

APRIL, 2024

Crystal Lake Camera Club

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



Grand Canyon

Color Image by CLCC Member Jeff Chemelewski

Shown at the March 2024 Meeting - see related story, Pg. 2

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SHOW & TELL IMAGES FROM MARCH 2024



Grand Canyon

Color Image by Jeff Chemelewski

About this image, and the cover image, Jeff said, *“These photos were taken at the Grand Canyon well after sunset. Even though your eye may not pick out the colors, a good camera sensor certainly will and it is at this time when the colors really pop and become saturated. Of course all tourists are well and gone by then. The problem is your lens need to be manually focused and you need to know where a particular lens is sharpest at infinity. This is usually not at the far left. Also, ISO settings may be 5,000 or higher but in post processing, Topaz software is amazing in removing grain. After Camera RAW and Photoshop processing, I like Luminar software for a little extra oomph if needed.”*

Paria Canyon, Utah

Color Image by
Jeff Chemelewski

“This landscape is at Paria Canyon in Utah and for this I used focus stacking. This involves taking a series of images with each one set a a slightly farther focus point. Most better cameras now do this automatically. I then use Helicon software in post processing to put all images together. The advantage is being able to use an f stop of around f 8-f 10, which is generally the area of your lens where sharpness is greatest. This is really only needed if you plan on making quite large prints, otherwise f 16 focused 1/3 into your scene does a decent job.”



SHOW & TELL IMAGES FROM MARCH 2024



Bryce Canyon Sunrise

Color Image by
Jeff Chemelewski

“This landscape was early morning at Bryce Canyon. Here, the light gradient was extreme so light bracketing may be necessary. I would bracket for a total of 5 exposures, each 2 stops apart. In post processing, all images are merged to get detail in highlighted areas and shadows. I do find my Nikon’s sensor has a tremendous range so I try not to use HDR if possible but on this image, I found it necessary.”

Morning Breakfast Meeting – Everyone invited!

Please join your CLCC friends for the casual, monthly Saturday morning breakfast meeting. Lively discussions, good food! The next one will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024, 8:30 a.m. at

Buttered Toast Restaurant, 2520 Bunker Hill Dr, Algonquin.

Join the **Crystal Lake Camera Club Group Chat** on FaceBook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/446897199179146> or scan this QR Code:

This is a closed group, so only members have access. Request membership through the page. Then, post your favorite images, join in the discussions, share information about photo outings, speakers, contests, etc.

Only group members will see your posts.



BEFORE & AFTER FROM MARCH 2024



Color Image by
Jeff Chemelewski

“After processing my RAW file with Camera RAW, Photoshop and Topaz to remove noise, I simply took my end Tiff file and in Photoshop, tried it in B&W. I then use the sliders that manipulate the various colors to see how they affect the final B&W image. For example, sliding the blue and cyan colors will give a very dark to black sky, which was done to this photo. Likewise, adjusting yellow lightened up some of the rock.

The bottom image is simply converting the Tiff file to black and white to see if it creates a stronger image. In this particular photo, I like the B&W so much better.”



Monochrome Image by
Jeff Chemelewski

THE MOUNTAINTOP CHRIST THE REDEEMER STATUE CRADLES THE MOON IN RIO DE JANEIRO

Submitted by Judy Jorgensen, CLCC President

From a story found at:

<https://www.thisiscolossal.com/2023/06/leonardo-sens-christ-the-redeemer/>

Since the early 20th century, the massive Christ The Redeemer statue has stood at the tip of the Corcovado mountain, spreading his arms and overlooking Rio de Janeiro. Scaling nearly 40 meters from the base of its pedestal to the top of the figure's head, the art deco sculpture is a landmark in Tijuca National Park and a busy destination for tourists. Brazilian photographer Leonardo Sens has also set his sights on the cultural icon in recent years, hoping to catch a glimpse of the moon perfectly nestled within Christ's hands.

After three years of observing celestial patterns and tracking the satellite's position, Sens successfully captured the sought-after shot on June 4. According to PetaPixel, he positioned himself on Icaraí Beach, which is about seven miles from the statue, and photographed the moon just as it passed behind the figure, who appears to hold the glowing orb in his outstretched palms in an act of divine alignment.

Sens frequently documents the skies and natural landscapes, and you can find more of his work on Instagram.



Tips and Snippets

Submitted by Judy Jorgensen, CLCC President

from: Resources for Landscape Photographers, Abrieta Hope, Landscape Photograph Workshops

1. PHOTO GEAR

- ReallyRightStuff.com - tripods, tripod heads, pano gear, etc.
- BHphotovideo.com - cameras, printers, lenses, etc.
- adorama.com - wide range of gear, similar to B&H Photo
- Singh-Ray.com - variable neutral density and other filters
- fstopgear.com - camera backpacks, including the Kashmir (designed for women)

2. PHOTO SOFTWARE

- adobe.com - Photoshop, Lightroom, Photoshop Elements, etc.
- NikCollection.dxo.com - Nik Effects Collection for post processing including noise reduction, HDR, black & white, color/contrast, etc.
- HeliconSoft.com - Helicon Focus stacking
- HDRSoft.com - Photomatix HDR
- skylum.com - Luminar software
- TopazLabs.com - including special effects, noise reduction, color/contrast enhancement

3. PHOTO PRINTING SERVICES

- MillersLab.com - metal prints, canvas wraps, traditional prints
- CanvasOnDemand.com/professional - Pro gallery wraps of all sizes
- BayPhoto.com - metal prints in all sizes, acrylic prints, traditional prints

4. INSECT REPELLENT CLOTHING

- ExOfficio.com
- LLBean.com
- Craghoppers.com (men & women's clothing pre-treated with Permethrin)
- InsectShield.com - Sells treated clothing or will treat your own if you send it to them.

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.

April 9	This meeting will be in Room 1 . Competition (Entry deadline has past) Show & Tell, Before & After
May 14	Show & Tell, Before & After
June 11	TBA

Show & Tell and **Before & After** have provided some lively, informative conversations for CLCC attendees. Great suggestions for outings and club offerings have come from these activities.

For Show & Tell: submit 3-4 JPG images to Rich Bickham (richbickham@comcast.net) on the **Sunday before the meeting** date.

For Before & After: submit *pairs of JPG images* to Rich Bickham (richbickham@comcast.net) on the **Sunday before the meeting** date. The pairs would include the image as it came out of the camera and the image after post-processing. Be prepared to tell (and perhaps even show) the changes that were made.

The Future of CLCC

Notes and News from March 12, 2024

Submitted by Kim Walkup

Twenty-three members attended this meeting.

Willard Clay was our invited guest speaker for the meeting. He likes shooting landscapes and Illinois prairies like Springbrook Prairie in DuPage County. He also likes to go to less known spots in Wisconsin. He talked about the following:

- What makes a great photograph stand out?
 - Great photographs touch our humanity and “make us feel something”
 - Shoot reality and make it memorable
 - Examples:
 - Ansel Adams Half Dome – Revolutionized B&W photography. Currently has over ½ billion views
 - Mesa Arch Canyonlands in Utah
- What converts a picture to a photograph?
 - Enhancing accent is something that is not integral to the composition but elevates the photograph
 - Enhancing accent has two types 1) Color and 2) Structural
- Still photographs
 - Great composition and light
 - Authenticity and tell a story of subject
 - Timeless
 - Examples:
 - Steve McCurry, National Geographic photographer, Afghan Girl
 - Raghubir Singh – India photograph of red bus seen through red car window
 - Sebastiao Salgado – men in boats in fog
 - Clyde Butcher - Everglades
- A good photograph will make you feel something inside
- Great staged photographs are in the eyes of the person being photographed, an expression or gesture
 - Steve McCurry, National Geographic photographer, Afghan Girl
 - Dorothea Lange – Great Depression
 - Phillippe Halsman – Albert Einstein
 - Irving Penn – Truman Capote
 - Yousuf Karsh – Churchill
 - Richard Avedon – Nastassja Kinski with snake
- A decisive (defining) moment
 - Yousuf Karsh – Humphrey Bogart, cigarette smoke/ash
 - Babe Ruth 1932
 - David Burnett from Sports Illustrated – Goalie/puck USA beating Russia
 - Eliot Porter – Bird
- Willard talked about CGI and AI using the films Avatar and Lord of the Rings. AI will revolutionize photography and not necessarily in a good way. It takes photography and alters just enough to change it. If you do this don't try to pass it off as photography. Be upfront with what you do. Some examples of photographers doing this are Trey Ratcliff and Jerry Uelsmann,
- Cinematography was discussed. Study cinematographers to see how they capture light and subjects. Examples of great cinematographers are:
 - Hoyt Van Hoytema for Oppenheimer – focused on faces

(The Future of CLCC, continued)

- Gregg Toland for Citizen Kane – revolutionized cinematography
- Adam Stone for Mud – uses all lighting technique taught in Willard's class
- Bruno Del Bonnel for The Darkest Hour – use of light showed Winston Churchill
- Landscape Photography and “decisive moment” examples:
 - Aspens with light on Mt. Sneffels in background at sunrise
 - Warren Dunes in Michigan
 - Saguaro National Park – cactus with sun going down
 - Bearskin Lake sunset
- Words of Wisdom
 - On shooting sunsets: “Never break down your camera set up until the sun is completely down”
 - “Beauty is in the details”
- Willard Clay invited members to sign up to receive a newsletter he puts out every Thursday. Members can also submit photographs. It is not a competition. Send an email to willardclay@comcast.net

Show and Tell

- Jeff Chemelewski shared recent photos from the Grand Canyon
 - Toadstool
 - Grand Canyon – Jeff recommends going at sunrise or sunset
 - Spheres

Before and After

- Jeff shared a photo of the White Pocket (similar to the wave). He recommended Topaz Software which takes the noise away. He then showed the photo in black & white

Other Notes

- The April meeting is a competition night (Entry deadline has past)
- Peter will ask Jim Pierce to present to the club at a future meeting
- The Breakfast meeting is the fourth Saturday of the month (April 27) at 8:30 am currently at Burnt Toast. Judy spoke with the manager at The Syrup as an option. We are hoping more people will come out and participate.

It's time to pay CLCC dues for 2024. 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

Planning to photograph the April 8, 2024 solar eclipse?

There are some articles that will guide your efforts listed in [Galleries, Stories, Videos and Inspiration on Page 11.](#)

FREE WEBINAR!



Ready for an adventure?

Sign up to join this exclusive webinar on April 21 at 8 PM Central, where Lisa Langell will unveil the exciting details of the 2025 Magic of Hummingbirds Workshops, including when you can register.

Discover what makes these workshops, on location in Arizona, the ultimate photography retreat. It's more than a workshop; it's an experience that will stay with you forever.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MAGIC OF HUMMINGBIRDS.](#)

Reserve your webinar spot and be the first to learn about this extraordinary opportunity to elevate your photography journey. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)

CRYSTAL LAKE CAMERA CLUB OFFICERS

See The Club Directory For Contact Information

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>	Publicity	OPEN
Webmaster	Sandy Wittman	Competition Chairman	Rich Bickham
CACCA Delegate 1	Gail Schulz	Competition Assistant	John Williams
CACCA Delegate 2	OPEN	Competition Assistant	Ernie Hagenow
Education	Peter Pelke II	Small Groups	OPEN
Advisor	OPEN	Outings	Karl Gabby
Advisor	OPEN	Refreshments	OPEN
Facebook Administrator	Doug Frey	Librarian	OPEN
Membership	OPEN	Mentor Program	OPEN

Helpful Resources

Contribute to this page! If you have resources that you find useful, please share that link with me. Include a short summary of what can be found in the link. The reference can be a video, web page, PDF, or any other format that has an online link. Send your contributions to szjsings@mac.com by the 20th of each month.

~SJS, Newsletter Editor

Profoto Tutorials, submitted by Kevin Getty:

Tips and Tricks

profoto.com/us/tips

A terrific collection to help photographers of any level.

Photographic Composition Webinar, submitted by Scott Larsen:

The Art of Photography: Crafting Compelling Compositions

tinyurl.com/5ak88xt6

Natural Habitat Adventures posts a weekly webinar. This hour-long video is very helpful.

Photographers you may be interested in viewing, contributed by Judy Jorgensen:

Dan Anderson

danielandersonphotography.com/

Beautiful color landscapes and seascapes with striking composition from America, Norway, Faroe Islands, Scotland, Patagonia, Ireland, Antarctica, Europe, Iceland, etc. If you love black and white, check out his American West, Europe, Antarctica, and Greek islands black and white images of land, sea, and architecture.

Ed Callaert

edcallaert.photoshelter.com

This nature photographer travels extensively along the west coastal and mountain states as well as upper to mid east coast United States. His gallery is full of colorful landscapes and seascapes with interesting composition techniques you may want to try.

Willard Clay

willardclay.photoshelter.com

This landscape and bird photographer has a vast collection in his gallery by states and a stunning collection under birds. He also teaches at Mayslake in the Forest Preserve District of Dupage County. Enjoy, study, and try.

Resource for camera repair, contributed by Bill Batalden:

APS (AUTHORIZED PHOTO SERVICE)

8125 River Dr # 100

Morton Grove, IL 60053

repair@authorizedphotoservice.com

(800) 406-2046

Bill said: "I recently had my camera & lens repaired at APS authorized camera repair. I felt the work was good and the price reasonable. They give an estimate, which you have to approve, before proceeding with the work. When I spoke with the owner, he said he could offer a 'Club' rate."

(Helpful Resources, *continued*)

Resource for camera repair, contributed by Sandy Wittman:

ROYAL CAMERA SERVICE, INC.

1134 E Lake Street

Hanover Park, IL

(630) 372-6150

Sandy said: "I had my Canon 7D Mark II repaired there this fall. They did an excellent job in about 10 days. The price was very reasonable. I found them to be knowledgeable and professional."

GALLERIES, STORIES, VIDEOS AND INSPIRATION ON THE WEB

(Click any bold-face heading to follow the link)

How To Photograph The April 8 Total Solar Eclipse

Photographing a total eclipse of the Sun is exciting, and if you're planning on capturing a photograph of the April 8 eclipse, this guide by Pete Lawrence will show you how to produce a beautiful image of totality. Lawrence is an experienced astronomer and astrophotographer with BBC Sky at Night Magazine.

How To Process Your Solar Eclipse Images To Maximize Coronal Detail

Taking photos of the April 8, 2024 total solar eclipse? To make your images of stand out, you'll have to go the extra mile, and a bit of image processing can really help make for a dramatic eclipse photo. This story from BBC Sky At Night Magazine by Daniel Lynch, a veteran eclipse chaser, will guide your post-processing.

Photography Is No Longer Evidence of Anything

The most surprising thing about Kate Middleton's Photoshop debacle is that anyone would consider a photo as proof of life. This thoughtful piece by Steven Levy, Editor-At-Large of Wired Magazine, examines how digital editing has influenced how people view photography.

Can A Picture Make You Happy?

NPR asked the photojournalists of The Everyday Projects — a global community of photographers using images to challenge harmful stereotypes — to look through their archives for scenes that capture a sense of happiness and well-being, from small uplifting moments to big bursts of joy. This is what they shared.

Art of the Land Amateur Photography 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, you will be matched with a site and sent 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. The cost is \$10 for three images. Images must be submitted both digital and print. Full instructions for the contest are at:

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

Morton Arboretum Sculpture Show



Mind Eye (2023) by Olga Ziemka
Locally reclaimed wood logs, metal armature
Morton Arboretum

Of the Earth

The exhibition will run through spring 2025.

Five large-scale sculptures by Polish American artist Olga Ziemka 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." Ziemka 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, Ziemka 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," Ziemka said.



Stillness in Motion (2023) by Olga Ziemka
Locally reclaimed branches, wire, metal armature
Morton Arboretum

TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOW YOUR IMAGES

4th FRIDAYS AT STARLINE

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

4th Friday Event: April 26, 2024

Submission Deadline: Monday, April 15, at 11:59 PM

Fee to Enter: \$25 for 3 Pieces

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

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 (All entries): Starline Medal

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 EVENT**



4th FRIDAYS ART EVENT AT THE DOLE

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

4th Friday Event: April 26, 2024

Submission Deadline for the April 26 Event: Sunday, April 14, by midnight

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

Cash Awards:

- 4th Fridays Team Choice: \$50 cash each
- Nancy Merklings Choice: \$50 cash
- Kim Holz Memorial Award: \$50 cash
- 5 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** (RCSA), which has 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 the inaugural event in 2019, 6×6 Project has raised over **\$80,000** 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 10, 2024**. Artists and the public are cordially invited to our **Reception** on **June 29, 2024** 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 24, 2024**. 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 10, 2024**. All auction proceeds go to education programs at the Raue. There will be an **Artists's Reception** on **June 29, 2024** at the Raue Center that is free and open to the public.

[Click here for Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)

[Click here for Participation Guidelines](#)

[Click here for Participation Form](#)

PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS:

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

Makity Make – 203 E. Main Street | Algonquin | (224) 678-7090

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

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

Piano Trends – 35 Berkshire Drive | Crystal Lake | (815) 477-4266

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

Raue Center For The Arts – 26 N. Williams St | Crystal Lake | (815) 356-9212 | Tu – Fr, 12 to 4 pm

SUPPORT THE ARTS WITH ART!

