for \$5 per canvas. You must use these official canvases. Mount or print an image on the canvas and drop your artwork off by May 6, 2023. All artwork submitted to the 6×6 PROJECT will be available for viewing online and can be bid on in an online auction starting June 6, 2023. All auction proceeds go to education programs at the Raue. On June 24, 2023 will be an artists's reception at the Raue Center that is free and open to the public.

[Click here for Participation Guidelines](#)

[Click here for Participation Form](#)

PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS:

Out of the Box – 71 N. Williams Street | Crystal Lake, IL | (815) 444-7446

Brush Studio – 121 W. Main Street | Cary, IL | (847) 516-3880

Creative Arts Inc. – 400 Highland Avenue | Crystal Lake, IL | (815) 219-9243

Material Things – 103 E. Van Buren | Woodstock, IL | (815) 575-9710

Piano Trends – 35 Berkshire Dr | Crystal Lake, IL | (815) 477-4266

Reprographics – 26 Crystal Lake Plaza | Crystal Lake, IL | (815) 477-1018

Raue Center For The Arts – 26 N. Williams St | Crystal Lake, IL | (815) 356-9212 | Tu – Fr, 2 to 4 pm

SUPPORT THE ARTS WITH ART!

CRYSTAL LAKE CAMERA CLUB OFFICERS

See The Club Directory For Contact Information

Co-Presidents	(POSITION OPEN) <u>Judy Jorgensen</u>
Secretary	<u>Kim Walkup</u>
Treasurer	<u>Gail Schulz</u>

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.**

CLCC SUPPORT PERSONNEL

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

