



Twin City Camera Club

ViewFinder

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

February 2018 Roll 82, Exposure 2

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Annual business meeting: The club's annual business meeting starts at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 26. The meeting is for members only; no guests allowed. This is the one meeting for you to discuss your thoughts, ideas, suggestions and even complaints. It will start with club business and the treasurer's report by Ted Post. Learn where the club's monies are spent and the source of our income. All of this has a direct effect on the direction and where you want the club to go in the future.

We need help. Can you fill one of the empty slots in our Organizational Chart, or be a backup person for one of the competition night positions to fill in when needed? We need to review, discuss and update our bylaws. Will you participate? Give a little thought to what the club has given you. Then think about how you can give back.

We also will decide the Select subjects for the 2019-20 competition season. You can find what topics have been used in the past on the TCCC Select Subjects page in the Member's Only section. Review what's involved in coming up with the Select subjects on the club's website members only page and present your ideas at the meeting.

Several important things should be considered in determining a Select Subject:

- Will it apply to both the Color and the Black and White divisions?
- Will it make a good photographic subject that the judges will like?
- Will the members enjoy finding, photographing and creating the competition images?
- Have we used it before, how was it received, should we use it again?
- Can it easily be defined or described?

The purpose of having Select subjects is to encourage and promote photographing a variety of subjects and to expand each photographer's photographic horizons. They can also provide inspiration for those days when you want to take photographs but just don't know what to take. We try to keep the Select Subjects each season interesting, a little challenging, doable and most of all fun.

Celebration of Life: Elaine Harju invites all club members to a Celebration of Life for her husband and TCCC club member Ralph from 2-5 p.m. March 18 at the Box Factory for the Arts. She said the camera club and friends Ralph made were an important part of their lives "It would mean so much to him and me."

March competition: The Select topic for March is "Festivals": The object that is the focus of attention in the image must be readily identified with a festival or event. For example, Fourth of July, Oktoberfest, fair, carnival, parade, fiesta, jamboree, fireworks, etc. Digital images are due March 5. Email to digital@twincitycameraclub.com. Prints can be turned on competition night, March 12.

January POM: Congratulations go to Maria Pelaez whose black and white photo, Little Boy, and color photo, Getting Ready for Fall, were selected as January's B&W Photo of the Month and January's Color Photo of the Month, respectively. You can review her comments about her photos on the Announcements and Photo of the Month pages of the website. Many thanks to the 28 members who submitted votes.



Special note from Webmaster Tom McCall: This is one of those special times for the Photo of the Month. Having one of your Honor images selected by the club members as Photo of the Month is pretty special. Receiving both, the Black & White and the Color selections in the same month and both in Select, is rare and very special. This has occurred only on two other occasions. In January 2015, Ken McKeown had both POM Photos and in April 2015, Dennis Hafer had both POM Photos, all were in Select.

The January Select Subject was "Creative." There were many excellent Honor photos to choose the POM from and it was going to take exceptional images to be selected as the winners. I think we can all agree that Maria's images were exceptional. She came up with some wonderful ideas and was able to convey them into her photos for us. They were both very well done. Way to go Maria, great job.

Thanks judges: Judges for the February competition were:

- Dawn Knuth – Dawn Knuth Images. facebook.com/dawnknuthimages
- Dave Stuart – photographer, Berrien Springs Camera Club
- Beth Wharton – graphic designer/portrait photographer

Many thanks to all of them. We appreciate them taking the time to come and judge for us.

Spring cleaning: Tom McCall needs your list of camera items you want to sell by Feb. 19 for the Spring Cleaning buyer from Jack's Camera Shop. Tom's email address is tombmccall@gmail.com. Call him at 269-983-5986 if you have questions.

February POM: Selections are open for members to pick the February Photo of the Month. Pick the ones you think will best represent and promote TCCC for the visitors of the TCCC website. Select one color photo and one black & white photo and send your picks to POM@twincitycameraclub.com. The deadline is midnight, Feb. 28. Your vote counts. Thanks to all who participate.

Double-check entries: Please double-check your digital entries. We've received photos that were incorrectly sized and titled which makes lots of extra work for those handling the competition and could result in images being left out of competition. Competition rules are on the club website at twincitycameraclub.com/Competition2.htm.

Digital entries must be in by midnight Monday, March 5. They must be sized 1024x1024 and not exceed 1 MB. A correctly title is as follows – your name (space) dash (space) image title. For example: John Henry – Steel Diving Man. Make sure you prepare an Entry Card or request one be made for you. Thank You!

January program report: Pete and Susan Mathews presented an excellent program on “Taiga, Tundra and Bears.” Pete and his wife Susan spent a week in Churchill, Manitoba, shooting photos of tundra, taiga, northern boreal forests and polar bears and other subarctic critters. Pete's photos and his narrative of the trip provided some insight into the area that has been called the Polar Bear Capital of the World. It's where polar bears gather around Churchill waiting for the ice to form on Hudson Bay. They spent several days going out in specially designed vehicles called Tundra Buggies, with a viewing platform to photograph the bears. He said it was all very controlled and you weren't permitted to walk around on your own because of the danger from the bears. On one of the days he and Susan were able to go for a ride in a dog sled.

Pete and Susan answered questions about how they traveled, the food and where they stayed. Pete said all passengers and freight had to come in by air because of flood damage in May caused the loss of train service and the railway was the only land route to Churchill.

Many thanks to Pete and Susan for sharing their experiences and taking us on another adventure. Where will it be next time? Pete said they had a few other places in mind for their next trip.

Top Ten: Top ten reasons why photography is a great hobby, according to a post by Stacey Hill on the digital– photography– school.com website:

- Recording events and capturing memories
- Having fun
- Learning is good for the brain
- Health and fitness
- Creativity
- Travel
- Meet new people
- Join a photographic community
- Develop a personal style
- It's all about the light

Honors posted: The February Honors images are on the new Monthly Honors page for 2017-18 on the website.

Digital results posted: February Digital Results are posted in the Member's Only section. Digital chairman Ted Post said: “Looks like color digital is going to be a real dog fight this year.” Four

members are tied for second and only nine points separate the top six positions. With only four months left it should be interesting, stay tuned...

Another good reason: Here's another good reason to visit the club website. Webmaster Tom McCall has a link to a site that offers free, that's right, free plug-ins. The site also offers resources for Photoshop, Lightroom, Photoshop Elements, Paint Shop Pro, Photo-Paint, After Effects, Premiere and other applications. Just click on the Webmaster's Corner tab and scroll down. You'll find a treasure trove of links.

Free photo software: Visit the club website for a link to free, photo editing software – Topaz Studio. If enough members download it and try it out, we will have a class on it. Dennis Hafer says it saves him about 50 percent in his post processing time.

Judges needed: Members are asked that if they know of active photographers who aren't in the club but who might like to be a judge to please forward their information to Gary@twincitycameraclub.com.

Visit the Website: Remember to visit the club website – twincitycameraclub.com – often. Tom McCall updates the site regularly, so don't miss the news and tips.

Street photography: There's not a lot of outdoor public events in the next few weeks to attract a crowd for street photographers so you'll have to be creative. But here is one event to put on your calendar:

- Third annual St. Patrick's 5K Run/Walk at 9 a.m., Saturday, March 17, at Coloma Township Hall, 4919 Paw Paw Lake Road. It's a fundraiser for Paws for a Cause and HOPE resources.

Good stuff, cheap (mostly): Looking to buy or sell camera equipment? Visit the club's Website at twincitycameraclub.com and click on the "classifieds" tab. Buyers will find good deals (haggling allowed), and sellers will find a captive audience. This month's featured items are tripods.

Quote of the Month: "To me, photography is an art of observation. It's about finding something interesting in an ordinary place... I've found it has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them." — Elliott Erwitt

Competition results: Congratulations go to all the February competitors. Thanks for all your efforts in preparing and submitting your entries. We had 23 members submitting 161 entries, 118 in Select, 43 in Open, that received 121 Acceptances, 18 Honors and 22 rejects. That's an acceptance/honor rate of 86 percent and a rejection rate of 14 percent. Competitors receiving Honors were:

Class B Black & White Digital

- Deb Chamberlain – Power Patterns. This is Deb's first competition and first Honor. Congratulations Deb.
- Sandy Hafer – Broad Museum MSU
- Sandy Hafer – Windows

Class B Color Digital

- Sandy Hafer – Phone Booth Styles

- Sandy Hafer – Red Door

Class A Black & White Digital

- Dennis Hafer – Circle Up
- Dennis Hafer – Theater Seating
- Gary Huttenstine – Parliament Halls
- Barbara Kirby – Tiny Treasure
- Barbara Kirby Snowflake Pile
- Jim Long – Cadillac Patterns
- Jim Long – Wheel Patterns
- Tom McCall – Side Light
- Tom McCall – Switchback
- Jake Toering – Staircase

Class A Color Digital

- Ron Bonczkowski – Patterns In Red
- Ken McKeown – Ol Red Eyes– Nose– Mouth
- Ken McKeown – Quietly We Rise

Take more pictures

*But don't
forget to*

Enter competitions



We exist to encourage and develop an interest in photography.

We hope you are “Focusing on Photography” and having fun.

Keep those shutters clicking ...

(Remember: Photographers who don't take photos go mad.)