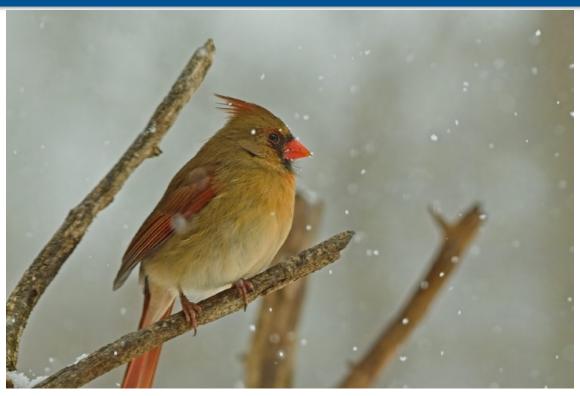
Crystal Lake Camera Club

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



Withstanding the Elements

Color Image by Scott Larsen (Shown at the March 11 Meeting, see more on Page 2)

EXPLORE THIS ISSUE

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Crystal Lake Camera Club Group Chat	<u>Pg. 6</u>
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IMAGES FROM THE MARCH 11 MEETING



Pilcher Nature Park, Highland Park, ILColor Image by Doug Frey





MushroomsColor Image by Lynda Blue

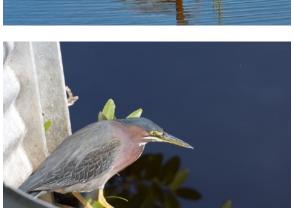
Fourth of July on Crystal Lake Color Image by Steven Szalaj



Dam #2, Des Plaines River, Mount Prospect, IL Color Image by Doug Frey

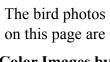
IMAGES FROM THE MARCH 11 MEETING





















IMAGES FROM THE MARCH 11 MEETING

Old Truck, found near Princeton, IL

Color Image by Peter Pelke

Peter said: "...the truck was colorized and enhanced using NIK software, the sky was the actual sky that day."

Bottles

Color Image by Peter Pelke

Peter said, "The bottles are from the flea market at the Sycamore Steam Show, loved the colors and the lighting from the sun making the bottles sparkle."





Before

The Swiss Alps

Color Image by Lynda Blue

Cropping, lightening shadows, color brightening



After

IMAGES FROM THE MARCH 11 MEETING



Illinois Farm HouseColor Image by Doug Frey



Hovering Cardinal

Color Images by Scott Larsen

Green Iguana

Iguana Profile

Chaos



IMAGES FROM THE MARCH 11 MEETING



Wheat Fields Near Auvers-sur-Oise, France Van Gough painted these fields



Near the Hôtel des Invalides, Paris, France

Color Images by Steven Szalaj



Near the Hôtel des Invalides Paris, France

APRIL THEME: CLOSE-UP & MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY

Do you have some images you love that reveal something unique because they are close-up or macro photos? Bring them to the April 8 meeting to share with the club! For more information, see page 7.

Join the Crystal Lake Camera Club Group Chat on FaceBook:

<u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/446897199179146</u> 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.



APRIL 8 MEETING: CLOSE-UP AND MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY A HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE!

This month's meeting will be an interactive experience to learn more about close-up and macro photography. You will need to bring the following in order to fully participate:

- Your camera
- Flashlight
- Tripod
- Remote shutter release
- Props to use as subjects

There will be items set up at various tables around the room for participants to use as subjects. CLCC members who have experience doing this kind of photography will be there to help those of us who are new to the technique.

If you have different color papers, bring some for backgrounds. If you do not have a remote shutter release, you

can use the time-delay feature on your camera. Bring your camera's user guide if you need directions.

Come to the meeting at 6:30 PM to get answers about topics you need to know more about.

For Show & Tell and Before & After bring any close-up and macro images you wish to share.

We hope to see you all on April 8 for this engaging evening of camera fun!







CLCC PHOTO WALK

Chicago Street Photography 8:00am to 4:15pm

We will meet at the Crystal Lake train station and take the 8:00 AM #704 arriving at Chicago OTC at 9:23. Walk the streets of Chicago maybe stop for lunch and return on the 3:00 PM #715 arriving back in Crystal Lake at 4:15 PM.

RSVP DOUG.FREY@ME.COM

LANDSCAPE & NATURE SMALL GROUP

When: Third Wednesday each month, 7PM Where: 711 Glacier Parkway, Algonquin

Phone: 224-406-3692

RSVP: doug.Frev@me.com

This small group meets in Doug Frey's home on the Third Wednesday of the month, 7PM. There are wide ranging

discussions

from

beginning landscape photography, to postprocessing, prime locations, both near and far,

Interested in learning more about *Macro Photography*? CLCC President Judy Jorgensen shared these links. Click the title or the screenshot.

50 Macro Photography Ideas

50 Macro Photography Ideas

If you have the right skills, you can realize amazing macro photo ideas in the comfort of your home or wherever you may be. In rare cases, you might need some particular equipment, which I will write about in detail.

Macro Photography For Beginners

Macro photography for beginners

Our tips for taking great close-up photos with any camera

The Ultimate Macro Photography Tutorial for Beginners

The Ultimate Macro Photography Tutorial for Beginners

The Difference Between Snapshots and Photography

The Difference Between Snapshots and Photography

Snapshot vs Good Photograph: 7 Photographers Weigh In

Snapshot vs Good Photograph: 7 photographers weigh in

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 on **Saturday**, **April 26**, **2025**, 8:30 AM at

Buttered Toast Restaurant, 2520 Bunker Hill Dr, Algonquin.

RSVP to Karl-Heinz Gabbey (khgabbey@aol.com) if you plan to attend.

GALLERIES. STORIES. VIDEOS AND INSPIRATION ON THE WEB

(Click any bold-face heading, or underlined text, to follow the link)

10 Incredible Women Photographers Redefining The Medium Today

Women artists provide a remarkable perspective in the arts. Their contributions have inspired many younger women to embrace photography, liberating themselves from the confines that limit their creativity and expression. This <u>photoblographer.com</u> post highlights ten of the best.

Astrophotographer Travels to Alaska for Epic Photo of Lunar Eclipse and the Northern Lights

Astrophotographers are often willing to go to great lengths to get a memorable photo. For Dan Zafra of <u>Capture the Atlas</u>, this meant traveling to the wilds of Alaska to capture a recent total lunar eclipse.

'I'm Not Fine': Ukrainian Photographer Captures The Invisible Trauma Of War

After her partner left for war, Elena Kalinichenko turned to photography to capture her personal conflict, documenting the emotional toll of war on those left behind.

In-Camera Effects for Epic Nature & Wildlife Photos (VIDEO)

Here's a unique tutorial from <u>bird photographer Shelley Pearson</u> who treats us to an uncommon mix of information, gorgeous imagery, and inspiration for nature and wildlife shooters. In the next five minutes you'll learn how to unlock the beauty of backlighting effects.

IT'S TIME TO PAY CLCC DUES FOR 2025

Dues are \$25.00 for the year (such a deal!). Please give a check or cash to treasurer Gail Schulz, or mail it to:

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

RETURNING IN APRIL 2025: CACCA 2025 POSTCARD COMPETITION!

Reflect on recent travels nearby or far away by reviewing images from your photo outings, then let your imagination and photo processing skills run wild as you conjure up your ideal postcard.

Each person may enter up to two postcard entries. Digital postcard entries must be JPEGs 1621 pixels wide by 1080 pixels tall, or 720 pixels wide by 1080 pixels tall, to conform with a standard postcard aspect ratio of 6 inches x 4 inches for horizontal image postcards and 4 inches x 6 inches for vertical image postcards. Maker-added text will be required.

Creating a postcard is an easy, inexpensive photo activity that everyone, no matter their photographic skill level, can participate in and learn from. The postcard competition provides for photographic fun, creativity, and the possibility of related local chapter programs. It is also another opportunity for everyone to directly get their images entered in a CACCA competition.

For complete instructions, go to <u>caccaphoto.org</u>. Then select the *Competitions* from the menu bar at the top. From that list, select *Divisions* and then *Postcard*.

Submission must be made no later than noon on Sunday, April 13, 2025. CLCC is a member of CACCA, so any CLCC member can enter this competition.

The Future of CLCC

Notes from the March 11 meeting ~

There were 23 members present! Three people visited (Laurie, Lynn & Pierre) because they had seen the FaceBook ad about Jeff Chemelewski's presentation on Landscape Photography (see the story about this presentation on pages 11-14). Gail brought Country Donuts. We started the meeting by introducing three guests.

Show & Tell

- Lynda B. mushrooms
- Bill B. eight bird images
- Steve S. fireworks on Crystal Lake, wheat fields, Paris parkway
- Scott L. male & female cardinals, iguanas, flock of gulls
- Peter P. old abandoned truck, colorful glass bottles
- Doug F Pilcher Park, Farm house, Dam #1

Before & After

Lynda B.: Mountains

Presentation: Jeff Chemelewski: "Landscape Photography" (see pages 11-14)

Anyone who hasn't paid their \$25.00 dues, is asked to do so. You can send your check to: Crystal Lake Camera Club, PO Box 2193, Crystal Lake, IL 60039-2193, or give it to Gail at the April meeting.

At the April 8 meeting, we are going to try our hand at macro photography (see page 7). We have included a couple links in the newsletter that you are encouraged to look at and try beforehand. Because we have no macro experts at present, we are including close-ups as well. Focusing is a challenge. A tripod might be necessary. Experiment, have fun, bring your efforts to discuss trials and successes along with your camera to the April meeting. This will be our Show & Tell and our Before & After in April. We will set up some projects around the room and practice some more. If you have an interesting prop, bring it along for us to use, too.

Judy J. showed Gail a few photos on her phone from the facility the Sun City Camera Club has. They are surrounded by their framed images. Gail asked the township if we could use some of the wall space where we meet. They were delighted to make the room more welcoming.

Don't forget to contribute to the Facebook Crystal Lake Camera Club Group Chat page (see page 6).

The **Landscape and Nature Photography** small group is meeting regularly on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Doug Frey's home (see page 7).

It's getting time to venture out more. If you have an idea or plan and want company, let Doug F. know.

The **CLCC Breakfast Meeting** is the last Saturday of the month (unless otherwise noted due to holidays, etc) at Buttered Toast by Home Depot on Randall Road, Algonquin. All are welcome. Let Karl G. know ahead of time if possible, but don't let that stop you if you didn't (see page 8).

Become an active CLCC member - your presence, your contributions, your participation is what will elevate the club experience for everyone. Most everything that happens in the club is by volunteers, that is, members choosing to participate because they *love photography*. CLCC needs *you*!

LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY

Tips to Improve Landscape Imagery Notes from the March 11 Presentation

A the March meeting, CLCC member Jeff Chemelewski shared many thoughts about landscape photography from his considerable experience with it. He showed many beautiful photos that demonstrated the ideas he presented. Here is a summary taken from Jeff's slide show.

THE BEST TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- Get out early
- Stay out late
- Sleep, scout or travel midday

WHAT IS YOUR GOAL

- Create the highest quality image to print for a wall hanging in large format
- Create images strictly to share on Facebook, X, etc. ... or to share on cellphones or tablets

MAXIMUM QUALITY

- DSLR or Mirrorless camera with high MP sensor
- Tripod, variable neutral density filter, polarizing filter
- Use lowest possible ISO
- Shoot RAW to capture maximum information with each image
- Find the sweet spot for all of your lenses
- Mainly wide angle lenses: 14-24 and 24-70

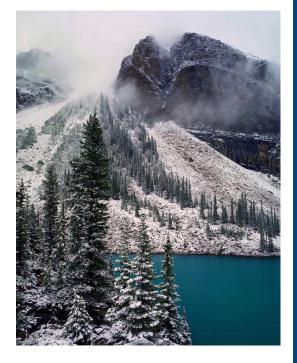
SUNRISE AND SUNSETS

- We all love the actual sunrise and sunset, but the secret is looking for the sites where the early and late sun hits.
- The dramatic images often arise from the early and late light and not direct sun photos.
- The magic hours surround sunrises and sunsets which is when you will be doing your shooting
- Winter scenes often best with no sun

LANDSCAPES....Foreground, Middle Ground, and Background

- Placement of close objects will add depth to your image
- Focus becomes a key element with objects at different distances
- Focus stacking allows use of the Cinderella zone, which is the sharpest f-stop of a given lens but requires technical skill
- Alternative is shooting at f-16 and focusing 1/3rd into subject





(Landscape Photography, continued)

COMPOSITION

- Simplicity
- Rule of thirds/ balance
- Leading lines
- Framing
- Avoid emptiness, blown out or blackened areas
- Direct your viewers attention

SIMPLICITY

- Everyone tries to include too much in a single image
- Often, less is better and more dramatic

RULE OF THIRDS, BALANCE

LEADING LINES

- Draw your viewer to a specific point
- Straight lines create a bold effect
- Curving lines soften an image

OBTAINING THE PERFECT IMAGE/ EXPOSURE

- F Stop
- Shutter Speed
- Iso

FUN WITH WATER

LOCATION, LOCATION

PHOTO TOURS

- Strabo Photo Tours
- Action Photo Tours
- Lofoten Photo Tours

EXTRAS

- Your image should invoke an emotion in the viewer
- Check into <u>Topaz Editing</u> <u>Software</u> for removal of grain





More Images from the Landscape Photography Presentation All photos are by Jeff Chemelewski











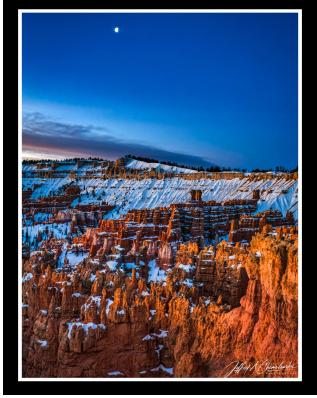


More Images from the Landscape Photography Presentation All photos are by Jeff Chemelewski











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.

> Theme: Close ups & Macro Images, Show & Tell, Before & After, April 8

> > Bring your cameras, a flashlight, a tripod and a remote release (if you have one) - we'll practice taking close ups and macros of objects

placed around the room.

May 13 Theme: Spring, Show & Tell, Before & After

Possible presentation on photo book printing

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 Doug Frey (doug.frey@me.com) on the Sunday before the **meeting** date. You can also bring them on a flash drive.

For Before & After: submit pairs of JPG images to Doug Frey (doug.frey@me.com) on the Sunday before the meeting date, or bring the images on a flash drive. 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.

CRYSTAL LAKE CAMERA CLUB OFFICERS

See The Club Directory For Contact Information

OPEN

President Judy Jorgensen

Secretary Open

Membership

Treasurer Gail Schulz **Board Member** Rich Bickham

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 szjsings@mac.com.

Please make your submission by the 22nd of the

CLCC SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Newsletter Editor Steven Szalaj **OPEN** Publicity Competition Chairman **OPEN** Webmaster Sandy Wittman Peter J.f Pelke II **Competition Assistant**

CACCA Delegate 1 Gail Schulz Small Groups **OPEN**

CACCA Delegate 2 **OPEN**

Karl-Heinz Gabbey Outings Education Peter J. Pelke II

Refreshments **OPEN** Advisor **OPEN** Librarian **OPEN** Advisor **OPEN** Mentor Program **OPEN** Facebook Administrator Doug Frey

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

https://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."

Resource for infrared photography, contributed by Peter Pelke

LIFE PIXEL Infrared Camera Conversions

https://www.lifepixel.com/

(866) 610-1710

Resource for purchasing, selling, trading and repairing used camera equipment

KEH

https://www.keh.com/

(800) 342-5534

"The original curator and reseller of rare and quality camera gear, KEH has always envisioned a better way to support the passion and profession of photography. We're proud to be the camera community's choice for gear that goes further. Field-tested. Expert-graded. Sustainable. Exchangeable. KEH-approved."

YouTube Channels by specific photographers

These were contributed by Doug Frey:

Nigel Danson - https://www.youtube.com/@NigelDanson

Adam Gibbs - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDyKBQGE7OOsWeQIPWqVSzw

fototripper (Gavin Hardcastle) - https://www.youtube.com/@fototripper

Simon D'Entremont - https://www.youtube.com/@simon_dentremont

Mark Denney - https://www.youtube.com/@MarkDenneyPhoto

Thomas Heaton - https://www.youtube.com/@ThomasHeatonPhoto

Ian Worth - https://www.youtube.com/@ian worth/

A great collection of "how-to" videos:

Providence Photography DFW

https://www.youtube.com/@providencephotographydfw

Photoshop Elements+: The Secret to Removing Impossible Backgrounds!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AvAu7-WYXAc

TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOW YOUR IMAGES

4th FRIDAYS ART EVENT AT THE DOLE

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

4th Friday Art Event: April 25, 2025

Submission Deadline: Sunday, April 13, by midnight

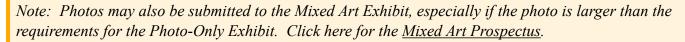
Non-refundable submission fee: \$40 for up to 5 pieces submitted

Cash Awards - \$500 total:

5 Honorable Mentions: \$50 cash each 4th Fridays Team Choice: \$50 cash each • Kim Holz Memorial Award: \$50 cash • Nancy Merkling Choice: \$50 cash • People's Choice Award: \$50 cash

Click here for the PROSPECTUS for the Photo-Only Exhibit.

Click here for the SUBMISSION APPLICATION





SECOND SATURDAYS AT STARLINE

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

2nd Saturday Art Event: June 14, 2025

Submission Opens: Saturday, March 29, 2025

Submission Deadline: Monday, May 19, by 11:59 PM

Fee to Enter: \$25 for 3 Pieces

Theme for the June Event is "True Colors" (see Submission Form for details)

Theme entry not required to enter the show; there is a special medal for these entries.

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
- Theme Medal: Starline Medal

Click here for the **PROSPECTUS**

Click here for the SUBMISSION FORM

Note: Other SECOND SATURDAY Events after June 14 are August 9 and December 13.



THE SEVENTH ANNUAL 6X6 PROJECT ART AUCTION AND FUNDRAISER

6X6PROJ

Raue Center's 6×6 PROJECT fundraiser and online art auction & exhibition celebrates its seventh year of supporting arts with Art! All proceeds benefit Raue Center's fine arts education programs, <u>Mission Imagination</u> (MI) and <u>Raue Center</u> 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 **\$95,000** for MI and RCSA with canvases coming from around the nation!

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 <u>6x6 PROJECT WEBSITE</u>.

Purchase one or two 6" X 6" canvases from the project partners (listed on the website and below) for a \$5 donation per canvas. They are available now through May 2, 2025. You must use these official canvases. Mount or print an image on the canvas and drop your artwork off by **May 13, 2025**. All artwork submitted to the **6**×**6 PROJECT** will be available for viewing and bidding online at **Auctria.com** beginning **June 1, 2025**. Artists and the public are invited to our reception on **June 14, 2025**. All canvases will be displayed at the reception - bidding will continue through the end of the reception.

Click here for a PDF of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Click here for Participation Guidelines

Click here for a PDF of the Participation Form

Project Partners:

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!