



The Currents



May, 2009

River City Camera Club Newsletter

Check out our club's website
www.rivercitycameraclub.org

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Did You Know...

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Please let me know of any events or pictures that you would like published.

This newsletter is available on the website in a PDF downloadable and printable format.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This marks my final column after seven years as President of River City Camera Club. It's been a great seven years. We entered the digital age, we progressed from a five judge panel to a three judge panel and we put up a website.

What is distressing to me though is we have also seen a rapidly declining membership. Part of that problem stemmed from our Saturday night meeting dates, which so many potential new members saw as a stumbling block to their joining us.

Even long time members though, have found Saturday to be a problem as evident by our April meeting in which just 11 members were present.

In the many organizations I have been a part of, talk of declines is normal. Clubs and organizations have their ups and downs. Now that we're down, we have an opportunity to go up.

Our elections saw major changes—a new President in Kim Heibel, a new Vice-President in Jeff Swets and a new Treasurer in Wayne Walkotten. I will continue to serve as Past-President—relieving Larry Heydenburg of that position which he has held for seven years.

We'll also have Kelly Walkotten and Brian Gudas as co-digital coordinators. And I'm pleased to note that Elaine Christrup will remain as Secretary and Newsletter Editor, Sharon Vander Boon will remain competition chair; and Lori Wysocki will continue coordinating the Sunset Manor Programs that bring in \$800 to our club coffers each year.

THE NEW RIVER CITY CAMERA CLUB

With new leadership come new ideas. Just changing meeting nights isn't going to necessarily rebuild our club. But what does our club need to grow? What do we as current members and the future members of RCCC want

Upcoming Events

2009:

May 27 - Year End Awards and Banquet/Social

September 2 – First fall meeting.

Meetings are the third Saturday of each month, September thru May, at West Side Christian School, 955 Westend NW, Grand Rapids, MI (except as noted).

Officers Corner

President:

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Vice President:

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out of a club? What do we want that will be worth the investment of our time and energy?

Kim Heibel has put together an online survey to gather input on what you would like to see River City provide. Please go to www.rivercitycameraclub.org, and

follow the survey link on the home page and let Kim and the board know what you think.

Our April meeting ended with a wonderful round table discussion of what members would like to see change. With new leadership and a new meeting night, it makes sense that River City Camera Club reinvents itself to better serve the next generation of members. But what does that mean?

Your input will help decide what River City Camera Club looks like. What should River City Camera Club do to not only serve you but serve upcoming photographers?

MY ANNUAL THANK-YOUS

Finally, I always like to have my year-end column express my thanks to all who have helped this year.

LORI WYSOCKI for handling Sunset Manor programs;

KELLY AND WAYNE WALKOTTEN for helping with everything that needed help with;

SHARON VANDERBOON for her work as competition chairperson;

KIM HEIBEL for the website and digital competition and supporting me;

BRIAN GUDAS for working hard at vice-president and program coordination;

ELAINE CHRISTRUP for her hard work on all these newsletters and on the board;

TOM CARTER for coordinating the year-end competition;

LARRY HEYDENBURG for his seven years of faithful service as past-president;

and ESPECIALLY to ROGER VANDEKIEFT, who has served this club as its Treasurer since it was founded in 1995. This club owes so much to ROGER for handling our finances so professionally.

And of course thanks to everyone who has attended and participated in River City Camera Club.

I don't like to look back as much as I like to look forward. So THANK-YOU TO ALL OF YOU for your support. I look forward to continuing with all of you in our love of photography for years to come!

Larry

RCCC Meeting Year End Meeting and Banquet Wednesday, May 24, 2009

Wednesday May 27 at Westside Christian School at 7:00 p.m. We'll have pizza, coffee and soft drinks and desserts at 7. Around 7:30 we'll present our awards as well as have the presentation of the year end award winning prints, slides and digital images. We encourage every club member to attend because the cost is FREE! We just ask that you send an RSVP to Larry Heibel at 868-6790 or lawrence@heibelmedia.com.

We need to know how many people are coming so we know how much food to bring.

Assigned Subjects for Monthly Competitions 2009-2010 Club Year

September	Flags
October	Water Drops
November	Yellow
December	Michigan Scenes
January	Creative Manipulation
February	Glass
March	Indoor Photography
April	Night Photography

***A handout with more detail is available at the club meeting or on our website.**

WORKSHOOT NEWS

We have had a great run at WorkShoots this year, however due to scheduling conflicts and other problems we cancelled the April and May WorkShoots. We hope to put some shoots together over the summer and into the fall so stay tuned to the website and to your email. If any one is planning on doing some shooting, consider sending out a mass email to everyone and we can do an impromptu WorkShoot together.

Fridays at Sunset

The Friday evening programs for the residents of Sunset Manor are the major fundraisers for RCCC. As the year ends, please keep program possibilities in mind as you go through your images and as you go on outings and vacations. Talk with Lori if you have questions or ideas for programs for next year.

Lori Wysocki at 616-498-0159 or loriwys@yahoo.com.

**SWMCCC 2009
35th Annual Summer
Weekend of
Photography and
Digital Imaging
July 30 - August 2
at Hope College
Go to
www.swmccc.org**

RESULTS FROM APRIL 09 COMPETITION

JUDGES: Larry Heydenburg, Jeff Swets, and Roger VandeKieft

SUMMARY and HIGHLIGHTS for the MONTH

- 11 members submitted a total of 90 images in the three divisions.
- This month saw the least number of total entries ever entered in monthly competition.
- Digital saw the fewest competitors and entries since March 2005.
- Four Perfect 24 Scores were awarded in the three competitions, 1 in prints, 0 in slides and 3 in digital. The perfect scores accounted for 4.4% of all entries.

PRINT COMPETITION

3 Members Submitted 15 Prints
1 TOP HONOR (24 points) (6.7%)
12 HONORS (21 to 23 points) (80%)
2 ACCEPTANCE (18 to 20 points) (13.3%)
Average of all Print Scores 21.4 points

The One-Twenty Club

1. **Kelly Walkotten, 129**
2. **Cal Dyk, 126**

Honor Prints

Cal Dyk: (Wood Duck, 21; Ducks All in a Row, 21; Cecropia Moth, 22; Spreading It's Wings, 23)

Larry Heydenburg: (Red Trillium, 24; Lake McRain, 21; Piercing Eyes, 21)

Kelly Walkotten: (Bottle Brush Tree Flower, 22; Azalia Bush, 21; Western Cardinal, 21; Swallowtail Butterfly, 22; Dewy Tulip #1, 22; Bobcat, 21)

Kudos

Kelly Walkotten received honors on 6 of 6 entries; Cal Dyk received 4 honors on 6 entries; and Larry Heydenburg received honors of 3 of 3 entries including 1 perfect 24 score.

SLIDE COMPETITION

4 Members Submitted 24 Slides
0 TOP HONORS (24 points) (0%)
12 HONORS (21 to 23 points) (50%)
12 ACCEPTANCES (20 points) (50%)
Average of all Slide Scores 20.5 points

The One-Twenty Club

1. **Tom Carter, 124**
2. **Cal Dyk, 124**
3. **Sharon VanderBoon, 123**
4. **Marian Carter, 121**

Honor Slides

Marian Carter: (Simba, 22; Hepatica Group, 22; Radiant Lily, 21)

Tom Carter: (Kiss Me Baby, 21; Exquisite, 21; Morning Glory, 21; Cactus Blossom, 23)

Cal Dyk: (Hibiscus, 22, 22; Cecropia Moth, 23; Mocassin Flower, 22)

Sharon Vander Boon: (Bright Hydrangea, 22; Black Vulture Close Up, 21)

Kudos

Tom Carter received honors on 4 of 6 entries; and Marian Carter and Cal Dyk received honors on 3 of 6 entries.

DIGITAL COMPETITION

10 Members Submitted 51 Digital Images
3 TOP HONORS (24 points) (5.9%)
37 HONORS (21 to 24 points) (72.5%)
14 ACCEPTANCES (18 to 20 points) (21.6%)
Average of all Digital Scores 21.02 points

The One-Twenty Club

1. **Marian Carter, 134**
2. **Sharon VanderBoon, 128**
3. **Cal Dyk, 127**
4. **Larry Heibel, 125**
5. **Bob Talsma, 125**
6. **Kelly Walkotten, 123**

Honor Digital Images

Marian Carter: (Mountain Laurel, 22; Spring Blossoms, 21; Great Blue Heron, 23; Swan Family 22; Cone Flower, 22; Resting on Orchid, 24)

Elaine Christrup: (Wind and Snow, 22; Witches' Brew Fungi, 21; Gear Shift, 21)

Seth Christrup: (He is Risen, 21)

Cal Dyk: (All Ducks in a Row, 21; Wood Duck, 21; Cecropia Moth, 22; Spreading It's Wings, 24)

Larry Heibel: (Flowering Thistle, 21; Glamorous, 21; Huntress, 22; Little Black Dress, 21)

Larry Heydenburg: (Climbing Passion Flower, 21; Red Trillium, 23; Lake Morain, 21; Piercing Eyes, 21)

Bob Talsma: (Flowering Crab at Billie Creek, 23; Great Egret, 24; Lake of the Clouds Sunrise, 21; Point Betsie Lighthouse, 21)

Sharon Vander Boon: (Pink and Blue Hydrangea, 21; Purple Passion Flower, 21; Hunting Green Heron, 21; 8 Spot Dragonfly, 21; Hawk in Evening Light, 23; Strutting his Stuff, 21)

Rosemary VanHouten: (Buddleia Bush Flower, 21; Golden Yellow, 21)

Kelly Walkotten: (Western Cardinal, 22; Tulip #1, 21)

Kudos

Marian Carter received honors on 6 of 6 entries including one perfect 24 score; Sharon VanderBoon received honors on 6 of 6 entries; Cal Dyk and Bob Talsma received honors on 4 of 6 entries including one perfect 24 score; Larry Heibel received honors on 4 of 6 entries; Kelly Walkotten received honors on 3 of 6 entries; Larry Heydenburg received 4 honors on 5 entries; Elaine Christrup received 3 honors on 4 entries; Rosemary VanHouten received 2 honors on 4 entries; and Seth Christrup received 1 honors on 2 entries.

**SUMMARY and HIGHLIGHTS for
the YEAR 2008-09**

- 21 members submitted a total of 931 images in the three divisions. This was the smallest number of total entries ever—the first time we dropped below 1,000 entries for a year.
- 8 Members submitted a total of 161 Prints, a 40% increase in entries over the year before. The participation was the 2nd lowest participation rate in 7 years.
- 7 Members submitted a total of 210 slides, a 33% decline from the year before. The decline was the 6th year in a row seeing a decline in participation. This was the lowest level of participation ever.
- 19 Members submitted a total of 560 digital images, a 6% decline from last year, the third lowest participation rate of digital's 6 years of competition.
- Overall Competition peaked in 2006-07 with 1,484 entries and declined for the second year in a row.