

Grand Rapids Camera Club Lights & Shadows

JANUARY 2021 VOL.122 NO. 1

GRCC President Letter



Jan Lewis

Loose Ends and New Beginnings

Welcome 2021! January brings a fresh start to the club's Competition and Fiscal year. You must be a member in good fiscal standing to participate in our monthly competitions. If you have not renewed, be sure to get your dues in to our Treasurer, Christine Mooney. You can pay online using Paypal or mail her a check for \$35. Address information is on the back page of the newsletter.



The 2020 Year End competition is just around the corner. As a reminder Year End 2020 will be DIGITAL IMAGES only, since the Pandemic requires us to conduct the judging process online. In addition, **the deadline is DECEMBER 30, 2020** to let Shea know which of your 2020 images will be competing in Year End 2020. Be sure to read Jeanne Quillan's Competition Corner article for the details. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne at photobug49@comcast.net

Steve Port and Russ Barneveld are putting together procedures for a monthly Editing Challenge for club members, similar to the process they presented for our November club meeting. Be sure to read Steve's Timed Exposure Column for more information. They hope to get started early in 2021. As the logistics are hammered out, look for an email with details. Stay tuned.

Jan.
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Tues.

Be sure to register for Lisa Langell's upcoming January 5, 2021 7 p.m. webinar that she is presenting for several Camera Clubs, including GRCC. **This special Tuesday event is our official program for the month of January.**

Jan.
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Wed.

The club will hold a regular Zoom meeting on Wednesday, January 20, 2020 at 7:15 p.m. where we will show the results of the January 2021 monthly competition. Since we will have extra time that evening, we can ask questions and discuss some of the images further. This is something many members have expressed an interest in doing.

Now that the business side of things are covered, I want to encourage all of you to use the extra time we seem to have hanging around the house during the pandemic to explore photographing things closer to home. Macro photography is a perfect genre to do just that. Macro doesn't have to be bugs and flowers. Play with some oil and water photography. Find some interesting items laying around your house and experiment getting some detail shots... maybe some kitchen items, or coins, etc. There are tons of YouTube videos out there on macro photography that might inspire

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you to look through your camera lens at something entirely different. I just searched for “macro photography ideas” and a number of great videos came up. You can also check out Mike Moats, a professional Michigan macro photographer. He has a number of videos with suggestions for a variety of macro subjects, both inside and outside. Search for his YouTube channel or check out his website www.tinylandscapes.com.

Start the new year by looking at something new through the lens of your camera!

Stay protected and healthy!

GRCC Has YouTube Recordings of Meetings



Recordings of many of GR Camera Club’s Zoom programs can be found on the club’s YouTube channel [here](#). This link can be found on the club’s website at www.grcameraclub.org if you need to access any recording later. It’s easy to find...it’s on our club’s homepage under “Upcoming Events”.

You can also go to [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for Grand Rapids Camera Club.

Free Mat Board Available to GRCC Members

Framed Images in Cedar Springs has closed. The owner retired and gave lots of mat board to the Cedar Springs Library at 107 N Main, Cedar Springs, MI 49319. The Library called me about the mat board, and I told them our GRCC members might want some. If interested, call the library first at 616-696-1910 to make sure they still have some available and when would be the best time to come. Remember to wear a mask when you arrive to protect yourself and everyone there.

- Ranger Steve Mueller

Our Assigned Subject List For 2021

View From Below

January View From Below
March Airborne
April Old Vehicles
May All In A Row

JuneOdd Or Unusual



September . Rivers
October..... Nautical
November.. Harvest Time
December .. Curves

The Assigned Subject List is available on our website on the Competition Corner page.

Member Interview: Larry Howard



By Greg Ferguson, Lights & Shadows Editor

Larry, can you give our GRCC members some background information on yourself?

I am retired from Army military and medical careers.

My first camera was a discontinued Kodak Pony 828 that I purchased in 1957 at the age of 13. Since then I have owned over 30 cameras in various brands and formats. Now I am a staunch Canon camera enthusiast. My current main camera is an EOS RP; my backup is a SL2. I have used and attempted to use a variety of software programs for editing and enhancing photos; I have settled on Canon's DPP4, Aurora HDR and Paint Shop Pro for most of my editing workflow. I use a Dell desktop computer. My printer is a Canon PIXMA Pro-10 on which I print 13X19 prints on Canon Semi-Gloss paper. I have recently completed the Professional Photography Course through the New York Institute of Photography. I have earned enough club photo competition points to qualify for the certificate as Master Photographer.



Baby Cowboy

What made you decide to join GRCC and when?

In June 2019 I was searching online for the availability of a local camera club; I found the Grand Rapids Camera Club website on the very day of the June meeting. I attended and joined the club at that meeting. I believe that my photography has exponentially improved because of the club competition. My passion for photography has been one of the threads that has held my life together.



Robber Raccoon

What kind of photography do you like to do?

Even though I enjoy taking pictures of travel, landscapes, flowers, wildlife, still life, street scenes, etc., my main emphasis over the years has been studio and candid portraiture and event photography. I have recently completed a photobook of a gallery of my favorite and best pictures. And I have recently started a website, www.projectyourselfphotography.com, but it's always under construction.

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HOWARD INTERVIEW - Continued from previous page

As a photographer, what advice can you give others in the club to help them with their photography?

It has never been easier to make bad pictures in this digital era . My advice to club members is to go out and take an abundance of pictures out of which comes the great shots when the right moment and the right light come together. And be ready for the serendipitous. I highly recommend an online video course in the Great Courses series titled Visual Literacy Skills: How to See.



Fall Colors



Emerald Lake



Work Break in Cebu



Webinar Presentation on January 5 - You Must Preregister



An artistic photographer lies in ALL of us

Presented by Lisa Langell

Jan.
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Tues.

January 5, 2021 at 7:00 PM

This special event is our official program for the month of January.

GRCC and other photography clubs will be included. Register for this Free webinar at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-artistic-photographer-grand-rapids-fredericksburg-wickenburg-tickets-120292545241>



We as photographers often want to be more innovative and creative, but our own mental barriers can “prevent” the creative process from happening. One of the biggest mental blocks is simply believing, “I’m not a very creative person.”

I hear this most often from engineers, accountants, and those in technical fields who have struggled to discover the creative style they desire.

This session breaks down creative barriers in a really fun and logical way! I take an interactive, “myth-busters-style approach!”

You’ll learn how to apply the creative process and develop patterns that will bring more joy, innovation, success, creativity and happiness to your photography! You will learn:

- How even those who feel they “are not artistic” can actually become artistic and creative
- Understand “imaginative skill” and how it develops
- About my “Mash up” formula for producing creativity
- How you can debunk your own myths about artistic and creative ability
- How to exercise your creativity through real-world examples and activities we will complete during the session
- Inspirations to take with you



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Artistic Photographic Samples by Lisa Langell

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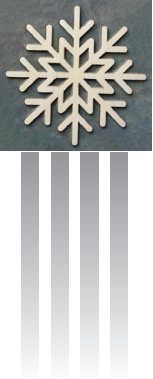


©2017 Lisa Langell

Modern Triptych



Triptych Sandhills



About Lisa Langell

Lisa Langell is a full-time, award-winning photographer whose work has appeared in numerous prestigious publications including the cover of Outdoor Photographer magazine, plus numerous images in Arizona Highways, Ranger Rick, art galleries and more. She currently sits on the Board of Directors for the North American Nature Photography Association. She is also a proud ambassador for Tamron, FotoPro, and H&Y filters.

Whether it was working as a master floral designer, a licensed psychologist, university faculty, an international consultant in K-12 education, the Chief Business Development Officer of an education technology company, a researcher, a writer, or an artist—she enjoyed meeting each challenge. Still, her strongest calling was photography--ever since childhood--when bird watching ignited her life-long love of nature and the camera. In 2010, she turned her passion for photography into a business—and in 2015 she successfully transitioned to photography full-time and left the corporate and consulting world behind.

The journey with photography has definitely been Lisa's favorite – she loves combining her diverse background and skills into her photographic art and instruction. Bringing joy to others brings joy to her! She thrives on creating innovative learning experiences and pushing photographic boundaries. She equally enjoys enriching, stimulating and expanding fellow photographers' minds emotionally, creatively and intellectually.

Website: <http://www.langellphotography.com>

Live Webinars & Education: <http://www.langellphotography.com/Webinars-and-tutorials>

Workshops & Events: <http://www.langellphotography.com/Events-1>

Social Media:

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/langellphoto>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/langellphoto/>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/lisalangell/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/lisalangell>
and <https://www.facebook.com/LisaLangellPhotography/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/langellphotography>



Competition Corner

By Jeanne Quillan,
GRCC VP - Competition

Dec.
30
Wed.

Deadline For Year-End Entries is Wednesday, December 30!

- We will not be holding a Year End print competition for the 2020 competition year. All print entries that you have entered in 2020 (January, March and November) will be eligible to be entered in the 2021 Year-End competition to be held in early 2022.
- Only images that have been entered in digital competitions in 2020 will be eligible for year-end competition.
- There will be a limit of five (5) images per category in Creative, Photojournalism, Monochrome, Open, Nature, Portraits and Scapes. They must be entered in the same category in which they were originally entered with the exception of Assigned. Assigned images can be entered in any of these categories where they fit the criteria for that category and will be counted as part of the 5 entry limit. There will be no separate assigned competition this year.
- Entries will still be divided into Class A and Star Class where there are a sufficient number of entrants and entries to support both categories.
- A list of your images that you wish to enter along with the category in which they are to compete should be emailed to BOTH Shea, Digital Coordinator images@grcameraclub.org and Jeanne, VP of Competition photobug49@comcast.net. If entering Assigned images, you MUST specify the category in which you want them to compete. Assigned images will NOT be automatically be moved to another category without your direction.
- The deadline for entries is **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30.**
- Awards will be announced at the February 2021 meeting.

Jan.
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Wed.

Our Next Regular GRCC Meeting Will Be Online Via Zoom!

We will show the results of the January 2021 monthly competition. Since we will have extra time that evening (because the official program webinar on January 5), we can ask questions and discuss some of the images further. This is something many members have expressed an interest in doing.

Club members will receive the Zoom meeting link by email prior to the meeting. Guests are welcome to attend the meeting and may request the Zoom meeting link by sending an email to programs@grcameraclub.org or info@grcameraclub.org

Meeting Starts at 7:15 PM (So ask to join 5-10 minutes before 7:15 PM).

Stay safe and healthy!

Jeanne

photobug49@comcast.net



December Image of the Month

Compiled by Jeanne Quillan



The Image of the Month is chosen by one of our members as the image that appeals to them the most. Each month, the honor of choosing the image is assigned to a different GRCC member. This month's favorite image from our November competition was chosen by Kathy Kendall.



"Memorial Auditorium-1"
by
Stephen
Burgstahler

Chosen
by
Kathy
Kendall

ABOUT MY IMAGE:

The Memorial Auditorium (located downtown Gary, Indiana) has a strong history. President Harry Truman spoke, Frank Sinatra sang, and The Jackson 5 performed within its walls. While exploring with two other photographers, and having photographed this building previously, we decided to drive past it. After doing so, one of the photographers in the car made the comment that he had seen a piano inside. We laughed at him, assuming that he was making a joke. Thankfully, he persisted and we decided to take a disbelieving look for ourselves. You can imagine our shock when we saw that someone had indeed deposited a pink piano into the center of this building. I can honestly say that I have rarely removed my camera from its bag more quickly. I used multiple exposures to get some detail in the "windows."

- Stephen

WHY I LIKED IT:

I chose this image because of its originality and creativity. It evokes a sense of wondering...why was this pink piano just sitting there...the piano seems newer, but the building was old and vacant. Had a homeless but skilled pianist been playing it? Was it recent or was it in the long-lost past? There were a lot of unanswered questions that kept my mind returning and looking for more clues as to why it was there. The HDR effect really works!

- Kathy

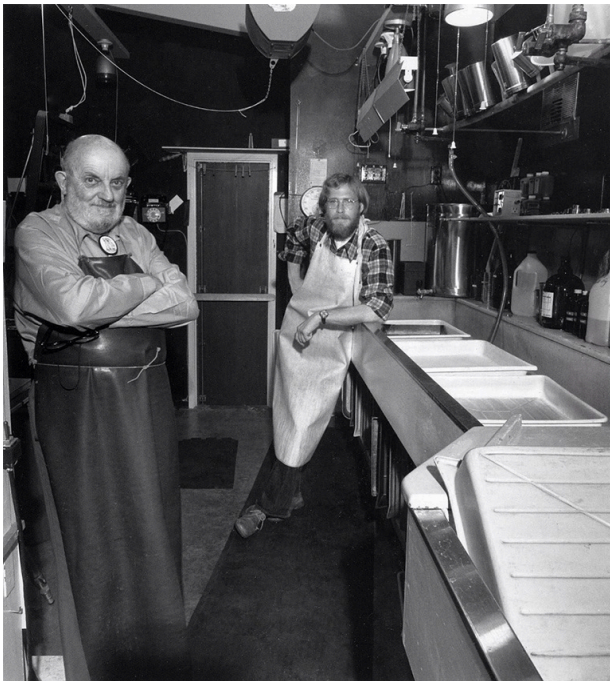


Steve Port's **Timed Exposure** A Bit of Photography History



A Monthly Edit Challenge may be a fun way to expand our post-processing skills

So interesting learning about the Titans of photography. Even though I have invoked the name Ansel Adams many times before, I still discover new insights into his life and his lessons worth carrying forward. If I say Ansel, one might immediately think glorious monochrome landscapes of the American west. But, one must dig a little to learn “the rest of the story.” Ansel was also just as famous for his darkroom post-processing prowess. All true, but did you know he did not do it all himself? Once he had established his process, he assigned a lot of the heavy lifting to his darkroom assistants. After all, he had a thriving business to run in addition to authoring books, writing articles, and generally communicating his knowledge and experiences to others.



Ansel Adams (on left) with assistant in his home darkroom.

Fast forward to the present and, more specifically, to our humble Camera Club. Following a bit of serendipitous happenstance, and an online editing exercise, we have an opportunity for a fun win-win monthly club experience. If Ansel turned over some of his post-processing work to associates, what could we learn by asking our club associates to edit one image a month furnished by an anonymous member. We could call this our “Edit Challenge.” Any interested members could grab the RAW file and post process it to their best ability. The original and edited photos could be published monthly with our regular competition pictures in the website gallery. I think this could be a fun learning experience for all who wish to edit more effectively.

Ironically, as we were thinking about this, the opportunity to edit photos furnished by others is emerging online on multiple sites. Even if you are disabled, buried in snow, or broke your beloved camera, you can still practice the other “half” of the photography experience – Post Processing.

Think about this and give us ideas on how we could make this go “viral”, but more importantly, enjoyable. Learning and fellowship are joined at the hip within the GRCC.

scharlesport@comcast.net

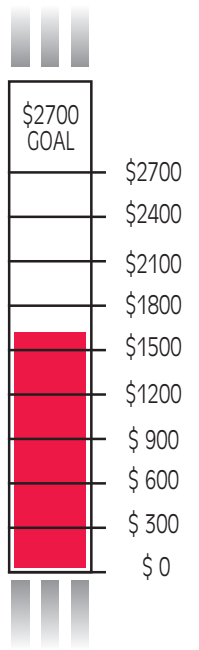


Treasurer Reports

Christine Mooney, GRCC Treasurer

New GRCC Member

We have a new member who joined our club recently. Please welcome Betty Johnson, who shoots with Nikon D850.



Member Changes

If you have any changes to your email address or other information to keep our membership list up to date, email me at treasurer@grcameraclub.org

New Digital Projector Fund

Thank you to members who have donated to our fund. Thanks to George Ritz for his recent donation. The total collected so far is \$ 1,608.51 .

We're at 59% - Over 1/2 Way!

This goal is based on the Sony VPL-PHZ10 Laser Projector. See November newsletter for more details.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation by check payable to GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB, you may send it to our Treasurer at: Christine Mooney, 4280 Brooklawn Lane SE, Kentwood MI 49512

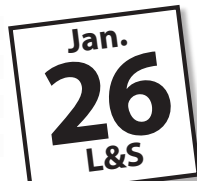
2021 Membership Dues... Please Renew Now!

Club Dues

Membership runs January through December. Dues are just \$35 for each member. Please check the website for additional information regarding dues. We also have PayPal available on our Grand Rapids Camera Club website for your convenience (a small PayPal processing fee will be applied). Click on "Join" tab to find the PayPal link.

Christine

If you prefer to pay dues with a check payable to GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB, you may send it to our Treasurer at: Christine Mooney, 4280 Brooklawn Lane SE, Kentwood MI 49512



Deadline For February Issue

January 26, Tuesday, Noon

Please add this date to your smartphone calendar.

by Greg Ferguson
GRCC Lights & Shadows Editor
Before is much appreciated!

Thank you so much!

GREG

gcferguson@me.com