

# FOCUS

Newsletter of the Mayslake Nature Study and Photography Club  
of the DuPage County Forest Preserve District

Visit our website at [www.naturecameraclub.com](http://www.naturecameraclub.com) or e-mail [joekline2006@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joekline2006@sbcglobal.net)

## May 2008 Upcoming Meetings

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|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>May 5<sup>th</sup></b>   | <b>Ray Mathis, "Finding &amp; Photographing Nature Masterpieces"</b> |
| <b>May 19<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>Fred Drury, "Non-competitive Image Critiques"</b>                 |
| <b>June 2<sup>nd</sup></b>  | <b>Willard Clay, "The Decisive Moment"</b>                           |
| <b>June 16<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>To be announced</b>   |

### **Ray Mathis- Featured speaker May 5, 2008**

Ray Mathis is a retired health education teacher who lives in McHenry, Illinois who has been shooting large format landscape photography locally and nationally for nearly twenty years.

Ray has received recognition by publication and awards. In 2004 he was awarded the Grand Prize in the Outdoor Illinois IDNR State Photo Contest and his Illinois Beach image was the cover shot for their premier all-photo issue. In 2005, he won the Grand Prize, and Utah State Prize for the National Landscape Conservation System Photo Contest. His images have appeared in numerous issues of Chicago Wilderness, and in and on the covers of numerous issues of Outdoor Illinois and American Hiker magazine. They are commonplace as postcards, and on the covers and in books and calendars of the national parks of the Southwest. He was the featured photographer of the 2007 American Hiking Society National Trails calendar. He also makes use of his images available free of charge to non-profit organizations, in particular those promoting conservation and environmental protection on the local and national level, as a way to give back for what the natural world has given him.

Ray's images have been used by The Wilderness Society, The American Hiking Society, The League of Conservation Voters, the McHenry County Conservation District, McHenry County Defenders, the Land Conservancy of McHenry County, IDNR and Chicago Wilderness as well as numerous national parks. He has a wealth of images and information to share, including some technical tips, most notably about shooting into the sun and shooting mirror images on local rivers and lakes, as well as information on some of the best local and national spots for photography, especially in the desert Southwest.

He also will gladly share his own personal philosophy about nature and photographing it, and some of his favorite quotes and music that both influence and describe his experiences. His images can be viewed in advance at [www.naturesmasterpieces.net](http://www.naturesmasterpieces.net) or [www.digitalrailroad.net/raymathis](http://www.digitalrailroad.net/raymathis).

Ray is also certified in cognitive-behavioral therapy and considered by many to be a local expert at teaching stress and emotional management and will be glad to speak to that as well and share insights you will rarely if ever get anywhere else.

### **Fred Drury, “Non-competitive Image Critiques”**

One advance heads-up, especially directed to new members (and those ‘new’ to competition), we’ve scheduled two sessions of the popular ‘Non-competitive Image Critiques’ for our next Club year. The first of these will be on May 19. The Non-Competitive Image Critiques are intended to give those new to competition a head start by encouraging them to submit up to three **print or digital entries** which will be reviewed by an experienced in-house panel of judges. If you’re new to the Club or just new to competition, please take the opportunity to submit either digital or print entries to this critique.

- Bring prints with you to the May 19 meeting.
- Digital images can be sent to me any time up to noon on Monday, May 19. The procedure for submitting digital entries is posted on the Club website at: [http://www.naturecameraclub.org/Club\\_Information.html](http://www.naturecameraclub.org/Club_Information.html). And, you can be sure that I’ll do everything required to help you use the procedure correctly. Why not get started right now ... prepare an image and send it to me at: [fred@marklandimaging.com](mailto:fred@marklandimaging.com). Once you’ve got the procedure down, it’s a breeze ... and it works in Photoshop Elements just as in bigger brother Photoshop CS3.
- Give me a call (630 665 6598) if you have any questions.

On April 7<sup>th</sup>, Hank Erdmann presented an excellent program on the use of the Split Neutral Density, Warming, Polarizing and other filters. The program provided valuable information on how to best optimize the use of the filters and how to best use them to improve photos. Hank utilized some of his photos to demonstrate the difference the use of a filter can make in the finished photo’s appearance.

### **CLUB’S SPRING WILDFLOWER OUTING**

**Jon Snyder**

A rainy day dawned for the club’s spring wildflower outing at the Morton Arboretum on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. The morning actually turned out to be quite nice with calm winds, very saturated colors and breaks of sunshine. Three photographers, Tom, Ray, and Jon found Bloodroot, Sprint Beauty, Trout Lilly’s and lots of beautiful Daffodils, all with rain drops, to photograph. Tom brought a guest who had a new camera out for the first time. Even though the spring bloom is a little late this year, there was as usual, lots to see in the viewfinder. Thanks to those who enjoyed the event.



These photos were but a few of the excellent photos taken at the last club outing. Please plan to join us for the next club outing on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Further details are available in Jon Snyder’s outing report on page \*\*\*.

On April 21<sup>st</sup>, the photo club held the annual banquet and awards presentation. It was an evening of good food, socialization and a very entertaining presentation by Jim Schulz, Staff

Photographer for the Chicago Zoological Society/ Brookfield Zoo. The results of the club's photo competition were announced and prizes presented.

### **Club News (and announcements)**

It is time to renew your membership to the Mayslake Nature Study & Photograph Club for the 2008-2009 year. More information & a renewal form can be found in Ray Kammer's article that begins below.

The annual club competition results are out and those results can be found in Fred Drury's article that begins on page 4.

Are you concerned about global warming? If so, Dan Hollister has a conservation report that you will find to be of interest beginning on page 5.

Jon is also looking for assistance from club members, who have a favorite spot to photograph flowers, birds, or wildlife. If you have a location to photograph, volunteer to help organize an outing. It is very easy to do & there is more information on page 6.

This month, Jean Atkins CACCA column contains information about upcoming CACCA competitions and CACCA's Spring Salon. Last month, Ruth Smith & Lloyd McCarthy entered photos into competition, **Fred Drury, Edie Hinckley, Lloyd McCarthy, and Ruth Smith's photo entries photo received awards.** See Jeans article that begins on page 6 for further information.

Are you in need of a camera? Diane Hamernik has a Canon Powershot IS2 camera for sale and Ray Kammer has a Canon D20 for sale. Further information is available on page 11.

Fred Drury's digital photography series continues with an article on the use of Resizing a Photo for Output. See Fred's article that begins on page 8.

### **MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

**Ray Kammer**

#### **REMINDER**

#### **2007-2008 Membership Renewal**

(Club year runs from May 1, 2007 to April 30, 2008)

Choose your membership from the following:

Individual Member                      \$30.00

Family Membership

\$30.00 for the first member at address and \$15.00 for each additional member at the same address.

Corresponding Member              \$15.00

Former regular members who wish to remain in contact with the Club.  
(Their privileges are described in the Directory under Membership.)

Please make your check payable to: The Mayslake Nature Study and Photography Club

And mail it by **May 10, 2008** to:

Ray Kammer  
1640 Pearl Court  
Naperville, IL 60563

(Please mail the form with your dues)

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: Home ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please identify those items that you do not want published in the annual Club directory, if any.**

### COMPETITION

**Fred Drury**

To start with here are the results of last year's competitions. As you'll recall we had three print & digital events, with three entries allowed in each category to each event. With unlimited make-ups also allowed, each participant was eligible to submit a total of 9 print and 9 digital entries. Next year we will have three classes: A, B, and C, so I've included a listing of Class assignments for next year. If anyone is unhappy with their Class assignment please get in touch with me and we can discuss it.

<b>Prints, Class A</b>	<b>Maker</b>	<b>Entries</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Class '08-'09</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	Ruth Smith	9	221	A
	Fred Drury	9	208	A
<b>Prints, Class B</b>				
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	Edie Hinckley	6	141	A
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	John Janunas	6	132	B
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Jack Brennan	6	119	B
	Bill Dixon	4	82	B
	Maureen Zwier	3	65	B
	Tom Richardson	3	59	B
	Don Carter	2	42	B
	Demitrius DeMet	1	20	C
<b>Digital, Class A</b>				
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	Fred Drury	9	220	A
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Ruth Smith	9	211	A
	Ray Kamer	9	206	A
	Barbara Kudrnovsky	3	71	A
<b>Digital, Class B</b>				
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	Edie Hinckley	9	198	A
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Sheila Newenham	9	189	B
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Bill Dixon	8	169	B
	Maureen Zwier	7	161	B
	Jack Brennan	6	130	B
	Tom Richardson	6	130	B

Larry Buttimer	6	125	B
Marie Ward	5	96	B
Don Carter	3	67	B
Debra Lane	3	67	C
Kevin McNamara	3	59	C
Diane Hamernik	3	51	C
Marcia Pharis	2	41	C
Bob LaBarre	1	18	C

For the '08-09 Club year there are four competitions scheduled: September 15, December 1, February 2, and April 6. As mentioned above each of these will include three Classes (A, B, C) and two Categories (Prints, Digital). We will of course continue two very important Club practices: Judges commenting upon each image, and the use of Commentary Cards. In order to preserve time for comments, I have introduced a **75 word limit in the 'Description' section** of Commentary Cards. Note: Competitors are encouraged to use Microsoft Word to prepare Cards, where the command <Tools><Word Count> will provide the actual number of words used.

New member Maureen Zwier has kindly agreed to assist Rose and myself with Competition during the '08-09 Club year.

There will also be two 'Non-Competitive Image Critiques' this next season; the first on May 19, and the second on January 5.

## CONSERVATION

## IT'S TIME TO ACT

Dan Hollister

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which is composed of 1500 climatologists from around the world, has now reported that the vast ice sheets of western Antarctica and Greenland are melting at a much faster rate than had been predicted. The report goes on to say that without action the slow rise in sea level will accelerate, forcing millions of people out of low-lying coastal regions. Worsening conditions will put at least 20 to 30 percent of the world's species, including virtually all of the coral reefs on the road to extinction. It's possible that some day the only thing we'll have left of the coral reefs will be Fred Drury's wonderful photographs.

For 650,000 years atmospheric concentrations of CO2 have been stable at 280 PPM. The industrial revolution started in the mid 1800 and since that time CO2 concentrations have risen rapidly to 380 PPM. That's an increase of 35% in the last 150 years. The latest and third report by IPCC has now reconfirmed in even stronger terms that human activity is largely responsible for global warming. Despite the overwhelming scientific evidence there are still skeptics claiming that the whole subject of global warming is a gigantic hoax perpetrated against the American people. If you fall into the category of a skeptic are you really willing to roll the dice with the future of the planet? I certainly hope not!

Global warming is both a scientific and a political issue and unfortunately they don't mix well. The media has a difficult time separating scientific consensus from minor trivial dissent. Journalists feel like they have to give equal time to both sides of every debate, which is like giving five minutes to those that say the earth is round and five minutes to those that say it is flat. On any scientific issue there will always be some uncertainty, but at what point does civilization choose to act? Good question. **How about now!**

Please talk to your friends and neighbors and contact your congressional representatives stressing the urgency of moving forward on global warming, which is the biggest problem our civilization has ever faced.

## OUTINGS

Jon Snyder

### NEXT CLUB OUTING

The next club outing will be at Cantigny Park in Winfield and is tentatively scheduled for Saturday June 28th, more information to follow.

### CLUB OUTING SCHEDULE FOR 2008

We plan to try something different next year in planning club outings. In an effort to breathe some new life into the variety of outings, the club will be asking for individual members to pick a month (we will have 6 to 8 outings) and plan an outing. That way any volunteer will only be responsible for planning and running one outing. This we believe will add variety, different ideas and spread responsibility among the membership.

More will be discussed at the Nov. 5th and following meetings. Please consider volunteering to do a month in 2008. I would like to have up to 8 volunteers locked in and an outing schedule completed by May of 08, the start of the new club year.

Please consider volunteering with an outing idea, it is easy and gives you an opportunity to help your club. I will have a sheet with guidelines for planning and executing an outing at the next meeting and will coordinate and manage all the volunteers' efforts throughout the coming year. If anyone has questions, please call or e-mail me – 630-665-2068  
[jonsnyder@comcast.net](mailto:jonsnyder@comcast.net)

Thanks for your help,

Jon

## CACCA NEWS

Jean Atkins

The CACCA competitions are always the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month.

### APRIL COMPETITIONS

Images provided by **Ruth Smith, John Janunas, Fred Drury, Maureen Zwier, Jack Brennan, and Jonas Maleiska** represented our club in the Interclub Small Color Print competition. **John received an Award** for his “Wasp with Lunch” and **Fred received an Honorable Mention** for his “Elk in Rut”.

**Lloyd McCarthy** participated in “The Letter G” special category slide competition where he again did well and received an **Award** for his “Golden Fields”.

### MAY COMPETITIONS

May is the last month of CACCA competitions for the 2007-2008 year. Interclub competitions are the only competitions that will be held. In each division, first the competitions for the month of May are held. Then the best of year image is selected from images that received an award or a score of at least 24 during the monthly competitions.

### CACCA AWARDS BANQUET

*The annual CACCA awards banquet will be held Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 A.M., at the Oak Meadows Golf Club, 900 Wood Dale Road, in Addison. There will be a buffet-style luncheon at 11:45 and various awards will be presented, including club awards from interclub*

*competitions and individual awards from the CACCA Salon and Best of Year competitions. Tickets are \$25.00 per person and can be paid for with a check payable to CACCA. All monies are due to the CACCA Treasurer at the CACCA meeting on May 10th, so I will need to know whether you are going and have your check at the May 5 club meeting.*

### **PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP**

The 3H Camera Club will host a photography workshop on Saturday, October 25, 2008 from 9:00 to 4:00. It will be held at The Conference Center located at Purdue University Calumet, 2300-173<sup>rd</sup> Street, Hammond, IN. It will consist of presentations, workshops, hands-on activities, and seminars. The activities are geared for novice, intermediate, and advanced photographers. There will also be an outdoor Birds of Prey photography session where participants will be able to photograph the birds in a natural setting. For more information is available at [www.3hcameraclub.com](http://www.3hcameraclub.com).

### **CAMERA'S FOR SALE**

SWITCHING TO DIGITAL OR WANT A BACKUP ?

Here's the answer - now available.

Canon EOSxti digital body - Excellent condition (used as my backup), like new, highest ratings in Photo Journals, 10.1 megapixels, self cleaning sensor with 2 1/2 " LCD screen. Easy to program. My Canon 30D is now my backup to my new Canon 40D.

Includes extra battery, electronic remote and 512 flash card, plus manual, etc. Also no sales tax. An extra value all worth close to \$ 100.

All for just \$ 600. Phone Ray Kammer at 630-355-8377. Back in town on 5/19/08.

### **CAMERA FOR SALE**

**Diane Hamernik**

For Sale - \$250.00  
Canon Powershot IS2 Camera

Compact 5.0 Megapixel digital camera featuring super long 12x Optical / 4x Digital / 48x Combined Zoom with Optical Image Stabilizer technology, UD glass and Aspherical lens for excellent sharpness and color

Takes still images up to 5.0 Megapixels while shooting movies with the new, exclusive "MovieSnap" feature

High-quality 30 fps VGA continuous movie recording, with powerful features including optical zooming during the movie and Stereo Sound.  
DIGIC II Image Processor and iSAPS Technology for superior image quality, faster camera operation and lower power consumption  
USB 2.0 Hi-Speed interface for faster downloads and file transfers  
1.8 inch Vari-Angle LCD screen for clear image previews and reviews, and special Night Display function option for clearer view of subjects in dim shooting conditions

Wide range of system accessories including supplementary lenses and HF-DC1 auxiliary flash unit

Diane Hamernik

630-860-1951