



Mid Michigan Photography Club Newsletter

July 2008

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Contact Us

www.MidMichiganPhotoClub.com/Contact.aspx

Honorary Lifetime Officers

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Chairperson: June Cooke

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President: Mike Collins

Vice Presidents: Gene Tatroe and Penny Verran

Secretary: John Richard

Program Directors: Rick Klingensmith and Scott Mulrooney

Advertising Director: June Cooke

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"Big-Cookie" Contest Chairs: Scott

Coming Up in August

To kick off the meeting, **Rick Klingensmith** will show a few of the fireworks shots taken by some of our members following up on last month's informative presentation on how to take great fireworks shots.

This month's special guest is **Kurt Stepnitz**. Before spending 22 years as a specialist in scientific imaging at the MSU-DOE Plant Research Laboratory, Kurt co-owned a commercial photography studio in Detroit. Kurt has worked as a photographer for University Relations since 2003; he is a recipient of the University Photographers Association of American Print and Publication award and a co-founder of the Great Lakes Area Plastic Camera Group.

Kurt's talk will be two-fold. First, he will talk about places to look for photographic subjects in the Lansing area. Second, he will discuss a smattering of intriguing photographic problem solving scenarios he has "stumbled across" during his 27 years as an MSU photographer. Time will be provided during and after his talk for questions.

After Kurt is done, we will form teams for a new round of "Photography Quest" presentations. Teams are given a set of questions to work on as a group and then present their findings at later meetings. Think of it as a kind of treasure hunt for tidbits about photography! It's a fun way to get to know other members, share ideas, and learn new things about photography!

After the regular meeting is over, the **Events Committee** will hold a brief meeting to about the **Best of '08 Gallery Show**.

Help Wanted

Every organization has its share of turnover, and ours is no exception. Some people have had to leave because they have moved out of the area, while others have found they don't have as much free time as they once had. Accordingly, we have a few open positions to announce.

Treasurer

As many of you know, **Jackie Blodgett** has been our treasurer since the club was formed. You may also know that she's a very busy lady! She has done a wonderful job, but with all the activities she's involved

with, she feels she can no longer continue as treasurer. We're all very sad at her decision, but we wish her well and hope she will continue to attend meetings.

This is an elected position and it involves the following:

- Collect money for dues and other fees such as entry fees for the gallery show and so on
- Pay out checks for expenses and bills
- Manage the club's bank account
- Maintain the member list, including names, addresses, and anniversary dates when dues must be paid
- Participate in officer meetings

Assignment Shoot Chairperson

Assignment shoots are held on the grounds of the nature center during their big events. Volunteers from the club come out to take photos of the activities, and these are turned over to Woldumar for use in their publications as well as their website. In return, the club gets a better deal on rent for our meeting space.

Penny Verran has been acting as the Assignment Shoot Chairperson since the position was created. However, as many of you are aware, her health has been spotty and she has taken on a new job. With all the other things she's done for the club, she also has found it necessary to cut back and this was one small thing she felt she could let go.

This is an elected position and it involves the following:

- Watch the Woldumar website for new assignment shoot opportunities
- Send out announcements to all club members about the assignment shoots
- Collect photos from the shoots from each photographer
- Post the photos on the club website and the DotPhoto website
- Deliver a CD of the shoot to Woldumar
- Participate in officer meetings

Email List Organizer

Annette Eastwood had volunteered to help maintain our email list and collect the sign-in sheets every month. She did a wonderful job while she was able to, but she and her husband decided to move back up north. She's still with us in spirit, but she can't help with the email list anymore. Accordingly, we're looking for another person to fill in for Annette. This volunteer position should only take a small amount of time each month. It involves the following:

- Circulate the sign-in sheet each month
- Enter new names from the sheet into the Yahoo email contact list

July Meeting Recap

The rain was pretty awful, but several brave souls swam out to the nature center anyway (ok, maybe it just seemed that wet!) **Rick Klingensmith** walked through techniques and equipment for shooting fireworks. Members who took Rick up on his challenge to go out and shoot some fireworks should email him copies of your best shots. He'll put together a slide show for the meeting.

Following Rick's presentation, **Dale Sees** gave a slideshow of his recent travels in China. Thank you, Rick and Dale, for those fine presentations!

2008 Best of MMPC Gallery Show Update

Penny has confirmed arrangements for our next gallery show. As we did last year, we'll hold the show at the **Gone Wired Café** on Michigan Avenue. Setup time will be October 15 for those who are participating. The reception will be November 2.

We do hope *all members* will participate by submitting a framed print of their best photo from the past year (or any other year for that matter – as long as it isn't one you submitted last year). If you don't have anything yet, you still have a couple of months to find that great shot! So do it! Basic guidelines can be found at <http://www.midmichiganphotoclub.com/BestOfMMPC.aspx>.

Upcoming Club Outings

We have tentative plans to meet at the MSU Horse Teaching and Research center on Collins Road sometime in August. We'll try to have details at the meeting.

On **August 9**, we're also holding the second of two outings at the **LTC Habitat** located on the grounds of the **GM Lansing Delta Assembly Plant**. The area has been planted with several varieties of wildflowers and there are also a couple of ponds where waterfowl can be photographed, albeit from a distance. Deer and wild turkeys also frequent the grounds. The club is there to help GM employees learn more about nature photography, so come on out and lend a hand! Start time is **8:00 AM**. Meet in front of the visitor's center. **Rick Klingensmith** will present a brief talk on macro photography before we hit the trails.

Tip of the Month

When using automatic metering modes, extraneous light coming through the viewfinder can play havoc with the exposure, especially on long exposures. Many camera models have a feature that allows you to cover the viewfinder by sliding a switch. Most models, however, don't have that feature, so you'll want to cover the viewfinder with

something else. Another option is to switch to manual exposure once you know what settings you want.

Website of the Month

So, you want to join the fray and start selling your photography at art shows? If you need help getting started, a good starting point is the Art Fair Source Book: <http://artfairsourcebook.com>. This site lists about a thousand juried art shows across the country, has links to all sorts of artist's resources, and offers several other services for artists in every medium.

Book of the Month

Along the same theme as the website of the month, the featured book this month is devoted to selling your art. *The Art Festival Guide* by **Maria Arango** isn't specifically targeted at photographers, but you'll find plenty of information and advice for the novice seller. Granted, the book could have used a better editor and the style tends to be very breezy, but you'll get a pretty good inside look at the entire process nonetheless.