

The Focal Point

Official Newsletter of the **Linn Area Photo Club**

July 2010 Vol. 7, No. 7
<http://www.linnareaphotoclub.org>

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

What an interesting summer so far! A wet one to start with, but now that the sun has decided to come out the flowers are blooming and the butterflies are showing us their colors... it's not all bad for us photo enthusiasts. I have taken advantage of this by capturing a lot of photos that I hope to share during future Club, regional and national contests... not to mention my walls at home.

This month's meeting is July 11th at Wickiup, and Doug Hoeger and Bob Lancaster are going to give us some hands-on training experience on shooting macros. They will also demonstrate some photo equipment that will help us with our new skills. I look forward to this presentation/workshop.

The photo contest for this month is People & Portraits... so during the 4th of July holiday I hope you got some great photos of your friends and family celebrating. If not, there is still time to capture some "people moments".

See you on July 11th!

Rick Young
President – LAPC

Linn Area Photo Club
is sponsored by:



© Rick Young

June Recap

Regular Meeting – June 13, 2010
Monthly Contest Theme: Birds & Insects

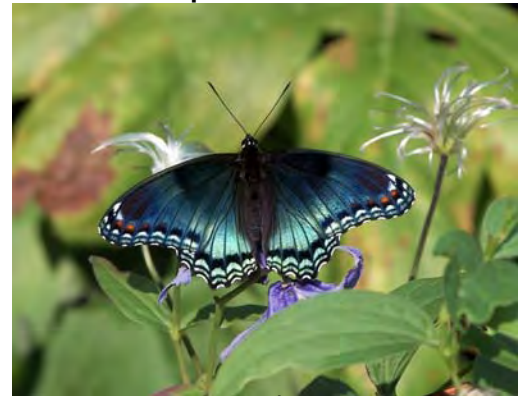
Contest Winners



© Lynn Reihman – 1st Place



© Steve Thompson – 2nd Place



© Karen Bradley – 3rd Place

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Showcase Photographer

Lori Seals was our Showcase Photographer in June.
Below are a few of her images...



© Lori Seals - <http://loriasealsphotoaraphv.zenfolio.com>



Upcoming Events

Regular Meeting – July 11, 2010 Monthly Contest Theme: People & Portraits

Doug Hoeger and Bob Lancaster will be teaching about macro photography at this month's meeting. Instruction will focus on equipment, technique, composition, and so on. Please feel free to bring any of your own equipment so you can actively try things out as you learn.

Ann Jorgensen will be our Showcase Photographer.

Club Photo Shoot with Bob Campagna Saturday, July 17, 2010 – 9:00am to ?

We will be heading out with Honorary LAPC Member Bob Campagna again this summer. This time we will focus on downtown Iowa City. Bob's photo shoots are always both fun and educational. We will meet at...

The Java House
211 1/2 E Washington St.
Iowa City, IA 52240

Annual LAPC Picnic Sunday, August 8, 2010 – 5:00pm to? Noel Ridge Park, Cedar Rapids

The club will provide meat, beverages, plates and utensils. Club members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. All club members and their family are welcome to attend. There will be a monthly photo contest and the theme will be... "Anything goes".

Hands-On Nature Photo Workshop Saturday, October 2, 2010 – 10:30am to? Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center, Toddville IA

"Hands-On Nature Photo Workshop" sponsored by Linn Area Photo Club and LCC - A 1/2 day workshop for all levels of photographers. This three-part workshop starts in the classroom, then progresses to the outdoors, and finishes in the classroom with a digital review of the photos taken during the workshop. Linn Area Photo Club members will be on hand to assist participants with any questions on the operation of their cameras, photographic procedures, techniques, composition, etc. Suggested equipment would include: camera, tripod, flash, wide angle and/or close-up lens for SLR camera. Cost is \$2.50 per person, and feel free to bring a sack lunch.

Contest Rules

Monthly LAPC Contest Rules

1. Competitors must be members of the Linn Area Photo Club and must have paid their dues.
2. Entries must be in print form. There will be one (1) category, which will be published in advance. Entries may be either color or black-and-white.
3. Three (3) winning entries will be selected. Only the 1st Place winner will receive a prize.
4. Each entry must be the original work of the competitor and must have been taken within the previous two (2) years, and cannot have been a prior LAPC contest winner.
5. Each competitor may submit up to two (2) photos in each monthly contest.
6. Minimum print size is 5"x7". Maximum print size is 11"x14".
7. All prints must be no larger than 11"x14". Prints may be mounted and matted, but it is not a requirement. Maximum 11"x14" size includes matting, if applicable. Prints must **not** be framed.
8. All prints must have competitor's name and image title clearly printed on the back of the mount in the bottom right corner with a prominent arrow indicating the "up" orientation.
9. Members must be present to participate.
10. Nude photos are not eligible.

Annual LAPC Photography Contest Rules

1. Who may participate?
 - Any paid member, executive committee or board member, in good standing of LAPC (at time of judging).
 - Must be present to participate.
2. Entries must be the original work of the participant.
3. All entries must be no more than five (5) years old from time of photograph.
 - No prior LAPC winning photos (1st, 2nd, or 3rd Place) may be entered.
4. Entries must be prints no larger than 11"x14", to include outer measurement of mounting and/or matting, excluding panorama photos.
 - No framing or covering.
5. All entries must have competitor's name, category, title, and an arrow indicating up, clearly printed on the back lower right of the mount.
6. Print paper has no restriction. (i.e.; glossy, matte, metallic, canvas, etc.)
7. Photos shall be placed on a rigid board of a minimum 1/8" thickness.
8. No collages are permitted.
9. Number of photos that may be submitted:
 - Each member may enter up to two (2) photos per category, with a total contest limit of eight (8) photos.
 - A person may win up to two (2) times in any category.
10. Black and white photos may be entered into any category.
11. The same photo may not be entered into more than one (1) category.

(See next page for continuation)

Contest Rules *(Continued)*

Annual November LAPC Photography Contest Rules *(Continued)*

12. "Best of Show" Award shall be selected from amongst the 1st Place winners in all categories (except Annual Club-Selected Theme category), and be awarded in addition to the 1st Place Award for that category.

13. No photo shall include anything deemed inappropriate by the Rules Committee. Any photo can be disqualified from the contest by the Rules Committee for not meeting any rule or requirement.

14. Judge(s) may award up to three (3) "Honorable Mention" Awards in any category.

15. Categories:

1. People and Portraits

- Defined as individuals or groups of people.

2. Black and White

- Any permissible subject is allowed.

3. Animals

- Domestic, captive, or wild (does not include insects – see Macro/Close-Up).
- Includes birds.

4. Landscape / Scenery

- Photos that focus on natural settings.

5. Macro / Close-Up

- Macro/Close-up of anything.
- Includes insects.

6. Architecture

- Photos where man-made permanent structures are the theme (i.e.; buildings, bridges, dams, architectural elements, etc.).

7. Panoramic

- Capture of images with elongated fields of view.

8. Computer Enhanced / Manipulated

- Anything obviously and overtly unnatural and manipulated in the computer and/or darkroom (i.e.; selective coloring, unnatural-looking HDR, etc.).

9. Anything Goes

- Images that do not fit any of the above categories.
- Does not include computer enhanced or panoramas.

10. Annual Club-Selected Theme

- Subject to be decided by LAPC members each year. **(2010 Theme: Food)**
- To be judged as a "Member's Choice".
- One (1) vote per member (one chip).
- 1st Place only shall be awarded.
- Not eligible for "Best of Show" Award.
- Winner will receive one (1) year's paid membership to LAPC.

It's weird that photographers spend years or even a whole lifetime, trying to capture moments that added together, don't even amount to a couple of hours.
~James Lalropui Keivom

Meeting Minutes June 13, 2010 – by Cherie Flint

President, Rick Young opened the meeting by thanking, Bob Lancaster, Ann Jorgensen and Doug Hoeger for sharing with members what equipment they carry in their bags for our program "What is in Your Camera Bag?" during the May monthly meeting. Special thanks went out to Doug and Kris Hoeger to sharing their photographs as part of the Showcase Photographer.

There three new members in attendance: Brenda Nelson, Michelle Ang and William Wimm. Jason Seals attended the meeting as a visitor. There were a total of 41 people in attendance at the June Meeting.

Upcoming Meetings:

July 11th Monthly Meeting

- Presentations: Macro Photography presented by Bob Lancaster and Doug Hoeger.
- Photo contest: People and Portraits.
- Showcase Photographer: Ann Jorgensen

Aug 8th - 3rd Annual Club Picnic at Noelridge Park.

The meeting will start at 5pm and go until dark. The club will provide meat, beverages, plates and utensils. Club members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. All club members and their family are welcome to attend.

- Photo contest: Anything goes.

September

Paul Adams from Porters will be doing a presentation on Flash Photography.

Announcements from Bob Lancaster:

There are still LAPC hats available for \$11.00

July 17th, 2010 Bob Campagna will be leading a photo shoot in Iowa City that all club members are welcome to attend. Please meet the Java House at 211 1/2 E Washington Street in Iowa City at 9:00AM

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is sponsored by:



Guest Speaker:

Paul Adams from Porter's Camera was June's Guest Speaker. Paul provided club members with invaluable information on how to shoot and create panoramic pictures. Paul Adams has been with Porters since 2005. You can see some of his work by visiting his website at <http://www.adams-foto.com/>

Suggestions for Shooting Panoramas
The Gear

1. The Camera

Many newer compact point and shoot digital cameras offer panoramic assist programs that will actually merge the photographs in the camera. Digital SLR cameras allow the photographer a greater degree of precision and accuracy.

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Meeting Minutes (Continued)

2. Lens Selection:

- Wide Angles lens allows the photographer to take fewer images but cause distortion that will cause the photographer to struggle with stitching the image together.
 - Normal lens (50 mm or 24-35 mm) works well with capturing the image, causing little or no distortion but can flatten image. If you want a image that is true to the eye use a 24-35mm lens.
 - Telephoto lenses work well to capture a small section, or allow the photographer to capture an image that is far away.
3. A tripod with a pan head is a must to shoot panoramic. An inexpensive tool to use is a Panomatic Panorama Camera Attachment that attaches to the ball head and rotates every 30 degrees to help build the panoramic.
 4. Paul also suggests a shoe mounted 2 way or 3 way bubble level to insure that the camera is always level.
 5. Cable release helps prevent bumping the camera out of screw and camera shake.
 6. L Bracket to shoot vertically.

The Technique

- Focus on the key subject of the image, and then turn off the auto focus. Use manual exposure. Set the exposure to the key subject. This will insure that all the images will be unified.
- When shooting a scene with people it, Paul describe a technique that he called "Spray and pray". Use continuing shooting and rotate camera quickly though out the screen that you want to capture. This is to prevent ghosting especially if the people are moving through the screen.
- Paul rarely uses filters. He did suggest using a Graduated neutral density filter if you are shooting landscapes at dusk or dawn.

The Editing Process:

- Paul used the photo merge technique using Photoshop Elements to stitch the captured images together to create the panoramic. The steps are highlighted below.

Using Adobe Photoshop Elements Editor:

1. Select FILE
2. Select NEW
3. Select PHOTOMERGE PANORAMIC.
4. A new screen will pop up, Select AUTO for layout.
5. Then select BROWSE to load your selected images to be merged together.
6. Select OK.
7. Your computer will spend a great deal of time thinking while Photoshop merges your images together.
8. Crop your final image with no restrictions to the desired size.
9. It is suggested that you zoom in to look for ghosting and fix those.

Experimenting with panoramas

- To get more height from your image, shoot holding your camera in the vertical position. Another option is to take 2 horizontal pans, then stitch the 2 pans together.
- Shooting macro and putting your camera on a dolly

The June monthly contest subject was Bird and Insects. There were a total of 28 entries. Lynn Reihman was the first place winner for is photographed titled Pond Pelicans with 23 votes. Second Place was Steve Thompson with 17 votes titled Butterfly on Gray. Third place was Karen Bradley with 9 votes titled Insects Red Spotted Purple.

Meeting Minutes *(Continued)*

Lori Seals was this month's Showcase Photographer. Lori has a passion for taking pictures of water towers. She enjoys working photographs taken with film and editing them with Photoshop. Lori enjoys creating images that have the nostalgic look.

Rick Young and Bob Lancaster finished up the meeting by showing and critiquing Iowa State Fair submission photographs members brought in. State Fair entries needed to be submitted by June 21st, 2010 by mail or June 27th, 2010 by hand delivery.

I hate cameras. They are so much more sure than I am about everything.
~John Steinbeck



© Lynn Reihman

2010 Meeting & Event Schedule

(Please note changes)

Sunday, July 11

Contest Theme: People & Portraits

Saturday, July 17

Photo Shoot, Iowa City

Sunday, August 8

Contest Theme: Anything Goes – Club Picnic at Noel Ridge Park

Sunday, September ??

Contest Theme: To Be Determined

Saturday, October 2

Hands-On Nature Photo Workshop

Sunday, October 10

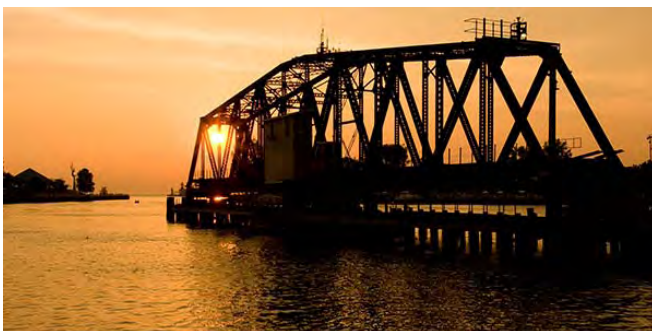
Contest Theme: Fall Colors – Photo Shoot

Sunday, November 14

Annual LAPC Photo Contest

Sunday, December 13

Holiday Photo Shoot



© Ken Boardrow



<http://www.linnareaphotoclub.org>

The Focal Point

July 2010

About the Linn Area Photo Club

The Linn Area Photo Club was established in November 2003 in order to bring together individuals in the greater Linn County, Iowa, area who are interested in acquiring and developing an appreciation of the art and techniques of photography. Dues are \$20 for renewals and \$25 for new memberships. Monthly meetings are normally held at 1:30pm the second Sunday of the month at Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center in Toddville. (See Calendar of Events for details) Club membership is open to photographers of all skill levels. Members participate in a variety of educational programs, field trips and photo shoots. There is an informal monthly theme contest and an annual club contest that drew over 90 entries in its first year. Members range from beginners to professionals and use both digital and traditional photographic technology. LAPC is a great place to meet and learn from other photo enthusiasts.

Contact Information

Linn Area Photo Club
PO Box 676, Marion, IA 52302

Website: www.linnareaphotoclub.org - E-mail: membership@linnareaphotoclub.org

2010 LAPC Elected Officers

Office	Name	Telephone	E-Mail
President	Rick Young	(319) 360-0060	president@linnareaphotoclub.org
Vice-President	Bob Lancaster	(319) 550-1232	vice-president@linnareaphotoclub.org
Secretary	Cherie Flint	(319) 981-9965	secretary@linnareaphotoclub.org
Treasurer	David Byrnes	(319) 363-4780	treasurer@linnareaphotoclub.org

2010 LAPC Appointed Officers and Committees

Office	Name	Telephone	E-Mail
Activities	David Byrnes Barb Plotz	(319) 363-4780	activities@linnareaphotoclub.org
Membership	David Byrnes Kris Hoeger	(319) 363-4780 (319) 373-7866	membership@linnareaphotoclub.org
Newsletter	Ken Boardrow	(319) 447-4247	newsletter@linnareaphotoclub.org
Public Relations	Ken Boardrow	(319) 447-4247	public-relations@linnareaphotoclub.org
PSA/N4C Rep.	Bob Lancaster	(319) 550-1232	psa@linnareaphotoclub.org
Webmaster	Bob Randklev		webmaster@linnareaphotoclub.org
Programs & Photo Competitions	Rick Young Ann Jorgensen Ken Boardrow		

Exhibits & Outside Photo Competitions Bob Lancaster
Karla McMurrin

Deadline for submissions to **The Focal Point** is the 25th of each month for the next month's newsletter. **The Focal Point** will be published on approximately the 1st day of each month.

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