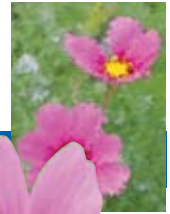


The Lights & Shadows

Grand Rapids Camera Club

VOL.113 No.5 • WWW.GRCAMERA CLUB.ORG • MAY 2011



From Our President



Diane Durand,
GRCC President

It's Election Time...

With elections coming up this month, it is time to consider the board of directors and its function. The purpose of the board is to shape the club into what you want it to be.

Those elected to the board of directors serve a two-year term. Half of the board is elected each year, so there is always consistency within the board. I am thrilled to see new faces running for board positions again. I am glad to see that the same small group of people that continue to serve the needs of the club has been expanding to a larger

group. Those people volunteer to do more and more because they feel a sense of responsibility to the club. With new participants, the duties are distributed among more people so each person can still enjoy the club functions while working with the board to strengthen the club.

I am proud to be leading the club at this time, but I can't do it alone. While I enjoy talking to members at our meetings, I am not able to talk to everyone. I depend on the board members to express different opinions and help guide the discussion of the issues that are on the minds of club members. The board is here to serve the club members, to answer your questions, address your concerns and meet your needs. We need your support. Please take the time to vote in the May election. If you are unable to attend the regular meeting and would like an absentee ballot, please contact me by phone or e-mail at (616)534-8561 or durand3311@netzero.net. I will be happy to provide you with a ballot and instructions to make sure your vote is counted.

Thank you to those of you who have become more active in the club and taken some of the burden from the small group who always volunteer. And, a special thank you to those of you who have volunteered for years and continue to do so. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed or unappreciated.

I look forward to seeing most of you at the May meeting.

Wyoming Library Exhibit



The Grand Rapids Camera Club had a nice display of photography at the Wyoming Public Library. The exhibit ended on April 15 and was well received. These photos were taken by Jim Shearer.

The Lights & Shadows

Grand Rapids Camera Club



UPCOMING PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS

Mike Mitchell, VP of Programs

May
7
Workshop

Wildflower Shoot at Ranger Steve's

This Wildflower photography workshop will be at Ody Brook (my home property) in the morning from 9:00-11:00.

I will be leading a different event for the Michigan Botanical Club and West Michigan Butterfly Association in the afternoon at the Howard Christensen Nature Center from 1-4 p.m. The two activities are not related, but camera club members are welcome to come to the afternoon event. That activity will not be conducive for photography because of the number of people and we will be moving about.

Ranger Steve (Mueller), Ody Brook Enterprise,
13010 Northland Dr. Cedar Springs, MI 49319-8433
616-696-1753

May
18
Meeting

Creating and Publishing Photo Books

Our own Steve Port will show us how to create and publish photo-books. Using My-Publisher software on his laptop, Steve will select a dozen or so shots from My-Pictures, and create a sample book in real time showing different page styles, layouts and text usage.

May
22
Workshop

Photoshop Workshop at ITT Tech

We will be running another Photoshop workshop at ITT Tech in the computer lab on Sunday, May 22. As in the past, all participants will have their own computer to work on as we go through the material.

The time and exact topics to be covered are not quite finalized, but it will be a 3-hour session like in the past. The instructors will be Larry Heibel and Mike Mitchell. Cost for the session will be \$20. If you are interested in attending, email me (Mike Mitchell) at votrepear@gmail.com and let me know; Larry and I will save you a place and give you directions on how to get there.

June
15
Meeting

Shooting Action Sports

This program by Mike Mitchell will give you an idea what is involved in action photography. He will discuss basic equipment considerations, what to look for as you are shooting, and provide you with valuable tips to help you get the best possible shot. Mike is our VP of Programs and works for Meijer as a Senior Photographer.

Aug
14
Workshop

Beach Shoot Planned

Mark your calendar. We will have another beach shoot on August 14. We will put details on the website as we get closer to the date.



Meijer State Games of Michigan

Photo Contest Reminder

The West Michigan Sports Commission, a non-profit 501 (c) (3), works to identify, secure and host a diverse level of youth and amateur sporting events to make a positive impact on the economy and quality of life in the region. Fulfilling its founding strategic objective to establish a “signature” event, the West Michigan Sports Commission is launching the Meijer State Games of Michigan, an event that will provide opportunity for healthy competition among athletes from throughout the state, enhance West Michigan’s reputation as a premier venue for amateur sporting events, and make a significant positive impact on the economy and quality of life of the region.

The Meijer State Games of Michigan is a multi-sport, Olympic-style event for all residents in the state of Michigan and will be held June 24-26, 2011. Athletes and coaches will come to Grand Rapids to compete in 25 different sports for gold, silver and bronze medals. To kick off the event, there will be an Opening Ceremonies on June 24th at 7:00PM at the Fifth Third Ballpark. The Opening Ceremonies will feature family entertainment, event tailgating, a Parade of Athletes and the lighting of the cauldron.

Photography Contest: The purpose of this contest is to produce two photos (Opening Ceremonies & Sports Action Photo) that best represent the Meijer State Games of Michigan. A \$250 gift card will be awarded to the top picture in each category. For more information and to sign up, please visit our website at: <http://www.stategamesofmichigan.com/sponsorship/volunteer/photo-contest>

Eric Engelbarts II, Events Manager
West Michigan Sports Commission
171 Monroe Ave NW - Suite 700 | Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Phone - 616.233.3563 | Fax - 616.459.0562
engelbarts@westmichigansportscommission.com



Assigned Subjects Through 2011



May Small Creatures
June Parallel Lines
September Tattoos

October..... Glorious Skies
November..... Bridges
DecemberRandom Ruins

Member Items For Sale

Don Schmuker has two items that he would like to sell.

The first item is a Logan Mat Cutter - Model 450 that sold new for \$200; He is asking \$60.

The second item is a Nikon Lens - AF Nikkor 300mm 1:4; It's like new and he is asking \$300.

His phone number is 616-453-9447 and his email is dshmuker@mac.com





Interesting Photography by Jane Brocket from Berkshire in the United Kingdom

Submitted by Greg Ferguson, GRCC Lights & Shadows Editor



© Jane Brocket

"I don't alter my photos in any way after I have uploaded them apart from a little cropping - so what you see is what I see."

- Jane Brocket

Check out her
photography on her blog at:
www.yarnstorm.blogs.com

My wife Vicky is a quilter, and she has been following the blog of a very talented English woman by the name of Jane Brocket. Jane is a knitter, quilter, cook, author and a whole lot more - she is also a very good photographer. Jane and her family live in Berkshire which is west of London, England.

This is what Jane wrote me when I emailed her and asked if I could show one of her photos posted on her blog in the Lights & Shadows:

"I got started in photography six years ago when I began writing the blog. I'd never taken photos with a digital camera before (and in fact had only ever taken simple, basic snaps) but I needed to illustrate the blog so had to get started. Simon, my husband, let me use a cast-off compact digital camera and I found it surprisingly straightforward. Because I use small, compact cameras, I have developed a way of taking photographs to suit the camera rather than trying to get the camera to do the impossible. So I keep things very simple, use daylight only (never flash), set up shots very quickly (a matter of minutes) and take a few shots of each subject - although I often find the first shot is the best. I now use a Leica D-Lux 4 and a Fuju Fine-Pix F30 (which is on its last legs). I like colour and composition above all else and use the macro setting on a daily basis to capture details. I don't alter my photos in any way after I have uploaded them, apart from a little cropping - so what you see is what I see. This is very important to me.

My photographs have been used to illustrate my books and on greetings cards. I'm still a bit surprised, as I see myself as a true amateur (I have no training at all and haven't really read the cameras manuals properly yet). But I am very pleased with the way my photography has developed."

-Jane

**What's
Happening**

Newsletters are planned for every month except July and August. If you have news, information or photos for the next Lights & Shadows, please get these submitted on or before the last day of the month prior. You can send them to Greg Ferguson, the Lights & Shadows editor at: gcferguson@mac.com

The deadline for the June issue is May 31.

May
31
L&S



A Bit of Photographic History

by Stephen C. Port, GRCC Member



Timed Exposure

I was complaining recently about the weight and cost of all the contents of my camera bag (30 lbs, \$\$\$\$) when it occurred to me that I might not be the first photographer to face this issue.

In recent travels down south we saw much public recognition of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. People dressed in period costume and retold stories of both sides. We know of much of this because of the efforts of the “father” of photojournalism – Mathew Brady. You talk about a guy with a ginormous pile of gear and a big bill from Norman’s and Mark’s. Research tells us that Mathew (a very successful portrait photographer) was irresistibly drawn in to document the terrible war that we inflicted on each other. He recruited anywhere between 10 and 300 photographers (depending on who you believe) to aid in his mission. Actually, Mathew may not have made many shots himself as he suffered debilitating eye problems (tough for anyone, but especially hard for a visual artist). However, his robust “troops” generated the thousands of battlefield and personnel photos that survive today.



Mathew Brady
1822-1896

Let’s take a look into Mathew’s “camera bag.” First his camera was a wooden box version of the Camera Obscura (a rudimentary box with a lens stuck in one end and a viewing port/photographic plate on the other end). It weighed a bunch by itself which required an industrial strength wooden tripod to hold it upright. It was the original “large format” camera that focused the image onto wet glass plates covered with a photosensitive colloidal suspension (replaced the original daguerreotype metal plates). As each shot required over 30 seconds to expose, action shots were a thing of the future. Given that Civil War battles were often fought far from town or infrastructure, each photographer transported his gear in a horse/mule drawn wagon complete with darkroom installed. The “laptop” of their age included developing chemistry and enlarger to produce prints from the dried glass negatives. Camera, tripod, darkroom, chemicals, enlarger, paper, and oats for the horse must have weighed over several hundred pounds plus the price for equipment and salaries cost poor Mathew over \$100,000 back in 1861-65.

Mathew Brady never recovered his war time investment. He suffered bankruptcy due to the enormous cost of his historic venture into photography. His life did not end happily but his legacy endures.

I believe I should not complain about the weight of my camera pack or cost of my gear again. ■

A Side Note: Mathew Brady died just 2 years before our club was started.

A Big Thank You! FOR BRINGING IN THE TREATS TO OUR APRIL MEETING

Karen Mueller and Jeanette Sorensen

The Lights & Shadows

Grand Rapids Camera Club



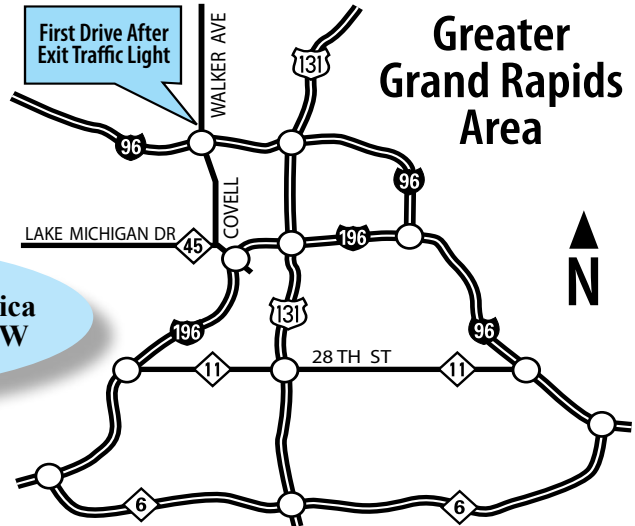
Visitors are Welcome at GRCC Meetings!

Regular Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month except February, July, and August.

Time: 7:15 PM

**Location: Boy Scouts of America
3213 Walker Ave. NW
Walker, MI**

Visitors are always welcome!
The meetings are fun and informative.



Officers, Board Members and Support Positions

President.....	Diane Durand.....	durand3311@netzero.net.....	616-534-8561
VP of Programs.....	Mike Mitchell.....	votrepair@gmail.com.....	616-887-1352
VP of Equipment.....	Bob Quillan.....	letterman60@comcast.net.....	616-531-8253
Secretary.....	Kris Andrus.....	az2bydc@sbcglobal.net.....	616-942-2470
Treasurer.....	Katie Weller.....	katie@ubiquitouslens.com.....	616-481-7897
Director.....	Greg Ferguson.....	gcferguson@mac.com.....	616-669-9110
Director.....	Kathy Kendall.....	ktkski@comcast.net.....	616-235-0196
Director.....	Caroline Shearer.....	shearercj@comcast.net.....	616-676-0271
Director.....	Sue Vitunskas.....	svitunskas@gmail.com.....	616-696-0287
Director.....	Cari Weber.....	cari.weber@yahoo.com.....	616-826-7699
Competition Chair.....	Jeanne Quillan.....	photobug49@comcast.net.....	616-531-8253
Digital Coordinator.....	Jim Shearer Jr.....	digital@grcameraclub.org.....	616-676-0271
Lights & Shadows Editor....	Greg Ferguson.....	gcferguson@mac.com.....	616-669-9110
Web Administrator.....	Jim Shearer Jr.....	webadmin@grcameraclub.org.....	616-676-0271
Archivist/Historian.....	Ranger Steve Mueller...	odybrook@chartermi.net.....	616-696-1753
Coffee & Treats.....	Caroline Shearer.....	shearercj@comcast.net.....	616-676-0271