



Mid Michigan Photography Club Newsletter

April 2008

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Contact Us

<http://www.midmichiganphotoclub.com/Contact.aspx>

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Webmasters: Mike Collins and Rick Klingensmith

"Big-Cookie" Contest Chairs: Scott Mulrooney and John Diephouse

Photo Shoot Chairperson: Penny Verran

Coming Up in May

The club will meet on the first floor of the barn this time. We'll go over final details for Wildflower Weekend and then set up our club area. You'll need to bring everything you're planning on selling: framed prints, matted prints, or photo items such as note cards, etc. Please bring extra hanging wire, labels, nails, hammers, and tape if you can. We could also use any spare bins or boxes that can be used to hold matted prints.

Please contact **Gene** or **Mike** if you want to put something in the club booth but can't make it to the meeting. We can help you make other arrangements. Beyond that, please see the web site for additional details.

We still need intrepid photographers to help take family portraits during Wildflower weekend. The setup will be pretty simple and you don't need to be there all weekend or even all day. We'll work around your schedule! This is a fundraiser for the club and part of the proceeds helps Woldumar with their education programs for children. If you can help out, even a little, please contact **Mike**.

Club members **Ron St. Germain**, **Penny Verran**, **Sheri TenEyck**, **Alan Jones**, and **Mike Collins** will be conducting seminars on a variety of topics during Wildflower Weekend. Special thanks go to **Penny Verran** for organizing these talks. Check the website for details.

The Wildflower Weekend **reception** is being held on **Saturday, May 10**. The reception starts at **6:30 PM** inside the barn on the first floor. *All club members and their families are invited!* We are also inviting Woldumar board and staff, as well as the artists and seminar speakers. There will be plenty of food, so bring an appetite! As it gets darker, we'll start up a campfire next to the cabin. Hot dogs and marshmallows will be provided! Special thanks go to **Susanne**

Mannino for coordinating the reception.

We would like to remind all club members to tell everyone you know about this event. Good attendance is crucial! Information and a copy of the flyer are available on our website.

April Meeting Recap

Mike Collins and **Scott Mulrooney** kicked off the meeting with a few highlights from a recent seminar held by John Shaw, a well-known nature photographer.

Ron, Penny, Susanne, Gene, and **Mike** went over the latest details for Wildflower Weekend. We ended the meeting by having everyone grab a few flyers for Wildflower Weekend. Special thanks go to **Tracy Sisco** for bringing cookies for all the people who picked up flyers to pass out!

Sheri TenEyck was the happy winner of this month's raffle. Congratulations, Sheri!

Tip of the Month

While PhotoShop and other programs can simulate the effects of most photographic filters, they still aren't able to completely duplicate the effects of a polarizer. Polarizers are especially useful for:

- Reducing glare from vegetation.
- Reducing glare from shiny or reflective surfaces such as polished metal or water.
- Reducing glare when shooting through windows or glass.
- Blurring motion. For example, creating a blurred, silky look in stream and waterfall photography.
- Saturating colors. The classic example is making the sky bluer.
- Reducing atmospheric haze and reflected sunlight.

Here are a few tips:

- Be careful to purchase a circular polarizer - linear polarizers don't play well with autofocus systems.
- You can easily see the effect a circular polarizer will have by turning it.
- It's possible to over-polarize a

photograph. For example, at high elevations, the sky can become almost black!

- Polarizers reduce the amount of light coming through the lens, so you will need a longer exposure.
- The effects of a polarizer can be uneven when used with wide-angle lenses, so it's a good idea to take your shot with and without the polarizer.
- Vignetting can also be a problem with wide-angle lenses. Look for thin-glass or extra wide filters.
- Polarizing filters can be purchased for use in square filter systems such as the Cokin P-series. To use these filters hold them up and view the scene through the filter. Turn the filter until you see the effect that you want, and then insert the filter into the holder.

Website of the Month

If you're a Nikon lover, you love the Nikonians site: <http://www.nikonians.org>. As you might expect, you'll discover tons of information about Nikon products, including older products and discontinued products. There are many tutorials that give you step-by-step instructions for effectively using a number of products. The forums are a good source of information and advice. In addition, the site boasts member galleries and contests. There are deals on training around the country, as well as special trips organized by the Nikonians.

Book of the Month

Are you afraid to use your flash or unhappy with the results? Try ***Flash, The Most Available Light***, written by Quest C. Couch III, developer of the Lumiquest line of flash accessories. This nice little book is packed with advice and examples for using flash with both film and digital cameras. The book does a good job of covering different flash units by different brands. The author also covers Lumiquest accessories very briefly (you knew that was coming!) Other accessories are also described, such as wireless systems. There's just enough theory to help explain some of the concepts, but it's all very concise and easy to understand.