



Twin City Camera Club *ViewFinder*

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

January Roll 82, Exposure 1

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Happy New Year!



*But don't
forget to*



Take more pictures



Enter competitions

February competition: The Select topics for February are “Red and B&W Patterns.” For Red, the primary object must be predominantly the color red, not the background or surrounding color. Examples include red flower, red vehicle, red hair, red fruits or vegetables, etc. The B&W patterns is a repetitive design or arrangement of objects that can be natural or accidental in origin. Examples include repetitive designs in things natural or manmade, plants, leaves, walkway, buildings, etc. Digital images are due Feb. 5. Email to digital@twincitycameraclub.com. Prints can be turned on competition night, Feb. 12.

Annual business meeting: Start thinking about what you would like to discuss at the annual business meeting on Feb. 26. We 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.

Thanks judges: Judges for the January competition night were:

- Julia Gourley, executive director, Krasl Art Center, www.krasl.com;
 - Tom Allen, Coloma, professional fine art photographer and freelance photo illustrator, thomasallenonline.com;
 - David Blasy, photographer, St. Joseph, [Facebook.com/Blasyphotography](https://www.facebook.com/Blasyphotography).
- Many thanks to all of them. We appreciate them taking the time to come and judge for us.

December POM: Congratulations go to Jim Lynch and Tom McCall whose images were selected as December's Photos of the Month.



© 2017 Jim Lynch

B&W Photo of the Month

Jim Lynch - Civil War Troops

The image was taken with a 30D Canon at Gettysburg Battle Field. It was converted into black & white image with several textures added. The image was then cropped.

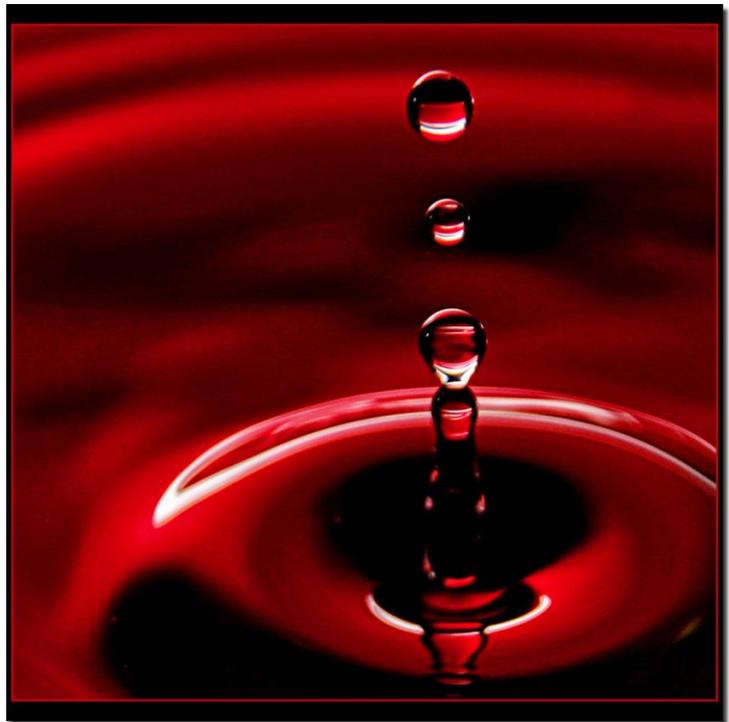
Color Photo of the Month

Tom McCall - A Column in Red

The image was taken during the preparation and testing for a Monday night program that included this setup for water drop photography. This was another fortuitous moment of capturing a water drop photo that became a Photo of the Month. If you look at the September 2015 POM, you'll see "Liquid in Motion," another photo taken the same evening during testing.

Canon EOS 40D, Sigma 18-200mm Lens at 200 mm Macro 1:4.4, f6.3, 1/100, ISO100, Sigma EF-500 flash set to Manual lowest setting.

Post processing was with Adobe Photoshop CS6, Camera Raw and On1 Perfect Effects.



© 2017 Tom McCall

With much sorrow: Will Hayes has passed away after undergoing cancer treatment for more than a year. Our thoughts and prayers are with his partner Jim Long and their family and friends. More details are coming on the website.

In memoriam: We were saddened to learn of the passing of one of our members, Ralph Harju. He passed away Thursday, Dec. 28, 2017. Longtime club member and former board member Tom McCall had this to say about Ralph:

“Ralph Harju joined the Twin City Camera Club in 2001 and was active in the club, serving as a director on the Board for several years and helping out on projects. Ralph enjoyed competing and competed in Film Slides, Digital Slides and Prints. I recall that before we had a Black and White Digital Division, Ralph liked entering Black and White film slides. I think he liked doing it because it was unusual and surprised some of the judges. Some of his recent awards included the first and second runner-up for the Black and White Print of the Year in our 2016-17 annual competition. You can see those prints and some of his other prints in the new displays that were just installed on the clubhouse walls.

“He competed in the SWMCC competitions and attended the SWMCC Summer School. He liked the portrait sessions and would do well in the portrait competitions. I would hear reports from others that Ralph did well in the various juried competitions being held around in Michigan and Indiana.

“Ralph and his wife Elaine, also a member of TCCC since 2006, would go on the TCCC photo field trips to Chicago and northern Michigan and I'm told that Ralph enjoyed his time with the Black and White group when they got together and would go with them on their field trips.

“It was a treat for us to see photos taken by Ralph and Elaine during their trips to Italy. They enjoyed visiting Elaine's relatives there and would travel around in the country taking photos. You might remember seeing a woman in the photos, dressed all in black, positioned conveniently near walkways or doorways, that added considerable interest to the photographs. It struck me as a wonderful idea when I learned that it was actually Elaine wrapped in a black cloth and posing in the best areas.

“Ralph was an interesting person to talk to and always seemed to be pleased to see you. He had an easy smile and a quick wit. “He will be missed.”

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Elaine, his wife of over 50 years, and to all their family and friends. His obituary can be found on the club website.

Photography challenge: Sometimes a writer hits a wall and can't write. That's called writer's block. Sometimes a photographer hits a wall and can't take a photo. I'm sure that's called something, but what it is I have no clue. Anyway, for those of us who feel uninspired, thephotargus.com has issued a 52-week 2018 Photography Challenge. The list includes a forest an old building, a creek or river, someplace you love, someplace you hate, ... it goes on for 47 more place ideas to take photos and hopefully reenergize yourself. Just visit the website mentioned above for the complete list.

Total lunar eclipse: A total lunar eclipse is on Jan. 31. In our area it's expected to start about 5:51 a.m., reach totality at 7:53 a.m. and end at 7:58 a.m., for a total of two hours, seven minutes. Hope for clear skies and above zero temps.

New member: Please welcome Deb Chamberlain of St. Joseph as a new club member. On behalf of our entire membership, we welcome you and wish you much success. We hope your experience in the club will be challenging, enjoyable, rewarding and most of all, fun.

January POM: Selections are now open for members to pick the January Photo of the Month. There are a lot of excellent photos to choose from this 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, Jan. 1. Your vote counts. Thanks to all who participate.

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.

January program: Pete Mathews will present his program, "Taiga, Tundra and Bears" on Jan. 22.



Pete Mathews photo

Pete says the presentation will be about spending a week in Churchill, Manitoba, shooting tundra, taiga, northern boreal forests and, of course, polar bears and other subarctic critters. He has previously presented programs for TCCC on photo trips to Africa, Antarctica, Ecuador and Iceland. We welcome Pete back for what we know will be another excellent program. More information and photos can be found on the Announcements page.

Top Ten: Top ten reasons to date a photographer:

- They work well in the dark
- They're used to funny smells
- They make things develop
- They work well on many settings
- They know how to focus
- They can make big things look small and small things look big
- They work well from many different angles
- They zoom in and out. And in and out and in and out and in and out...
- They shoot in many different locations
- They can find the beauty in anything

January Honors:

The January Honors are on the new Monthly Honors page on the TCCC website.

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: Here is a list of festivals and whatnot that would be prime opportunities for street photography:

- 5-9 p.m., Jan. 20: Winter Delights: A Festival of Wine, Food, and Music, The Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College, 2755 E. Napier Ave., Benton Harbor.
- 5-8 p.m., Jan. 26: 6th annual Chili Tour, 301 State St., downtown St. Joseph.
- noon-4 p.m., Jan 27: St. Joe Winter Beer Festival, 301 State St., downtown St. Joseph.
- 5-8 p.m., Feb. 2; 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 3; daylight viewing, Feb. 4: 14th annual Magical Ice Fest, 301 State St., St. Joseph.
- 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Feb. 3: Dowagiac Ice Time, downtown Dowagiac.

Pick up prints: The 2018 display prints were installed on the wall panels by Amber Tibone with her special helper Annebelle Tibone; and Tom McCall, Dennis Hafer and Barry Nelson. We are thankful that Amber was able to help and apply her many artistic talents to create this wonderful display. Many thanks to all of you that contributed prints for the display. TCCC members can now pick up their prints that weren't used in the display.

Competition results: Congratulations to all the January competitors. Thanks for all your efforts preparing your entries and submitting them into competition. We had 22 members, submitting 141 entries – 110 in Select, 31 in Open – who received 88 Acceptances, 33 Honors and 20 Rejects. That's an acceptance/honor rate of 86 percent and a rejection rate of 14 percent.

A special congratulation goes to Sandy Hafer for receiving four Honors in Class B Black & White Digital Slides, all in Select achieving a perfect score of 22 points.

Class B Black & White Digital

- Sandy Hafer - Floating Orbs
- Sandy Hafer - Forgotten
- Sandy Hafer - Skybridge
- Sandy Hafer - Vintage Or Antique

Class B Color Digital

- Gail Chapman - Flower Power
- Sandy Hafer - Alien Ship
- Sandy Hafer - Dahlia Delight

Class A Black & White Digital

- Barbara Kirby - St. Joseph Falls
- Dennis Hafer - Going Down
- Dennis Hafer - Looking Back
- Dennis Hafer - Which Stairway Goes Where
- Jim Lynch - Eccloes LBR. CO.
- Jim Lynch - Hamilton Trestle

- Maria Pelaez - Little boy
- Ron Bonczkowski - What's For Lunch
- Tom McCall - A Might Breezy
- Tom McCall - Ready to Leave Home

Class A Color Digital

- Barbara Kirby - From my Window
- Barbara Kirby - Get Out of the Turtle Tank
- Barbara Kirby - Picture This
- Dennis Hafer - Natures Fractal
- Dennis Hafer - The Love Bug
- Gary Huttenstine - Pink Water Lily
- Jim Lynch - Stuka Bomber
- Jim Lynch - Yankee Troops
- Ken McKeown - Maudes Flower Shop
- Maria Pelaez - Calm
- Maria Pelaez - Getting ready for fall
- Maria Pelaez - In my dreams
- Michel Rose - Fundy Bay ICM
- Ron Bonczkowski - Light Rays
- Ted Post - OCC Door Hinge
- Ted Post - OCC Steering Wheel

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: A camera didn't make a great picture any more than a typewriter wrote a great novel." – Peter Adams

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.)