

2015 "Photo of the Month" Competition Winners

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Photo by Joe Guth - Photo of the Month January 2015



"I was taking a class online and the subject for the month was "lines. I had taken some photos at the Niles train station before and felt I could use the tracks for the prominent lines and the train station as another example of lines. I waited until the Amtrak train was coming and a passenger was walking out to get aboard. Because there wasn't a lot of color in this shot, I thought B&W would be a good processing choice. B&W brought out some nice patterns in the train station."

My camera settings were F8, 1/200, ISO 200, focal length 62 on a Nikon 24-120 lens

Photo by Ron McAllister - Photo of the Month February 2015



"I decided to go out to take some photographs of the snow and didn't get any farther than my front yard. I was attracted to the shadows and trees that created some interesting lines".

Camera settings: Nikon D5200, f/9, 1/400 sec., ISO 100, focal length 34mm



Photo by Don Hershberger - Photo of the Month March 2015

It all started with the challenge of “letters or numbers”. I’ve collected a couple old Scrabble games and pooled all the pieces. So I thought I’d do something with them. I started with a nice old table and gray mat backboard. Tableau’d the thing like an actual game ending.

Lighting with all other room lights off I bounced a large floodlight off the ceiling above.

Exposed 3 sec at f22 and iso 200 with camera about 5 ft away on tripod. Minor enhancements with Photoshop with mostly the clarity slider.



Photo by Larry Baumgardt - Photo of the Month April 2015

The photo is of a Great White Heron spotted in Key Colony Beach, Florida. The Great White Heron is a color morph or variation of the Great Blue Heron that was once thought to be a completely different specie. Similar in appearance to the White Egret, Great White Herons are most easily distinguished as having light colored legs whereas the Great Egret's legs are black.

I used a hand held Nikon D800 with 70-200mm f4 lens set at ISO 400, f8, and a shutter speed of 1/1000.



Photo by Ron McAllister - Photo of the Month May 2015

"This photo was taken at Ancilla College Chapel in Donaldson, Indiana. It was the last "shoot" that Joe Guth and I were on together, 10/29/15. This one's for you, Joe!"

You're sure to find some peace and inspiration when you stop at this lovely chapel on an idyllic campus among the lakes and cornfields of Northern Indiana. The property was purchased in

1918 by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, a group of Catholic sisters who immigrated from Germany. They bought the land for retreat, rest and relaxation and built the **Chapel in the Cornfield** in 1923 before Ancilla College was founded.

The chapel, officially known as **The Ancilla Domini Chapel**, brings together incredible features from around the world. Neo-Gothic columns decorated with ancient Greek and Roman designs soar up as if reaching toward heaven. German artisans created the baroque-style stained glass windows and wood-carved statues. The rich altars, made of butternut and golden oak, were built in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, and hauled to Donaldson in freight wagons. If you stand under the soaring ceiling that features images of angels supporting symbols of Mary as queen you can view the huge pipe organ, a masterpiece built in Pennsylvania. *Camera settings: Nikon 5200 camera Lens:18-200mm f/5.0-ISO-800-natural light*



Photo by Bob Morris - Photo of the Month June 2015



This is a picture of Port Townsend, Washington, on the shore of Puget Sound on a hazy morning, typical of the area. Port Townsend was the planned terminus of the transcontinental railroad for loading cargo onto ocean going ships so the railroad executives built large mansions in preparation for the coming commercial activity. However, the terminus plans were changed and a sleepy little town called Seattle became the terminus of the transcontinental railroad and Port Townsend remained a sleepy little town. The railroad

executives had to rebuild their mansions back in Seattle. I liked the colors of the boats with the interesting reflections and the misty fog in the background.

This was taken with a Panasonic Lumix DMC-G5 mirrorless digital camera with a Lumix G Vario 1.4-5.8/14-140 zoom lens. The exposure was 1/400 sec at f/8.0 with film speed of iso 160 and pattern metering. The colors were slightly brightened in Photoshop and unsharp mask sharpening added. The camera was hand held and I had the horizon about 1.5 deg. off so that was corrected.



Photo by Kay Rhodes - Photo of the Month July 2015

This photo was taken in downtown **Waveland, Indiana**. I have some good friends who own the boyhood home of **American Impressionist Painter T.C. Steele (known for his Indiana landscapes)**. The home is located in Waveland and they asked me if I would take some photographs around the area. It was a great project that I enjoyed immensely. This is one of the photos of the main downtown area on Cross Street. Waveland is a town in Brown Township, Montgomery County with a population of 418 people.

This is a great state for finding small, quaint, interesting towns. There are actually 264 small towns in Indiana with a population of less than 1000. Lots of photographs to be taken of Midwest Americana, right here in our own state.

The Photographers Guild recently went down to Waveland for our Annual Photo Trip. The town is near Turkey Run State Park and Shades State Park, and right next to Parke County, the Covered Bridge capital of the world. Combined with six counties that surround it, there are 51 of Indiana's 98 covered bridges in this small area.

Camera settings: Canon EOS 5D Mark III, lens EF 16-35mm f/2.8L II USM, f/8.0, 1/640 sec., ISO 100, Focal length 16m.



Photo by Danny Graber - Photo of the Month August 2015

This photo was taken in Goshen at Beaver Lane crossing, looking west. I suspect this is a once in a life time happening when the sun created this golden reflection on all the rails at the same time. This photo, I think, imparts the essence of fine art photography: A creation of art that entertains one's senses and emotions; the camera is merely a tool by which to make it happen. I felt fortunate to come across this opportunity. For those of you who care: Nikon D7200, Tamron 70-300mm at 130mm, f/8 (my gospel setting), ISO 100 and shutter speed 1/400. No time for a tripod as a train was bearing down on me with whistle blaring at full volume. The telephoto setting of 130mm accentuated the curvature of the tracks, making the curve look sharper than what it really is.



Photo by Kay Rhodes - Photo of the Month September 2015

This photo was taken in Canyon de Chelly. It is located in northeastern Arizona within the boundaries of the Navajo Nation. The canyon consists of many well-preserved Anasazi ruins and spectacular sheer red cliffs that rise up to 1000 feet. We traveled to this beautiful, picturesque area

last March. The trip offered a great opportunity for taking some fabulous photographs.

The photo was taken with a Canon EOS 5D Mark III, 24-105mm lens, Focal length 28mm, f/8.0, 1/640 sec, ISO 100.



Photo by Danny Graber - Photo of the Month - October 2015

Recently while traveling in Colorado and New Mexico, my friend and I decided to take advantage of the completely dark, light-free skies and photograph the Milky Way. It feels weird photographing the galaxy we live in. Who knows, maybe someone out there was photographing us. We were at the Blue Mesa Reservoir, midway between Montrose and Gunnison, Colorado.

This type of shot is probably not available in northern Indiana due to light pollution – farm lights, subdivisions and towns. (And, as one Guild member noted, high humidity nights, common in our area, further reduce

photographic clarity.)

Settings to get started: aperture f/8, shutter speed 10 seconds, at ISO 6400.



Photo by Bruce Nethercutt - Photo of the Month - November 2015

I had a request to take photos of the son of some friends, at the Northridge High School pool. Jeremy has been a swimmer since he was 6 yrs. old.

Setting up the shot: I wanted to capture Jeremy's athleticism and the potential power of a swimmer on the blocks. I thought a strong shadow to contrast his pose would improve the shot. I placed the flash several feet to my left, just slightly higher than Jeremy to create the shadow.

Settings: Shot in manual mode, ISO 200, 1/200sec, f4.5 (sorry Danny), 86mm. I was running out of time and ended up with some weird settings. 1/200 is my max flash sync speed and I was trying to keep the background a little darker, f4.5 because I was trying to get some bokeh, 86mm but I should have zoomed in as I cropped the original image a lot. If I could shoot again, I'd have switched lenses to a 80-200 2.8. Flash was a Nikon SB910 on a light stand, no diffuser used to create a sharp shadow.