

The Focal Point

Official Newsletter of the
LINN AREA PHOTO CLUB

July/August 2016 - Vol. 13, No. 4



© Patti Sampson

“To photograph is to hold one’s breath, when all faculties converge to capture fleeting reality. It’s at that precise moment that mastering an image becomes a great physical and intellectual joy.”

Henri Cartier-Bresson, Henri Cartier-Bresson: The Mind’s Eye: Writings on Photography and Photographers

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“You don’t make a photograph just with a camera. You bring to the act of photography all the pictures you have seen, the books you have read, the music you have heard, the people you have loved.”

Ansel Adams

Challenge Yourself

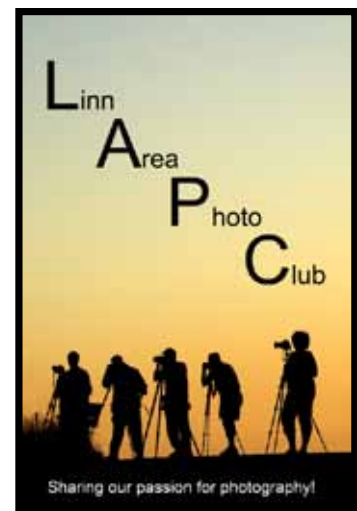
There are few things I like better than a good creative challenge and photography offers an endless supply. New subjects or techniques, there is always something new to try. Recently I signed up for CreativeLive’s Creative Photography Challenge and have been receiving emails every few days with new challenges. Some are standard photography lessons like motion blur or capturing sunsets, but I had never heard of sandwich bag photography before. That is definitely something I will be playing with this summer. How about talcum powder, or flour, photography? You could get great photos and entertain the kids at the same time. Just make sure to hose them off before they go back inside. Even if a new technique doesn’t turn out to be your cup of tea, you will surely learn from the experience, and that will translate into the rest of your photography.

Here are a few ideas for a new challenge:

Capturing Sunstars	Shadow Photography
Sandwich Bag Photography	Bubbles
Talcum Powder Photography	Capturing Water Droplets
Light Painting	Smoke
Double Exposure	Forced-Perspective
Patterns	Now and Then

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July 10th Monthly Meeting: Camera 201- Beyond The Basics

July 10 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Educational Theme: Camera 201-Beyond The Basics

Time to learn about & practice all those camera setting. Your going on a photo shoot today with Amy and a group of Club Members. How do you pre-set your camera before leaving the house to prepare for the event? What adjustments do you make upon arrival or a couple of test shots?

Together we will learn:

Shutter Setting: Aperture Priority vs. Shutter Speed Priority vs. Manual

Histogram Reading: Under-exposed, Over-Exposed, Cropped (Both Ends), Balanced

White Balance: Grey Card vs. Expo Disk vs. Digital Target vs. X-Rite ColorChecker

Bracketing: Yes/No 3 vs. 5 vs. 7 +- 1/2 vs. +- 1

Metering: Spot vs. Center-Weighted vs. Evaluative/Matrix

Auto Focus: One Shot, AI Focus, AI Servo, Continuous, AF-C, AF-A, AF-S

Photo Shoot Locations: Potential Presets

Fire Station (Indoors, Low Light, No Movement)

Ceramic Center / Music Center / Model Train (Indoors, Fluorescent Lights, No Movement)

Moto Cross (Outdoors, Sunny, Action)

Cherry Building Portraits (Indoors, Low Light, No Movement)

Noelridge Park (Outdoors, Cloudy, Maybe Movement)

Roughriders (Indoors, ??? Light, Action)

Steel Wool on Fire / Fireworks (Outdoors, Bright Light, Movement)

Bring your camera, tripod, white balance tool and your owners manual!

This is hands on training.

“There are no bad pictures; that’s just how your face looks sometimes.”

Abraham Lincoln

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Photo Contest Themes:

Two Different Categories!

Contest 1: Summer.... Print Images

You can submit up to two photos of any image that meets the monthly contest rules and meets this months theme.

Contest 2: Photographer's Choice.... Digital Images (Submit your jpg/psd photos to: MonthlyContest@LinnAreaPhotoClub.org)

You can submit up to two photos of any image that meets the monthly contest rules. If your photo interests are old cars, night sky, food, etc. submit your photos.

August 14th Monthly Club Meeting: Lightroom & Photoshop Elements

August 14 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Educational Theme: Lightroom & Photoshop Elements 101

In one room we will have two Club Members do an overview of Lightroom and in the other room we will have two Club Members do an overview of Photoshop Elements. You can decide which room you wish to participate.

Topics Covered

Workflows

Opening an image

Reviewing multiple images to determine which image to edit

Editing an Image:

Exposure

Brightness & Contrast

Levels

Temp/Tint (LR)

Vibrance

Clarity (LR)

Saturation

Hue

Histograms

Tone Curves/Curves

Sharpening

Noise Reduction

Cropping

Before/After

History

Software Setup

Exporting file to Photoshop (LR)

B&W Conversion

Saving/File Images



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The Photoshop Elements presentation will cover topics like :

- Using Adobe Camera RAW in Elements
- The Difference Between Elements and Lightroom
- Basic and Advanced Editing Strategies
- Layers and Layer Masks
- Cropping and Resizing Photos
- Saving to Various File Formats
- Replacing Skies and Other Backgrounds
- Creating Panoramas
- Adding Text to Photos
- Using Text Creatively
- Organizing Your Photos

Bring questions and be willing to share what you know as well.

Photo Contest Themes:

Two Different Categories!

Contest 1: Patriotic.... Print Images

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Contest 2: Photographer's Choice.... Digital Images (Submit your jpg/psd photos to: MonthlyContest@LinnAreaPhotoClub.org)

You can submit up to two photos of any image that meets the monthly contest rules. If your photo interests are old cars, night sky, food, etc. submit your photos.



© Christopher H. Marks

© Chris Marks, *Canadian Rockies*

Recent Club Photoshoots



© Pam Olson

“There are no rules for good
photographs, there are only
good photographs.”

Ansel Adams

Connect with other members online!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LinnAreaPhotoClub/>

Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/groups/1927028@N23/>

Google+: <https://plus.google.com/communities/100746748738516490166>

If there are other communities online, please send the address to newsletter@linnareaphotoclub.org

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© Rae Lowenberg



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May 2016 Linn Area Photo Club Meeting Notes

The May meeting took place at Wickiup Learning Center on May 01, 2016. There were 50 Members in attendance. Rick Young, club president, started the meeting. Club gained two new members.

Announcements:

Rick thanked all the volunteers for all their help with Event With Moose Peterson in April.

Moose Peterson Event:

218 registered. 8 at the door. 199 people attended the event.

Rick thanked all the club members who help with the mounting and matting at April's Meeting.

Rick also announced that Adam Hunter will be at June's meeting to speak about enhancing your photos. He elaborated on future meetings agenda. July will be camera 201. Building on skills learned from previous meeting.

Topic:

May's meetings theme was commercial photography part two. Doug Benton from Hawkeye Community College and John Thomas of Fisheye Photography spoke for much of the meeting on lighting for commercial photography. Doug and John spoke about Quality and direction of light and determines the two. Other subjects discussed were lighting glass, what makes a good photographer, lighting the background a more.

June 2016 Linn Area Photo Club Meeting Notes

The meeting on June 12th we had 62 members present. The photo contest was "Food" and we had 6 photos entered. Patti Sampson won with a 27-votes for a "Bowl of Fruit" and Steve Thompson had second place with 12 votes with "Bread & Wine"

July – Camera Beyond Basic

August – PhotoShop – Lightroom

September – Mike Stark – will talk about Wildlife Photo Techniques

October – Roland Banderob – will talk about Composition

Bob Lancaster is working on next year's seminar. Members let Bob know that their top pick would be Joe McNally with the following options Dave Black or Peter Reed Miller.

Our guest speaker was Adam Hunter from Hawkeye Tech Community College

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PHOTO CONTEST AWARD WINNERS MAY



© Pam Olson, *2nd Place*

PHOTO CONTEST AWARD WINNERS JUNE



© Patti Sampson, *1st Place*

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Annual Contest Categories

1. People and Portraits

- Defined as individuals or groups of people as the primary focus of the photo.

2. Black and White

(no color or selected color photos are allowed)

- Any permissible subject is allowed.
- No color photos allowed.

3. Animals

- Domestic, captive, or wild.
- Includes mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, etc.
- Does not include insects
(see Macro/Close-Up category).

4. Landscape / Scenery

- Photos that focus on natural settings.

5. Macro / Close-Up

- Macro/Close-up of any permissible subject.
- Includes insects.

6. Architecture

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

7. Panoramic

- Defined as "capture of images with elongated fields of view".
- Any permissible subject is allowed.
- Minimum size: 6" on the shorter measurement
- Minimum aspect ratio: 2:1
- May be either cropped from a single image or multiple images stitched together.
- All mounting, framing, etc., requirements and/or restrictions apply unless specifically noted otherwise here.

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.).

- Any permissible subject is allowed.

9. Anything Goes

- Images that do not fit any of the above categories, but are otherwise not restricted (i.e.: collages, nude, etc.).
- Does not include computer enhanced or panoramas.

10. Annual Club-Selected Theme

- Theme to be decided by LAPC members each year. (2015 Theme: "Fall")
- One (1) entry per person.
- 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 for the next year.

**We are looking for your contributions
to the LAPC newsletter!**

**Your contributions are
important to continuing to put out a
successful newsletter!**

Deadline for submissions to The Focal Point is the 26th of each month for the next month's newsletter. The Focal Point will be published by approximately the 5th day of each month.

Questions or submissions should be sent to:

newsletter@linnareaphotoclub.org

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Please send any contributions, including text files, as jpegs or pdfs. Small files, including images, are preferred.

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Annual Contest Rules

Eligibility:

- a) Competitors must be members in good standing of Linn Area Photo Club (LAPC), and have paid their dues (at time of judging).
- b) Must be present during contest to participate.
- c) Photos must be submitted to the entry table by 1:30 (Not just in the building).

LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!!!

Entry format:

- a) Entries must be in print form only.
- b) No restriction regarding print paper. Glossy, matte, metallic, canvas, etc., are all acceptable.
- c) Entries may be either color or black & white in any category, unless specifically restricted.
- d) Entries must be the original work of the competitor, and must have been taken within five (5) years .
- e) Entries cannot have been a previous LAPC Annual Contest winner (1st, 2nd, or 3rd Place). Entries may have been a previous LAPC Monthly Contest winner.
- f) Photos may be any size up to, and including, 11"x14" (including matting, if applicable)*.
- g) All photos must be mounted on 11"x14"* foam core that is at least 1/8" thick.
- h) Matting is optional.
- i) Entries can NOT be framed or include any type of covering.
- j) All entries must have the competitor's name, image title, category, and an arrow indicating the "up" orientation on the back in the lower right-hand corner. Information must be legible.
- k) Entrant's name, photo title, date, and any other text cannot appear on the front of the photo.

l) No collages.

m) Any photo may be disqualified by the Contest Rules Committee if deemed inappropriate and/or not meeting any rule or requirement.

n) Nude photos are not eligible.

*See Panorama Category for panorama size criteria.

Entries, Prizes, & Judging:

- a) Each competitor may submit up to two (2) photos in each category, with an overall total of eight (8) maximum submissions for the entire contest. Does not include club-selected theme category.
- b) Three (3) winning entries (1st, 2nd & 3rd Place), along with up to three (3) "Honorable Mention" entries, will be selected, per category.
- c) Only the three winning entries (1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place) in each category, as well as "Best of Show", will receive a prize. Competitors may win up to two (2) awards/prizes in each category.
- d) The same photo may not be entered into more than one (1) category.
- e) "Best of Show" Award will 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.
- f) The Annual Contest will be judged by a pre-selected judge or judges.
- g) Judge(s) and/or Contest Rules Committee members reserve the right to move photos to other categories if category choice is deemed inappropriate. Photo will be disqualified if appropriate category already has maximum number of competitor entries.

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Monthly Contest Rules

Eligibility: a) Competitors must be members in good standing of Linn Area Photo Club (LAPC), and have paid their dues (at time of judging).

b) Must be present during contest to participate

Entry format:

a) Entries must be in print form only.

b) No restriction regarding print paper. Glossy, matte, metallic, canvas, etc., are all acceptable.

c) Entries may be either color or black & white.

d) Entries must be the original work of the competitor, and must have been taken within two (2) years .

e) Entries cannot have been a previous LAPC Monthly or Annual Contest winner.

f) Minimum size: 8"x10". Maximum size" 11"x14" (including matting, if applicable)

g) Entries may be mounted, but it is not a requirement.

h) Matting is optional.

i) Entries can NOT be framed or include any type of covering.

j) All entries must have the competitor's name, image title, and an arrow indicating the "up" orientation on the back in the lower right-hand corner. Information must be legible.

k) Entrant's name, photo title, date, and any other text cannot appear on the front of the photo.

l) No collages.

m) Any photo may be disqualified by the Contest Rules Committee if deemed inappropriate and/or not meeting any rule or requirement

n) Nude photos are not eligible.

Entries, Prizes, & Judging:

a) Each competitor may submit up to two (2) photos in each monthly contest.

b) Three (3) winning entries (1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place) will be selected.

c) Only the First Place winner will receive a prize.

d) Contest will be judged by a vote of LAPC members.

ABOUT THE LINN AREA PHOTO CLUB

The Linn Area Photo Club (LAPC) 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.

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 and photographic interests. Club Membership dues are \$25 annually and includes a variety of educational programs, seminars 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.

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2015 LAPC Elected Officers

President: Rick Young
(319) 360-0060
president@linnareaphotoclub.org

Vice-President: Bob Lancaster
(319) 297-7052
vice-president@linnareaphotoclub.org

Secretary: Justin Tedford
(319) 654-4221
secretary@linnareaphotoclub.org

Treasurer: David Byrnes
(319) 363-4780
treasurer@linnareaphotoclub.org

2015 LAPC Appointed Officers & Committees

Activities: Amy Mueggenberg
(319) 721-5063
activities@linnareaphotoclub.org

Membership: David Byrnes, Kris Hoeger
(319) 363-4780, (319) 373-7866
membership@linnareaphotoclub.org

Newsletter: Rae Lowenberg
(319) 470-2351
newsletter@linnareaphotoclub.org

Public Relations: Ken Boardrow
(319) 447-4247
pr@linnareaphotoclub.org

PSA/N4C Rep.: Bob Lancaster
(319) 297-7052
psa@linnareaphotoclub.org

Webmaster: Bob Randklev
(319) 775-0045
webmaster@linnareaphotoclub.org

LAPC Contests & Contest Rules:
Ken Boardrow, Doug Hoeger, Doug Shaffer
contests@linnareaphotoclub.org

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

Website: <http://LinnAreaPhotoClub.org>

E-mail: membership@linnareaphotoclub.org

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