



# ViewFinder

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



May 2023, Roll 88, Exposure 5

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**MAAC juried exhibit:** Our apologies go to Sherry Saenz. Her name was left off the list of club members in the April ViewFinder whose works were included in the juried 2023 Michiana Annual Art Competition at the Box Factory for the Arts. In fact, Sherry's black & white photograph, "Natural Abstract," was the first-place winner in the black & white photography category. Congratulations Sherry! The show also includes photos from Marguerite Eichelberger, John Kubicek and Ron DeKett. The exhibit is open until July 9. Visit [boxfactoryforthearts.org](http://boxfactoryforthearts.org) for times and dates.

**Exhibitions:** Here's a reminder of the exhibitions that are still open:

- Selected works by Ansel Adams will be on display through July 16 at the Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart, Ind. The museum is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m., weekends. For details, visit [midwestmuseum.org](http://midwestmuseum.org).
- Clyde Butcher's America the Beautiful exhibit will be on display through July 16 at the Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart, Ind. The collection celebrates the beauty of the American landscape from the Redwood forests of California to the Everglade swamps of Florida. The museum is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m., weekends. For details, visit [midwestmuseum.org](http://midwestmuseum.org).
- The photographic works of Miami native Andy Sweet is on display through June 4 at the Krasl Art Center in St. Joseph. The Krasl describes the exhibit this way: "As Miami (Florida) rapidly changed, the vibrant retirement community lost its place in South Beach, but thanks to Sweet's insight and passion for documenting the people there, this memorable moment in Miami's cultural heritage lives on in his photographs."

**Our appreciation:** Many thanks go to John Kubicek who loaned the club a laptop for use with the club's new Epson Perfection V600 Photo scanner. He reports that computer and scanner appear to be working smoothly.

**Photos of the Month:** Congratulations go to Keith Sawyer, whose photo, "Stormy Evening," was selected as the Black & White Photo of the Month. Congratulations also go to Suzanne McDonough, whose photo, "Six Spoon Bills," was selected as Color Photo of the Month. Suzanne received a perfect score of 15 points for her image during the April 2023 competition. Keith received a near perfect score of 14.

**Keith Sawyer – Stormy Evening**



**Suzanne McDonough – Six Spoon Bills**



**Drone photography:** Nathan Voytovick will present "Dronography" at 7 p.m. May 22, at the clubhouse. He will discuss the basics of drone photography, as well as rules and regulations that may apply. Learn more about Nathan on his Facebook page, Nate's Dronography; and YouTube channel, Nate's Dronography Channel.

**Feathers of Fernwood:** A new exhibit featuring birds primarily of southwest Michigan has opened at Fernwood Botanical Garden. The watercolor exhibit by Kristina Knowski is called "Feathers of Fernwood," and will be on display through June 4. Visit [fernwoodbotanical.org](http://fernwoodbotanical.org) for times and days.

**Year-end competition:** Webmaster Jasmin Bretana has created a new form on the club website – [twincitycameraclub.com](http://twincitycameraclub.com) – where club members can submit the names of color and black & white photos for the annual year-end competition. Members can choose up to 10 photos in each category that received an accepted or honor designation during the 2022-23 competition season. Jasmin has greatly simplified the entry process. She has links on the club Facebook page that describe in detail how it works, including a video.

The entry deadline is June 19, but you can start entering now and add any from the June competition later. The year-end program starts at 7 p.m., June 26.

**Summer hours:** No regular meetings are scheduled in July and August. The 2023-24 season starts Sept. 11.

**President's report:** Club President Barry Nelson gave a brief report on club happenings during competition night May 8. His report included:

- The board has rewritten the competition rules and regulations to conform with the way we now enter our monthly competition entries. The website has the details.
- The board has approved the purchase of a laptop computer to be used in future education programs and competitions.
- The board is purchasing a new wireless judging system for future competitions. He is not sure if it will be ready for the June competition but the system should be in place by September.
- The clubhouse bathroom will be remodeled and is expected to be completed by April.

**Quote of the Month:** "Think about old doors, no photographer worth his or her salt can ever resist a bit of door porn, no matter how ubiquitous. Think about the crumbling paintwork, old windows, the patina of time on old wooden tools, the grain in the wood as it becomes more apparent with the passing of time and heavy use. Texture is something that can really elevate a picture." – Tim Clinch, writing in Black+White Photography magazine.

**June Select Subject:** Nature: The image must be naturally present in nature. Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photography without changing the nature story or the pictorial content are permitted. Digital enhancement and manipulation must not be obvious. All adjustments must appear natural. Images must not contain any presence of the hand of man.

Everything must be there naturally, without human intervention. Examples of unacceptable images include cultivated or domestic plants, pets, farm animals, mounted specimens, or set arrangements.

Upload your entries using the form in the members-only section of the club website. Don't forget to name them correctly: image name, followed by a hyphen, followed by photographer's name. For example: "Bird - Jane Doe." The deadline is midnight June 5.

**Photo opportunities:** In the 2023-24 Select Subject list farther down in this edition of the ViewFinder you will notice that the Select Subject for September is Street Photography. In the spirit of capturing life on the fly here is a list of photo opportunities that may help you hone your street photography skills and even help you with images you deem worthy of competition.

- Wednesday Night Market, 4-8 p.m., through Aug. 30, at Court Place Plaza, St. Joseph.
- St. Joe Farmers Market, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturdays, May 27-Oct. 14, Lake Bluff Park.
- Lake Bluff Artisan Fair, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., June 3, July 15, Aug. 19 and Sept. 2, Lake Bluff Park.
- Makers Trail Festival, 1-7 p.m., June 10, Weko Beach, Bridgman.
- Fourth of July Fireworks, dusk, nearly every community. (Check for actual dates because July 4 is on a Wednesday.)
- Krazl Art Fair, July 8-9, Lake Boulevard. (Be cautious about photographing artists works. They may not like it.)
- St. Joseph Municipal Band Concerts, 7 p.m., Sundays, July 4 and Labor Day, from June 25-Sept. 4, John E.N. Howard Bandshell.
- Friday Night Concert Series, 7-8 p.m., July 14-Sept. 1.
- Mike Yore Memorial Car Show, 4-8 p.m., July 14, Lake Boulevard.
- Chalk the Block, Aug. 4-6, downtown St. Joseph.
- Berrien County Youth Fair, Aug. 14-19, Berrien Springs.

**Member Spotlight:** Check out the club website to learn more about club members. Webmaster Jasmin Bretana has created a Member Spotlight section under the "announcements" link on the main page.

**Select Subjects:** Here are the Select Subjects for the 2023-24 competition season:

- Sept. 11 – Street photography: The image must tell a story that occurs in public places involving people going about their daily lives.
- Oct. 9 – Macro/Closeup: The object that is the focus of attention in the image must be smaller than a mailbox. For example, a closeup of fruit, flower, bug, etc., or a macro view of just a small part of an object.
- Nov. 13 – Decay: The object that is the focus of attention in the image must be something that has been derelict or neglected or decaying in nature. For example, abandoned buildings, rusting vehicles, signs, wood, logs, etc.

- Dec. 11 – The Color Blue: The focus of attention in the image must be predominantly the color blue. For example, a blue door, blue flower, blue car. The black & white Select Subject is anything with circles.
- Jan. 8 – Creative: The image is manipulated or enhanced with in-camera techniques or with photo enhancement software, filters, plug-ins, or actions showing the maker’s creativity. The image should be unique and different, out of the ordinary.
- Feb. 12 – Sports: The object that is the focus of attention in the image must be predominantly something to do with sports.
- March 11 – Anything goes: The image can be anything the rules permit. Everything qualifies as Select. Use your imagination and creativity.
- April 8 – Shadows: The dark shape that appears on a surface when an object blocks light.
- May 13 – Architecture: Anything related to architecture, buildings, parts of buildings. You may isolate aspects of the subject to emphasize design portions.
- June 10 – Nature: The image must be naturally present in nature. Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photography without changing the nature story or the pictorial content are permitted. Digital enhancement and manipulation must not be obvious. All adjustments must appear natural. Must not contain any presence of the “hand of man.” Unacceptable examples include cultivated or domestic plants, pets, farm animals, mounted specimens, or set arrangements.

**Visit the Website:** Remember to regularly visit the club website, [twincitycameraclub.com](http://twincitycameraclub.com).

**Instagram:** Webmaster Jasmin Bretana has created a club Instagram account. Visit [www.instagram.com/twincitycameraclub/](http://www.instagram.com/twincitycameraclub/).

**Facebook:** Don’t forget about the club Facebook page. Members are encouraged to post their images, report on photo opportunities and learn about up-to-date club news.

**Thanks judges:** Many thanks goes to our May competition judges. They were past Twin Cities Camera Club president Ken McKuen, Pete Matthews from the Fruitbelt Camera Club, and area photographer Ray Damaske. We appreciate their time and effort.

**May honors:** Congratulations go to the club members who received Honors for the May competition entries. For an entry to be selected in the Honors category it must have received a combined score of 13, 14 or 15 from three independent judges who rate the photos on a scale from 1 to 5.

#### **Black & White Select**

- John Kubicek - Big Dipper
- Ron DeKett - Into the Black

#### **Black & White Open**

- Marguerite Eichelberger - Boys Just Want to Have Fun
- Christine Loose-Randall - November Gales

#### **Color Select**

- Ken Zimmerman - Alpena Enters at Night
- Ken Zimmerman - Alpena Overnight
- John Kubicek - Aurora Borealis
- Suzanne McDonough - Bond Falls
- Ted Post - Cayuga Falls
- Ron DeKett - View from Lions Beach

#### **Color Open**

- Lynette Braddock - An Amazing Sunset
- Sandy Hafer - Blossomtime
- Barry Nelson - Osprey with Lunch
- Tom McDonough - Ready Aim Strike
- Keith Sawyer - Sun Rays
- Lynette Braddock - Waiting for My Better Half

**Keep those shutters clicking...**

*Take more pictures*

*But don't  
forget to*

*Enter competitions*



*We exist to encourage and develop an interest in photography.*

