



Twin City Camera Club

ViewFinder

Member: Photographic Society of America
and The Southwestern Michigan Council of Camera Clubs

June 2017 Roll 81, Exposure 6

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**To encourage and develop an interest in photography.
We hope you are “Focusing on Photography” and having fun...**

Our Competition Season concludes with the Annual Competition on Saturday June 24th starting at 10:00 am. The Annual competition is held at the end of each competition season to select the Top Three photographs from each of the competition divisions, Black & White Prints, Color Prints, Black & White Digital Slides and Color Digital Slides. Competition entries that received an Honor or Acceptance are eligible for this competition. Print makers have until Monday night June 12th to get their prints in for the Annual Competition. You may select up to 10 B&W and up to 10 Color prints that received an Honor or Acceptance during the monthly competitions. Place them on the table in the front of the meeting room on the left by the bulletin board. Members that competed in Digital Slides have until the end of the day on Tuesday June 13th to get their modified list of entries to Ted Post.

Photo of the Month: Your winners of the Photo of the Month for May, in Black & White a Tie, “Barbara Kirby - Marry Me” and “Tom McCall – Splish Splash” and in Color “Dennis Hafer – Calla Lily.” Congratulations to all. Review their comments on the Announcements and Photo of the Month pages of the website. Many Thanks to all of the members that submitted votes.

Selections are now **OPEN** for the June Photo of the Month. The June Honors are on the new Monthly Honors page on the TCCC web site. Select One (1) Black & White and One (1) Color photo and get your votes in... Send your picks to: POM@twincitycameraclub.com Thank You!

I want to thank all of you who participate, your Vote Counts, Thank You!

Report on the May Program Night: Again like last year, Eric Johnson presented us with an excellent program on Wildlife Photography. He said they were able to spend 10 days in southern Tanzania photographing the annual migration of Wildebeest and Zebra – and catch the hunts from the big cats. He said he returned with over 18,000 images that he is still working on, and was extremely fortunate to have photographed a number of rarely seen animals, including a Honey badger, White-tailed mongoose, Egyptian mongoose, a Serval (cat), a Caracal (cat), and an elephant that is reported to have the largest tusks in Africa!

Eric said several interesting things that I hadn't considered before. We've all seen programs on the wildlife in Africa, some of our members have been there and we've enjoyed their images in competitions and programs without realizing a few things.

Eric said they booked their trip as individuals and as such, it was just the two of them, Eric and his wife Valerie, and the tour people, guides, drivers, etc. I guess I never gave it any thought, others that I have known that have made the trip and been on a tour said they've always been in groups. So having your own private tour must make it special and provide more photographic opportunities. Knowing that gave me a different perspective on seeing Eric's photographs vs. some of the others I seen from Africa.

Eric said it wasn't all without problems, like he would tell the driver to stop and the driver would say he would stop but would continue driving on for a while to a place where he wanted to stop.

Report on the May Program Night continued: I thought Eric meant he would see something he wanted to photograph and say stop, but the driver would continue driving beyond where the photo could be taken. Eric cleared that up by saying he spoke to the driver later that evening at their camp. He said he got the driver aside and with sketches and explaining, was able to show how important it was for the driver to stop when asked. Eric said he told the driver it was all about the light and how the direction of the light where he wanted to stop was so important. Eric said after that the driver would stop right away and worked with him on getting what he wanted.

After Eric said that, I started paying more attention to how Eric used the light in his photos. It became very evident that he was working the light for all it was worth and it was providing him with even better images. You all need to take a second look at Eric's photos and you'll see what I mean.

Just for you and just for that, I've left the Program Information page with some of Eric's photos and information up on the TCCC website. The Program Information link, can be found on the Announcements page just above Eric's Business card. The card is also a link to his website. You can see many more of Eric's photos there. They're really good and it's time well spent to see them.

The Program Information page also contains some links for the follow-up information on the auto focus fine tune that Eric talked about during his program. Check it out, it's something most of us don't consider or don't really know how it affects our equipment and photos.

Eric said he and his wife got to know a little more about what it is like for the individuals working as their guides, drivers and helpers. Their living conditions are still very primitive and most don't have what we consider to be basic things like electricity, plumbing and running water. They still cook over open fires. Eric said they also learned that most of the workers aspire to be guides, which is considered to be the top job. One such worker was a young man that they got to know a little more about and liked. He wanted to become a guide but couldn't afford the schooling, so Eric said he and his wife kind of adopted him and are sponsoring him for his guide training. Eric hopes to work with him again the next time they return to Africa.

Eric said he had always heard about great photo opportunities in northern Maine, but when they arrived, they learned it was all privately owned land and found they wanted to much money to be able to enter the land to photograph anything. So Eric showed us photos from other places in Maine and along the coast. Then it was back to places in Michigan, with even some photos taken in Eric's back yard.

It was another excellent program with some truly great photographs. I like Eric, I think he is a very down to earth kind of person. He is very knowledgeable and informative and makes you feel you are right there with him. Both of his programs were enjoyed by all. Eric said they have another trip planned this year for a part of Africa where the gorillas live in the forests. I'm sure we'll be talking to Eric about presenting another program for us next year. Let us know what you think about that.

Someone made the comment to me that the program went a little long. It was one of the longest that we've had and was about two hours. Eric had asked me during the program, how he was doing on time, so I told him to take as much as he needed. I did think about it before I answered and knew it was going to be a little longer because he wanted to share some tips about how he processed his photos and about testing lenses. You can all put it on me if you felt it was to long. I for one enjoyed the entire thing, but that's just me. :O) I will ask him to shorten it a little the next time if we have him back.

To see more information and some of Eric's photography go to the Program Information page on the TCCC website and again I say, check out Eric's website at: <http://www.visionsofwildlife.com>

Nature Images moved to Open: Were some of your images moved from Select to Open? Most likely they didn't fit the the category because of the presence of "The Hand of Man." If man had been involved with any part of something in an image, including creating, altering or it's modification and is visible, it would be considered to contain the hand of man and not be eligible to be in Select. You might think that something that is very small and hard to see would be overlooked but you have to remember it will be projected very large on the screen. Nature is a category you don't want to "Push the Envelope" and try to slip something by the judges. Use those images in another Select category or in Open.

Civic Contributions and Awards: TCCC and its members contribute to several civic organizations every year. It could be by helping out with judging a competition, providing images for a project like a website, calendar or program and sometimes it's monetarily. This year we are providing judging and monetary awards to The Box Factory for the Arts for the MAAC Show Photography Merit Award. The North Berrien Historical Museum in Coloma, for the "North Berrien Through My Eyes" photography contest. Plus Treasurer Ted Post will also be conducting a class on basic photography on the evening of June 22nd. for potential entrants of the contest.

The judging for the MAAC Show was conducted by Dan Brant, Dennis Hafer and myself on Friday June 9th. The results of the judging will be posted on the TCCC website soon. Look for it after the MAAC Show opens on June 16th. We don't want to disclose the winner before they do.

We provide a monetary Award in Photography to the Krasl Art Center, for the Krasl Art Fair on the bluff. They bring in some pretty good names for the judges.

Last year we provided a monetary award and judging by Dan Brant and myself at the Berrien County Youth Fair. TCCC is the sponsor of a challenge trophy (since the 1970's) for the Grand Champion Sr. Division (14 to 20 years) for Photography. I found it to be a fun experience, If you would be interested in being one of the judges at the fair this summer, let me know.

President Ken McKeown has shown and is showing our Annual Award Winning Slide Show to several local organizations and groups this year. This is something he's done for many years.

If there is anything I missed, please let me know.

Contest Winners: 1st. V.P. Steve Campbell and Treasurer Ted Post have had images selected in calendar photo contests for the Cook Nuclear Center and the Berrien County Youth Fair calendars.

One of our newer members, John Kubicek, won with a Black & White photo of a Waterfall, taking the Second Place award in the Nature Category of the Senior Expo Photo Contest at the Lake Michigan College Mendel Center, sponsored by the Herald-Palladium on May 10th.

Members in the News: We have several members of our club that belong to other Camera Clubs, for the most part I believe they were TCCC members first and branched out to other clubs for a variety of reasons, whether it was to join with friends, etc. We don't normally report on activities of other Camera Clubs but I thought this was notable. The Berrien Springs Camera Club End of the Year Winners:

1st Place - Egret by Jim Lynch and 2nd Place - Screw Auger Falls by Ted Post. Ken McKeown was one of the Judges. You can see the winning images: <http://berrienspringscameraclub.blogspot.com>

TCCC Annual Picnic: On Monday, June 26th. the picnic will be held at the Coloma United Methodist Church, 144 S. Church St, in Coloma. Doors will be open at 6:00 pm. and the Meal will be at 6:30 pm. The room will be the social hall and it is downstairs (there is an elevator). There is No smoking in the building and no alcohol is permitted.

This is a new location for us because numbers count. The TCCC Board had to take this action and move the picnic location because the attendance levels at the Annual Picnic and Annual Awards Banquet have dropped in recent years. To use the facilities of the Vineland Center, the club guaranteed there would be a certain number of people (50) attending the event. As the attendance numbers got smaller, the amount of money paid out by the club to make up the difference was growing larger, so it was proposed to the Board and Approved to hold the event at another location.

Let us know how many guests you are bringing right away. That will help us in the planning. Get your reservations in to Ted Post, via email: theodore.post@yahoo.com or telephone 269-429-9581. Ted said you can pay at the Picnic but he does need your reservations now. Reservation cut off date is Sunday the 18th. Family members and guests are permitted at the same price of \$ 9.00 per person.

The Menu: fried chicken, sliced beef, and ham. All are warm dishes and not cold cuts. Also includes: a vegetable tray, coleslaw, potato salad and baked beans. Dessert and drinks of lemonade, pop and water and will be provided by TCCC. Also plates, napkins, and plastic ware will be provided.

TCCC Annual Picnic continued:

Information and Maps can be found on the TCCC website. Click on the Blue TCCC Picnic sign on the Announcements page.

Dennis Hafer tells me he has most of the new show done. It's made up from all of those favorite photos you sent in. It's always a treat to see and hear what Dennis comes up with. I always enjoy his shows and I'm sure you will to. Dennis says Thank You, to all of you that sent in your photos.

Hope to see all of you there for good food, good friends, lots of laughter and an enjoyable time.

June Stats are posted on the TCCC website.

June Digital Results are posted in the Member's Only section.

June Honor Images: The June Honor Images have been posted on a new Monthly Honors page for the 2016 - 2017 Season on the TCCC website.

June Honors:

Class A Color Prints

Gorson Drake – Sandhills
Gorson Drake - Sunset and Ice
Gorson Drake - Twins
Elaine Harju - Tree in the Swamp
Ralph Harju - Natural Bridge

Class B Color Digital

Sandy Hafer - Golden Stairway
Sandy Hafer - Picture This
Sandy Hafer - Sunshine Daisy

Class A Black & White Digital

Steve Campbell - Babcock
Steve Campbell - Magic Kingdom
Steve Campbell - Michigan's Great Waterfall
Gary Huttenstine - Butterfly 1
Gary Huttenstine - Eagle Eye 3
Tom McCall - Pod-ites
Ken McKeown - Color Me Dark
Barry Nelson - Glacier Valley
Maria Pelaez - Look at Me
Ted Post - Allevia Fan 2272
Jake Toering - Life Saving Boat

Class A Color Digital

Juanita Attard - Fading Light
Ron Bonczkowski - Along Came A Spider
Ron Bonczkowski - Morning Light Stream
Steve Campbell - Change is Near
Steve Campbell - Colorful Butterfly
Steve Campbell - Sandstone Falls
Dennis Hafer - Old School Education
Dennis Hafer - Rainbow Rocks

Class A Color Digital Continued

Dennis Hafer - Spring Unfurling
Gary Huttenstine - American Kestrel
Gary Huttenstine - Eagle Eye 2
Gary Huttenstine - Great Horned Owl 2
Gary Huttenstine - Gulf Fritillary 4
Jim Lynch - Kestrel
Jim Lynch - Meadowlark
Jim Lynch - Red-bellied Woodpecker
Jim Lynch - Stellers Jay
Tom McCall - 2 by 2 by 2
Tom McCall - Tangled on Top
Barry Nelson - Feeding Time
Maria Pelaez - Bougainvillea
Maria Pelaez - Close to me
Maria Pelaez - Lemur
Maria Pelaez - Zebra Butterfly
Ted Post - Dead Horse State Park Sunrise 2868
Ted Post - Glade Grist Mill stream 9130
Ted Post - Texas Falls 8587
Pam Rothwell - Butterfly and Bee
Pam Rothwell - Hibiscus
Pam Rothwell - Jack
Jake Toering - Owl
Dave Wheeler - Love Your Hair

Judges: Cindy Young, Owner of the Brick School Gallery (now in her home in Watervliet); Rob Pearce, Naturalist, Sarett Nature Center, <http://sarett.com> and Rob Regovich, VP, Photography & Video Services, <http://johnsonrauhoff.com> Many Thanks to the judges, we appreciate them taking the time to come and judge for us and look forward to seeing them again.

CONGRATULATIONS to all of the competitors. Thanks for all of your efforts preparing your entries and submitting them into competition. We had 23 members, submitting 144 entries, 94 in Select, 50 in Open, who received 81 Acceptances, 51 Honors and 12 Rejects.

Special Congratulations go to Jim Lynch and Gary Huttenstine for four (4) Honors in Class A Color Digital, which were all in Select and achieved perfect scores of 22 points. Way to go, great job.

Competition Season Awards: During the monthly competition, points are earned and accumulated until the end of the competition year when awards are given to the top three point winners in each category. If you don't see a category or one that doesn't have three places it's because there is a requirement that a minimum of 45 points must be earned to be eligible for a top three point award.

Our Award winners for the 2016 – 2017 Competition Season are:

Class B Color Digital Slides

1st. Carol Reidsma – 65
2nd. Sandy Hafer – 47

Class A Black & White Prints

1st. Ralph Harju – 152
2nd. Elaine Harju – 150

Class A Color Prints

1st. Gorson Drake – 163
2nd. Elaine Harju – 152
3rd. Ralph Harju – 130

Class A Black & White Digital Slides

1st. Steve Campbell – 172
2nd. Tom McCall – 165
3rd. Ron Bonczkowski – 147

Class A Color Digital Slides

1st. Jim Lynch – 191
2nd. Tom McCall – 169
3rd. Steve Campbell – 166

Congratulations to all of the winners! Along with the feelings of accomplishment for making it into the top three, come the bragging rights and as a small incentive for the next season, a little remuneration comes your way at the Annual Awards Banquet. For the rest of you, it's time to set your sights on one of the top spots, review the Select Subjects list, grab your camera equipment, and go out there and capture some **exceptional** photos to enter in the Select Subject each Month. Make sure you have fun doing it.

Competition Advancement: The following Class B Member has achieved the requirements to advance to Class A. Congratulations go to Carol Reidsma. Way to go! Don't forget to put all your entries into Class A starting in September.

You can always find upcoming activities and reminders of events posted on the Announcements page of the TCCC Website.

Photography quote for today:

“Photography helps people to see.” ~ Berenice Abbott

Just a Thought:

“The best things in life aren't things.” ~ Author Unknown

Happiness is:

“Life is better when you're laughing.” ~ Author Unknown

May you always have love to share, health to spare & friends who care!

Keep those shutters clicking...