

FOCUS



Newsletter of the Mayslake Nature Study and Photography Club
Hosted by the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County
Visit our website at www.naturecameraclub.com

Highlights

January 5

Eagles on the Mississippi
Stan Bousson

January 19
Competition

February 2
Ken Thompson
Winter in Black and White

March 2
Language of Photography
John Fan

March 16
Competition

Competition Reminder

Sue Gajda

The next competition night is January 19. The deadline for submitting digital images is Sunday January 11. Please check the website for instructions and forms. Also, remember that submitting make-up images is only allowed for those members who act as judges.

Remember that by submitting either prints or digital images in competition, you can receive individual honors, can have images submitted to CACCA inter-club competition and can have images eligible for Image of the Year.

If you are interested but have questions, please feel free to contact me (Sue Gajda) at segnet1025@yahoo.com or see me at an upcoming meeting. I'll be glad to go through the process with you in more detail.

But, even if you decide you don't want to submit images for competition, consider attending competition night to see the scoring and hear the critiques. Both are great learning opportunities.

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Competition

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January 19, 2015

March 16, 2015

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Photographing Eagles

Stan Bousson

Stan will be showing pictures and discussing a Bald Eagle nesting cycle, from the egg to adulthood, at an eagle nest he has watched for seven years. I will discuss techniques to get the best



pictures of Bald Eagles possible with the equipment available to you. I will also talk about the various exposure modes; manual, aperture priority, shutter priority and program modes, how to

use them and why. We'll discuss different camera focus settings, and how they work and how the wind plays an important part in getting the best shots. We'll also discuss eagle etiquette, and how to get the best pictures without stressing the birds.

Stan Bousson Bio

I have always been interested in photography and wildlife. As a child growing up in Michigan I gained an appreciation for nature. As an adult, I took whatever opportunities I could to take photographs. In 2002, my wife and I retired and that's when I really had the time to devote to nature photography. We have traveled many times to several national parks and wildlife refuges where I have been lucky enough to observe and photograph many different animals and birds. As a retiree I have been able to volunteer for U. S. Fish & Wildlife at several national wildlife refuges, including the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife & Fish Refuge. I have also done volunteer photography work for the Corps of Engineers and several county conservation departments. I will have a photograph in an upcoming issue of National Geographic and will also have some video in an upcoming National Geographic TV program on Mississippi River Wildlife.

EXHIBITS

Janice Henry

Although the Members Exhibit has closed, the "Colors of Nature" exhibit is still on display and will continue until the end of January. So... you still have time to view this exhibit of work by your fellow Mayslakers. At the reception on December 10th, it was announced that the choice by the Staff at Mayslake was not one winner but three. The images in the exhibit were so good that it made picking one winner difficult. The results will be given at the next club meeting on January 5th.

As we have entered the winter season (current weather notwithstanding) the theme for the next exhibit in our space will be "Snow and Ice".

If you would like to participate send the following information to me at jnhenr@att.net.

- **Title(s)**
- **Size(s)**
- **Are your image(s) for sale (yes or no)**
- **Price(s) if they are for sale**

As always, you can't use sawtooth hangers (they don't work with our hanging system). You do need to attach a wire to the back of the frame. The sharp ends of the wire need to be wrapped in tape (blue painters tape works well). A label needs to be attached to the back with your name, the title and price. Remember, the hands of man rule from competition, does not apply to exhibits.

I need to know if you are participating and the information listed above on your image(s) by the 3rd week in January.

The images will need to be dropped off at Mayslake by January 28th as the show will be hung by the end of January. There are two opportunities to drop off at the January meetings on the 5th and 19th.

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Lastly, if you would like to participate with an image from print competition, let me know. I have two frames that can be borrowed. All I would need besides the title of the image is for you to drop off the image that is already mounted on the board from the print competition.

I look forward to hearing from you.

News from CACCA

Chuck Klingsporn

The December CACCA competitions are now behind us and our members continued to receive high scores . This month we had one print award and two in the digital competition. **Bill Dixon** received a score of 23 and an HM designation for his print titled, 'Lower Falls'. On the digital side, **Rich Witkiewicz** received a score of 24, also good for HM designation. His image is titled, 'Orange Jewelweed'.

The third award warrants a bit of explanation. **Bill Ludemann** entered an image titled, 'On The Move' in our local competition where it received a score of 22, just short of receiving an award. Because of our dual memberships, it went to CACCA in December where it received a score of 23 and an AW. Our club goal of getting lots of people and images into CACCA paid off for Bill in December. Congratulations to him and to Rich and Bill as well !!

Here Comes the Postcard Competition!

I hope you remember that last month we announced the annual CACCA Post Card competition. Here is the detail and the schedule for this year.

Our club level competition will be at the regular monthly meeting on March 2 while the CACCA Postcard event is on Saturday the 14th. As was the case last year, everyone that attends the March 2 meeting will get to vote for the club winners. Also, as in prior years, all entries will go forward into the CACCA competition. All of the entry information is found on the CACCA web site; www.caccaweb.com. Look under the 'Competitions' tab, then under 'Division' for 'Post Card Competition'.

Get in the game: **GOOD LUCK !!**

Brookfield Zoo Holiday Magic

Saturday, December 27th, 2014

Brookfield Zoo is over 200 acres of animal exhibits and this time of year also over 1 million twinkling lights.



Tom Soltis

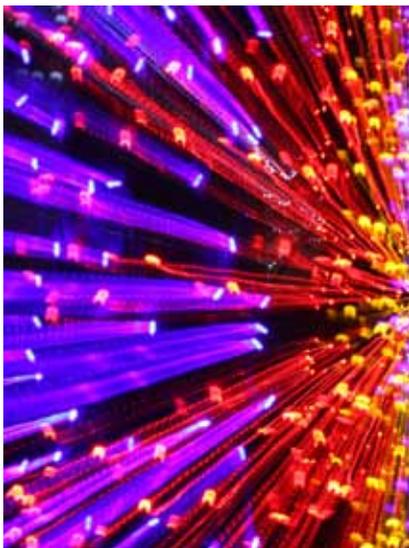


Steve Baginski

Mayslake Members met in the afternoon to photograph the animals and then after dinner, headed back out to photograph the lights.

It was a crowded night at the Zoo, but that did not deter Mayslakers from finding all the best images.

Be sure to visit the Mayslake Website to see all the images from this Final Outing for 2014.



Barbara Dunn



Suzanne Zumstein



Atala Toy