

JULY, 2026

Crystal Lake Camera Club

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



Roebling Suspension Bridge (Cincinnati)

Monochrome by Peter Pelke
(Shown at the June 9 Meeting)
Read Peter's Comments on Page 2

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IMAGES FROM THE JUNE 9 MEETING

The image on the cover and this page are by Peter Pelke.

Peter said: “...use a tripod to slow down and compose your images, look for unique features wherever you are, and buy decent rain gear... Hah!!!.”



Forest Park Pagoda



Cincinnati Union Station



Squirrel



Field & Barn



Forest Park Planetarium - Before



Forest Park Planetarium - After

IMAGES FROM THE JUNE 9 MEETING

The images on this page and the next are by Andrew Nelson

Andrew said: *"The picture of the trees and water was in Lake Atwood about 1 mile from our meeting location in Algonquin Township Building.*

The post processing was able to brighten the image and enhance the clouds. Question then was how to frame it. Should I have included rocks in the foreground?"



Before



After



Re-framing the image

IMAGES FROM THE JUNE 9 MEETING

These images are
by Andrew Nelson.

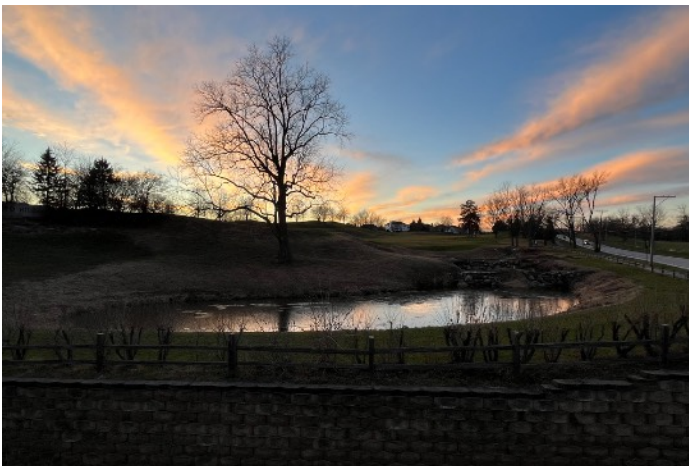
Andrew said: *"The docked boats were in the Jamestown Settlement in Virginia. The before image had strong shadows and the ropes from the nearby boat cluttered the image. Post processing in Lightroom was able to reduce the shadows and the AI remove was very effective at removing the mess of ropes."*



Before



After



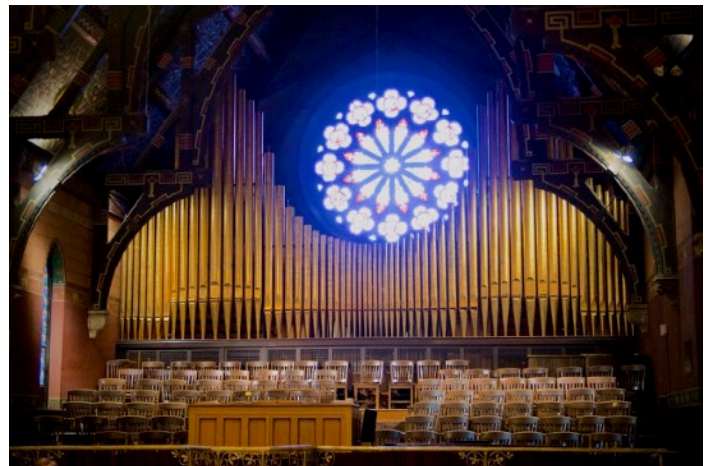
Before



After

"The sunset and pond was an image taken on my phone while out walking. It shows the pond near the 9th green on Foxford Hills Golf Course near the corner of Rawson Bridge Road and Crystal Lake Road. I liked the sunset but also there were other areas of interest that made it appealing. In post processing I was able to bring out the detail in the shadows. I also brightened the reflection in the pond and brightened the white house on the horizon. The result was a rather busy image. Discussion in the meeting provided options on how to frame it to provide more focus."

IMAGES FROM THE JUNE 9 MEETING



These five images are by Bill Batalden.

Bill said: "The first picture is my granddaughter in the library at Cornell...the library looked like something from Harry Potter.

The second picture was taken in the church at Cornell where some of the founders are...buried?

The third picture is taken at the botanical gardens at Cornell...allium flowers.

The forth picture is the choir loft in the church at Cornell.

The fifth picture is a stream below the waterfalls, again at Cornell University."

IMAGES FROM THE JUNE 9 MEETING



St. Peter's Church



Tiffany Dome



Under the L

These three images are by Royal Pitchford.

Royal said: “**St. Peter's Church** is on Madison, several blocks east of the Ogilvie Transportation Center (Union Pacific train station). The church is a good example of Art Deco architecture, and the morning sun threw dramatic shadows of the carved crucifix and other details onto the limestone facade. This is one of my favorite images from the photo walk, although I plan to reshoot later this year to improve the angle.

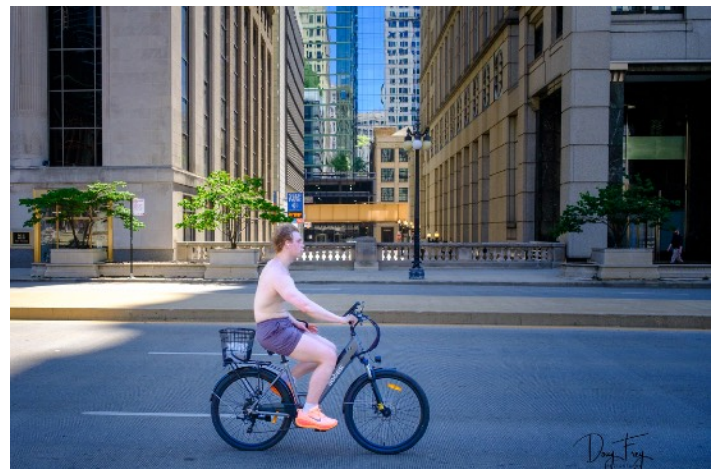
The Tiffany Dome is inside the Chicago Cultural Center at Michigan, with entrances on Randolph and Washington. Originally, the building was the Main Chicago Library — one of the many Carnegie Libraries built across the county. I've always assumed that it was intended as a temple of knowledge and learning. The dome features all the signs of the zodiac; the entrances to the room are highly ornate archways clad in beautiful mosaic designs. Similar ornate details can be found throughout the building, but the Tiffany Dome is my favorite.

Under the L: This image captures the view under the L tracks, looking east down Lake Street from Wacker Drive. At the far end, Lake Street is closed for construction of a new CTA transportation hub for both the L and buses, which will replace the existing L station at State and Lake.”

IMAGES FROM THE JUNE 9 MEETING

The images on this page and the next are by
Doug Frey.

They were taken during the Chicago Photo Walk



IMAGES FROM THE JUNE 9 MEETING



Version 1



Version 2



Version 1



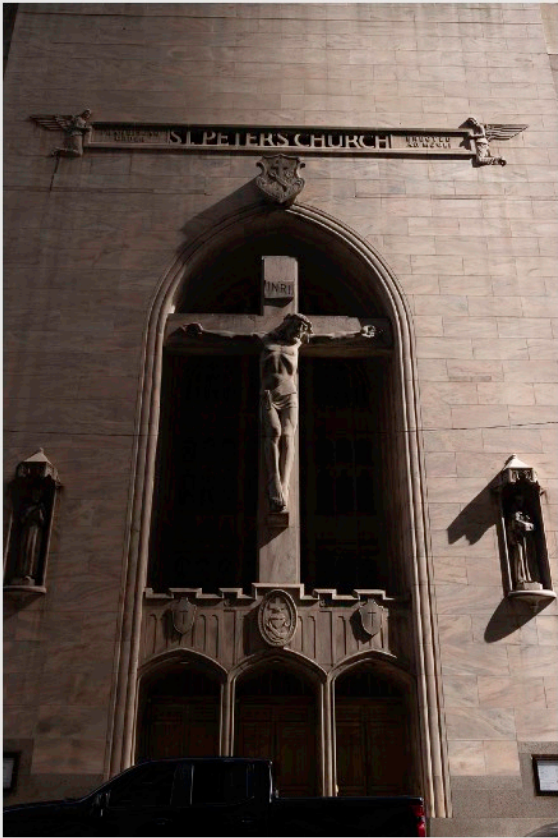
Version 2

These photo pairs are by
Doug Frey.
They were from the Chicago Photo Walk.

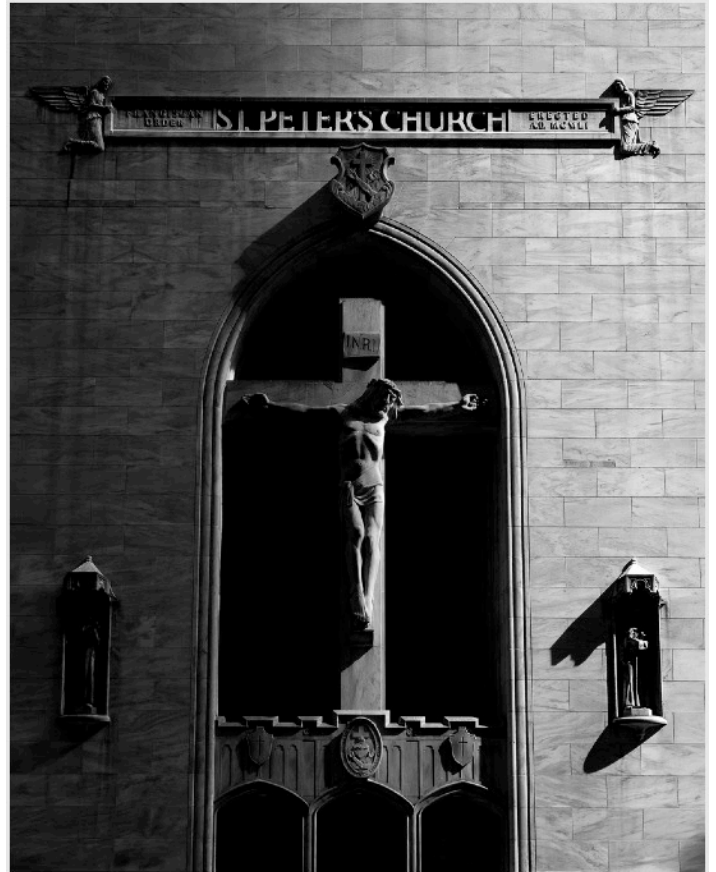
IMAGES FROM THE JUNE 9 MEETING

The three photos on this page and two the next are by Steve Hillmann.

Steve said: *"Before and After "St. Peter's Wall": The lighting was great so I didn't change highlights or shadows. I did some tilt shift correction; converted to B/W, cropped the image, and removed a power line that ran across the shot. All corrections were done in Light Room Classic."*



Before - St. Peter's Wall



After - St. Peter's Wall

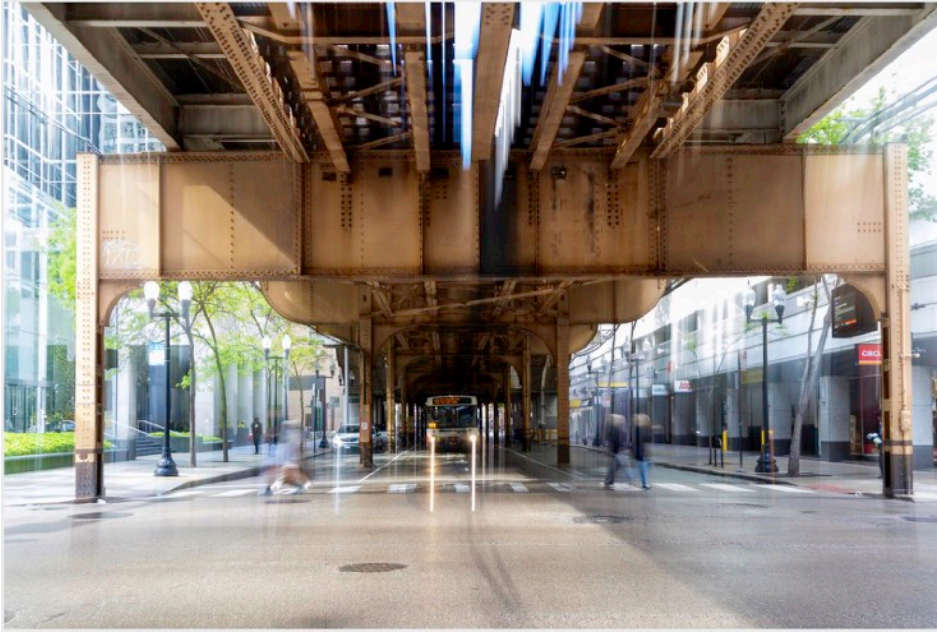


Airplane & Buildings

"For the 3 city shots, all were hand held with a Canon R5 using an RF 24-105mm, f/4 Lens with a CPL filter."

The airplane and buildings is a straight up shot. I liked the sky that day (nice clouds) and the building's leading lines go right to the subject. The light and wires provided a somewhat interesting foreground element."

IMAGES FROM THE JUNE 9 MEETING



Under the



Under the Tracks

(Steve's Comments, continued)

"Under the L was 1/3 sec exposure; and being in a rush to cross the street the camera was swung down prior to the shutter closing. A happy accident that the lighter elements blurred in a nice way and the darker elements stayed in focus.

For under the tracks, I exposed solely the structure's underside. I found the structure and utilities interesting. This gave me a 1/5 sec exposure that blurred the bus and blew out the bright sky and sidewalk areas. I cropped out most of the blown-out areas, but left as much as I needed to, intact and overexposed as they were. I also liked the north arrow on the street pointing to the subject like a leading line."

IMAGES FROM THE JUNE 9 MEETING

The photos on this page and the next are by Pierre Steygers.

Pierre said:

“Doe (Before/After), Fox River Preserve - Port Barrington

This was one of my first attempts at heavier editing. First, a crop. Then remove the background and make the doe a bit sharper. Finally, add the same background after darkening it slightly.

The editing made the doe the star of the day and darkening the sky highlighted the fact that we were just after a big rain. The doe was drenched, so were we.

Now, it looks to me that there is too much sharpening on the doe.”



Doe - Before



Doe - After

“Path (Before/After), Grassy Lake Forest Preserve / Lake Barrington

Another beautiful day in one of our local conservation areas. The light was almost perfect so very little editing on this one. Remove the leash and reduce the highlight in the sky. The trail was so inviting, and led us to the next image.”



Path - Before



Path - After

IMAGES FROM THE JUNE 9 MEETING

(Pierre's Comments, continued)

"Trees (Before/After), Grassy Lake Forest Preserve / Lake Barrington

Being from Belgium, I grew up with low clouds and gray skies. Here in Illinois, we are lucky to have after the storm low clouds and sunlight, making everything more dramatic. The only editing was a bit of adjustments in brightness, and a touch of sharpening. The clouds are just 'popping.'



Trees - Before

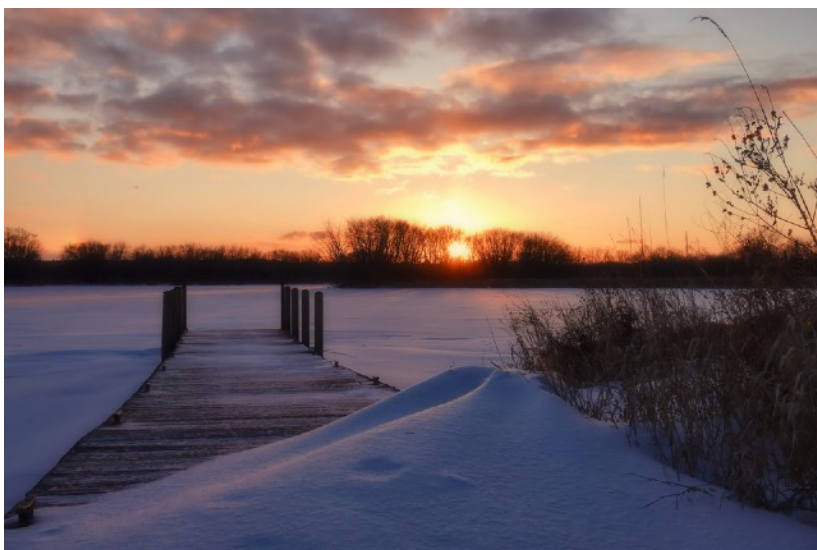


Trees - After

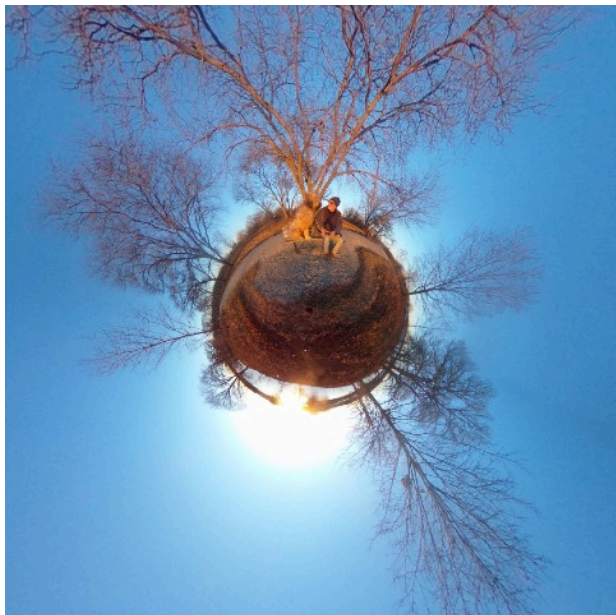
"Frozen Fox River, Fox River Preserve / Port Barrington

Like most of my images, this was done while walking with my furry friend. We (Pollux and I) walk the trails at the Fox River Preserve twice a day, most days. The other days, we are in other conservation areas. This location is the best spot I found for sunsets, and we are lucky enough to be able to walk there from home. It was cold (obviously) but the soft glow of the sun and the snow drift looking almost like a sand dune made us feel warmer.

Shot in JPEG, with just a crop and some denoising."



Froze Fox River



Best Friends

"Best Friends, Fox River Preserve / Port Barrington

The trails can be very empty in winter, we really had the feeling of being alone...This 'little planet' image reminds me of the book 'The Little Prince' by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. And not just the cover!

Shot with a 360 degrees camera (Ricoh Theta). If you look closely, you can see the shadow of the camera just above my right hand, as well as the shadow of the monopod. Some editing: change of projection for the 360 picture, and light touch of color adjustment. I had no tool to denoise at the time, this image could use some."

IMAGES FROM THE JUNE 9 MEETING

The images on this page are by
Scott Larsen.

Scott said: “All three images were taken in April of 2025 in Chile's **Torres del Paine National Park**.

Moody was shot at f/9, 1/500, ISO 1250 using a Nikon Z8 with a Nikkor 100x400mm lens (280mm). It depicts Los Cuernos (The Horns) which are iconic granite spires. The morning sun was just emerging and poking through the fog and clouds.

Dawning of the Day was shot at f7.1, 1/400, ISO 360 using the same Z8 and 100x400mm (290mm) set-up. It was taken in the same location as Moody but with a different perspective.

Hazy Afternoon was shot with a Nikon Z8 and 24x70mm lens. F/9, 1/500, ISO 80. The fog had not completely lifted and there was a lot of morning haze. The wind had not kicked up so the water was still allowing for the reflection.”



Moody



Dawning of the Day



Hazy Afternoon

THE FUTURE OF CLCC

Notes from the June 9 Meeting ~

Submitted by Judy Jorgensen & Lynda Christopher

At the June 9 meeting, there were 15 people present. A hearty welcome to Michelle Marsh!

Thank you to all who submitted photos to Doug for our viewing and discussions. Since some of the photos didn't have any category attached, we showed and discussed and tweaked them all. It was fun and nearly everyone participated with his or her opinion. Questions were asked, opinions sought, adjustments tried.

When submitting images, please signify if photos are for Show & Tell, Before & After, or for Critiquing. Doug needs photos at the latest the Sunday before the club meeting. Thanks in advance.

For our July 14th meeting, be sure to send a couple of your best or favorites, your challenges that you are 'stuck' on; and, or Before & Afters and show us the progression from out of the camera to useful. Tell us what you were shooting with, settings, etc., and maybe someone can help with a settings change, composition idea, etc.

Come early so we can set up the room PLUS rearrange the existing wall hangings from after the room was painted. Please bring a framed image or two (with a wire across the back) to add to this display.

If you have any photo collages hanging at home, please take a picture of it to show us. I plan on showing a video of creating a photo collage if we have time.

Any questions, comments, suggestions, please call or email Doug or me. Thanks!

Reminder: Send 2 or 3 images to Doug Frey by Sunday, July 12 for use at the July 14 meeting.

- They can be your favorites ready for critiquing
- They can be your favorites that need a little help
- They can be *Before & After* pairs that you want to hear other opinions
- These will all be group discussions, rather than a panel of judges

The plan for July 14th is to have members submit photos for critique.

These are the people who contributed images at the June 9 meeting for *Show & Tell* (S&T), *Before & After* (B&A) and *critique* (C):

- Andrew Nelson - three *B&A* sets
- Steve Hillmann - a *B&A* of St. Peter (Chicago), and 3 more (C) from the Chicago Photo Walk
- Bill Batalden - five images for *S&T*
- Doug Frey - ten images from the Chicago Photo Walk (S&T), including two *B&A* sets

The Future of CLCC (continued)

- Peter Pelke - seven images from a recent trip (C), including one *B&A* pair

CLCC is in need of more people to help provide direction for the club's future. Do you have ideas about presentations, discussion topics, club activities, or directions CLCC should be going? The easiest thing to do is to ask "Why isn't CLCC doing _____?" The better thing is to say, "Let's try _____, and I'll help it happen."

CLCC is a volunteer organization - YOU ARE NEEDED to make the club more valuable.

- Pierre Steygers - three *B&A* pairs, and two other images (C)
- Royal Pitchford - three images from the Chicago Photo Walk (S&T)
- Scott Larsen - three images from Chile's Torres del Paine National Park ©

In the discussion about these images, the following topics were covered and demonstrated:

- Dehazing
- Cell phone shots being harder to edit
- Sizing the image correctly for submission
- Saturation
- Cropping
- Distractions
- High Key/Low Key Photography
- Local masking versus global editing

Possible locations for future photo walks:

- Street photography in Woodstock
- McHenry River Walk
- Veterans Acres
- McHenry Dam

A REMINDER: **Show & Tell, Before & After** and **Critique** run more smoothly if images are sent to Doug before the meeting instead of on flash drives given to him at the meeting. He would like them a few days before the meeting so he can prepare the presentation. See page 21 for more information.

Take a moment to contribute to the Facebook **Crystal Lake Camera Club Group Chat** page (see below).

The **Landscape and Nature Photography** small group is meeting regularly on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Doug Frey's home (see page 17). Note: since the scheduled day for this small group (7/15) is the day after the regular club meeting (7/14), **the July meeting for this small group will be Wednesday, July 22.**

Have an idea for an outing? If you have an idea or plan and want company, let Doug Frey 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 (see page 21). The next breakfast meeting is Saturday, July 25.

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*!

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.



Why Photographers Notice Beauty Everyone Else Misses

Submitted by Sandy Wittman

www.picturecorrect.com/why-photographers-notice-beauty-everyone-else-misses/

Walk through a city street with a photographer and you'll often notice something interesting: they stop for things most people walk right past:

- A reflection in a puddle
- Light hitting the edge of a building
- The texture of peeling paint
- Fog drifting through trees
- A shadow stretching across a sidewalk

To everyone else, it's just another ordinary moment. To a photographer, it's a photograph waiting to happen.

Photography changes the way you see the world.

Most people move through life quickly. They focus on destinations, schedules, notifications, and routines. But photographers are constantly scanning for light, color, emotion, patterns, and timing. Over time, that way of seeing becomes automatic.

You begin noticing things that used to feel invisible:

- The golden glow just before sunset
- Interesting faces in a crowd
- Symmetry in architecture
- Tiny details in nature
- The mood created by weather

Photography trains your brain to slow down and observe.

And that's one of the most rewarding parts of becoming a photographer. The camera becomes more than just a tool — it becomes a reason to explore. A reason to pay attention. A reason to look deeper.

Even simple places start feeling different.

A parking garage becomes a place filled with leading lines and dramatic shadows. A rainy afternoon suddenly feels cinematic. A quiet neighborhood walk turns into an opportunity to discover colors, textures, and moments you never noticed before.

Photographers often talk about “having an eye,” but that eye is really built through practice and awareness.

The more you shoot, the more you train yourself to notice:

- Direction and quality of light
- Interesting compositions
- Emotional moments
- Contrast and color harmony
- Layers and depth
- Tiny visual details

Eventually, beauty starts appearing everywhere.

And perhaps the best part is that photography encourages curiosity. It pushes you to explore places you might never visit otherwise. You start waking up early for sunrise, staying out for blue hour, wandering unfamiliar streets, or taking the long route home just to see what you might discover.

Why Photographers Notice Beauty, (continued)

The world becomes more visually alive.

Photography also helps people appreciate ordinary life more deeply. You don't always need exotic travel destinations or expensive gear. Sometimes the best photographs happen in everyday places — your kitchen, your neighborhood, your backyard, or the streets around your home.

The camera teaches you to see significance in small moments.

That's why many photographers feel more connected to the world around them. They're actively searching for beauty every single day, even in places others overlook.

And once you start seeing the world this way, it's hard to turn it off.

You begin noticing the way morning light falls through windows. The expression on someone's face during a quiet moment. The atmosphere after a storm. The colors reflected in wet pavement after sunset.

Photography doesn't just change your pictures. It changes how you experience life itself.

LANDSCAPE & NATURE SMALL GROUP

When: Third Wednesday each month, 7PM

Where: 711 Glacier Parkway, Algonquin

RSVP: doug.frey@me.com

Note: Since the scheduled day for this small group (7/15) is the day after the regular club meeting (7/14), **the July meeting for this small group will be Wednesday, July 22.**

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 post-processing, prime locations, both near and far, everything in between, and sometimes beyond! Photos are shared and comments made. It is a very friendly group.

Meetings are casual and relaxed. Any related discussion topics can be brought up. It is a great community learning experience. Let Doug know that you are interested! See him at a club meeting, or send him an email at the address above.

David Plowden, renowned photographer who sought to capture a 'vanishing' America, is dead at 93

Submitted by Sandy Wittmann

From steam trains to small-town America, he worked to preserve the images for future generations. A longtime north suburban resident, he died at a retirement home in Evanston.

Read about Plowden's life: [CLICK HERE](#)

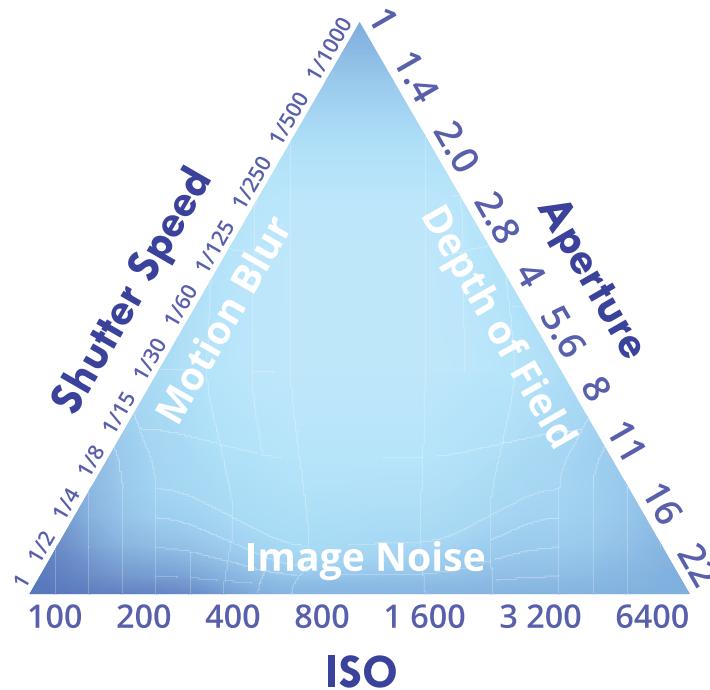
Explore Plowden's body of work: www.davidplowden.com/



EXPOSURE TRIANGLE

SAMPLE SET

ISO, aperture, and shutter speed are a camera's **three central settings**. Adjusting each also affects your image's exposure (darkness or brightness), creating the "exposure triangle."



All three settings must be balanced in order to capture a perfectly exposed photo.



Example: In an average natural light scenario. If you want to use a faster shutter speed to freeze a fast moving subject... you must also widen your aperture (reducing depth of field) AND/OR increase your ISO (increasing noise) accordingly... or your exposure will be too dark.

AS SHUTTER SPEED INCREASES:

- exposure decreases
- motion blur decreases



PHOTOGRAPHY CHEAT SHEETS BY PICTURECORRECT.COM

EXPOSURE TRIANGLE Video

Submitted by Bill Tell

Why the Exposure Triangle IS THE WRONG WAY to learn photography

This video clearly explains a concept I have been using frequently, but not always fully understanding. Because of that, my results were often less consistent than I expected.

I have often heard that, for photographers beyond the beginner stage who move beyond full auto, Aperture Priority is a common default setting. However, trying to rely on that alone led to more disappointments than successes.

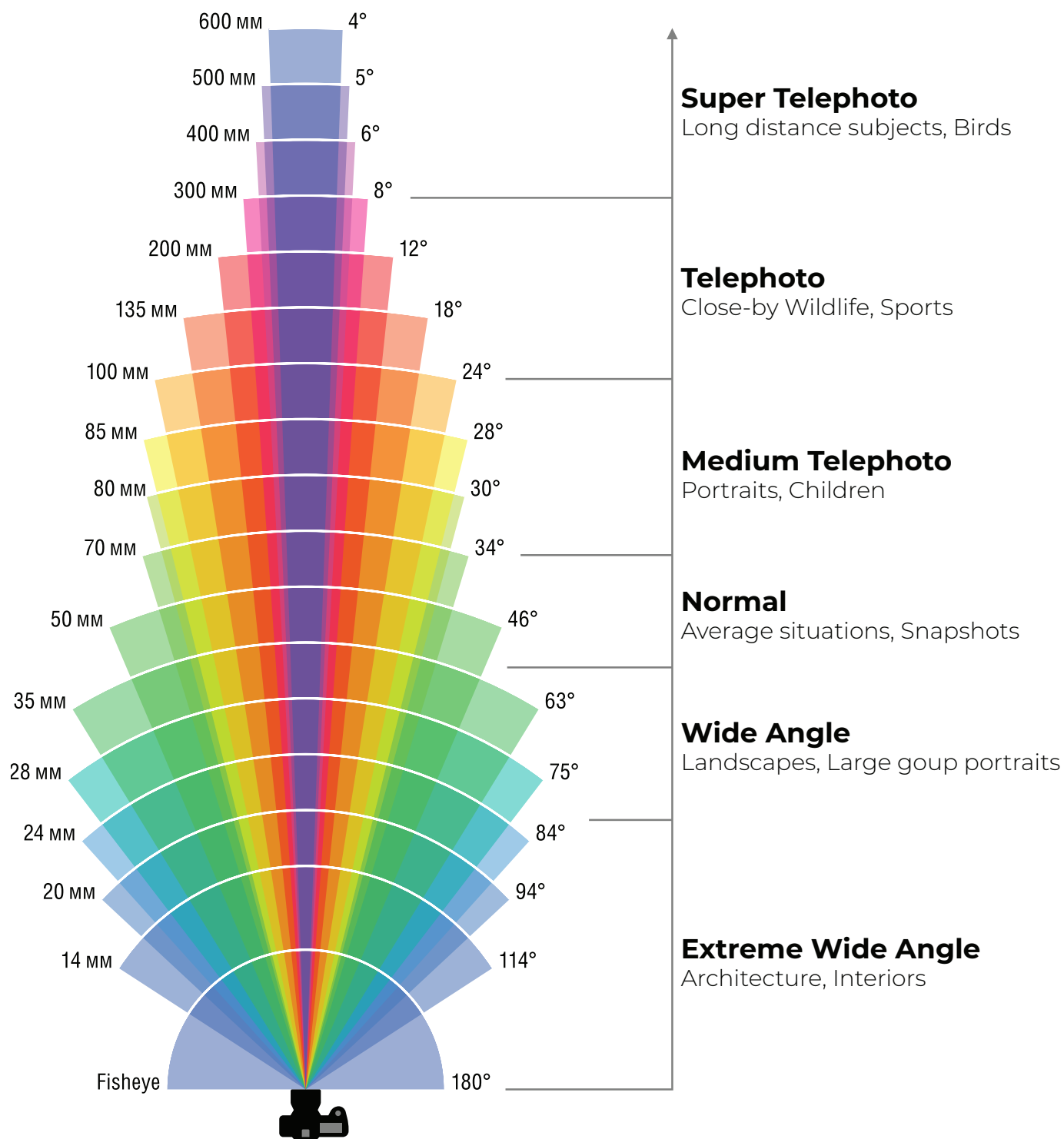
I also frequently heard that allowing ISO to float in Auto ISO is often preferred, but I wasn't clear on when exceptions should be made. After watching this video, I found that understanding when and how to use Auto ISO became much simpler.

I hope you find this video as helpful and informative as I did.

FOCAL LENGTH

SAMPLE SET

Focal length is defined as the distance between the point of light ray convergence of your lens and the sensor/film (measured in millimeters). **The longer the focal length, the narrower the angle of view. The shorter the focal length, the wider the angle of view.**

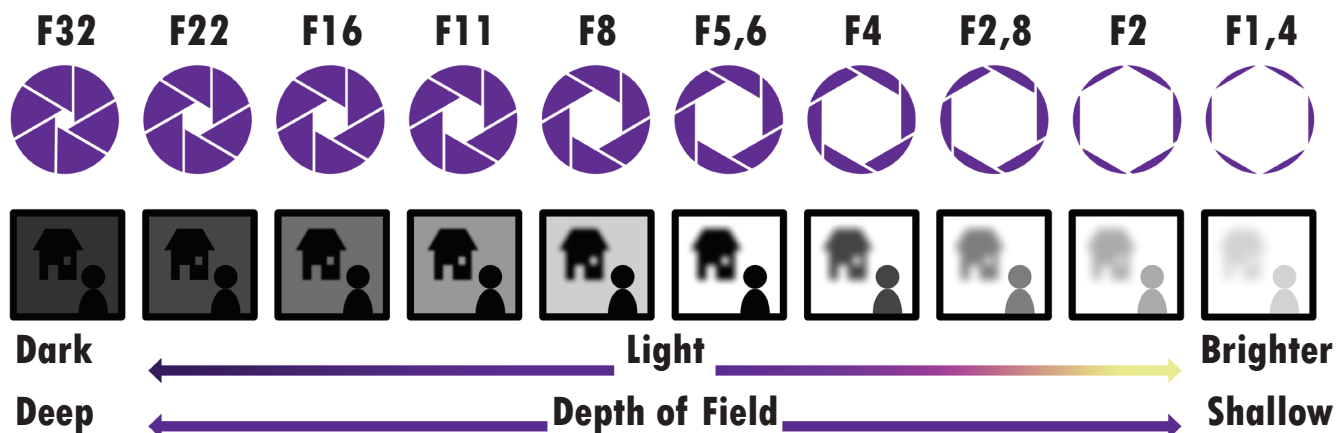


APERTURE & DEPTH OF FIELD

SAMPLE SET



The Aperture, or f-stop, is the opening through which light flows into your camera. A narrow aperture setting only lets a little light in, while a wide aperture setting allows lots of light in.



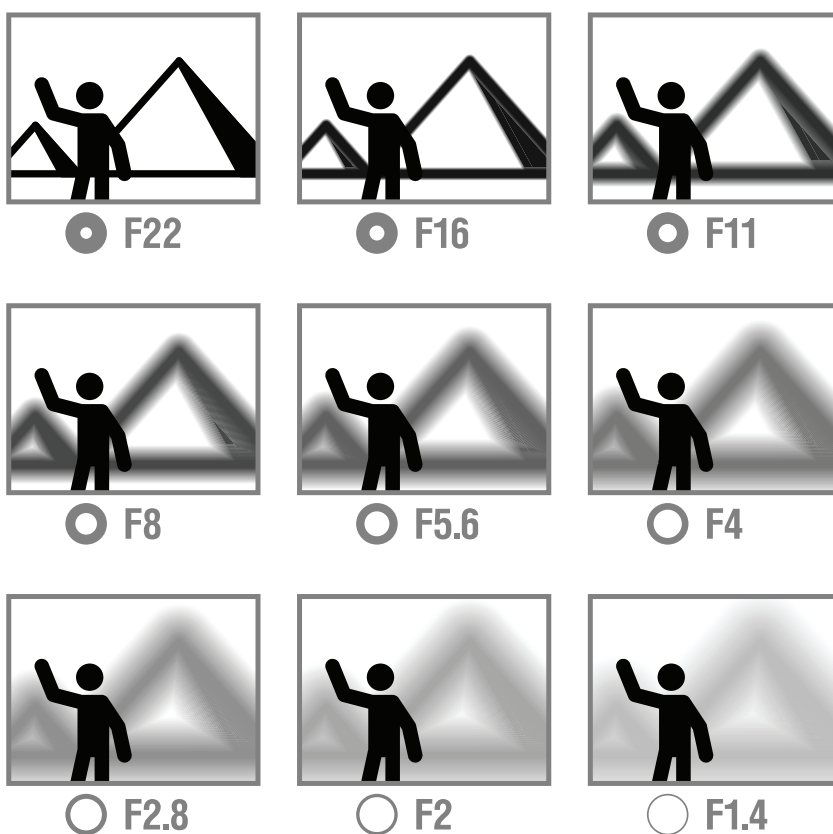
DEPTH OF FIELD

Aperture also controls the depth of field, which is itself measured as “shallow” or “deep”.

A **deep depth of field** means everything in the frame will be more in focus—including the background and foreground almost equally.

A **shallow depth of field** means that your subject will be in focus, but your background won't be; this is what's called “**bokeh**”, when the background of an image is gently blurred.

The quality of many high-end lenses is determined by the quality of their bokeh.



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 14 Show & Tell, Before & After, Critique

Show & Tell, Before & After and *Critique* 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, but submitting them earlier is preferred, and helps the presentation go more smoothly.

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 (submitting them earlier is preferred, and helps the presentation go more smoothly). 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.

For Critique: submit 1-2 JPG images to Doug Frey (doug.frey@me.com) on the **Sunday before the meeting** date. These are images you present for group discussion and critique.

Last Saturday Morning Breakfast Meeting – Everyone invited!

Please join your CLCC friends for the casual breakfast meeting on the last Saturday of the month. Lively discussions, good food! This month's will be on **Saturday, July 25, 2026, 8:30 AM** at

Buttered Toast Restaurant, 2520 Bunker Hill Dr, Algonquin.

Next month's breakfast meeting will be August 29.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW YOUR IMAGES!

4th FRIDAYS ART EVENT AT THE DOLE

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

The next 4th Friday Art Event: **July 24, 2026**

Submission Deadline: Sunday, July 12, 2026, by midnight

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

Cash Awards - \$450 total:

- 5 Honorable Mentions: \$50 cash each
- 4th Fridays Team Choice: \$50 cash each
- Kim Holz Memorial Award: \$50 cash
- Nancy Merklings 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**

Note: Photos may also be submitted to the Mixed Art Exhibit, especially if the photo is larger than the requirements for the Photo-Only Exhibit. Click here for the Mixed Art Prospectus.



CRYSTAL LAKE CAMERA CLUB OFFICERS

See The Club Directory For Contact Information

President	Judy Jorgensen
Secretary	Open
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 month.

GALLERIES, STORIES, VIDEOS AND INSPIRATION ON THE WEB

Night Sky Events to See in July 2026

Cancel any plans, and get out your tripod for great nighttime photo ops coming soon this month! Thanks to Bill Tell for sharing this!

Leicapalooza!

This is the annual celebration of all things Leica, July 17-19, 2026. Several free workshops, photo walks and lecture/demonstrations lead by prominent photographers. Events originate at Tamarkin Camera, 213 W. Institute Place, Chicago, IL 60610. Shared by Bill Tell.

Tamara Dean Blurs the Boundary Between Bodies and Natural Landscapes

*Based in the foothills of Cambewarra Mountain in New South Wales, Australia, **Tamara Dean** captures ethereal images that explore the intrinsic bond between the human body and the natural world. She is driven by what she describes as a desire to “explore the reality that humans are not separate from nature, but intrinsically part of it.”*

In The Beginning... How The World's First Photos Were Made

The title says it all. A brief article that covers heliography, daguerreotype, Calotype and wet plate processes, with photo examples.

Doorways of Chicago

*To **Ronnie Frey**, doorways are more than just entryways. From the modest to the majestic, Chicago's often historic portals are integral parts of the fabric of the city. They invite contemplation. Even after years of exploring Chicago's neighborhoods as a photographer and tour guide, Frey still notices distinctive doors and doorways he'd previously overlooked: “What I didn't realize in the beginning was there is a never-ending supply of these things.”*

These Impressive Space Photos Come With...Sound?

*In honor of the Fourth of July, NASA has turned photographs of galaxies and nebulae into songs, and released a patriotic collection of images that also comes with data-centered audio. This article explains the process, and has three examples. For a deeper dive, here's the NASA source page with many more examples: **Webb Sonifications**.*

A Rare Court Re-Hearing Could Call Key Copyright Test Into Question

Does a tattoo inspired by a photograph have the same look and feel as the original? That question is at the heart of a longstanding copyright test that could be called into question in an unusual “en banc” hearing between photographer Jeffery Sedilk and celebrity tattoo artist Kat Von D (Katherine von Drachenberg).

Helpful Resources - New links added!

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!**Take Better Photos Episode 3 - ISO and Exposure** (click the title)

Video shared by Bill Tell. Bill said: "*In my experience, this video is essential for anyone who wants a deeper, more complete understanding of exposure and is ready to move to the next level.*"

Capturing the Perfect Holiday Tablescape Just in Time for Thanksgiving! (click the title)

Shared by Peter Pelke - an in-depth article that covers lighting, angles, composition, techniques, gear, and much more.

Adobe Lightroom Classic - Tips and Tricks for a better workflow

Shared by Bill Tell - "*I've been watching a lot of YouTube videos on Lightroom Classic, and this is by far the best one yet. It's packed with solid tips you can apply to virtually any LrC workflow and settings. Incredibly helpful. It will make your post-processing much easier.*"

*Helpful Resources (continued)***What Makes Great Photos Great**

Shared by Bill Tell - *"This video is very good at explaining what makes a photo great as opposed to a snapshot. A snapshot can be technically very good but a great photo conveys emotion that makes one like to look at it."*

Best L-Bracket Showdown!

Shared by Bill Tell - *"Some photographers have asked me about the L-bracket for attachment of the camera to an Arca Swiss quick release system. This video demonstrates differences between brands of brackets. I highly recommend using an L-bracket if one expects to use a tripod."*

20 Tips for Starting Out in Street Photography

Shared by Doug Frey - *"Great article to help get started in street photography. Concise and clear ideas with excellent photo examples."*

Photography Courses Available at the Chicago Botanic Garden through November

Shared by Bill Tell - <https://www.chicagobotanic.org/learning/adult-classes/photography>

Camera Repair: Chicago Camera Specialists, 5 So. Wabash St., Suite 1017, Chicago, Illinois 60603

Phone: 312-332-5538, <https://www.chicagocameraspecialists.com/>

Shared by Russ King: *"He's only open M, W, F 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. [The owner] is desperate to sell the business, since he's clearly much beyond retirement age, but he cannot find anybody to take over and he feels guilty leaving all his loyal customers in the lurch. But he does a great job, at least on my Nikon, and he's very reasonably priced. Use him, or lose him, I say."*

Crossing Worlds | Jason Siegel & The SL3

https://youtu.be/NzGgvm_2vk4?si=ronBOvn4Ci2LX_ps

Shared by Bill Tell: *"I love street shooting, but to me the best street shooting is telling a story about a subject as this video explains." Photographer Jason Siegel explores the versatility of the creative process by blending diverse subjects, formats, and editing techniques. By capturing moments across various environments, Siegel demonstrates how combining different perspectives can tell a cohesive story and keep artistry evolving through continuous exploration of new techniques."*

AN AUTHOR had written several books about his ability to see ghosts but was constantly attacked by skeptics. Determined to show them up, he set out to catch a ghost on film. He went at midnight to a house known to be haunted, waited until he heard some noises, then followed the sounds to the stairway. At the top was - no doubt about it - a genuine ghost.

As the author fumbled with his camera, he could see the ghost wave, smile and even pose. The light was poor, so he pressed the button again and again. Then the ghost vanished.

When he developed the film, the author was crushed to see that dim light had killed any chance of getting a useful photo. He wrote in his notebook, "The spirit was willing, but the flash was weak."