

# Grand Rapids Camera Club Lights & Shadows

DECEMBER 2021 Vol.122 No. 10

## GRCC President Letter

### Hybrid Meetings Planned For 2022



Jan Lewis



I am happy to inform you that beginning with the January 19, 2022 meeting GRCC will be proceeding with a hybrid meeting format. For those who wish to attend in person, our meetings will be held Face-to-Face (F2F) at our new meeting location at Grand Valley Artists on 29th Street behind Schuler Books. Just as it was for the October F2F meeting, masks will be required. Given the number of Covid cases in the West Michigan area, the colder weather, and flu season, the board felt this was the safest way to proceed. For those who are not yet comfortable gathering in person, or do not wish to wear a mask, the meeting will also be available via Zoom (and recorded). If you are feeling under the weather, we would ask that you attend the meeting via Zoom. This plan seems to be the best of both worlds and provides options for everyone. We are already working on ways to improve the audio and video for the announcements portion of the meeting. Given the hybrid format, we will only take a very short (5 minutes or less) stretch or restroom break after the program presentation before proceeding to the Competition segment of the meeting, so those attending via Zoom do not have a long down time. Face-to-Face social time can be before or after the meeting.

Dec.  
**15**  
Wed.

Remember, however that our December 15, 2021 meeting will be via Zoom only. You will receive the meeting link via email and it is also on the club website.

#### Print Division Competition Restarts in January with Digital Resolution Changes

We will also restart the PRINT DIVISION competition in January 2022. You must email Jeanne ([photobug49@comcast.net](mailto:photobug49@comcast.net)) the category and names of the prints you plan to enter in advance and then deliver your prints no later than one week prior to the club meeting. You can deliver your prints to either Jeanne Quillan's home (SW) or Jan Lewis' home (SE). Once the hybrid meetings start, you can bring your prints for the following month, to the club meetings. (i.e. bring your March prints to the February meeting). Look for full details in the January Lights & Shadows and also by email. As before the pandemic, the prints will be displayed at the club meetings, along with maker names and scores.

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Beginning with January 2022, we are increasing the output resolution for digital images entered in monthly competition. The new pixel dimension will be 2160 on the longest edge. If you have output presets set up in your editing software, please be sure to modify them to match this moving forward. December 2021 images should still be provided at the current 1024 pixel size.

### It's Time For Year-End Competition

Our annual 2021 Year-End Competition cycle will begin following the conclusion of the December club meeting. Any club member who has submitted images during the 2021 calendar year is eligible. This is the one time of the year when we actually compete for 1st-2nd-3rd place awards in our competition categories. Awards will be announced and presented at our February Club meeting. Please be sure to read Jeanne's Competition Corner article carefully so you understand the procedures. Jeanne has come up with a new way to make entering your 2021 images in Year End very easy, and less confusing for all concerned. The entry deadline is December 31, 2021.

I wish each and every one of you a joyous and healthy holiday season. See you all at the December Zoom meeting!

## Renew Your Annual Membership

2021 is almost over and it is time to renew your club membership. Dues are the only source of revenue for our club, and your prompt renewal will help us to budget for next year. Annual Dues are \$35. You can renew online using the PayPal link on the club website. There is a small service fee to cover PayPal fees, but you won't have to worry about an envelope, a stamp and getting it to the mailbox. Alternatively, you can renew the old-fashioned way by mailing a check (made out to GR Camera Club) to our treasurer.

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

Please let Christine know if there are any changes to your contact information... email, mailing address, or phone (did you drop your landline that you provided years ago?).

### There's an Extra Bonus for new members...

If you join our club during the fall months your membership will be good through the end of the 2022!

## Our December Meeting



### f/8 and Be There – The Influence of Style on Bucket List Adventuring with a Camera

Dec.  
**15**  
Wed.

Presented by Mike O'Connor



Mike O'Connor is a Bucket List Adventurer who loves to travel to far-away places in search of compelling photographic opportunities. He is presently on a virtual tour of camera clubs around the world, discussing how each photographer has a personal style consisting of at least four related elements: TECHNICAL (what equipment you use); GEOGRAPHIC (where you shoot); SUBJECTS (what you shoot); and SOCIAL (how you interact with others when shooting). Using engaging stories of his travels and more than 100 fascinating images, Mike demonstrates that these elements not only impact the nature of the photos acquired, but also the very nature of the adventures themselves. Some of his visual / literal exploits can be viewed on his photo/blog website [www.mikesmeanderings.com](http://www.mikesmeanderings.com).



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Presentation Continued from previous page

## About Mike O'Connor



Mike is a retired consulting engineer / wannabe cowboy who has lived the last 50 years in western Canada. He was a dedicated Canon guy for most of his life but now shoots exclusively with SONY mirrorless cameras. He is drawn to places and cultures which might seem strange to most North Americans, but which provide boundless opportunities for unique photographic adventures.

Dec. 15 Wed.

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](mailto:programs@grcameraclub.org) or [info@grcameraclub.org](mailto:info@grcameraclub.org)

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



©Mike O'Connor



©Mike O'Connor

## 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](http://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.



## Impressive Milestone Reached at GRCC

Grand Rapids Camera Club has a member who has been with us for 50 years...Larry Heydenburg. In an interview in January 2018, Larry responded "If I had any advice to give to club members it would be to ask questions and go on shooting workshops with others. See how they go about shooting. Maybe adapt some of their style to yours. Learn from those around you and their workflow. (There is) a big benefit in the camaraderie you have with fellow photographers all around you."



## Competition Corner

By Jeanne Quillan,  
GRCC VP - Competition

[photobug49@comcast.net](mailto:photobug49@comcast.net) or [competition1@grcameraclub.org](mailto:competition1@grcameraclub.org)

### Year-End Competition 2021

Soon it will be time for our annual Year-End Competition. This is the one time of year our members compete with one another where we will choose the best images of the competition year. Winning images are chosen by accomplished photographers not affiliated with the GRCC. Awards will be presented at our February meeting.

- Entries are limited to 5 images per category.
- Only images that you entered in the 2021 yearly competition will be eligible.
- As always, entries will be divided into two classes - Class A and Star Class when there are a sufficient number of entrants and entries to support both categories.
- This year, Assigned will be entered as its own category. Do not move them to another category. The judges will base their scores on how imaginative and creative they are and how well your images define the assigned category.
- NEW - I will email a form to each competitor listing the images you entered during the competition year. Look for it shortly after December images are posted. Indicate your choices on this form by highlighting or checking them, and then return the form to me before the December 31st deadline. You must use this form to notify us of your entries.
- Entries are due DECEMBER 31, 2021

NEW



*Jeanne*

### Changes Coming in January 2022

- 1 The image resolution of your entries will be increased to 2160 x 2160 pixels.
- 2 The Membership Manual has been updated regarding entries in the 'SCAPES' category. Use of manipulation to change the appearance of the original scene, adding backgrounds, textures, skies and elements not present in the original image will not be allowed in the Scapes category.
- 3 Use of these elements ARE allowed in the other categories of Assigned, Creative, Monochrome, Open and Portraiture with the exception of Nature and Photojournalism.

# November 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 Rebecca Humes.



"Panda's Love Bamboo"\*  
by  
James Knapp

Chosen  
by  
Rebecca Humes

### ABOUT MY IMAGE:

I traveled to China in 2012. We visited a large panda preserve near the city of Chengdu in the western part of the country. I thought the photo epitomized the life of the giant panda. It must eat huge amounts of bamboo every day. It consumes about 80 pounds and eats up to 14 hours a day.

- Jim

### WHY I LIKED IT:

The fun thing about choosing the image of the month is that we get to pick our favorite picture, not necessarily the best but the one that impacted us the most. I am personally obsessed with Pandas. This is the best panda image that I have seen in camera club by far. I love that he was just doing his thing, sitting on a big pile of bamboo, living his best brand of life. Thanks Jim for sharing this with the club. It made me feel incredibly happy.

- Becky

\* Possessive apostrophe was intentional when image was named.

## Our Assigned Subject List For 2021-2022

2021

# CURVES

December .. Curves

2022

January ..... Something from your childhood  
March ..... Athletes  
April ..... Pairs  
May ..... Music

June ..... Neon



September . In the Garden  
October..... Night Street Scene  
November.. Barns  
December .. Glass

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



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



## With Artificial Intelligence Photography will never be the same again

I have mentioned one of the world's most primitive photographic devices in past articles. Called the Camera Obscura, it was comprised of a simple convex lens mounted in a dark box projecting images upside down and backwards on a screen. An earlier version used a tiny pinhole in lieu of the lens called, you guessed it, the pinhole camera.

I wonder if the person who added the lens would encounter haters if the internet had existed at that time? How dare he bend light to bring things closer or take in huge areas differently than does your eye. It's fake, not real and photography will never be the same again. They were right.

Much later a guy by the name of Ansel Adams came along becoming famous for his ability to transform images via darkroom magic. It's fake, not real and photography will never be the same again, and they were also right.

Today folks debate the latest labor-saving software like sky replacement done in computer, by the computer only partly adjustable by the user. Some of the software geeks call it Artificial Intelligence (AI for short). Adobe calls theirs Sensei. Everybody searches out a cool name for this seemingly miraculous coding. And it would appear we are experiencing only the tip of the coming iceberg.



PRESENTING  
**LUMINAR NEO**

Skylum software has developed multiple "one button wonders" for its upcoming version of Luminar called Neo. One AI algorithm will enable you to choose to replace the "background" in your photo thus allowing you to surround your subject with stuff that was born somewhere else. Photoshop has been doing this for a long time but it takes great skill and hours of practice to get it right. The photographic world has embraced it because they were so impressed that it could be done at all (just ask the advertisers of the world). Let your imagination wander. You take a picture of some cute kid but, sadly, she is standing in front of a miserable, dirty brown dumpster. Click – dumpster gone, weedy foreground gone and all that is replaced by your cousin's cool photo of the south rim of the Grand Canyon. And of course you insert that terrific sunset sky your uncle got in Tahiti circa 2001. That kid is now a supermodel.

Do I sound confused? Am I for these new developments or would I reserve a special place in he\*\* for them? I think I have already pointed out that no one can hold back change but many of us worry anyway. I hear the chat from club members. It's going to take some discussion and time to figure it out and ..... then it will change again.

Oh, the heck with it. Let's go shooting!

[scharlesport@comcast.net](mailto:scharlesport@comcast.net)



# Treasurer Reports

Christine Mooney,  
GRCC Treasurer

## Welcome New Members

We have new members who joined our club recently.

Please welcome:

Lori Ryskamp who shoots with Apple iPhone, Canon and Sony

Jim Wieland who shoots with iPhone and Nikon, and

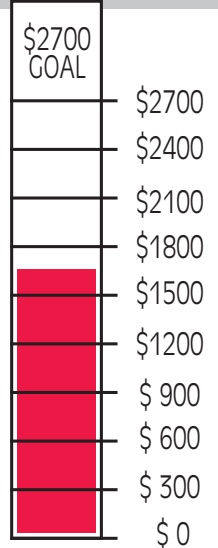
Kent McPherson rejoined our club and shoots with Canon.

## Have Changes?

If your email or other information has changed, email me at [treasurer@grcameraclub.org](mailto:treasurer@grcameraclub.org) to help keep our membership list up to date.

## Equipment Fund

Thank you to members who have donated to our fund. The total collected so far is \$ 1,703.48 .



We're at 63%

## Equipment Fund

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

## Membership 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, make it payable to GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB. Send it to our Treasurer at: Christine Mooney, 4280 Brooklawn Lane SE, Kentwood MI 49512

If you join our club during the fall months your membership will be good through the end of the following year!

## Deadline For January Issue

by Greg Ferguson  
GRCC Lights & Shadows Editor

Before is much appreciated!

*GREG*

[gcferguson@me.com](mailto:gcferguson@me.com)



### Dec. 23, Thursday, Noon

Please add this date to your smartphone calendar.