



The Pictorialist



February 2020

Newsletter of the Photo Pictorialists of Milwaukee
Established 1904

Affiliated with the Photographic Society of America
Wisconsin Area Camera Clubs Organization
And the Wisconsin Print Circuit

President, Pauline Beck; Vice President, Kathy Braun, HonPSA, PPSA;
Secretary/Treasurer, Dixie Lowin; Newsletter Editor, Linda Lee

Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month, from September through May, at 7p.m.
In the Luther Manor Faith and Education Center, 4545 N. 92nd St., Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

New Members

New members and visitors are always welcome.

2019-2020 Dues

Dues are \$20 single and \$30 family for each meeting year of September through May. Bring dues to a meeting or send them to Dixie Lowin, 2028 W. Ranch Road, Mequon, WI 53092.

Luther Manor Exhibit

The club maintains a rotating display of prints at Luther Manor and members are encouraged to bring 8 X 10 prints to any and all meetings for display. Give prints to Pauline Beck, who maintains the display.

Treat Providers

November – Karren Jeske
January – William Stonecipher
February – Howard Vrankin
March - *volunteer needed*
April - *volunteer needed*

Monthly Topics

September 5: Bring up to 6 formatted images on a thumb drive or up to 6 prints, reflecting either “The Things I Did Last Summer” or “My Fun Photos.”

October 3: Themed Photo Shows

Bring *up to* 55 photos on a flash drive that are about one subject, or have a unifying theme. The most interesting presentations will have some variety. (Eg: if the subject is lighthouses, you wouldn’t have 55 photos of lighthouses...you’d have architectural shots, landscapes, close-ups of the Fresnel lenses and other equipment,

docents, signs, historical matter, views with different lighting, angles, textures, etc.)
The most interesting presentations will have some variety.

ALSO, If you would like to participate in the Wisconsin Print Circuit (see the January 2 topic), bring images to this (October 3) meeting. You may enter 1 color print and 1 monochrome print, the latter defined as “representations in black & white or in varying tones of only one color.” Images submitted for a previous Print Circuit are not allowed. Prints may not be mounted, but must be loose. The largest size a print may be is 8 ½ x 12 (paper may be trimmed to remove excess). Square prints are limited to a maximum of 8 ½ X 8 ½. On the back of each print note the print’s title, the photographer’s name and the photographer’s club.

November 7: Guest Speaker Geri Laehn will present: *Night Sky*. She’ll talk about her journey into the night sky, which started about 10 years ago and continues today. We’ll see her photos of the Milky Way, Aurora, fireworks, and other night images.

December 5: Holiday Party. Our annual holiday party. Bring your own liquid refreshment and a dish to pass. Our entertainment will be a slideshow of members’ images.

January 2:

Judge the Wisconsin Print Circuit, with discussion to follow. The Print Circuit is a round-robin type activity in which prints from participating clubs are sent to other clubs for viewing and judging. This is one of WACCO’s more popular activities. And it is a great way

for a photographer to get feedback on images. Typically, there are 250-275 individual judgments in a print circuit, which give a photographer a good sense of how other photographers view a particular image.

February 6: February 6: A LinkedIn Learning educational video provided by Phil Block. LinkedIn Learning is the former Lynda.com site, and we've enjoyed several of these in past years – very dynamic, engaging, thought-provoking, quality courses.

March 5: Club Challenge. Each club member is invited to submit up to 2 images from each category of this year's photo challenge. A single image from less than all six categories is also welcome.

The club challenge categories are:

- *Stone (rock, rocks or stone formations, etc.)
- *After Dark (nighttime lights, stars, urban, fair, etc.)
- *Motion (anything that denotes motion)
- *Waterfalls (in rivers, creek cascades, sculpture with falling water)
- *Tree
- *Sunset/Sunrise

Instructions and entry form/scorecards for the year-end challenge will be distributed.

Also, bring several 8 x 10 prints of any subject for the Welcome Center display.

Save the Date: The WACCO Spring Photography Seminar by John Gerlach will be March 7, 2020.

April 2: Annual Business Meeting

Your prints and digitals for May's competition are due by the night of the April meeting, along with completed entry forms/scorecards for each submission category. You're encouraged to email your digital images to Pauline beforehand. All photos emailed to Pauline will be acknowledged with a return email. *If you are bringing your images on a flash drive, please try to bring them early, before the meeting starts. Pauline will be at Luther Manor by 6:30 p.m.*

May 7: Year-end Club Competition. **The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Everyone brings a snack for themselves.**

May 21: Year-end Awards Night, with potluck dinner. **Bring your own liquid refreshment and a dish to pass.**

By February 20: email your Photo Challenge photos to Pauline at pcbeck@sbcglobal.net. She will confirm receipt. They do not need to be resized to 1920 horizontal or 1200 vertical, but don't send huge files. They do not need to be labeled in as strict a manner as is required for the May competition – just put your last name somewhere in the photo file name, along with the category and whether it's your first choice or second choice. E.g.: Beck Motion 1 or Beck Tree 2.

Each club member is invited to submit up to 2 images from each category of this year's photo challenge. A single image from less than all six categories is also welcome. We will look at everyone's "first" submissions, and then, as time allows, we'll look at people's second choices. Those we don't get to, we'll look at towards the end of the April business meeting.

Eye of the Beholder

"We few..."

By Pauline Beck, President

"We few, we happy few, we band of brothers..."
Shakespeare's *Henry V*

That St Crispin's Day speech was an inspiring message before the battle of Agincourt, and used again during WWII. I feel it's also a good quote for our club (amended to "we band of brothers *and sisters*, ahem...).

It encompasses one of the strengths of our club: our camaraderie.

And one of the weaknesses: we're losing members. We enjoy the company of our fellow photographers, and look forward to learning from them by seeing their work, by discussion at meetings, and by seeing their perspectives at outings.

We have members who are consistent attendees, and drive quite far for our meetings: from Dousman to the west, Cedar Grove and Port Washington from the north, and Hales Corners from the south. So we know that *something* is going right...

At the January meeting, we had some good discussion following our judging of the Print Circuit. On the topic of membership, we talked only briefly because of time constraints, and more discussion is needed.

Here are some of the items discussed Jan. 2:

-- Phil Block volunteered to set up a survey for members to complete, using SurveyMonkey. This is a good online tool for gathering information and compiling it. Those interested in suggesting survey questions should email Phil at philblock@yahoo.com.

--The survey would help us set the direction of the club and its programs to the needs and wants of the members, and determine our strengths and weaknesses.

--The survey could also lead us to ideas for gaining new members. Since there's not enough time at a monthly meeting, this could be the topic for a separate session: determining what might be the best demographic to pursue, and brainstorming ideas of how to attract them. IMHO: I feel that people in their 50s, 60s, and early 70s are the most likely to join a club like ours. They have more leisure time and income, and are more apt to travel (and may be interested in improving their photo skills for vacation.)

-Until we make some plans to promote our club and try to gain new members...think of all your friends, family, associates...would any of them be interested in joining? When you're out shooting and someone comments to you – be sure to talk up the club.

We'd like to be: "...we happy *many*..."

-- Members decided to have the same categories for the May 7 competition as last year:

Digital Categories:

- Open Color
- Open Monochrome
- Architecture (Outdoor or indoor; close-up detail or overall scenes)
- Nature (No hand of man in the image. Cultivated flowers are allowed, in addition to wildflowers. Zoo & captive animals allowed that don't show the hand of man. No pets; can place those in Open Color or Monochrome.)
- People
- 'Scapes (landscapes, seascapes, or cityscapes)
- Each club member may enter up to 4 images in each of the 8 categories

Print Categories:

- Open Color
- Open Monochrome

--We will also continue the same procedure for entries and showing the photos May 7 (and not purchase competition software to do this, as it's expensive and may be difficult to use).

--Members discussed getting three judges for the May 7 competition. Karren Jeske asked a very good photographer she knew, Hanna Stonehouse Hudson, to be one of the judges, and Hannah accepted. Phil Block had ideas for two other judges, and is contacting them. Alternate names were also noted, if they are not available.

--The \$30 stipend paid to judges was also discussed, and members felt it was too low. Since we have barely been breaking even the past couple of years with our budget, it was suggested that those members participating in the competition pay a one-time entry fee, such as \$5 or \$10, so that we could pay the judges \$50. More discussion will follow at the February meeting.

May 7: Year-end Club Competition. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Everyone brings a snack for themselves.

Prints must be mounted on mat board no larger than 16 x 20, with no writing on the front of the mat or image.

On the back, include:

- #1-4 (entry number in that category)
- Photographer
- Title of photo
- Category code: for Print Color, use P-C; Print Monochrome, P-M
- An arrow on the back should point to the top of the image.

All prints, digitals and entry forms (score cards) must be turned in at the **April meeting** or emailed to Pauline prior to the meeting.