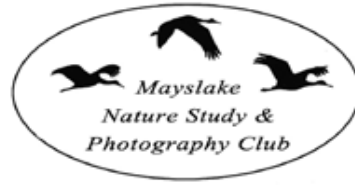


FOCUS



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



Flower Photography

Michael Kobe

The presentation will share my favorite techniques for capturing and enhancing images of flowers, both wild and garden. No matter if your photographic nature pursuits are landscapes, animals, or plants, you will find this presentation interesting and informative. I will share my knowledge of Botany and tips on how and where to take that award winning flower shot.

Qualities of a good close-up flower composition [Impact] should answer the question *does it create a feeling or emotion?* This is achieved by having the correct leading lines pulling the viewer to the blossom, which is popped by a blurred background [Bokeh] and/or appropriate depth-of-field.

The lighting is also essential to make the flower pop. Use soft light (no burned-out sections associated with harsh light), supplemental side light (toned shadows), and proper positing so there are no strong shadows

After you have captured the photo that you want, enhance it further with editing software on your computer. By using the techniques in the presentation you will not only achieve quality images but experience satisfaction as a photographer who can capture and share flower images.



*No Meeting July 6
due to the holiday*

*August 3
Flower Photography
by Michael Kobe*

Michael Kobe Biographical Information

Michael Kobe is a retired Biologist. After teaching for forty-four years, he decided to pursue his interest in the out-of-doors through photography. He has mastered the skills of nature photography and shares them through extensive workshops, seminars, and field trips with others. His photographs have been utilized extensively in the Indiana Dunes National Park publications. He is recognized for his nature photography, especially in his skills of capturing images of insects, flowers, and birds. He has won many awards with his photographs and was honored by the Chicago Area Camera Clubs Association [CACCA] with the prestigious Kohout Nature Award in 2009 and the Grace DeWolf Nature Photography Award in 2011. Some of his recent achievements were: first place in the 2012 Brookfield Zoo photography contest, first place in the 2012 Indiana State Fair, 2013 Grand prize winner in the Boyd Hill Nature Preserve/St. Petersburg, Florida Nature Photography contest, first prize Department of the Interior Nature Photography contest for Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge in Seymour, IN, Best of Show at CACCA in January and February 2013 and Best of Show in the annual CACCA Salon in 2014 for Monochrome. He currently belongs to three CACCA clubs: Calumet Region, Digital Darkroom, and Oak Lawn. He is a founding father of the Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center and has served as president and has been on the Board since its inception fifteen years ago.

EXHIBITS

Janice Henry

As mentioned last month, the next exhibit in our space will be "State Parks & National Parks". If you would like to participate please send me an email to jnhenr@att.net with the following information:

- ⤴ Title(s)
- ⤴ Size(s)
- ⤴ Do you want to sell? (optional)
- ⤴ Price(s) (if you want to sell)

Remember:

- ⤴ "Hands of Man" does not apply to exhibits (bridges, fences etc are OK)
- ⤴ Saw tooth hangers do not work with our hanging system. Please use frames without saw tooth hangers
- ⤴ A wire needs to be attached to the back about 1/3 of the way down and the sharp ends taped to protect the walls of our host facility. Blue painters tape works well for this.

If you have an image from the print competition and would like to have that in the exhibit, let me know when you send the title, etc. I have two frames that can be borrowed.

Also, our current exhibit, "Insects and Flowers" has two months left. Check it out at your next opportunity. I will have more information about drop off dates in next month's newsletter.

Save the date!

There will be a special non-competitive critique on August 17th to help you prepare for competition or just get some casual feedback on your images. This is a great introduction to public display and critique of your images. Details in next months' FOCUS.

*WELCOME NEW
MEMBERS
NORM CARLSON
AND
LEE BALGEMANN*

Long time club member, Ray Kammer, had a special show that was covered by the Daily Herald in April. See some of his images and read about his photography journey in the article by clicking on this link:

<http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20150429/news/150428797/>

Mayslake Summer Event –“Take Part in Art”

July 25, Saturday, from 10 am-2 pm

“Take Part In Art,” is an event sponsored by the DuPage County Forest Preserve at Peabody Estate. Visitors will be able to try a number of different artistic techniques and projects. Photographers are needed to lead guided photo walks a few times throughout the day during which participants can use their digital, manual, or cellphone cameras and get some tips during the walk about composition, nature photography, etc.

If anyone is interested in helping out by leading a photo walk for this event, please contact Barbara Dunn or Tom Richardson at info@mlnpc.com.

Fred Drury's Mayslake and College of DuPage class schedule

- Digital Photo Fundamentals 1 on Tuesdays from October 19 - November 16 (6:30-9:30PM),
- Lightroom 1 on Tuesdays from October 27 - November 24 (6:30-9:30PM),
- Lightroom 2 on Tuesdays from December 15, 2015 - January 12, 2016 (6:30-9:30PM),
- Digital Photo Fundamentals 1 on Wednesdays from Jan 13 - Feb 10 (6:30-9:30PM),
- Photoshop 1 on Tuesdays from January 19 - February 16 (6:30-9:30PM),
- Digital Photo Fundamentals 2 on Wednesdays from February 24 - March 23 (6:30-9:30PM),
- Photoshop 2 on Tuesdays from March 1 - March 29 (6:30-9:30PM),
- Lightroom 1 on Mondays from March 14 - April 11 (6:30-9:30PM),
- Lightroom 2 on Mondays from April 18 - May 16, 2016 (6:30-9:30PM),
- Creating Digital Slide Shows on Wednesdays from April 6 - May 11.

If you have any questions about these classes, drop me a note to: fred@marklandimaging.com or give me a call at [630 665 6598](tel:6306656598).

Class Descriptions:

Digital Photography Fundamentals I

Learn to use important features of today's digital cameras, and in the process get introduced to the aesthetics of making pictures. Weekly shooting assignments will build upon one another and exercise your creative skills. \$150 plus \$20 supply fee per person. To register, call [\(630\) 206-9566](tel:6302069566).

Digital Photography Fundamentals II

This class builds on the foundations of Digital Photo Fundamentals I. Students create images using their cameras' creative modes; shutter priority, aperture priority and manual. Each week will address a new aspect of digital photography and its relationship to the computer. This class will also challenge participants with new image-making assignments. Prerequisite: Digital Photo Fundamentals I or equivalent. \$150 plus \$20 supply fee per person. To register, call [\(630\) 206-9566](tel:6302069566).

Lightroom 1

Lightroom is a software program that combines digital asset management tools with image-optimization functionality. This class takes you through an introduction to the software, its Library module and partway through its Develop module. **Lightroom 6** will be used for demonstrations; however anyone using **Lightroom 4 or 5** will gain full value from the class. \$150 plus \$20 supply fee. To register, call [\(630\) 206-9566](tel:6302069566).

Lightroom II

This class continues from Lightroom I with the balance of the Develop module as well as techniques for integrating Lightroom with Photoshop. The course concludes with an examination of the Print module. Prerequisite: Lightroom I or equivalent. \$150 plus \$20 supply fee per person. To register, call [\(630\) 206-9566](tel:6302069566).

Photoshop I

This is the first of two Photoshop classes which are intended to help you master the essentials of optimizing digital images. You will learn how to evaluate images both subjectively and objectively; how color is measured and interpreted. You will learn the three fundamental rules of image optimization. You will learn to use the most effective tools for color correction; procedures for selective dodge and burn, and image sharpening. This course teaches you the fundamentals of a working photographer's practical digital workflow, and prepares you for the second course in the series. Users of Photoshop CS5 or later will gain full value from this class. \$150 plus \$20 supply fee. To register, call [\(630\) 206-9566](tel:6302069566).

Photoshop II

In this second course in the Photoshop series, participants will apply techniques from the first class to their own images. Additional skills added will include: image cropping; images straightening and clean up; dust and scratch removal; use of the shadow/highlights tool; creating and using masks for local image optimization. The subject of Color Management and its impact on image editing will be addressed. \$150 plus \$20 supply fee. To register, call [\(630\) 206-9566](tel:6302069566).

Digital Slide Show

Creating digital slide shows with Photodex ProShow Gold software is simple (Sorry, this software is Windows only). Working with their own digital images, participants will build a 5-10 minute show. Once the images have been sequenced additional functionality can be added. This includes individual slide timing, alternative transitions between slides, and 'Ken Burns' effects with panning and zooming of individual slides. Participants will then add music and/or a voice-over music sound track. Completed shows can be viewed on a computer or made into a DVD for viewing on your television screen. \$150 plus \$20 supply fee. To register, call [\(630\) 206-9566](tel:6302069566).

Nature Photography 1450 (at COD): Introduces specialized techniques for photographing the natural world. (Note: for students who can satisfy the prerequisites with 'equivalents', I can issue a 'permit' to register; contact me by email if this is an issue for you). The course runs 16 weeks: Saturdays from 9AM-3PM, and consists of 7, 2-week units, each directed to a different topic in nature photography. Units will include: Hyperfocal use in nature photography, Composition in landscape photography, wildlife photography, HDR option in nature photography, Macrs and Super-macro photography, and creative flash for nature photography. Each 2-week unit begins with a lecture-presentation-discussion in the classroom. The next week the topic will be applied in the field. The following week (back in the classroom) the session begins with a Unit Quiz, then a critique of images from the previous week's field exercise, and finally the lecture-presentation-discussion of the next unit. Registration for returning students begins in early November (and somewhat later for non-COD students). In past years, the course has filled quickly, so I suggest you register at the earliest possible date.

*Coming in October:
"Focus Stacking: The
Good, the Bad, the
Ugly," by Ken
Thompson*

