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March 2010

Friday March 5 - Pizza Party at Giuseppe's La Cantina, Des Plaines

Monday March 8 - Guest speaker Dennis Arendt

Monday March 22 - CLUB

COMPETITION: Prints and DPI images. This will be our **LAST** competition for the 2009 - 2010 season

April 2010

Monday April 12 - Club Meeting

Monday April 26 - Club Meeting



Image by Dennis Arendt

Dennis Arendt to speak at next club meeting

Des Plaines Camera Club will be hosting photo artist Dennis Arendt at our next club meeting March 8th. Mr. Arendt is an award winning photographer who has been interested in photography for at least 50 years and plans to speak to our club about car photography, infrared imaging and post processing. He is a graduate of the Ray-Vogue School of Photography and has worked in many types of film formats, including 4x5, 2-1/4 and 35 mm. In 1988 he was "taken by the video format and put film aside" except for casual family pictures.

DES PLAINES CAMERA CLUB OFFICERS

President.....Jerry Hug
Vice President....Tom Mulick
Treasurer....Irene Szilagy
Secretary/Publicity... Cindy Uhlig
Recording Secretary...Kay Michaely
Program Director...Tom Mulick
IN Focus Editor...Sue Lindell



Jerry Hug, DPCC President

From the President:

Little did Tom Mulick, VP & Program Chair know how exciting the assignment for March, "Abstractions" would become such a fun adventure for himself.

The philosophy behind the photo assignments was to get everyone taking pictures right now. As photographers many of us think that we have to travel around the world to get great images when there are so many creative challenges right where we are. We do not have to make the big trip for new images.

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Images by Dennis Arendt

In 2001, he began to research digital still photography and became interested in live view cameras with electronic viewfinders as they were similar to video cameras. He also became interested in exposure methods of live histograms which was a new technique at that time. Dennis had done a lot of transparency work with Ektachrome and found that treating digital images as if they were transparencies and incorporating the histogram to preserve highlights was a perfect combination for producing images.

He now shoots a 12 MP Panasonic Lumix G1 as it has a high pixel count electronic viewfinder and in his view, is the best way to get correct exposures before he presses the shutter button.



From the President continued:

We all can get in a creative slump, so to speak. Getting out the cameras and pushing the buttons helps our technical skills grow. We have to master a certain level of technical skills to be able to capture that beautiful light which could only last but for a few passing minutes. The more we use our cameras and play with light, the better we become in developing our personal style and our skills to capture and record the moment.

Some of us have held back doing the twice a month assignments. Each of us has to decide what our photo journey is and have the freedom to try as many different areas of photography as we are moved. I, for one, know that the more I do with the camera, the more I gain that exciting good feeling of creating something. Thanks Tom, from all of us, for developing the photo assignments and doing the work to help everyone learn how to size and e-mail images and then put together the show –and-tell at our club meeting.

“Just WAIT, there is more to come”

Monday night will be a fun night with Photo Artist Dennis Arendt. Dennis uses a very limited inexpensive camera and produces his very unique images. Learn how he works “his own way” and has fun with photography.

Dennis does not feel traditional SLR viewfinders have advanced much over the years as far as exposure information given before the shot is taken. “What exposure info they have is related to 18% gray and tell nothing about highlight problems. You have to stop and review the shots to see if pixels are blown out. That takes the fun out of this for me; photographers have to resort to HDR to guarantee that they get a good exposure”.



Image by Dennis Arendt

In addition to his interest in photography, Dennis also admires and collects old cars. The photo above is from his collection. “We like to attend cruise nights in the warm weather and old cars make great photo subjects as they have so much style and pizzazz”. He plans to combine his growing interest in digital infrared photography and cars this coming year.

Examples of Dennis Arendt’s work can be viewed at

<http://www.Arendtgalleries.HomeGallery.photoshare.co.nz>

Our second meeting in March is our last competition night for the 2009 – 2010 year. Look on our website for reminders on how to enter prints of digital projected images. Our website gets better every day. You can now go to www.desplainscameraclub.com/ and our new site comes up. Nancy and her team of helpers have done a great job of getting up to speed. There still is much to be done.

Do you have some special photo field trips that you would like to go on? Share those with Tom. He is talking about plans for summer photo outings.

Critique Night. We have learned that a critique is really a two-part procedure. First what specifics do we like about an image and second what specific areas would you personally suggest to the maker to consider changing if any. The more we can articulate about our and others images, the better we can develop our eyes to really see how our images relate to others. This is also a chance to get input on an image before we “lock it in stone”.

The snow is melting and soon we will have those beautiful, fresh spring leaves that are light in color and have a feel that we can get only in springtime.

Keep making images and continue to grow.

Jerry Hug, President

Des Plaines Camera Club



Recap first club interactive meetings

Des Plaines Camera Club’s first interactive meetings were deemed popular and successful by members and organizers alike. These meetings were specifically designed to encourage members to gain practical experience in studio photography, learn more about critique methods and get to know other members as they interact and work together to bring out the best shots.

Our first such event; Bring Your Camera Night had several stations set up around our meeting room and club members had opportunities to choose various “stages” to practice their photography skills, as well as discuss techniques with other photographers. Club members experienced with a particular style or set-ups of macro, still life or portrait photography had their special areas designed to allow other members to learn more about lighting and proper exposure settings. They were helpful in answering any questions and discussing their own shooting techniques.

Club Assignment

The current assignment for the Des Plaines Camera Club is "Abstract Photography". The end photograph does not have to resemble the original picture taken.

It can be the result of "in camera" manipulation or "post processing" of an image.

You can use plug-ins and filters, or other tools to distort and create what you like.

The object of this assignment is to get you to pick up your camera and create something.

Perhaps, something you never thought you could do.

For this assignment, "there are no rules" for your creativity.

The requirements are as follows:

Photos must be taken between February 22nd and March 5th, to be shown at our next meeting March 8th.



Mark Belter - Image by Jerry Hug

Mark Belter had set up a wine bottle, glass and opener. David Ristow used shells as examples of macro technique within a special staging booth he designed. John Kowalyk set up a still life example using clocks, miniature items and orchids. In our meeting room were portrait photography areas with Kiwi the clown, aka Bob Neil and Crystal Shannon posing. Tom Mulick was on hand to advise best shooting techniques. Members were allowed to walk around each area and ask questions, discuss gear and practice shooting.

The next interactive meeting took place February 22. Critique Night was a tutorial session helping members learn how to critique images. Jerry Hug projected examples and guided everyone on points to consider while looking over different pictures.

His audience was encouraged to voice their opinions after some discussion on topics such as composition, proper exposure and overall appeal. Jerry explains, "the real philosophy behind learning how to do a "Help Critique" is what we are all about. Helping each other".

Club assignment continued:

Send four (4) to six (6) images to me at

photobytomm@comcast.net

by March 5th.

Files should be renamed with your name - photo title and resized to no larger than 1024 pixels on the largest side.

Mac users, please put your files into a folder and send me the folder.

Club Spirit

Our club was represented within the play, I am a Camera currently running at the Neo-Futurists Theater in Chicago. The play uses various types of media throughout the performance and ends with candid shots taken within and by the audience. Prior to the show audience members were encouraged to send images of themselves to a theater email address. Our club got a quick shot of publicity when this image was flashed on the screen showing members Nancy, Sue and Theresa in club shirts.



Many people expressed their thoughts over likes and dislikes and we were all able to learn more diverse ways of seeing any given image.

Comments about these particular meetings were positive and encouraging. According to Tom Mulick, "Our first interactive meeting, Bring Your Camera Night, was successful beyond our expectations, because we had so much great input and help from so many club members.

Our Critique Night was also successful, because of input from so many attending members. As a club dedicated to learning to become better photographers, we feel we are making great strides, because of the talent of so many members and their willingness to share."

Club Competition

Print of the month for March was Dunked in Duckweed. "I had been sitting quietly on a riverbank when I realized this bullfrog had joined me. I was glad he stayed long enough for me to get the shot".

The shot was taken with a Nikon D40, White balance: auto, Aperture: f-8, ISO: 400, Time: 1/160 sec.

Complete information of competition results is available on our web site, DPCameraClub.com.



Dunked in Duckweed

Upcoming Events and Photo Ops

3H Camera Club

InFocus 2010 consist of workshops, hands-on activities, and seminars. These activities are geared for all - novice, intermediate, and advanced photographers. Bring your camera and tripod gear so you will have hands on experience with the model shoots, portrait sessions, still-life activity, and close-up method workshops.

This is the 5th In-Focus presented by the 3H Camera Club.

Visit us at

<http://www.3hcameraclub.org>

and if you have any questions about the event or how to register please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your attention and response, and look forward to seeing you at InFocus 2010 !

Sincerely,

Rudy Navarro

3H Camera Club

info@3hcameraclub.org

708-746--8502

Chicago Area Camera Clubs

Spring Salon

When - All day - Saturday, March 20, 2010

Where - United Methodist Church of Palos Heights, 121st and Harlem, Palos Heights, IL

All entries and fees must be turned in at CACCA by Saturday, March 13, 2010.

What really is the CACCA Spring Salon? The CACCA Spring Salon is the largest one-day Competition for both CACCA Camera Club Members and non-members. Competitions are held in 13 different categories. Four separate images may be submitted into the Spring Salon for each Competition

Division by any one maker. Any one maker could have a total of 52 different images submitted. No one image can be used in more than one category for the Spring Salon. No entrant may enter more than one Class in any division. The same or similar image may be entered only in one division each year. Images from Club and CACCA competitions may be used in the Salon.

Cost: There is a fee for CACCA Club Members of \$3.00 for each Category that any one photographer enters and a \$5.00 fee for non CACCA Club members.

Deadline for all entries and fees: All entries must be turned in at CACCA by Saturday, March 13, 2010.

Instructions are on the Entry Cards: Both DPI competitions must use the envelopes for the fee payment and e-mail in the entries as instructed. Your CACCA Club Rep. should have Salon Entry forms.

How to package your prints and slides: A separate entry form is needed for each competition. Photographers must furnish their own boxes, envelopes or means of keeping their images separate by each competition. DPI instructions are on the CACCA website and use a special envelope for fee. By entering the Salon, you are giving permission for CACCA to include your images on this DVD for distribution to CACCA clubs.

Questions, call Nancy Jacobek, APSA -

815-592-2981 or E-mail: NJacobek@aol.com

Or visit the CACCA web site, Chicameraclubs.org



Image by Dennis Arendt