



September 2008

Volume #336 Our 33rd Year

People with an Interest in the Art of Photography

Meetings held the First Tuesday of the Month, 7:00 pm, Room 106 at the Menomonee Falls Community Center, Phone 262-255-8460 www.falls-photo.org

The next meeting will be: Tuesday, September 2, at 7:00pm.

Welcome back after our wonderful midwest summer. We hope you all had lots of opportunities to get out and play with your camera.

Our September meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 2, 2008. At this meeting, Jeannette Lubitz will give us a presentation on hand coloring digital prints.

We will then have a general roundtable to share ideas, questions, and information about equipment and software.

On Monday, September 29, 2008, we will be driving up to the UP (about a 3-hour drive) to visit the DeYoung Family Zoo. This is a privately owned wild animal recovery zoo with 200 large animals and 40 large cats. They will be open exclusively to our club on that day. So you will have lots of opportunities to get wonderful shots of all their animals. Call Norm Sorensen (262-293-3697) if you are interested in going, and he will set up the arrangements for meeting here and carpooling up

to the zoo.



Refreshments for this meeting:

Sweet: Jeannette Lubitz & Carole Bailey

Salty: Ken Warning and Don Gorzek

Soda: Michael Matusinec & Carole Bailey

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Back to the Basics

Renaissance Faire

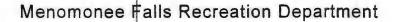
We will be going to the Renaissance Faire on Saturday, August 23rd. We will be meeting at Sears Grand in Menomonee Falls (Appleton Avenue) parking lot at 9:00 am. The Faire opens at 10:00.

Camera Club Officers

Officers:	
President: Jeanette Lubitz	262-966-2169
Vice-President:: Michael Matusinec	. 414-354-7080
Treasurer: Bill Reitz	. 262-251-7106
Newsletter: Carole Bailey	262-790-1956
Web Admin: Dan Weiss	414-744-0855

Photo Challenge of the Month

Our photo challenge was not held during August to give Dan, our webmaster, a little break. But fear not, it will be back in September.





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Photo Challenge of the Month

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October Meeting

Our October meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2008.

At this meeting, we are fortunate to get Garry Bakic of Mike Crivello's to attend our meeting. He will be giving a presentation on several different software programs you can use to manage and enhance your digital images. With the increasing popularity of digital photography, the software companies

are continually coming out with new products and improvements to existing products. This will be a wonderful opportunity for you to learn about some of the newest products and enhancements.

We will also be talking more about the Fall WACCO competition and answering any questions our members may have about the competition. As always, we encourage our members to enter their images in the WACCO competition. Not only is it fun and interesting, but you may also win ribbons and other awards.



The Year at a Glance

Your club board and officers met in August and set up the following schedule for meetings and field trips for this next year. We may need to make some changes as the year goes on, depending on speaker availability and other opportunities that may arise.

Nov 4, 2008: Don Gorzek will give a presentation on lighting equipment and tips.

Dec 2, 2008: Group evaluation of club members' digital images. Selection of prints for the January exhibit at the MF Library. Christmas refreshments coordinated by Jeannette Lubitz and Michael Matusinec.

Jan 6, 2009: Table Top photo workshop. New and exciting setups by Don Gorzek, Jeff Klug, and Carole Bailey.

Jan Field Trip: Petit Center Speed Skating

Feb 3, 2009: To Be Determined Mar 3, 2009: We will be hosting an outside speaker, C.T. Kruger, who will present "Community Photojournalism".

Apr 7, 2009: Preparation for June's model shoot.

May 5, 2009: Wisconsin Circuit Show presentation.

May Field Trip to Boerner for Spring tulip shoot. Date to be determined

Jun 2, 2009: Model Shoot at Klug's Photo World

Jul 7, 2009: Club Digital Image Show: topic "Sky Scapes and Water Scapes". Election of officers for 2009-2010. Selection of prints for the August exhibit at the MF Library. Ice Cream Social The Digital Forum group meets the second Wednesday of the month at the Menomonee Falls Public Library from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

Dan Weiss has been maintaining our club web site. Its address is: www.falls-photo.org. He will be posting our newsletter on the site. Please contact him at web-lackey@falls-photo.org or danweiss @wi.rr.com if you have anything you'd like to contribute.

Allied Digital and The Great FrameUp in Menomonee Falls both offer discounts to our club members. There will be more details in the next newsletter.

It's never too late to be what you might have become.

Here is a sample of the many events that will take place in our area during the next month. Perhaps you may find some educational or photographic opportunities at one or more of these events.

Sept 5-7, 2008: Jefferson Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival. Stock dog trials and exhibitions, fiber art classes & demos, much more. 608-868-2505 (www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com)

Sept 5-7, 2008: Milwaukee Indian Summer Festival. The largest Native American festival in the country. Competition Pow-Wow, fireworks, tribal village, demonstrations, storytellers, much more. 414-604-1000 (www.indiansummer.org)

Sept 6, 2008: Kenosha Walk in the Woods Art Fair. More than 60 artists display their creations along the wooded trails and gardens of Hawthorn Hollow. 262-552-8196 (www.hawthornhollow.org)

Sept 12-14, 2008: Wisconsin Dells Wo-Zha-Wa Days Fall Festival. Arts & crafts fir, antique flea market, 1:30pm Sunday parade. 800-223-3557 (www.wisdells.com)

Sept 13, 2008: Eagle Old World Wedding. Early 1900's wedding celebration. 866-944-7483 (www.wisconsinhistory.org/oww)

Sept 19-20, 2008: Prairie duChien Cannons & Redcoats Military Event. Living history exhibit of life in 1814. Many exhibits and demonstrations. 608-326-6960

(www.fortcrawfordmuseum.com)

Sept 20, 2008: Baileys Harbor Autumn Fest. Antique and collector car show, arts & crafts. 920-839-2366 (www.baileysharbor.com)

Sept 20, 2008: Hubertus Holy Hill Arts & Crafts Fair. 230 artists and craftsmen. 262-966-7172 (www.holyhill.com)

Sept 26-28, 2008: Warrens Cran-

berry Festival. Fall family fun with thousands of flea/antique/farm market boots, arts & craft show, cranberry harvest tours. 608-378-4200 (www.cranfest.com)

Sept 27-28, 2008: Green Bay French & Indian War Encampment. Mid-18th century living history encampment. 920-437-1840

(www.browncohistoricalsoc.org)

Sept 28, 2008: Horicon Autumn Art on the Marsh. Annual fine arts & crafts show with more than 130 talented artisans. 920-485-3200 (www.horiconchamber.com/events.cfm)

For more information on these and other great events, please visit



www.travelwisconsin.com

WACCO / PSA News

WACCO (Wisconsin Area Camera Clubs Organization) is comprised of 15 Camera Clubs throughout Wisconsin. They hold two state-wide competitions a year. Bill Rietz and Jeff Klug are our WACCO delagates. WACCO has a web site with news and information on current and future events. The address is:

www.wisc-camera.org

The Fall WACCO Competition is scheduled to be held on Saturday, November 1, 2008, at the Waukesha State Bank, located off of I-94, Exit 262 (Hwy 67). The competition begins at

11:30am and all are welcome to observe.

The special categories for the fall competition will be:

General: Photo Journalism, sometimes referred to as PJ, is devoted to recording current events or situations to preserve them for the future. News, features, man and man's environment, human interest ... all are included.

Nature: Natural Landscapes, which is defined as a representation of a view of scenery without any 'hand of man', i.e. no roads, trails, light poles, buildings, domesticated plants or animals, etc.

PSA (Photographic Society of America) is an organization of individuals, camera clubs, and businesses. Our club is a member; Bill Rietz is our contact. PSA's web site for news and informations on events is:

www.psa-photo.org

Camera Club Notes

Special Reminder

Our club's yearly dues are due every September. The dues are \$15 per member or a special rate of \$20 for two members living at the same address.

Please pay Bill Rietz at our September meeting.

Thanks,

Your Board & Officers

Odds & Ends

Our models from last June's shoot come and work with us for free. The only pay they receive are the 8x10 prints that our members give them. If you have not yet given us any of your prints, please look through your images and be generous to our wonderful models.

Prints from our August library exhibit should be available for pickup at the September meeting.

Our club will be participating in the Wisconsin Circuit judging again this year. The date has not yet been set, but it should be sometime in late April or early May. We will need several judges and other helpers for this judging. If you are interested, please contact Bill Reitz; he is coordinating the volunteers for our club.

Anyone interested in posting images from our club's field trips on our web site is invited to do so in the same format as submitting entries to our gallery. See the site (www.falls-photo.org) for more information.

Our August club exhibit of prints will be at the MF Public Library until the end of August. If you have not seen it yet, it is worth the trip.

Back to the Basics

Each month I will use this column to cover some of the basics of photography. This month I will review how to mark your slide, print, and digital entries for competition.

SLIDES:

All slides must be 2"x2" only. Mark a "thumbspot" (a dark circle - I like the little 1/4 inch dots you can buy at the map store) on the lower left corner of the slide as you view it. (Normally the shiny side of the slide.) On this same side, put the title and the Class and Category codes (depending upon the competition).

On the other side put your name and address. (Tiny return address labels (Avery 5267—1/2 X 1-3/4) work reasonably well. You should also include your club name for WACCO competitions.

DIGITAL:

The digital images should be a maximum of 1024 (Width) x 768 (Height) or 7.5" (Height) x 10" (Width) @ 100dpi. Each should be JPEG format with a maximum file size of 1.4mb. They must be on a CD which should have your Name, Phone number, and E-mail address on it. The images should be put into folders labeled for the category entered (General or Nature). Each image should be labeled with Category, Entry #, Title. Where the category would be "G" for General and "N" for Nature, the entry # from the report card, and the title of the image with an underscore between each item as shown:

Example:

G 1 Milwaukee Art Museum.jpeg

PRINTS:

The WACCO rules call for 3 size mats or boards: 8x10, 11x14, and 16x20. No framed prints will be accepted.

Large prints (color or monochrome) must measure between 8x12 and 16x20 and be mounted on a 16x20 mat or board.

Small prints can be any size from 3.5x5 up to 8x10 and must be mounted on either a 8x10 or 11x14 mat or board.

On the back clearly mark your name, address, and print title. Also place a large and dark arrow pointing the 'up' direction for the print. Please make sure that this arrow is easily visible in the darkened room where these prints are judged.



Here is a sample of the many events that will take place in our area during the next month. Perhaps you may find some educational or photographic opportunities at one or more of these events.

Nov 2, 2008: Sturgeon Bay Southern Door Arts & Crafts Fair. Largest Door County craft fair under one roof, 920-825-1291

Nov 7-8, 2008: La Crosse Bull Riding / Bull Fighting Spectacular. La Crosse Center. 608-789-7400 (www.lacrossecenter.com)

Nov 8, 2008: Oshkosh Holiday Parade. Annual Christmas parade. 920-303-2266

Nov 14, 2008; Green Bay Downtown Lighting Ceremony on Broadway. Kicks off the holiday season with the lighting of the trees on Broadway. A trolley provides free rides throughout the downtown. 920-437-2531

(www.onbroadway.org)

Nov 15-16, 2008: Madison Winter Art Festival. Features 140 Wisconsin exhibitors with a wonderful selection of arts, including photography. (www.artcraftwis.org/winter.html)

Nov 16-Dec 28, 2008: Milwaukee Holiday Lights Festival. Animated lighting displays come to life in 3 downtown parks. 414-220-4700 (www.milwaukeedowntown.com)

Nov 21-23, 2008: Milwaukee Holiday Folk Fair International. America's premier multi-culture festival showcasing the heritage and culture of more than 50 ethnic groups. 800-324-7468 (folkfair.org)

Nov 22, 2008: Milwaukee Holiday Parade. This will be the 82nd annual Milwaukee Holiday Parade, featuring about 100 units. 262-377-5935 (www.milwaukeeparade.com)

Nov 22-23, 2008: Hudson Christmas Tour of Homes & Craft Sale. Tour features 5 privately-owned homes and the historic Octagon House, all decorated in their Christmas finery. Free shuttle bus service. 800-657-6775 (www.hudsonwi.org)

Nov 28-30, 2008: Shullsburg A Bit of Yesteryear Christmas. 10h annual tour of homes decorated for the holidays. Parade and fireworks in the evening. 608-965-4579 (www.shullsburgwisconsin.com)

Nov 29-30, 2008: North Freedom Mid-Continent Rallway Santa Express. 7-mile, 50-minute round trip ride helps ring in the festive holiday season with decorations and a special visit from St. Nick himself. Reservations suggested. 608-522-4261 (www.midcontinent.org)

For more information on these and other great events, please visit www.travelwisconsin.com

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The entry deadline has passed, but everyone is encouraged to attend and observe the competition. PSA (Photographic Society of America) is an organization of individuals, camera clubs, and businesses. Our club is a member; Bill Rietz is our contact. PSA's web site for news and informations on events is:

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If you are one of our members who have not yet paid this year's dues, please pay Bill Rietz at our November meeting.

Thanks,

Your Board & Officers

Odds & Ends

We had 2 great fall color fieldtrips during October. On Saturday, Oct 11th, there were 6 of us who went on a full day road trip to the Madison area. We visited several places including Hydes Mill and Natural Bridge State Park. It was a long day, but we all got some wonderful images. Then on Saturday, Oct 18th, 4 of us met at Whitnall Park to shoot some fall color. We stopped at 4 locations throughout the park, ending at the Boerner Botanical Gardens. We all had a good time enjoying the wonderful Wisconsin Fall weather and scenery.

Our club will be participating in the Wisconsin Circuit judging again this year. The date has not yet been set, but it should be sometime in late April or early May. We will need several judges and other helpers for this judging. If you are interested, please contact Bill Rietz; he is coordinating the volunteers for our club.

If you are interested in purchasing one of our club nametags, please print your name clearly on a piece of paper and get it to Steve Haynes. He will order one for you, and you can pay our treasurer the low, low price of \$5 when you pick it up.

Back to the Basics

Each month I will use this column to cover some of the basics of photography. This month I will discuss the naming of images for competition.

Every image that you enter into any competition must be given a title. The score your image receives will then be recorded along with your name and the title you give to your image. Since we are not yet to the point where we can easily and affordably capture, compare, and retrieve actual images, groups who run competitions need something to uniquely identify each image. And that something is the combination of your name and your image's title.

Most competitions do not allow you to enter images that have been entered (or have won awards) before. You will have to check the rules of each competition. So it is very important to make sure that each image you enter into competition is

given a unique title. For example, say you really love taking pictures of the Art Museum, take them frequently, and enter a different one in each WACCO competition. This is good. But if you title them all "Art Museum", then after you get one award on one of the images, the remainder will be identified as duplicates and disqualified from awards. (And most groups who run competitions really do check.) So you need to come up with a way to uniquely identify each different image. You may use the year / month as a suffix ("Art Museum 0809", "Art Museum 0810", etc.) or a sequential number suffix, ("Art Museurh 1", "Art Museum 2", etc.), or a descriptive term ("Art Museum at Dusk", "Art Museum in Winter", etc.), or a fanciful name ("Wings over Lake Michigan", "Flight of Fancy", etc.). Just make sure that you keep track of the titles of your winning entries and give new entries a different title.

When deciding on a title for your image, there are a few things to keep in mind. For open or general images, anything goes. You can be as descriptive or as fanciful as you'd like. However, for nature images, you should be less fanciful and more descriptive. For example, "Scaly Hydnum – 3" is a much better title than "Big Brown Mushrooms" for a nature image.

One last thing. Don't try to put a new title on an old winning image and reenter it in the same competition. Many of the photographers who run these competitions have a great mind for remembering previous winners. You really do not want to be embarrassed by being called to produce previous winning entries.





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Our October meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2008.

At this meeting, we are fortunate to get Gary Bakic of Mike Crivello's to attend our meeting. He will be giving a presentation on NIK Filters and Tiffen filters. This is similar to the presentation he gave at WIPA. Several of our members saw it and thought it would be worthwhile to repeat for our members.

On Saturday, October 18th, we will be going on a local field trip for fall colors at Whitnall Park. There are many wonderful stands of trees, several small streams, and even a waterfall. We will be talking more about this are our October meeting and finalizing the plans. If you are interested in going and cannot make the October meeting, call Carole Bailey at 262-790-1956.



Refreshments for this meeting:

Sweet: Betty Jusak & Steve Haynes

Salty: John Doorley & Roger Crill

Soda: Jennifer Bartelt & Tom Gentz

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De Young Zoo

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Call Norm Sorensen at 262-293-3697 if you are interested in joining us.

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Photo Challenge of the Month

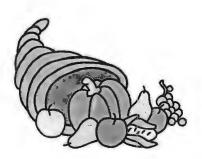
Our photo challenge for September is HOT.

You have until the end of the month to submit your images.

November Meeting

Our November meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2008. At this meeting Don Gorzek will give us a presentation on lighting equipment and tips for using different types of light for creating mood and special effects. Don's presentations are always very informative and interesting.

If you have any specialized lighting equipment or any equipment that you may have questions about, feel free to bring it to this meeting to share or to get answers from Don and our other members.



Club News and Future Events

We had about 50 members at our September meeting. We have 5 new members: John Aschon, Dorothy Greene, Betty Jafemeister, Gary Schumann, and Hank Stanzek. We welcome you to our club.

Jeff Klug explained the rules for entering the WACCO competitions and how to fill out the entry forms for the WACCO competitions.

Then Jeannette Lubitz showed us a video of herself explaining how to hand-color images. She also handed out some notes on equipment and process.

Dan Weiss has been maintaining our club web site. Its address is: www.falls-photo.org. He will be posting our newsletter on the site. Please contact him at web-lackey@falls-photo.org or danweiss @wi.rr.com if you have anything you'd like to contribute.

We also have a member gallery

on our site and are going to be starting up a 'field trip' section for members to submit images from our club's field trips. The guidelines for submission is also on our site.

The Digital Forum group meets the second Wednesday of the month at the Menomonee Falls Public Library from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

WACCO is planning on holding a day-long seminar this spring. Current plans are still being finalized, but it looks like it will be on Saturday, March 7, 2009, at the Best Western in Brookfield. The speaker for the day will be Darrell Gulin, one of the Canon "Explorers of Light". Cost is looking like it will be the same as last year: \$65 including lunch, \$55 without. There will be more information coming out over the next

few months.

Several of the local photo shops support our club. Allied Digital Photo in Germantown gives our members a 15% discount on all inhouse printing. The Great Frame Up in Menomonee Falls offers discounts and specials on framing. And Jeff's new shop, Klug's Photo World-Killdeer Acres in Hubertus provides discounts on framing. camera accessories, and digital printing. These sponsors are listed on the back of your membership card, and each of them also has a member list. Please support these businesses.

Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort.

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Odds & Ends

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If you are interested in purchasing one of our club nametags, please print your name clearly on a piece of paper and get it to Steve Haynes. He will order one for you, and you can pay our treasurer the low, low price of \$5 when you pick it up.

Our club has a print hanging in the front window of the Rec office. Here is a list of those members who volunteered to provide the print over the next several months. **Sept:** Jeff Klug, **Oct:** Ken Warning, **Nov:** John Wiley, **Dec:** Don Gorzek, **Jan:** Jeannette Lubitz, **Feb:** Jyoti Sengupta, **March:** Jennifer Bartelt, **Apr:** Ed Kolinski. There are still openings for May, June, July, and August. See Bill Rietz if you are interested. Members should bring their prints to the meeting the month before their assigned month so that Bill can get the print up by the first of each month.

Back to the Basics

Each month I will use this column to cover some of the basics of photography. This month I am going to discuss what makes a photograph a 'nature photograph'.

In many competitions, photographs are divided into several categories. One of the more common divisions is 'Nature' vs 'Open' (also sometimes called 'General'). Basically speaking, any image will fit into the 'Open' category. However, only nature images can be entered into the 'Nature' category.

In most competitions, 'Nature' means that the subject has to be an item found in nature without the 'hand of man' included in the frame. 'Hand of man' includes anything created by or maintained by man, including such things as bridges, buildings, fences, paths, trails, or domesticated plants and animals.

For example, roses, tulips, bleeding hearts, and other such flowers that

you may plant in your garden are considered NOT NATURE. Wild flowers like trilliums or wild lupine that you find out along the nature trail or in the woods are NATURE. Domesticated animals like horses or cows are NOT NATURE. However, foxes, bears, or deer that you find out in the woods or field are NATURE. There is often disagreement about whether wild animals photographed in a zoo or other confined spaces can be considered NA-TURE or NOT NATURE. If you can capture an image of a zoo animal without any distracting and obvious man-made structures, you can sometimes pass it off as NATURE. Likewise, if you capture an image of a wild animal, like perhaps a hawk, sitting on an old fence post, as long as the fence post is not real obvious, you may be able to pass it off as NATURE. But to be on the safe side, I always enter these types of images in NOT NATURE.

Judges look for the 'nature story' of all

entries in the 'Nature' category. Nature images should be informational like those seen in zoology or botany textbooks, and not artistic, like what you'd find in a nature coffee-table book.

In competitions, the judges consider the category as part of the scoring process. If a NOT NATURE image is included in a NATURE category, it will often be scored a 0 or 1, depending upon the rules of that competition. So if you have a really nice image that you are not sure is truly NATURE, your best bet is to include it in the OPEN category.

The most important thing you need to do before entering an image in any 'nature' category is to read and understand the competition's definition of NATURE. If you are not sure that your image fits within their definition of 'nature', then enter it under one of the NOT NATURE categories.

Here is a sample of the many events that will take place in our area during the next month. Perhaps you may find some educational or photographic opportunities at one or more of these events.

Oct 3-5, 2008: Boulder Junction Northwoods Fall Art Tour. Area artisans open their studios and galleries for artist demonstrations. 715-277-4224 (www.northwoodsarttour.com)

Oct 3-12, 2008: North Freedom Autumn Color Train Rides. Enjoy a 50-minute train ride through the brilliant hues of autumn in the scenic Baraboo Hills. Reservations recommended. 800-930-1385 (www.midcontinent.org)

Oct 4, 2008: Stone Lake Cranberry Festival. One of Wisconsin's largest cranberry festivals featuring marsh tours and much more. 715-865-3378 (www.

stonelakecranberryfestival.com)

Oct 4, 2008: Waukesha Art Crawl. Great food, live music, and fine art. 262-549-6154 (www.redhotartspot.com)

Oct 11, 2008: Appleton Hearthstone Historic Homes Tour & Tea Garden. Tour homes and churches in Appleton's historic City Park District. 920-730-8204

(www.hearthstonemuseum.org)

Oct 11, 2008: Madison Olbrich Gardens African Violet Show & Sale.

Many displays and some for sale.

608-246-4550 (www.olbrich.org)

Oct 11, 2008: Union Grove Half Point Rendezvous. Re-enactors representing two full centuries will share history with visitors. The Civil War, Black Hawk Wars, and WWI will all be represented. 262-878-2870

Oct 18-19, 2008: Greenbush Autumn Celebration at Wade House. Many seasonal activities as they

were in the 1860's. 866-944-7483 (www.wisconsinhistory.org/wadehouse)

Oct 25, 2008: Portage Pumpkinfest. Bring a carved or decorated pumpkin. 800-474-2525 (www.portagewi.com)

Oct 25-26, 2008: Pearson Dirty Dog Dryland Derby. Sled dogs and mushers race through scenic grassy hills and trails—without any snow. (www.witrailblazers.org)

Oct 31-Nov 2: West Allis Hunting Moon Pow-Wow. Celebrate Native American culture and traditions at this annual competition Pow-Wow. 414-847-7720 (www.milwaukee.org)

For more information on these and other great events, please visit www.travelwisconsin.com



WACCO / PSA News

WACCO (Wisconsin Area Camera Clubs Organization) is comprised of 15 Camera Clubs throughout Wisconsin. They hold two statewide competitions a year. Bill Rietz and Jeff Klug are our WACCO delagates. WACCO has a web site with news and information on current and future events. The address is:

www.wisc-camera.org

The Fall WACCO Competition will be held on Saturday, November 1, 2008, at the Waukesha State Bank, located off of I-94, Exit 262 (Hwy 67). The competition begins at 11:30am and all are welcome to observe.

The special categories for the fall competition will be:

General: Photo Journalism (or PJ) is devoted to recording current events or situations to preserve them for the future. News, features, man and man's environment, human interest ... all are included.

Nature: Natural Landscapes, which is defined as a representation of a view of scenery without any 'hand of man', i.e. no roads, trails, light poles, buildings, domesticated plants or animals, etc.

Entry forms and information can be found on the WACCO web site. Entries are due by October 18th. PSA (Photographic Society of America) is an organization of individuals, camera clubs, and businesses. Our club is a member; Bill Rietz is our contact. PSA's web site for news and informations on events is:

www.psa-photo.org





November 2008

Volume #338 Our 33rd Year

People with an Interest in the Art of Photography

Meetings held the First Tuesday of the Month, 7:00 pm, Room 106 at the Menomonee Falls Community Center, Phone 262-255-8460 www.falls-photo.org

The next meeting will be: Tuesday, November 4th, at 7:00pm.

Our November meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2008.

At this meeting
Don Gorzek will
give us a presentation he calls
"Light, Lighting,
and Common
Items as Light
Modifiers". He
will be talking
about characteristics of light and
the quality of light
in photography.

He will show us some common items we can find at hardware stores, grocery stores, and department stores that will help improve the lighting in our photographs.

If you have any specialized lighting equipment or any equipment that you may have questions about, feel free to bring it to this meeting to

share or to get answers from Don and our other members.



Refreshments for this meeting:

Sweet: John Wiley & Tom Launius

Salty: Norm Sorenson & Jane Hirst

Soda: Clint Wesel & Carole Balley

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Congratulations to Don Gorzek

Who won First Place in WNPA (Wisconsin News Photographers Association) 2007 Picture of the Year in the Illustration category for his "Fresh Fruit" image.

Don also had several of his images selected for display at the Anderson Art Center's 2008 Juried Spring Exhibition.

Camera Club Officers

Officers:		
President: Jeanette Lubitz	262-966-2169	
Vice-President:: Michael Matusinec	414-354-7080	
Treasurer: Bill Rietz	262-251-7106	
Newsletter: Carole Bailey	262-790-1956	
Web Admin: Dan Weiss	414-744-0855	

Photo Challenge of the Month

Our photo challenge for October is HANDS.

You have until the end of the month to submit your images.

December Meeting

Our December meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2008. At this meeting we will be having group evaluations of members' digital images. Every member is invited to bring 1 or 2 images they would like feedback on. The images will be projected and all members will judge the image on a 5-point scale. We will then have about 2 or 3 minutes for discussion on what is good

about the image and how it could be improved.

So, start looking through your images and find one or two that you have questions about or perhaps didn't do as well in competition as you had hoped. Bring these to this meeting to get other photographers' opinions. This is a great opportunity to improve some of your images.

At this meeting, we will also be

having our annual "Holiday Feast". Jeannette Lubitz and Michael Matusinec will be coordinating the refreshments.



Club News and Future Events

We had about 56 members at our September meeting. We have 6 new members: Robert Patzwald, Brian Lauttamus, Michael Wagner, Margie & Mike Rusnak, and John Frevele. We also welcome back (after a year's absence, Tom Launix, Ron Skaug, and Virginia Schultz. We welcome you all to our club.

Gary Bakic from Mike Crivello's introduced us to several new pieces of photographic equipment and image enhancement software. It is always good to see what is new on the market.

Dan Weiss has been maintaining our club web site. Its address is: www.falls-photo.org. He will be posting our newsletter on the site. Please contact him at web-lackey@falls-photo.org or danweiss @wi.rr.com if you have anything you'd like to contribute.

We also have a member gallery

on our site and are going to be starting up a 'field trip' section for members to submit images from our club's field trips. The guidelines for submission is also on our site.

The Digital Forum group meets the second Wednesday of the month at the Menomonee Falls Public Library from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

WACCO is planning on holding a day-long seminar this spring. Current plans are still being finalized, but it looks like it will be on Saturday, March 7 2009, at the Best Western in Brookfield. The speaker for the day will be Darrell Gulin, one of the Canon "Explorers of Light". Cost is looking like it will be the same as last year: \$65 including lunch, \$55 without. There will be more information coming out over the next

few months.

Several of the local photo shops support our club. Allied Digital Photo in Germantown gives our members a 15% discount on all inhouse printing. The Great Frame Up in Menomonee Falls offers discounts and specials on framing. And Jeff's new shop, Klug's Photo World-Killdeer Acres in Hubertus provides discounts on framing. camera accessories, and digital printing. These sponsors are listed on the back of your membership card, and each of them also has a member list. Please support these businesses.

Go over, go under, go around, or go through. But never give up.





December 2008

Volume #339 Our 33rd Year

People with an Interest in the Art of Photography

Meetings held the First Tuesday of the Month, 7:00 pm, Room 106 at the Menomonee Falls Community Center, Phone 262-255-8460 www.falls-photo.org

The next meeting will be: Tuesday, December 2nd, at 7:00pm.

Our December meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2008. At this meeting we will be having group evaluations of members' digital images. Every member is invited to bring 1 or 2 digital images they would like feedback on. The images will be projected and all members will judge the image on a 5point scale. We will then have about 2 or 3 minutes for discussion on what is good about the image and

how it could be improved.

This is a great opportunity to get others' input and help improve some of your images.

We will be taking our annual club group picture at this meeting. So wear your holiday finery, comb your hair, and touch up that makeup.

We will also be **select- ing member prints** for display in the Menomonee Public Library during the month of January. Prints need to be mounted or matted, but not framed, sizes 11x14 or 16x20.

At this meeting, we will also be having our annual "Holiday Feast". Jeannette Lubitz and Michael Matusinec will be coordinating the refreshments. They will be bringing food and soda. Members are asked to bring homemade Christmas treats to share with everyone.



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Congratulations to all of our club members who won awards at the WACCO Fall Competition that was held on Saturday, November 1st.

A list of members and their award is in the Back to the Basics column on page 4.

Camera Club Officers

Officers:	
President: Jeanette Lubitz	262-966-2169
Vice-President:: Michael Matusinec	414-354-7080
Treasurer: Bill Rietz	262-251-7106
Newsletter: Carole Bailey	262-790-1956
Web Admin: Dan Weiss	
1	

Photo Challenge of the Month

Our photo challenge for November is BROKEN.

You have until the end of the month to submit your images.

January Meeting

Our January meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 6, 2009. At this meeting we will be having our annual Table Top Shoot.

Jeff Klug, Don Gorzek, and Carole Bailey bring several setups. All members are asked to bring objects to photograph. Some of the more popular items in the past have been fresh and dried flowers, glassware of all kinds, old jewelry or tools or kids toys, and fresh fruit and vegetables. But you can bring any items you may find around your house that you would like to share with the other club members.

Members should bring their cameras and tripods if they want to participate.

Because of the limited space available and because of the on-hand nature of this meeting, only paid members may attend. Our club will be going on a field trip to the Pettit National Ice Center on January 17, 2009, to shoot the Great Lakes Long Track Championships. We will then pass on to them a selection of our members' images for them to use as they see fit. Mike Matusinec is coordinating this fieldtrip.

More details will be available at the meeting.

Club News and Future Events

We had over 50 members and guests at our November meeting. Don Gorzek gave a wonderful presentation on lighting for photography and all of the wondrous lighting equipment and accessories you can make for pennies with things you can find at any hardware store, grocery, or at second-hand stores.

Dan Weiss has been maintaining our club web site. Its address is: www.falls-photo.org. He will be posting our newsletter on the site. Please contact him at web-lackey@falls-photo.org or dan-weiss @wi.rr.com if you have anything you'd like to contribute.

We also have a member gallery on our site and are going to be starting up a 'field trip' section for members to submit images from our club's field trips. The guidelines for submission is also on our site.

The Digital Forum group meets the second Wednesday of the month at the Menomonee Falls Public Library from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

WACCO is holding a day-long seminar on Saturday, March 7, 2009, at the Best Western in Brookfield. The speaker for the day will be Darrell Gulin, one of the Canon "Explorers of Light". Cost will be the same as last year: \$65 including lunch, \$55 without, \$10 more after Feb 23rd. Information is available at our meetings and on the WACCO web site.

Several of the local photo shops support our club. Allied Digital Photo in Germantown gives our members a 15% discount on all in-house printing. The Great Frame Up in Menomonee Falls offers discounts and specials on framing. And Jeff's new shop, Klua's Photo World—Killdeer Acres in Hubertus provides discounts on framing, camera accessories, and digital printing. These sponsors are listed on the back of your membership card, and each of them also has a member list. Please support these businesses.

Happiness is not the absence of conflict, but the ability to cope with it.

Here is a sample of the many events that will take place in our area during the next month. Perhaps you may find some educational or photographic opportunities at one or more of these events.

Dec 5, 2008: Burlington Christmas Parade. Fabulous 6:30pm parade, live reindeer and cookies. 262-763-6044 (www.burlingtonchamber.org)

Dec 5-6, 2008: Cedarburg Holiday Art Fair. Fine art offered by local artists. Cedarburg Community Center. 800-237-2874 (www.cedarburg.org)

Dec 5-7, 2008: Stoughton Victorian Holiday Weekend. Concerts, carriage rides, parades, and many more events. 888-873-7912 (www.victorianholidayweekend.com)

Dec 6-7, 2008: Greenbush A Wade House Christmas. Experience the beauty and simplicity of a mis-19th century Christmas. Activities, horsedrawn wagon rides, and more. Order tickets at 920-526-3271 or (www.wadehouse.org)

Dec 6-20, 2008: Green Bay A Heritage Hill Christmas. Historic site with 25 period buildings dressed for the holidays. Heritage Hill State Park. Saturdays from noon to 4pm. 800-721-5150 (www.heritagehillgb.org)

Dec 12-13, 2008: Sheboygan Wishing for Winter. An evening indoor / outdoor program features a hike along a trail of twinkling lights with special holiday characters, music, refreshments, nature crafts and horse-drawn wagon rides. Ellwood H. May Environmental Park. 920-459-3906 (www.gomaywood.org)

Dec 13-14, 2008: Eagle The Spirit of Christmas Past. Stroll through the crossroads village to see how 19th century immigrants got their homes and shops ready for the holiday. Old World Wisconsin. 866-944-7483 (www.wisconsinhistory.org/oww)

Dec 13-14, 2008: Prairie du Chien An 1890s Christmas Holiday at Villa Louis. Experience preparing for a visit from St. Nick, Christmas day in the morning, and a New Year open house. 866-944-7483 (www.wisconsinhistory.org/villalouis)

Dec 27, 2008: Madison Olbrich Botanical Garden Kwanzaa Celebration. This non-religious celebration features music, poetry, and dancing. 608-249-7155 (www.olbrich.org)

Dec 31, 2008: La Crosse Skyrockers Fireworks at the Bluff. Midnight fireworks on Grandad Bluff light up the Mississippi Valley. 6m and midnight. 608-782-2366 (www.skyrockers.org)

For more information on these and other great events, please visit www.travelwisconsin.com



WACCO / PSA News

WACCO (Wisconsin Area Camera Clubs Organization) is comprised of 15 Camera Clubs throughout Wisconsin. They hold two statewide competitions a year. Bill Rietz and Jeff Klug are our WACCO delagates. WACCO has a web site with news and information on current and future events. The address is:

www.wisc-camera.org

The Fall WACCO Competition was held on Saturday, November 1, 2008. Results for our club members are on page 4 of this newsletter.

The WACCO spring competition is usually held the first Sat-

urday in May. The actual date and place will be announced in early 2009.

The special categories for the spring 2009 competition will be: **General: Portraits** which is defined as a photo on an animal or person, usually showing the face.

Nature: Insects, which is defined as minute invertebrate animals typically having the body divided into a head, a thorax of 3 segments and in development, usually pass through metamorphosis. There are usually 2 pair or wing, but sometimes 1 pair or none.

PSA (Photographic Society of America) is an organization of individuals, camera clubs, and businesses. Our club is a member; Bill Rietz is our contact. PSA's web site for news and informations on events is: www.psa-photo.org

Camera Club Notes

Special Reminder

Our club's yearly dues are due every September. The dues are \$15 per member or a special rate of \$20 for two members living at the same address.

Those members not paying this year's dues will no longer be on our email list or our mailing list.

Thanks,

Your Board & Officers

Odds & Ends

We had 13 members who won awards at the WACCO Fall 2008 competition.

Carole Bailey: 2 HM Digital Nature; 2 HM Digital Open Jennifer Bartelt: 1 HM Large B&W; 2 HM Large Color Phil Block: 2 HM Digital Open; 1 HM Large Color

Lou Bohlman: 2 HM Novice Small Print

Jessie Buchholz: Best Nature Small B&W; 2 HM Digital Nature

Marcia Getto: 3 HM Digital Nature; 1 HM Digital Open Jane Hirst: Best Open Digital Nature; 1 HM Digital Nature

Richard Knisbeck: Best Landscape Digital Nature; 1 HM Digital Nature

Jeannette Lubitz: 1 HM Small B&W; 2 HM Large Color Tom Luninus: 1 HM Digital Open; 1 HM Novice Small Print

Michael Matusinec: 1 HM Novice Small Print

<u>Bill Rietz</u>: Alternate Small B&W; 1 HM Small B&W; 1 HM Small Color Ken Warning: Best of Division Large B&W, 2 HM Digital Nature; 1 HM

Small Color; 1 HM Large Color

Congratulations to all of you !!!

Back to the Basics

Each month I will use this column to cover some of the basics of photography. This month I will talk about some of the extra things I keep in my camera bag that help me when I'm out shooting.

Before I became interested in photography, I spent over 20 years in Boy Scouting. Their motto is "Be Prepared". So I carried this philosophy over to my photography. Every time I went out on a shoot and wished that I had something that I hadn't brought, I made a note and included it in my camera bag for the next time. I just unpacked my camera bag (actually it has become a backpack now), and thought I'd share with you some of the things I've found helpful.

The camera manual: I've found that sometimes the other photographers would talk about a cool feature of their cameras. I'd look in the manual to see if I had something similar and test it out.

Rain gear: I carry an emergency pon-

cho (\$.99 at your local grocery or sporting goods store), a small umbrella, and a motel shower cap will fit over the camera and a short lens and will protect from light showers. They don't take up much space and come in very handy when that unexpected shower comes up. I also use the umbrella as an extension of the lens hood when I'm shooting into the sun.

Lightweight backpacking towel or motel heavyweight paper towel: Good for wiping away morning dew or other moisture from the camera body and lens casing. But keep it away from the lens itself. You should have lens clothes with you for that.

Plastic clothes pins, big rubber bands, micro all-purpose tool: I use these to clean up the view when shooting macro images. With these tools, I can cut out the dead stuff, and pull back the live plants I don't want in my final image. Spending a few minutes cleaning up the area can result in a much better

image.

Large garbage bag: Can be used to kneel or sit or lay on when the ground is wet or dirty. Can also be opened and placed over your camera and tripod when the air is wet or misty. Gardening knee pads are also good for kneeling in rough terrain.

Single pack antibacterial wipes: Good for cleaning your hands out in the field before eating or after using pit toilets where there are no hand-washing facilities. Can also be used to clean any scrapes or dirty cuts you may get while tromping through the fields and trails. I also carry a small ziplock bag with an assortment of bandages.

If you have found other things that you keep in your camera bag that helps when you are out in the field, please email me and I will write another column with your suggestions.

mscjbailey@aol.com





Camera Club Newsletter

January 2009

Volume #340 Our 33rd Year

People with an Interest in the Art of Photography

Meetings held the First Tuesday of the Month, 7:00 pm, Room 106 at the Menomonee Falls Community Center, Phone 262-255-8460 www.falls-photo.org

The next meeting will be: Tuesday, January 6th, at 7:00pm.

Our January meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 6, 2009. At this meeting we will be having our annual Table Top Shoot.

Jeff Klug, Don Gorzek, and Carole Bailey will be bringing several setups. All members are asked to bring objects to photograph. Some of the more popular items in the past have been fresh and dried flowers, glassware of all kinds, old jewelry or tools or kids toys, and fresh fruit and vegetables. But you can bring any items you may find around your

house that you would like to share with the other club members.

Members should bring their cameras and tripods if they want to participate.

Because of the limited space available and because of the on-hand nature of this meeting, only paid members may attend.

Our club will be going on a field trip to the Pettit National Ice Center on January 17, 2009, to shoot the Great Lakes Long Track Championships. We will then pass on to them a selection of our

members' images for them to use as they see fit. Mike Matusinec is coordinating this fieldtrip. More details will be available at the meeting.



Refreshments for this meeting:

Sweet: Melissa Arnold & Tony Shulist

Salty: Karen Wisth & Ellen Hanrahan

Soda: John Doorley & Roger Crill

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A Special Thanks To

Jeanette Lubitz and Michael Matusinec who arranged for our holiday pizza party last month.

And to all who brought home-made goodies to share.

Camera Club Officers

Officers:	
President: Jeanette Lubitz	262-966-2169
Vice-President:: Michael Matusinec	414-354-7080
Treasurer: Bill Rietz	262-251-7106
Newsletter: Carole Bailey	262-790-1956
Web Admin: Dan Weiss	414-744-0855

Photo Challenge of the Month

Our photo challenge for December is LIGHT.

You have until the end of the month to submit your images.

February Meeting

Our February meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 3, 2009. Our speaker for this meeting will be Francy Paquette from Allied Digital.

Francy will be talking about all of the options available for making photo books.

There are many different companies today that will let you make your own photo book.

Most of the photo stores offer options, as do most of the

places you get prints made. There are also quite a few internet sites that provide a way for you to make a photo book.

Hopefully, Francy will give us enough information for us to get a good start on making our own photo books.

If any of you have already made a photo book that you'd like to share with the club members, feel free to bring it to this meeting.



I'm just loving this snow !!!

Club News and Future Events

We had 57 members and guests at our December meeting. In addition to our holiday pizza party, we had a all-member evaluation of member images. From what I heard, everyone seemed to enjoy the discussion about the various images and hopefully, everyone learned a little bit about making their images better.

We had one new member, Kelli Parkenson, and one returning member, Lisa Bishop. Please search them out at our next meeting and welcome them.

Dan Weiss has been maintaining our club web site. Its address is: www.falls-photo.org. He will be posting our newsletter on the site. Please contact him at web-lackey@falls-photo.org or danweiss @wi.rr.com if you have anything you'd like to contribute.

We also have a member gallery on our site and are going to be

starting up a 'field trip' section for members to submit images from our club's field trips. The guidelines for submission is also on our site.

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The most important things in life are not things.

Here is a sample of the many events that will take place in our area during the next month. Perhaps you may find some educational or photographic opportunities at one or more of these events.

Dec 31, 2008: La Crosse Skyrockers Fireworks at the Bluff. Midnight fireworks on Grandad Bluff light up the Mississippi Valley. 6m and midnight. 608-782-2366 (www.skyrockers.org)

Jan 1, 2009: Jacksonport Polar Bear Swim. Food and fun for everyone. Food at 11am, swim at noon. 800-527-3529 (www.doorbell.net)

Jan 3, 2009: Belgium Candlelight Ski / Hike. A candlelight ski/hike through the woods and around Quarry Lake. Harrington Beach State Park.

Jan 10, 2009: Ashland Sleigh & Cutter Parade. Dozens of old-fashioned sleighs and cutters in a parade. 715-685-9983

Jan 10-11, 2009: Plymouth Budweiser Classic Race of Champions. USSA sanctioned professional snowmobile racing on both oval and snocross tracks. Sheboygan County Fairgrounds. 888-693-8263 (www.plymouthsnowrangers.com)

Jan 17, 2009: Praine du Sac Bald Eagle Watching Days. Each year, dozens of eagles winter at Prairie du Sac to fish the open waters of the Wisconsin River. Enjoy Birds of Prey shows, guided bus tours, wildlife photography seminar, Native American legends and much more. 800-683-2453 (www.saukprairie.com)

Jan 17-18, 2009: Wisconsin Dells Flake Out Festival. Official snow sculpting competition, horse-drawn wagon rides, winter games and more. 800-223-3557 (www.wisdells.com)

Jan 24, 2009: Delavan Winter Fest. Snowmobile radar runs, chili cookoff, and more. 800-624-0052 Jan 26-Feb 1, 2009: LaCrosse Winter Rec-Fest. A wide variety of winter activities including an ice-fishing contest, torchlight hike, hockey and figure skating events and more. 608-789-7533 (www.cityoflacrosse.org)

Jan 31, 2009: Green Bay Winterfest on Broadway. Ice sculptors line the streets, cookie decorating, Eskimo games, beer barrel racing, and more. 920-437-2531 (www.onbroadway.org)

Feb 4-8, 2009: Lake Geneva Winterfest & National Snow Sculpting Championships. Activities include snow sculpting, music, children's activities, horse-drqen carriage rides, helicopter rides, and more. 800-324-1020 (www.lakegenevawi.com)

For more information on these and other great events, please visit www.travelwisconsin.com



WACCO / PSA News

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www.psa-photo.org

Camera Club Notes

Club name tags are available for the low, low cost of \$5.00. If you would like one, please see Bill Rietz during a meeting, he will take your name and Steve Haynes will get them made. You can pay the \$5.00 cost when you pick them up.

Odds & Ends

Don't forget to go to the Menomonee Falls Public Library during January to see our club member's photo display. It is located on the second floor, back by the computers. Our prints should be on display for the entire month of January.

Our annual club photo is now on web site in the Gallery. Those of you with email addresses should have already received it. But in case you lost it or didn't get the email, you can see it in the Gallery.

Bill is getting a new snow blower. What this has to do with our club is beyond me, but when I asked Bill if he had anything new he wanted me to include in this newsletter, he mentioned this. So there you have it.

Back to the Basics

Each month I will use this column to cover some of the basics of photography. This month I will share with you my method for naming and storing my digital images. Although I will concentrate on digital storage, those of you who still work with conventional images may be able to benefit from some of the logic I use to help categorize your images and make them easier to find when you need a specific one.

Every one of our minds works differently; we categorize things according to the importance they have to us, or perhaps in a manner that makes sense to us. So the way I set up my folder / file structures on my PC, may not work for you. But it may give you some ideas on how you can set up your own structures to make it most efficient for you.

The most important thing is to name your folders clearly. For example if I am setting up a folder to store potential nature photos for WACCO compe-

tition next spring, I could very well name it "Nature". It is clear to me to-day. But say I come across this folder 3 months from now, will I remember what it is for? Probably not. So what I do is name the folder "WACCO Spring 09 Nature". Now, even if I come across it 5 years from now, I'll still know what it is for. So you need to make sure that whenever you create a new folder to store your images, you give it a name that is clear.

The way my mind works, I like to have a minimal number of folders on my screen at any one point. So I set up some high level folders for my major categories, and then within those folders, I set up additional folders for further sub-categories, and then sometimes, further break down those folders. To give you a better idea of what I mean, let me go through a few examples.

On "My Pictures", I have the following folders:

Camera Clubs
Family
Photo Shoots – Original
Photo Shoots – Reviewed

Then (again to give you an example of how I structure my folders) under Camera Clubs I have:

WNCCC MFCC WACCO

Now, I have a place to store images for each of the clubs I belong to or compete in. So, if I need to go back and see what images I entered in the Wehr Nature Center Camera Club October 2008 competition, I open Camera Clubs, then open WNCCC, then open Competitions, then open October 2008, and there they are.

My structure may not work for you, but you need to develop a structure that will work for you.





February 2009

Volume #341 Our 33rd Year

People with an Interest in the Art of Photography

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The next meeting will be: Tuesday, February 3rd, at 7:00pm.

Our February meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 3, 2009, Our speaker for this meeting will be Francy Paquette from Allied Digital.

Francy will be talking about all of the options available for making photo books.

There are many different companies today that will let you make your own photo book. Most of the photo stores offer options, as do most of the places you get prints made. There are also quite a few internet sites that provide a way for you to make a photo book.

Hopefully, Francy will give us enough information for us to get a good start on making our own photo books.

If any of you have already made a photo book that you'd like to share with the club members, feel free to bring it to this meeting.

Our January field trip to the Pettit National Ice Center to photograph the Great Lakes Long Track Championships was moved to January 31st, a Sunday. We will meet between 8:30 and 9:00 am, by the front doors.



Refreshments for this meeting:

Sweet: Diane Jaeger & Michael Matusinec

Salty: Greg Yahr & Tim Leberman

Soda: Karl Hokansen & Brian Lauttamus

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Print Exhibit
At the
Menomonee Falls
Public Library

Will Meet between 0.50 Dijaii sauttaiiida

Camera Club Officers

-	Officers:	
-	President: Jeanette Lubitz	262-966-2169
	Vice-President:: Michael Matusinec	414-354-7080
	Treasurer: Bill Rietz	262-251-7106
	Newsletter: Carole Bailey	262=790=1956
	Web Admin: Dan Weiss	414-744-0855

Photo Challenge of the Month

Our photo challenge for January is ICE.

You have until the end of the month to submit your images.

Our club's print exhibit will remain at the library until the January 29th or 30th. If you have not yet viewed it, please take a few minutes to drop in.

March Meeting

Our March meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2009. At that meeting, we will be hosting an outside speaker, C.T. Kruger, who will give a presentation he calls "Community Photojournalism".

March will hopefully be the end of our winter and the start of warmer weather and more comfortable outside activities.

On our club schedule, we have a May field trip planned to the Boerner Botanical Gardens for a Spring tulip shoot. But we are looking for other suggestions for spring field trips. Please think about it and we can discuss your suggestions at this March meeting. We would like to have at least one additional field trip on our schedule.



Time to think about spring!

Club News and Future Events

We had about 37 members at our January meeting. Everyone had a great time working on table top photography. A special thanks to Don Gorzek, Jeff Klug, and Carole Bailey for bringing the set-ups. And thanks, also, for those members who brought props to share with the other members.

Dan Weiss has been maintaining our club web site. Its address is: www.falls-photo.org. He will be posting our newsletter on the site. Please contact him at web-lackey@falls-photo.org or dan-weiss @wi.rr.com if you have anything you'd like to contribute.

We also have a member gallery on our site and are going to be starting up a 'field trip' section for members to submit images from our club's field trips. The guidelines for submission is also on our site.

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Several of the local photo shops support our club. Allied Digital Photo in Germantown gives our members a 15% discount on all in-house printing. The Great Frame Up in Menomonee Falls offers discounts and specials on framing. And Jeff's new shop, Klug's Photo World-Killdeer Acres in Hubertus provides discounts on framing, camera accessories, and digital printing. These sponsors are listed on the back of your membership card, and each of them also has a member list. Please support these businesses.

Too many people miss the silver lining because they're expecting gold.

Here is a sample of the many events that will take place in our area during the next month. Perhaps you may find some educational or photographic opportunities at one or more of these events.

Feb 4-8, 2009: Lake Geneva Winterfest & National Snow Sculpting Championships. Activities include snow sculpting, music, children's activities, horse-drqen carriage rides, helicopter rides, and more. 800-324-1020 (www.lakegenevawi.com)

Feb 6-8, 2009: Judson Hot Air Affair. Spectacular winter ballooning event. Torchlight parade with kazoo marching bands. Moonglow scheduled for Sat 7pm. Many more activities. 800-675-6775 (www.hudsonhotairaffair.com)

Feb 7, 2009: Kiel Ice Sculpture

Contest. More than 60 amateur teams compete. 920-894-2828

Feb 7-8, 2009: Green Bay Arti Gras. An annual visual and performing arts festival featuring the works of 100 artists. Many activities. 920-494-3401 (www.artseventsinc.com)

Feb 13-15, 2009: North Freedom Mid-Continent Railway Snow Train. 34th annual Snot Train. Enjoy the winter wonderland of the Baraboo Hills. Reservations recommended. 608-522-4261 (www.midcontinent.org)

Feb 14, 2009: Ellison Bay Candlelight Ski / Hike / Snowshoe. Ski, hike, or snowshoe a 1-mile trail through the woods lit by homemade candles. Newport State Park. 920-854-2500 (www.dcty.com/newport)

Feb 21, 2009: Oregon A-Z Farm Sheep Shearing. Learn how will is

harvested. See the shearing process and learn how the raw wool is transformed into yarn. 608-835=5553 (www.azfarm.com)

Feb 21, 2009: Prairie du Chien Bald Eagle Appreciation Days. Live bald eagle programs, eagle and raptor exhibits, and field trips to bald eagle watching locations. 608-326-8555 (www.prairieduchien.org

Feb 21-22, 2009: Eagle River Klon-dike Days. Winter festival featuring an 1800's voyageur encampment and fur trade rendezvous. 800-359-6315 (www.klondikedays.org)

For more information on these and other great events, please visit



www.travelwisconsin.com

WACCO / PSA News

WACCO (Wisconsin Area Camera Clubs Organization) is comprised of 15 Camera Clubs throughout Wisconsin. They hold two state-wide competitions a year. Bill Rietz and Jeff Klug are our WACCO delagates. WACCO has a web site with news and information on current and future events. The address is:

www.wisc-camera.org

The WACCO spring competition is usually held the first Saturday in May. The actual date and place will be announced in early 2009.

The special categories for the spring 2009 competition will be:

General: Portraits which is defined as a photo on an animal or person, usually showing the face.

Nature: Insects, which is defined as minute invertebrate animals typically having the body divided into a head, a thorax of 3 segments and in development, usually pass through metamorphosis. There are usually 2 pair or wing, but sometimes 1 pair or none.

PSA (Photographic Society of America) is an organization of individuals, camera clubs, and businesses. Our club is a member; Bill Rietz is our contact. PSA's web site for news and informations on events is:

www.psa-photo.org

Camera Club Notes

Club name tags are available for the low, low cost of \$5.00. If you would like one, please see Bill Rietz during a meeting, he will take your name and Steve Haynes will get them made. You can pay the \$5.00 cost when you pick them up.

Odds & Ends

Dan Weiss (our club's web jockey) has added a new photo gallery on our website for results from our "Table Top Workshop" held at our January meeting. Please check your photos from that meeting and send them to Dan at gallery@falls-photo.org. Please see the submission guidelines on the "Photo Gallery" page. (Dan is also planning on setting up another gallery for photos from the Pettit Ice Center field trip on Jan 31st.)

Our club is hosting a section of the Wisconsin Circuit on Saturday, March 28, 2009. We are looking for volunteers to help out that day. The actual competition will run for most of the day, but if you can only help for a while, we can still use you. Let Bill Rietz know if you would like to help that day.

Also, if you would like to enter your images in this competition, you can find a link to the information and entry forms on the bottom of the WACCO web site's home page. If you have any questions about this competition, please see Bill.

Back to the Basics

Each month I will use this column to cover some of the basics of photography. This month I will talk a little about entering photographic competitions sponsored by such organizations as parks, nature centers, chambers of commerce, or magazines.

As a member of our club, you are eligible to enter the WACCO (Wisconsin Area Camera Club Organization) competitions that are held twice a year. But as a photographer, you can enter many other photographic competitions. For example, you can enter the "Wisconsin Circuit" competition. (More information is in the Odds & Ends column above.)

But there are many less formal photography competitions going on all the time. You can either use the internet to search for them, or visit various parks, nature centers, visitor's centers, or look through the magazines you subscribe to. There are competitions going on everywhere, all of the time.

You can enter any of these competitions that you qualify for, BUT you need to read and understand the competition's rules. Many require that the images be taken within certain time frames or of certain subjects. Some require that you be a member of the sponsoring organization or reside in a certain community. Some also have other regulations. If you are going to enter a competition, you should make sure that your entries are eligible for any prizes.

More importantly, you need to understand that most of the rules of these types of competitions state something to the effect that "... all images become the property of ..." or "... winning images become the

property of ...". What this basically means, is that you are donating your images (or potential winning images) to the organization sponsoring the competition. As long as you are aware of this and are OK with donating your images to the organization, then feel free to enter. This is a good way for these organizations to get good (and free) images to use in their visitor's centers and in their brochures. And there is nothing wrong with donating your images to them.

Entering competitions is a fun and exciting way to share your images. And let me know if you win any prizes in the competitions you enter. I can include that information in our newsletter and share your successes with the other members.





April 2009

Volume #343 Our 33rd Year

People with an Interest in the Art of Photography

Meetings held the First Tuesday of the Month, 7:00 pm, Room 106 at the Menomonee Falls Community Center, Phone 262-255-8460 www.falls-photo.org

The next meeting will be: Tuesday, April 7th, at 7:00pm.

Our April meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2009.

Our first presenter will be Model / Modeling Instructor Addy Pradarelli from the John Casablancas Modeling and Career Center. His topic will be Model / Photographer Etiquette and Posing. In past presentations, we have always presented modeling from a

photographer's point of view. Now we will gain insights into the models' points of view to help us improve our photos.

Our second presenter will be Jeff Klug, who will be giving us an overview of preparing slides, digital files, and prints for entry into the WACCO competitions. This should help everyone with their entries into the

WACCO Spring competition in April.



Refreshments for this meeting:

Sweet: Ken Warning & Margie & Mike Rusnak Salty: Ken Warning & Norm Sorenson

Soda: Renee Jacque & Jennifer Bartelt

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WACCO Spring 2009 Competition

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Treasurer: Bill Rietz	262-251-7106
Newsletter: Carole Bailey	262-790-1956
Web Admin: Dan Weiss	414-744-0855

Photo Challenge of the Month

Our photo challenge for March is GREEN.

You have until the end of the month to submit your images. Competition will be held on May 2nd. Entries are due by April 18th.

Forms are available at our club meetings or on the WACCO web site.

May Meeting

Our May meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2009. At this meeting we will be seeing results from the 2009 Wisconsin Circuit. This is a world-wide competition that is being sponsored by several different Wisconsin area camera clubs. There are always many wonderful images.

Our club will be having a field trip on Saturday, May 9th, at Boerner Botanical Gardens.

We are hoping that the tulips will be in full bloom at that time. We will be meeting at the Botanical Gardens at 7am to try to beat the crowds. Ken Warning has graciously agreed to coordinate this field trip. He shoots the tulips every year and is well qualified to help us find the 'great' shots.



Club News and Future Events

We had over 50 members at our May meeting. C.T. Kruger gave us a very interesting and informative 'inside' look at being a staff photographer for local newspapers.

Dan Weiss has been maintaining our club web site. Its address is: www.falls-photo.org. He will be posting our newsletter on the site. Please contact him at web-lackey@falls-photo.org or dan-weiss @wi.rr.com if you have anything you'd like to contribute.

We also have a member gallery on our site and are going to be starting up a 'field trip' section for members to submit images from our club's field trips. The guidelines for submission is also on our site.

CLUB FIELD TRIPS:

Thanks to all of our members who responded to our request for input on our club field trips. In addition to the May 9th tulip shoot at Boerner, we will be doing some additional field trips:

Lake Michigan Lighthouses from Milwaukee to Two Rivers. Saturday, June 13, 2009. Coordinator is Michael Matusinec.

"Day in the Life of ???".

Jeannette Lubitz has agreed to coordinate this field trip. She will discuss the date and location of the shoot at the April

meeting with those interested in participating.

Bristol Renaissance Faire.

We've been going to this event for the past several years and will most likely do this again this year in late July or August.

Several of the local photo shops support our club. Allied Digital Photo in Germantown gives our members a 15% discount on all in-house printing. The Great Frame Up in Menomonee Falls offers discounts and specials on framing. And Jeff's new shop. Klug's Photo World-Killdeer Acres in Hubertus provides discounts on framing, camera accessories, and digital printing. These sponsors are listed on the back of your membership card, and each of them also has a member list. Please support these businesses.

Defeat is not the worst of failures. Not to have tried is the true failure.

Here is a sample of the many events that will take place in our area during the next month. Perhaps you may find some educational or photographic opportunities at one or more of these events.

April 2-5, 2009: Milwaukee Art in Bloom. Local artists and floral designers festoon the museum's galleries with floral arrangements inspired by works in the museum's collection. Milwaukee Art Museum. 414-273-8288 (www.mam.org)

April 11, 2009: Milwaukee County Zoo Egg Day. Easter activity day for children including an egg hunt, arts & crafts, and an Easter Parade. 414-771-5500 (www.milwaukee.org)

April 18, 2009: Sheboygan Family Festival: West Africa. Performances by the Ko-Thi Dance Company, stamping and dyeing techniques on

fabric, weaving demonstrations, and more. 920-458-6144 (www.jmkac.org)

April 24-26, 2009: Madison Great Midwest Alpaca Festival. More than 550 alpacas will be competing. Seminars and demonstrations. 608-291-2131 (www.gmaf.info)

April 25, 2009: Janesville 2nd Annual Sabre Rattlers Invitational Fencing Tournament. Fencing tournament open to the publics. 608-758-6516

April 25, 2009: Pewaukee River Run. Cance race down the Fox River from Pewaukee to Frame Park in Waukesha. 262-691-2700

April 25-26, 2009. Jefferson Spring Car Show. More than 2,000 show cars. 608-244-8416 (www.madisonclassics.com/carshows)

April 26, 2009: Appleton Mid-

Wisconsin Chippers Carving Show and Sale. Featuring 75 carvers with exhibits and sale items. Demonstrations and chainsaw carver outside (weather permitting). 920-725-5391

April 26, 2009: Fredonia Grafton Downriver Canoe Race. 14-mile canoe run down the Milwaukee River from Fredonia to Grafton. 262-377-1650

Apr 26-May 1, 2009: Waupaca Art Show. Artists from throughout central Wisconsin and beyond display works and compete for prizes in the professionally-judged show. 715-258-7343

For more information on these and other great events, please visit

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WACCO / PSA News

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www.wisc-camera.org

The WACCO spring competition will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2009 at the Waukesha State Bank in Oconomowoc (Just north of I-94 at Hwy 67, Exit 282) starting at 11:30am. All entry forms, slides, and digi-

tal images are due by April 18th. Prints need to be delivered between 10:30 and 11:15 the day of competition.

The special categories for the spring 2009 competition will be:

General: Portraits which is defined as a photo on an animal or person, usually showing the face.

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The Menomonee Falls Fire Department is looking for one or more volunteers to record events from working fires, training, social events, and other department activities. If interested contact Captain Tod Doebler at 262-424-0088.

The Menomonee Falls Public Library is looking for volunteers to teach about digital photography. Sessions can be either a single session or multiple sessions that run several weeks. If interested, contact Gary at gfinch@mf.lib.wi.us or 262-532-8920.

Bob Cowan, a representative from the Menomonee Falls Historical Society visited our club at our March meeting to tell us about some future possibilities of having photographic displays in one of the buildings at the Old Falls Village (corner of Pilgrim and County Line Road). He will be contacting our club sometime in the future to work with us on this project. If you have any ideas about this, please feel free to share them with your club officers.

Back to the Basics

Each month I will use this column to cover some of the basics of photography. This month I will talk about the logic and mathematics behind the 'Rule of Thirds'.

Any one of us who has had any sort of photographic composition training has heard of the 'Rule of Thirds'. This is where you mentally divide your frame into thirds, both horizontally and vertically, and then put your main subject(s) where these lines intersect. But how many of us really know why this is a good idea?

Well, the answer lies as far back as when the Egyptians built their Great Pyramids and when the ancient Greeks built their great buildings like the Parthenon. Through trial and error, these great architects discovered that certain ratios were more pleasing to the eye than others. And they used these ratios in designing and building their great buildings.

But it wasn't until the 12th century that

a mathematician by the name of Leonardo Fibonacci from Italy produced a series of numbers where each succeeding number is the sum of the last 2 numbers. This series is called the 'Fibonacci Sequence' and is as follows: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, ... The ratio of each successive pair of numbers approaches a number denoted by the Greek letter 'Phi' (1.6180339887...). This ratio has been given many different names over time. Some of the more popular are "Golden Ratio", "Golden Mean', and 'Divine Proportion".

And surprise, surprise ... this is the exact ratio that had been used by the great architects to build some of the most pleasing structures. The great artists like Michelangelo and Rembrandt also made frequent use of these ratios.

And Leonardo D'Vinci was a Golden Ratio fanatic. He spend considerable time doing studies of the human body showing that many of the body's proportions were based upon the Golden Ratio. This ratio (and the Fibonacci Sequence) is also evident everywhere in nature, from the spirals in a nautilus shell or sunflower head to the branching of trees.

Now, you may ask: "And what does this have to do with the rule of thirds?" The answer lies in the Fibonacci Sequence of numbers. Architects and artists actually use these numbers to design the proportions of their art. The more precise they want to be, the larger numbers they use (to get closer to the goal of Phi). However, for our purposes, we can use the 2, 3 sequence and be close enough.

So, the next time you are composing for a shot using the 'Rule of Thirds', you can consider yourself in the company of many great artists.





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raphy.

March will hopefully be the end of our winter and the start of warmer weather and more comfortable outside activities. On our club schedule, we have a May field trip planned to the Boerner Botanical Gardens for a Spring tulip shoot. But we are looking for other suggestions for spring field trips. Please think about it and we can discuss your suggestions at this March meeting. We would like to

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Refreshments for this meeting:

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Soda: Jessie Buchholz

& Tom Gentz

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Volunteers Needed

Both the Menomonee
Falls Fire Department and the Menomonee Falls Public
Library are looking
for volunteers.

See more information in the Odds & Ends section on page 4 of this newsletter.

Camera Club Officers

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Photo Challenge of the Month

Our photo challenge for February is EYES.

You have until the end of the month to submit your images.

April Meeting

Our April meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2009. We are still finalizing the speakers and topics for this meeting, but now it looks like we will have 2 sessions.

We are planning a session on reviewing some guidelines for portrait photography. This is intended to prepare our members for the photo shoot that will be held at our June meeting.

For the second session, Jeff Klug has agreed to give us an overview of preparing your slides, digital files, and prints for entry into the WACCO competitions. This should help everyone with their entries into the WACCO Spring competition in April.



Club News and Future Events

We had 58 members and guests at our February meeting. Francy Paquette and Andy from Allied Digital gave us an overview of the options for creating a hard cover book from our photographs. They had several books that they passed around for our members to look at.

Dan Weiss has been maintaining our club web site. Its address is: www.falls-photo.org. He will be posting our newsletter on the site. Please contact him at web-lackey@falls-photo.org or dan-weiss @wi.rr.com if you have anything you'd like to contribute.

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Success is a ladder which cannot be climbed with your hands in your pockets.

Here is a sample of the many events that will take place in our area during the next month. Perhaps you may find some educational or photographic opportunities at one or more of these events.

Feb 14-Apr 12, 2009: Green Bay "Aging in America: The Years Ahead". B&W photography exhibition revealing the highs and lows of growing older. Stunning imagery that shatters the stereotypes of aging. 920-448-4460 (www.nevillepublicmuseum.org)

Mar 7, 2009: WACCO Photography Seminar. See page 2 of this NL for details.

Mar 7, 2009: Milwaukee County Zoo Family Free Day. Free to Milwaukee County residents. Parking fees do apply. Mar 7, 2009: Waukesha Art Crawl. Great food, live music, and fine art. 262-549-6154

(www.redhotartspot.com)

Mar 7-22, 2009. Madison Olbrich Gardens Spring Flower Show. Experience the sights and smells of spring. 608-246-4450 (www.olbrich.org)

Mar 14, 2009: Milwaukee St. Patrick's Day Parade. Downtown from noon to 1:30pm. 414-276-6696. (www.saint-patricksparade.org)

Mar 21, 2009: East Peoria, Illinois Photographic Seminar. Speaker Jim Zuckerman will present "Eight Steps to Dramatic Photography". For information email LJpieper@sbcglobal.net

Mar 21, 2009: Appleton Maple Syrup Saturday. Tours of the Preserve's syrup producing process begins with a hike through the sugar bush. Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve. 920-731-6041 (www.bubolzpreserve.org)

Mar 21-22, 2009: Cedarburg Cedar Creek Winery Open House. Enjoy wine tastings, demos, and tours. 800-827-8020 (www.cedarcreekwinery.com)

Mar 28, 2009: Brillion Maple Syrup Camp. Observe tapping demonstrations and participate in the process. Program is weather dependent. Call to confirm. Brillion Nature Center. 920-756-3591 (www.BrillionNatureCenter.net)

For more information on these and other great events, please visit



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Back to the Basics

Each month I will use this column to cover some of the basics of photography. This month I will review the different types of camera support systems.

If you want to get sharper images, it is critical that you use some type of stability support. Yes, most cameras and lenses today do come with internal stability, but that goes only so far. If you want to take longer exposures or sharper macro images, you really need external support.

Tripods are the most common type of camera support. A good tripod is actually 2 pieces of equipment: the legs and the head. The most popular legs and heads are made by Manfrotto/Bogen and Gitzo.

Tripod legs can be made of many different types of materials and come in different price ranges. Aluminum legs are normally the least expensive (and the heaviest) with a price range of \$100 to \$200. Carbon Fiber legs offer a lighter weight alternative, but come with a heftier price tag of between \$300 and \$500. You can also get an extremely light-weight 'traveler' tripod for about \$700 or so. All tripod legs have telescoping sections, usually 3 or 4 sections per leg. The heavier tripods are

usually more stable than the lighter ones. And the tripods with fewer sections in each leg are usually more stable than those with more sections. The maximum height of tripods varies, so you want to make sure you get one that you can use without having to bend over to look through your carnera's view-finder.

Tripod heads also come in many different types and materials. The ball head seems to be the most popular. But other options are the panhead and the trigger or 'quick-grip'. Most good heads range in price from \$75 to \$200.

Ball heads are made with either aluminum or magnesium. They come with either one or two tightening knobs to control the position of the head. You will have to play with them to see which you prefer. The advantage to this type of head is that you need only one control to position your camera. Pan heads are usually aluminum and have 3 controls, one for the vertical, one for the horizontal, and the third for moving your camera right and left. These types of heads are good for beginners and are useful when panning action shots. Trigger heads, sometimes called 'quick-grip' are a

type of ball head but without the control knobs. To change the position of the ball, you squeeze a trigger, position the ball, then release the trigger. These types of heads are much harder to control than either of the other types. For any type of head, you will most likely want a quick release mount. This makes it easier and quicker to attach your camera to the head and is almost mandatory when you use more than one camera.

There are many other options for camera stability. Some of these are mono-pods (a one-legged version of the tripod) and 'the pod' beanbags.

In order to not disrupt the stability that you paid for with these types of support systems, it is important that you use a remote device (or several second delay) to take your shots. Your finger on the shutter release will move the camera and contribute to the blurning in your final image.

So find a good tripod that fits your needs, and get out there and shoot.







May 2009

Volume #344 Our 33rd Year

People with an Interest in the Art of Photography

Meetings held the First Tuesday of the Month, 7:00 pm, Room 106 at the Menomonee Falls Community Center, Phone 262-255-8460 www.falls-photo.org

The next meeting will be: Tuesday, May 5th, at 7:00pm.

Our May meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2009.

At this meeting we will be seeing results from the 2009 Wisconsin Circuit competition. This is a world-wide competition that was held in late March and sponsored by several different Wisconsin area camera clubs, including ours. This will be a wonderful chance to see what photographers around the world are doing.

Please turn in your digital images (on a CD) for our July

show. The topic this year is "Sky-scapes" and "Water-scapes". You can turn between 4 and 12 images. Depending on how many images Jeff receives, he may not have room to use all of yours.

Our club will be sponsoring a field trip on Saturday, May 9th, at Boerner Botanical Gardens to shoot the tulips. We will be meeting at the Botanical Gardens at 7am to try to beat the crowds. Ken Warning has graciously agreed to coordinate this field trip. Be sure to bring your tripod, close-up or macro

lenses, and knee pads (like you can get at gardening centers) to protect your knees while shooting.



Refreshments for this meeting:

Sweet: Matt Rech & Michael Matusinec

Salty: Paul Moertl & Dorothy Greene

Soda: David Phillips &

Betty Jusak

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Odds & Ends

Back to the Basics

Camera Club Annual Digital Show

Our annual digital show will be shown at our July meeting. The topic this year is "Skyscapes" and "Waterscapes"

Turn in your images on a CD at the May Meeting.

Camera Club Officers

Officers:	
President: Jeanette Lubitz	262-966-2169
Vice-President:: Michael Matusinec	414-354-7080
Treasurer: Bill Rietz	262-251-7106
Newsletter: Carole Bailey	262-790-1956
Web Admin: Dan Weiss	414-744-0855

Photo Challenge of the Month

Our photo challenge for April is CONTRAST.

You have until the end of the month to submit your images.

June Meeting

Our June meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 2, 2009. This meeting will be our annual model shoot at Jeff Klug's photo studio. We will be starting at 6pm so that we can shoot outside while there is still some good light. As of now, we are expecting to get some models from the John Casablancas School of Modeling. Because we are getting 'professional models in train-

ing', Jeff and Bill are working on some additional guidelines for the shoot. They will be published in our next newsletter.



We will be having a field trip

on Saturday, June 13, 2009, to photograph Lake Michigan Lighthouses. The coordinator for this trip is Michael Matusinec. We will be meeting at 7am down at the lake front and then moving up the lake to Two Rivers. There are about 10 lighthouses along the way for us to shoot. Michael will have maps and more details available at the meeting in June. If you are interested, but cannot attend the meeting, please call him.

Club News and Future Events

We had over 59 members and guests at our April meeting. Addy Pradarelli, who is a professional model from the MTM agency, gave us some very interesting insights into the work of models, and what we, as photographers, can do to make a modeling session more productive to both the model and ourselves. Her modeling school will be providing models for our June model shoot.

At this meeting, Bill and Jeff handed out CD's containing some guidelines for shooting portraits. Please review this before attending our June model shoot. If you were not at the April meeting, Bill has a limited number of the CD's. Please see him at the May meeting or call him for your copy.

Dan Weiss has been maintain-

ing our club web site. Its address is: www.falls-photo.org. He will be posting our newsletter on the site. Please contact him at web-lackey@falls-photo.org or dan-weiss @wi.rr.com if you have anything you'd like to contribute.

We also have a member gallery on our site and are going to be starting up a 'field trip' section for members to submit images from our club's field trips. The guidelines for submission is also on our site.

Several of the local photo shops support our club. Allied Digital Photo in Germantown gives our members a 15% discount on all in-house printing. The Great Frame Up in Menomonee Falls offers discounts and specials on framing. And Jeff's new shop, Klug's Photo World—Killdeer

Acres in Hubertus provides discounts on framing, camera accessories, and digital printing. These sponsors are listed on the back of your membership card, and each of them also has a member list. Please support these businesses.

We are now getting towards the end of our calendar year. This is the time of year we start looking for a new Vice-President. Our Vice-President serves for 1 year and then serves as President for the following year. If you are interested ir serving our club, please see Bill Rietz.

Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do.

Here is a sample of the many events that will take place in our area during the next month. Perhaps you may find some educational or photographic opportunities at one or more of these events.

May 1-2, 2009: Manitowoc 28 Boat Reunion & USS Lagarto Remembrance. Celebration honoring all those who served aboard or helped build Manitowoc's submarines during and after WWII. 920-684-0218 (www.wisconsinmaritime.org)

May 3, 2009: Green Bay Heritage Hill Spring Celebration. Heritage Hill kicks off its season with a Spring celebration. Special activities and events throughout the park. 920-448-5150 (www.heritagehillgb.org)

May 8-11, 2009: Horicon Marsh Annual Bird Festival. Experience the peak of the spring bird migration. Includes guided bird hikes, bird banding demonstrations, pontoon boat birding adventures and much more. Reservations required for some events. 920-387-7860 (www.horiconmarshbirdfestival.com)

May 9, 2009: Brodhead Tour the Farms Day. Five farms in the Brodhead area will be open for tours, including a sheep farm, dairy farm, emu farm, organic farm, and a vegetable farm. 608-897-8411 (www.brodheadchamber.org)

May 15-17, 2009: Stoughton Syttende Mai Folk Festival. America's largest celebration of Norwegian Constitution Day. Two parades, folk dancing, crafts and food. 608-873-7912 (www.stoughtonwi.com)

May 16-17, 2009: Wisconsin Dells Automotion. Antique and collector

vehicles with more than 900 show cars on display. 800-223-3557 (www.wisdells.com)

May 22-25, 2009: Burlington Chocolate Festival. Many chocolate-related events. 262-763-2680 (www.chocolatefest.com)

May 30-31, 2009: Milwaukee Reclaiming Our Heritage. Multi-era military encampment 1660-2008. Tour the historic Soldiers' Home buildings and national Cemetery. Parade, fashion show, and concerts. 414-902-5599 (www.rohmilwaukee.org)

For more information on these and other great events, please visit



www.travelwisconsin.com

WACCO / PSA News

WACCO (Wisconsin Area Camera Clubs Organization) is comprised of 15 Camera Clubs throughout Wisconsin. They hold two statewide competitions a year. Bill Rietz and Jeff Klug are our WACCO delegates. WACCO has a web site with news and information on current and future events. The address is:

www.wisc-camera.org

The WACCO spring competition will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2009 at the Waukesha State Bank in Oconomowoc (Just north of I-94 at Hwy 67, Exit 282) starting at 11:30am. All entry forms, slides, and digi-

tal images were due by April 18th. Prints need to be delivered between 10:30 and 11:15 the day of competition.

Everyone is welcome to view the competition.

For those of you planning ahead, the special categories for the WACCO Fall 09 Competition are:

General: Domesticated Flowers Nature: Fungi / Mushrooms

Competition will most likely be held the first Saturday in November.

PSA (Photographic Society of America) is an organization of individuals, camera clubs, and businesses. Our club is a member; Bill Rietz is our contact. PSA's web site for news and information on events is:

www.psa-photo.org

Camera Club Notes

Club name tags are available for the low, low cost of \$5.00. If you would like one, please see Bill Rietz during a meeting, he will take your name and Steve Haynes will get them made. You can pay the \$5.00 cost when you pick them up.

Odds & Ends

We are now getting towards the end of our calendar year. This is the time of year we start **looking for a new Vice-President**. Our Vice-President serves for 1 year and then serves as President for the following year. If you are interested in serving our club, please see Bill Rietz.

In addition to the May field trip to Boerner and the June field trip to shoot Lake Michigan lighthouses, we are putting together plans for two additional field trips.

Jeannette Lubitz has agreed to coordinate a "Day in the Life ..." field trip. She is still talking to those members who have expressed an interest and is deciding on a date and place. As soon as the date and place have been decided, I will put it in the newsletter.

We have gone to the **Bristol Renaissance Fair**e for the past several years. We are looking to do this again this year in late July or August. We will let you know as soon as we finalize the date.

Back to the Basics

Each month I will use this column to cover some of the basics of photography. This month I will use this column to provide a Wisconsin Wildflower Blooming Guide.

May 1-15

Marsh Marigold

May 15-31

Shooting Star Pucoon

Birdsfoot Violet

Blue-eyed Grass Indian Paintbrush

Lousewort

June 1-15

Lupine Wild Iris

June 15-30

Wild Indigo Coreopsis Wild Rose

Spiderwort

Solomon's Seal

July 1-15

Indian Plantain
Prairie Phlox
Black-eyed Susan
Prairie White Fringed (

Prairie White Fringed Orchid

Prairie Clover

July 15-31

Sunflowers Nodding Onion Milkweed Wild Bergamot

August 1-15

Great Lobelia

Gayfeather Swamp Thistle

August 15-31

Gentians
Blazing Star

Ladies' Tresses Orchid

Asters

Grass of Parnassus

After surviving our Wisconsin winter, it is always enjoyable to be able to get out and shoot when the weather starts getting nice. I hope this will encourage you to get out and have fun finding and shooting wild-

flowers.







June 2009

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People with an Interest in the Art of Photography

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The next meeting will be: Tuesday, June 2nd, at 6:00pm.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 2, 2009. This meeting will be our annual model shoot at Jeff Klug's photo studio. We will be starting at 6pm so that we can shoot outside while there is still some good light. Due to space constraints, only club members will be allowed to shoot.

Our models will be from the John Casablancas Modeling School. These young modeling students are willing to come pose for us. To compensate them for their time, every photographer is expected to turn in

images (either prints or digital) to Jeff or Bill at or before the July meeting. Additional details and directions to Jeff's can be found in the "Back to the Basics" column on page 4. Please read this before the meeting.

On Saturday, June 13, 2009, our club will be photographing Lake Michigan Lighthouses.

The coordinator for this trip is Michael Matusinec. We will be meeting at 7am at the North Point Lighthouse on North Lake Drive. Mike will have maps for the rest of the lighthouses, from here up to Two Rivers. Please bring a bag lunch

and your drinks. Mike is expecting that we should be done by about 3pm. If the weather is not cooperative, a rain date will be set sometime in August.

Please call Michael if you have any questions.

Refreshments for this

meeting:

Sweet: John Wiley & Carole Bailey

Salty: Norm Sorenson & Carole Bailey

Soda: Dave Bollech and Kent Ottmann

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Back to the Basics

Camera Club Annual Digital Show

Our annual digital show will be shown at our July meeting. The topic this year is "Skyscapes" and "Waterscapes"

If you have not yet turned in you images, do so at the May meeting.

Camera Club Officers

Officers:	
President: Jeanette Lubitz	262-966-2169
Vice-President:: Michael Matusinec	414-354-7080
Treasurer: Bill Rietz	262-251-7106
Newsletter: Carole Bailey	262-790-1956
Web Admin: Dan Weiss	414-744-0855

Photo Challenge of the Month

Our photo challenge for May is OLD.

You have until the end of the month to submit your images.

July Meeting

Our July meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2009.

At this meeting we will be having our annual All-member Club Show. The theme this year is Sky Scapes and Water Scapes.

At this meeting, we will also be having the election of our new Vice-President, who will serve one year as VP and then the following year as President. If you are looking for a way to help support our club, please

talk to Bill Rietz about running for this position.

At this meeting, we will also be selecting prints for our August exhibit at the Menomonee Falls Public Library.

And last, but certainly not least, we will be having our annual Ice Cream Social, complements of Pop's on Appleton.

Mark your calendars and be sure to make our last meeting

of the year.



Jeannette Lubitz has agreed to coordinate a "Day in the Life ..." field trip. If you are interested in attending this type of field trip, please call her. Those interested will help her choose a location and date.

Club News and Future Events

We had about 40 members at our May meeting. Jerry Emmerich showed us the results of the 2009 Wisconsin Circuit International Competition. There were many wonderful images.

There were some questions as to what the Circuit was and if we were eligible to enter. Information on this competition can be found on the WACCO web site (link is on our club's web site). It is currently listed as "Circuit" and is towards the bottom of the WACCO site. The Wisconsin Circuit is usually held in the late April / early May timeframe and entries are usually due sometime in early April. So start looking next January / February for information on next year's competition.

Dan Weiss has been maintaining our club web site. Its ad-

dress is: www.falls-photo.org.
He will be posting our newsletter on the site. Please contact
him at web-lackey@fallsphoto.org or dan-weiss
@wi.rr.com if you have anything
you'd like to contribute.

We also have a member gallery on our site and are going to be starting up a 'field trip' section for members to submit images from our club's field trips. The guidelines for submission is also on our site.

Several of the local photo shops support our club. Allied Digital Photo in Germantown gives our members a 15% discount on all in-house printing. The Great Frame Up in Menomonee Falls offers discounts and specials on framing. And Jeff's new shop, Klug's Photo World—Killdeer Acres in Hubertus provides dis-

counts on 'raming, camera accessories, and digital printing. These sponsors are listed on the back of your membership card, and each of them also has a member list. Please support these businesses.

We are now getting towards the end of our calendar year. This is the time of year we start looking for a new Vice-President. Our Vice-President serves for 1 year and then serves as President for the following year. If you are interested in serving our club, please see Bill Rietz.

Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see the shadows.

lere is a sample of the many events that will take place in our area during the next month. Perhaps you may find some educational or photographic opportunities at one or more of these events.

June 5-7, 2009: Milwaukee Riversplash! Three day celebration along 10 blocks of the downtown RiverWalk. Food, fun, fireworks, and music. 414-297-9855

June 5-7, 2009: Port Washington 5th Annual Port Pirate Festival. Pirate ships, fireworks, entertainment, parade, food, and fun. 262-284-6652 (www.portpiratefestival.com)

June 6, 2009: Baraboo Seth Peterson Cottage Annual State Park Open House. Free guided tours of this Frank Lloyd Wright gem. One day only. 608-254-6051 (www.sethpeterson.org)

June 12-14, 2009: Mt Horeb Spring Art Tour. Discover the art studios of Mount Horeb, Verona, Mazomanie, Black Earth, Cross Plains, Blue Mounds and was in between. Maps available at the Mt Horeb Welcome Center. 888-765-5929 (www.springarttour.com)

June 13, 2009: Appleton Flag Day Parade. Country's largest Flag Day Parade with more than 120 bands and units. 2pm. 920-954-9112

June 13-14, 2009: Door County Lighthouse Walk. Self-guided, county wide tour of 6 mainland lighthouses, plus boat tours to the island lighthouses. 920-743-5958 (www.dcmm.org)

June 18-21, 2009: Monroe Balloon Festival. 24th annual hot air balloon rally. Mass launches at 6am and 6pm. 608-325-7648 (www.monroechamber.org)

June 18-21, 2009: Prairie du Chlen Paririe Villa Rendezvous. Largest buckskinners and fur trade re-enactment in the Midwest. St. Feriole Island. 800-732-1673 (www.prairieduchien.org)

June 19-21, 2009: Columbus Carriage Classic. Gracéful horses, authentic and replica carriages, and drivers in period attire. Fireman's Park. 920-623-5325 (www.columbuscarriageclassic.com)

June 26-27, 2009: Two Rivers Coal City Classic Car Cruise/Show. Up to 100 classic and older cars will be on display. Competitions, food, and fun. 920-794-1482 (www.trmainstreet.org)

June 27-28, 2009: Cedarburg Strawberry Festival. A strawberry and arts weekend featuring "Arts on the Avenue". Downtown Historic District. 888-894-4001 (www.cedarburgfestivals.org)

June 28-July 5, 2009: Baraboo Great Circus Parade Roll Out Days. Circus World's collection of circus parade wagons are displayed on the grounds in preparation for their trip to Milwaukee for the Great Circus Parade on July 12th. 866-693-1500

www.circusworldmuseum.com)

For more information on these and other great events, please visit www.trayelwisconsin.com

WACCO / PSA News

WACCO (Wisconsin Area Camera Clubs Organization) is comprised of 15 Camera Clubs throughout Wisconsin. They hold two statewide competitions a year. Bill Rietz and Jeff Klug are our WACCO delegates. WACCO has a web site with news and information on current and future events. The address is:

www.wisc-camera.org

The WACCO spring competition was held on Saturday, May 2, 2009. Our members did quite well. Please see the Odds & Ends column on page 4 for a list of our winners. Congratulations to you all !!!

The WACCO Fall 09 Competition is scheduled to be held on the first Saturday in November. The special categories are:

General: Domesticated Flowers, defined as "A cultivated flower, such as, but not limited to, roses, tulips, etc."

Nature: Fungi / Mushrooms, defined as "The non-flowering plants subdivision of the Thallophyta which are devoid of chlorophyll, and include molds, mildews, rusts, mushrooms, and puffballs.

PSA (Photographic Society of America) is an organization of individuals, camera clubs, and businesses. Our club is a member; Bill Rietz is our contact. PSA's web site for news and information on events is:

www.psa-photo.org

Camera Club Notes

We are now getting towards the end of our calendar year. This is the time of year we start looking for a new Vice-President. Our Vice-President serves for 1 year and then serves as President for the following year. If you are interested in serving our club, please see Bill Rietz.

Odds & Ends

The WACCO Spring competition was held on May 2nd. Here is a list of our club's winners.

Claes Akerblow: Digital Nature-Insect Alternate Bronze Medal Carole Bailey: Digital Nature-1 HM: Digital General-2 HM

Lou Bohlman: Small Color-1 HM Roger Crill: Digital General-1 HM

Jane Hirst: Digital General-1 HM, Small B&W-1 HM, Large Color Nature

Silver Medal

Jeff Klug: Digital General-1 HM, Small Color-Best Open Silver Medal + 1 HM,

Large Color-4 HM

Ed Kolinski: Large B&W-Best Open, Nature Slide-1 HM, Digital Nature-1 HM, Digital

General-1 HM, Large B&W-1 HM

Jeannette Lubitz: Digital General-1 HM, Small B&W-Alternate Open Bronze Medal, Small color-2 HM, Large B&W-Alternate Open Bronze Medal

+ 1 HM

Bill Rietz: Small Color-1 HM

Ken Warning: Digital Nature-1 HM, Digital General-1 HM, Small B&W-Best of Division Gold Medal + 1 HM, Small Color-Alternate Nature Bronze Medal + 2 HM

John Wiley: Digital Nature-1 HM, Digital General-Best Oper Silver Medal +

Karen Wisth: Digital General—2 HM

Back to the Basics

Each month I will use this column to cover some of the basics of photography. This month I will cover some of the basic guidelines for shooting models. This information can also be found in the CD that Bill and Jeff distributed to our members at the April meeting.

- Communication with your model is critical to getting the image you want. You may never touch your model or adjust her clothing or hair. You must ask her to make any changes you want.
- Constant instruction is critical
 to let your model know if she
 should hold her pose or make
 changes. Keep a close eye
 on her clothes and hair and
 have her adjust as necessary.
 Remember to be kind when

- making comments. A happy model will result in better pictures.
- Do not invade the model's personal space. Use lenses that will allow you to shoot from at least 6 feet away.
- Do not dominate the model's time. There are other club members waiting for their turn.
- When selecting images to give to the model, make sure you choose the most flattering poses.

Jeff's studio is located at 4230 Hwy 167, in Hubertus. There is a map to his studio on the first page of our web site. Or you can get there by taking Appleton Avenue up to Hwy 167, then turn west and go for about 5 minutes or so. His

studio is or the north side of 167. The sign is a bit small and partially hidden by trees. Right past his driveway is a parking lot for his business. Please park in this lot.

For this photo shoot, there will not be any model releases given to individuals. The model releases will be retained by the club. This shoot is meant to be a learning experience for our members and is not to be used for profit.

Please remember that if you participate in the model shoot, you will be expected to turn in prints or digital files that can be given to our models.







July 2009

Volume #346 Our 33rd Year

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The next meeting will be: Tuesday, July 7th, at 7:00pm.

Our July meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2009.

At this meeting we will see the 2009 All-Member Show with the theme of 'Sky-Scapes' and 'Water-Scapes'. Jeff Klug has been working to put together a show we can all enjoy. Following the 'Scapes' show, we will be seeing the best of last month's model shoot.

At this meeting, we will also be electing a new Vice President for the 2009-10 year. This new VP will then assume the position as President for the 2010-11 year. If you are in-

terested in serving as club VP, please contact Bill Rietz.

We will also be selecting prints for our August exhibition at the Menomonee Falls Library. Prints must be mounted or matted, but not framed, and should not have been displayed at the library before. All members are eligible to submit prints.

We will also be having a White Elephant sale. So bring any of your unused photo equipment. Perhaps someone else can use what you don't.

And since this is our last meeting of the 'year', we will again be having our traditional

Ice Cream Social.

The ice cream and toppings are complements of Sharon Whitman of Pop's Frozen Custard on Appleton Avenue in Menomonee Falls.
Thanks to Ed Kolinski for coordinating this again this year.



Soda for this meeting:

Jennifer Bartelt & Bob Sawinski

Camera Club Officers

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Vice-President:: Michael Matusinec	414-354-7080
Treasurer: Bill Rietz	262-251-7106
Newsletter: Carole Bailey	262-790-1956
Web Admin: Dan Weiss	414-744-0855

Photo Challenge of the Month

Our photo challenge for June, July, and August is

Fun in the Sun.

You have until the end of the August to submit your images.

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Special Thanks

To

Sharon Whitman of Pop's Frozen Custard on Appleton Avenue in Menomonee Falls for donating the ice cream and fixings for our July Ice Cream Social.

This is the 8th year that she has sponsored our Ice Cream Social.
Please consider patronizing Pop's as a way of thanking them for treating us.

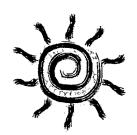
Board Planning Meeting

We will be having our annual board planning meeting on Tuesday, August 4th. It will be held in our normal meeting room. All officers and board members should plan on attending.

At this meeting, we will be planning our 11 meetings for the 2009-2010 year, as well as looking at scheduling a few fieldtrips, and taking care of any administrivia issues that may arise.

If any members have any ideas for programs or fieldtrips, please con-

tact one of the Board members or Officers listed on the first page of this newsletter. We would like to continue to offer you a program that will be interesting and informative to all of you.



The board and officers wish you all a safe, productive, and glorious summer, and hope you get the opportunity to get out and take lots of shots.

We'll see you all back in September.

Club News and Future Events

We had 36 members at our June model shoot. We have received positive comments from both the members and models.

Thanks to all members who provided copies of their shots to Jeff. Each model will receive 3 8x10's and a CD with between 100 and 200 images taken by our members.

Special thanks to Bill Rietz and Jeff Klug for working with the agency to get the models, and to Don Gorzek, Steve Haynes, and Virginia Wick for their support and guidance that helped make the shoot a success. And a very special thanks to Jeff for the very generous use of his property and studio and for the time-consuming job of making prints and compiling the CD's for the models.

Dan Weiss has been maintain-

ing our club web site. Its address is: www.falls-photo.org. He will be posting our newsletter on the site. Please contact him at web-lackey@falls-photo.org or dan-weiss @wi.rr.com if you have anything you'd like to contribute.

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Acres in Hubertus provides discounts on framing, camera accessories, and digital printing. These sponsors are listed on the back of your membership card, and each of them also has a member list. Please support these businesses.

We are now getting towards the end of our calendar year. This is the time of year we start looking for a new Vice-President. Our Vice-President serves for 1 year and then serves as President for the following year. If you are interested in serving our club, please see Bill Rietz.

Putting off an easy thing makes it hard, and putting off a hard one makes it impossible.

Here is a sample of the many events that will take place in our area during the next 2 months. Perhaps you may find some educational or photographic opportunities at one or more of these events.

July 1-5, 2009: La Crosse Riverfest. Top name entertainment and continuous events. Fireworks. La Crosse Riverside Park. 608-782-6000 (www.riverfestlacrosse.com)

July 4, 2009: Eagle An Old World Fourth of July. Take part in historic celebrations from the 19th and 20th centuries. 262-594-6300 (www.oldworldwisconsin.org)

July 9-12, 2009: Iola Old Car Show & Swap Meet. Midwest's largest old car show featuring 2,500 collectible show cars. Great food and lots of old cars. 715-445-4000

(www.iolaoldcarshow.com)

July 12, 2009: Milwaukee Great Cir-

cus Parade. Begins at 2pm. 866-693-1500 (www.circusworldmuseum.com)

July 18, 2009: Edgerton Arts in the Park. Annual arts & craft fair. 608-868-3691

July 24-26, 2009: Antigo Nations of Warriors Pow Wow. Native American dancing, drumming and foods. 715-588-3695

July 27-Aug 2, 2009: Oshkosh EAA AirVenture. The world's largest gathering for recreational pilots and aviation enthusiasts. 920-426-4818 (www.airventure.org)

Aug 1-2, 2009: Prairie du Chien Lincoln's Frontier 1825-1832. Reenactors at Villa Louis illuminate the period leading to the Black Hawk War of 1832. 608-326-2721 (www.villalouis.org)

Aug 7-8, 2009: Seymour Celebrating 20 - Burgers of Plenty & Balloon Rally. Saturday Hamburger fest events. Balloon rally both Friday and Saturday. Launches at 6pm, glows at 8pm. 920-

833-6688

(www.homeofthehamburger.org)

Aug 8-9, 2009: Iola Vintage Military Show. Jeeps, trucks, & command cars, plus antique professional vehicles on display. Battle reenactment, living history encampment and more. 715-445-4005 (www.iolavms.com)

Aug 22, 2009: Baraboo Circus World Model A Ford Showcase. See Ford Model A's from 1927 to 1931 including coupes, cabriolets, fordors, phaetons, and more. 608-356-8341 (www.circusworldmuseum.com)

Aug 22-23, 2009: Green Bay Heritage Hill WWI Encampment. Learn about the daily life of soldiers preparing for WWI 920-448-5150 (www.heritagehillgb.org)

For more information on these and other great events, please visit



WACCO / PSA News

WACCO (Wisconsin Area Camera Clubs Organization) is comprised of 15 Camera Clubs throughout Wisconsin. They hold two state-wide competitions a year. Bill Rietz and Jeff Klug are our WACCO delegates. WACCO has a web site with news and information on current and future events. The address is:

www.wisc-camera.org

The WACCO Fall 09 Competition is scheduled to be held on the first Saturday in November.

The special categories are:

General: Domesticated Flowers, defined as "A cultivated flower, such as, but not limited to, roses, tulips, etc."

Nature: Fungi / Mushrooms, defined as "The non-flowering plants subdivision of the Thallophyta which are devoid of chlorophyll, and include molds, mildews, rusts, mushrooms, and puffballs.

Summer is always a great time to start shooting for the fall competition.

PSA (Photographic Society of America) is an organization of individuals, camera clubs, and businesses. Our club is a member; Bill Rietz is our contact. PSA's web site for news and information on events is:

www.psa-photo.org

Camera Club Notes

Yearly Planning Meeting

The board members and officers will be meeting in August to plan next year's meetings and field trips.

If you have any suggestions, please contact Bill Rietz or Michael Matusinec, your new club president for next year.

Odds & Ends

Due to the threatening weather on Saturday, June 13th, there were only 3 members at the Lake Michigan Lighthouses field trip. But after a few early morning showers, the day turned out to be beautiful. The 3 members who went had a great time and got lots of good pictures.

Our club will be going to the Renaissance Faire on Saturday, July 18th. We will be finalizing the details at the July Meeting. If you are interested in going, but can't make the July meeting, please contact Jeff Klug or Bill Rietz for information on this field trip.

Jeannette Lubitz and Mike Matusinec will be coordinating a "Day in the Life of Port Washington" and Maritime Heritage Festival field trip. It will be held on Saturday, August 15th. There will be several tall ships at the Maritime festival. We will be finalizing the details at our July meeting. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jeannette.

Back to the Basics

Each month I will use this column to cover some of the basics of photography. With the 4th of July coming up, I thought I'd share an article I found on the internet a few years ago. Here is a summary:

Photographs of fireworks are spectacular, colorful, and fairly easy to do once you know the tricks. For best results, you will need: an SLR camera, tripod, cable release, an empty card, a long lens, and plenty of patience.

Since you don't know exactly when or where the fireworks will explode, and you are aiming to capture their trails, you will need to hold the camera shutter open for anywhere between 2 and 30 seconds. Compact cameras don't offer this long exposure feature so you will need an SLR camera with a manual exposure mode called 'Bulb'.

To get sharp images, you must keep the camera perfectly still. Propping your camera on a wall, car-top or table may suffice, but nothing beats a good, solid tripod. You'll also need a cable release to activate the shutter without touching and moving the camera

Despite the low light, it is best to set your ISO at 100 (or 50 if your camera allows).

Try different apertures starting with F8, and different zoom settings to include the whole fireworks trails and any foregrounds you choose to include.

Waterfront settings are good as you can include the reflections of the fire-works in your shot. Cityscapes, land-marks, or people add context to the shot, but remember that they'll come out as silhouettes, so don't include faces or other details. High view-points, upwind from the smoke, are usually best. Get there early to secure your spot and select a lens (usually a telephoto) that will fill the frame with trails. Use the first burst to focus the lens (don't rely on your 'infinity' setting).

To photograph the fireworks, open the shutter, count off a few seconds and then close the shutter. That's it. You will need to experiment with different times to get one that works best for your situation and equipment. Continue to check your results and adjust as necessary.

Include only a few bursts to fill up the frame; too many will look messy.

To reduce the effect of street lighting, cover the lens between bursts with your hand, a black card, or a black cap

You will need to take many shots to get a few good ones, so don't get discouraged.

If you have never tried shooting fireworks, maybe you can try t this year

Have fun!!