

Duneland PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB



Meetings held at

SUNSET HILL FARM COUNTY PARK
Horton Educational Center
755 Meridian Road
Valparaiso, Indiana

1st Tuesday of the month / 7-9 p.m.

December 2023



President | STEVE BENSING

Vice-President | ROBERT EVANS

Treasurer | DAN RUGGABER

Secretary | SHARON KERNER

Exhibit Organizer | DINA HEIJSELAAR

Program Coordinator | DEB STIPP

New Member Rep | SUZAN PERRY

Parks Dept. Rep. | BARB RUSS

Public Relations | PEGGY CARTER

Newsletter | TERESA SHEPPARD

Special Events | GEORGANNA EDMONDS

Webmaster/Zoom Master | JOHN MOORE

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December Meeting Festivities



There will be a Cookie Exchange. Bring a dozen of your favorite cookies in a box or a clear plastic wrap and when we draw your number for the gift exchange members will also pick up a dozen cookies. Only those who participating in the cookie exchange take cookies home.

For the Christmas decorations anyone can help by bringing some.

There will be a Gift Exchange. It is suggested to bring a wrapped NEW gift (price range about \$15-20), and would be great if it was photo related.

We have the props for the selfie

station that we can use. We have a back drop that we can use for the selfie station. Everyone can take their own photos!

The club will provide ice and water. We also have some pop, eating utensils, and paper products. Members can bring additional soft drinks.

A \$5 per person donation is requested to contribute to the food - JJ's Pizza and Veggie Trays.

Remember, this is the last time to purchase Duneland Photography Club T-Shirts before Christmas. Also, this is the last time to purchase

backing boards for the Gardening Show Flower Photography Contest in January. Officers will be elected and you can renew your membership for 2024.

It will be a night of food, fun, and photography.





During this time of year, we think of gifts and giving. Why not give the gift of photography this year. How can we do that? Allow me to share several ideas.

Obviously, many of us would love to give or receive photography equipment. A new camera or a special lens might be on the list. But there are other ways to give the gift of photography.

You can make calendars, books, mugs, or other items with your photos. These are often wonderful ways to share your talent with those who appreciate it. Each year I enjoy making calendars and mugs. A few times, I have made photo books to commemorate a special event in someone's life. For example, I took photos of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade that my niece was participating in with her high school band. The photos made a wonderful book to remember that special day.

A really great way to give the gift of photography is to share what you know with someone you know. A child or grandchild may have an interest. A friend may want to get a camera and learn how to use it. Even a spouse or significant other may want to learn about your photography passion.

About a month ago, I spent some time with a six-year-old relative and his family in New York. Max noticed my cameras and was interested. I took some time to nurture that interest by showing him how to use a camera and practice taking photos. I took the time to answer his questions. He wanted to know what certain controls did and how to use them. I let him take photos on his own. His parents noticed this

interest and asked for my advice on encouraging this. At their urging, I recommended a camera and a photography program that he might get involved with. I remember the same thing happening about 10 years ago with the five-year old grandson of a friend. He also took a pretty good photo of construction equipment that caught his eye. It's rewarding to share with younger people.

At the Duneland Photography Club, we have opportunities to give the gift of photography. We can mentor others at a meeting or photoshoot. Some members give formal presentations or classes to help others learn. In whatever big or small way, we can give the gift of photography. We thank those who share their knowledge and their love of photography with all of us!

Steve Bensing, President



November Meeting Wrapup



The November 7th meeting of the Duneland Photography Club started with mentoring led by John Roquet and Jim Rettker. Sharon Kerner gave a 5-minute tip. We had nominations for officers - President: Steve Bensing, Vice-President: Terry Fairchild, Treasurer: Dan Ruggaber, Secretary: Patrice Lawson and Teresa McGinley (Teresa will not accept the nomination, but will help as

assistant secretary). Club members were recognized for participating in several exhibitions, most notably, the Duneland Photography Club exhibit, "Visions of Reality", at the Chesterton Art Center. Our speaker was Edward Byrne, who is a professor at Valparaiso, University. In his photography, he uses words along with images. Ed described his transition from Sports Photography to Landscape Photography at the

Indiana Dunes. The meeting closed with members sharing Show and Tell photos.



Porter County Parks November Calendar



Jack Steffen | 1st Place
Sunset Hill Farm Park



Steve Bensing | 2nd Place
Sunset Hill Farm Park



Peggy Carter | 3rd Place
Brookdale Park

Take photos at Porter County Parks for the upcoming calendar. Submit (up to) three high resolution photos to

DunelandPhotographyClub@gmail.com with subject line of **PARKS CALENDAR.**

Include the name of the park where each photo was taken.

Sunset Hill Farm Park | 775 Meridian Road, Valparaiso

Brincka Cross Gardens | 427 Furness Road, Michigan City

Brookdale Park | 919 N 50 W, Chesterton

Dunn's Brige | 500 E (over the Kankakee River), Kouts

Porter County Museum



On November 11th, the Duneland Photography Club took a tour of the Porter County Museum, led by Visitor Experience Manager, Quinn Albert.

The museum contains artifacts from Porter County history. It currently features an exhibit called,

"Ever Yours: Postcards from the Golden Age."

In the early 1900s, postcard were a favorite form of communication, similar to social media today. Postcards could be purchased, or people made their own from their own photos.

Pictured is Quinn Albert, daughter of Chesterton photographer Trent Albert. Also pictured is a display of Orville Redenbacher artifacts. Members who attended were Robert Evans, Steve Bensing, and Peggy Carter. Group photo by Quinn Albert. Other photos by Steve Bensing.



Dig the Dunes 2024 Calendar



Duneland Photography members Peggy Carter, Terry Fairchild, and Chad Howell were selected for the “Dig the Dunes” 2024 Calendar.

The Calendar Release Party was held Monday, November 27th from 5-7pm at the Chesterton Art Center (115 S. 4th Street).

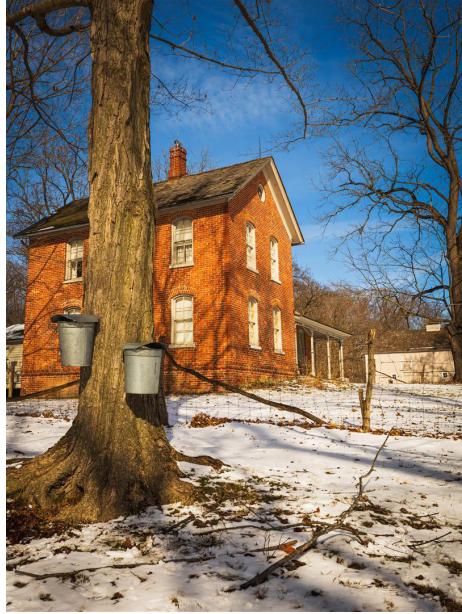
Calendars may be purchased at <https://www.digthedunes.com/product-page/2023-dig-the-dunes-calendar> or the Over Yonder gift shop in Beverly Shores.



January | Peggy Carter

Peggy has lived in this area for over 50 years and is amazed with all the beauty of the Indiana Dunes surrounding her. There is so much nature to photograph in this area. She belongs to the Duneland Photography Club and as a club they are always hiking the trails and taking beautiful photos.

They love the Dunes!!



March | Chad Howell

Chad was born and raised in Northwest Indiana. He works and lives in the area with his wife and two dogs. They spend as much time hiking around the Dunes as they can. Chad enjoys landscape and travel photography. Instagram

@chowellphotography_in



May | Terry Fairchild

Terry has been photographing nature for 50 plus years. He was a young teen when he received his first SLR camera, He immediately felt connected with his subjects. Landscapes, zoo animals, and backyard insects. It is a desire to share the beauty he sees with others.

Instagram
@fairchild_nature_images

Dave Lasagni



Dave W. Lasagni Photography



Memorial Opera House Headshots



On November 9th, Norman Turner led several members of the Duneland Photography Club in a Headshot Photo Shoot at the Memorial Opera House in Valparaiso.

The Duneland Photography Club team includes: Steve Bensing, Robert Evans, Tommy Gonzales, Mark Robinson, Henry Schultz,



Steve Bensing

Mary Schultz, and Norman Turner (team leader).

This was an opportunity to serve the community by getting photos for the upcoming production of *White Christmas*. It was also a teaching and learning opportunity for those who participated.



Steve Bensing



Norman Turner

Sandhill Crane Photshoot



In November, the migrating Sandhill Cranes congregate at the Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area. This make for some great

photo opportunities of these majestic birds.

Several members of the Duneland Photography Club traveled about

an hour to the observation point. Some went at sunrise; others around sunset.



Stephanie Tank



Yuli Soeter



Steve Bensing



Harry deCourcy



Jerry Straw



Steve Bensing



Jerry Straw



Yuli Soeter



For the month of November, the Duneland Photography Club filled the galleries of the Chesterton Art Center with their exhibit, "Visions of Reality."

Eighteen members displayed their work.

On November 4th, the Chesterton Art Center hosted an Artists' Reception for the Duneland Photography Club exhibit, Visions of Reality.

Participating members, along with other members, family, and friends

enjoyed the refreshments and art

Photo credit: Steve Bensing



Peggy Carter





Loralei Brown



John Roquet



Steve Bensing



Paul Ewing



Sharon Kerner



Deb Armstrong



Wayne Woodrich



Steve Bensing



Dawn Duty



George Kassal



Norman Turner



Carol Estes and Peggy Carter



Max Dust



Suzan Perry



Susan and James Kirt



Carter's Corner



Kim Long

Kim went to West Virginia the 1st week of October to visit the boyfriend's family. They visited New River Gorge and Hawks Nest. On October 21, they close the bridge and BASE jump ... including a catapulting off the bridge (google it). There are crazy videos on it.



First picture is the bridge and the other two are Hawks Nest. And they went to Mears, Michigan (Silver Lake Sand Dunes and Little Sable Lighthouse) for a birthday August 27.



Steve Bensing

Steve took a trip in October to Connecticut and New York. In Connecticut, he visited family and took fall photos.

Note the cemetery photo. New York City also provided photo ops.

Steve taught a 6-year-old nephew, Max, photography high atop the One World Center. He got to meet celebrities, do street photography, and photograph impressive structures with great views.



Member Photos



Lorelei Brown



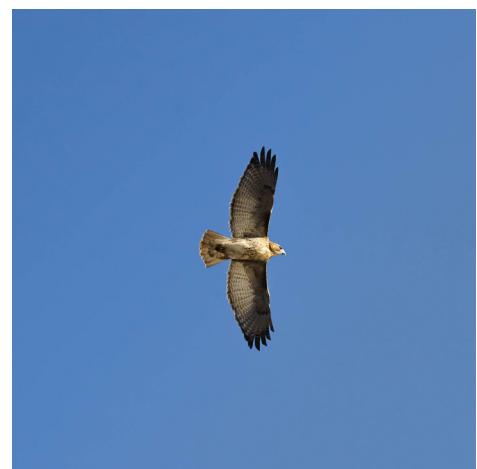
Bob Capen



Dave Lasayko



Dave Lasayko



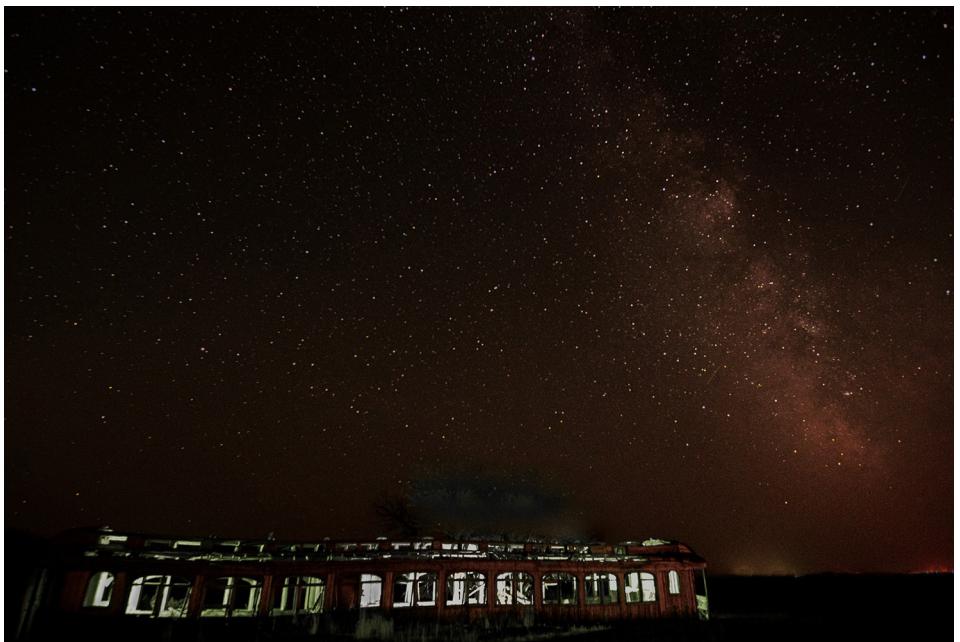
Mark Robinson



Harry deCourcy



Beth Forbes



Terry Fairchild



Simona Podlecki



Des Kashyap



Teresa Sheppard



Sheila Hatthon Stephenson



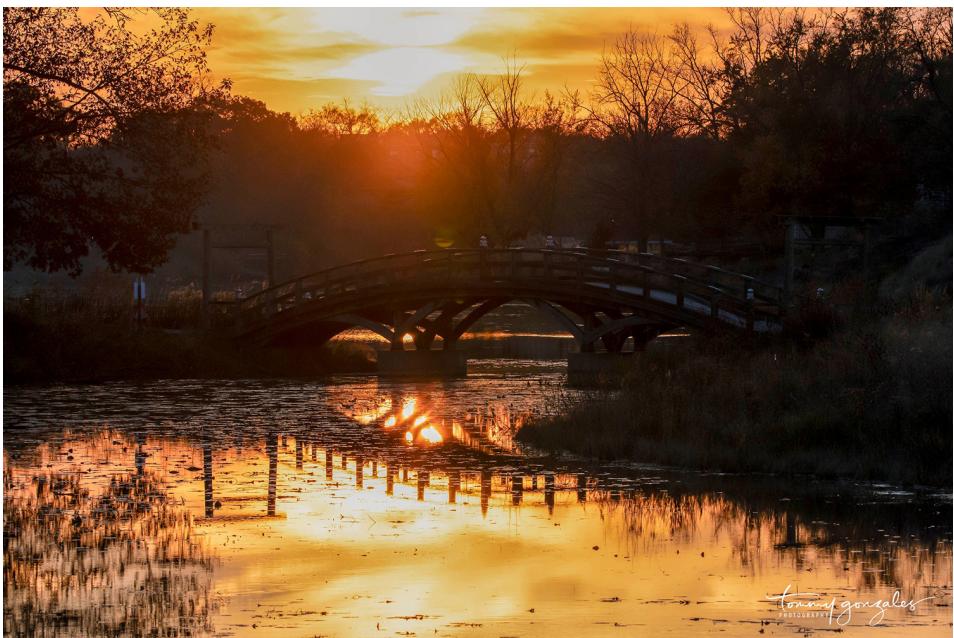
Terry Fairchild



Stephanie Tanke



Harry deCourcy



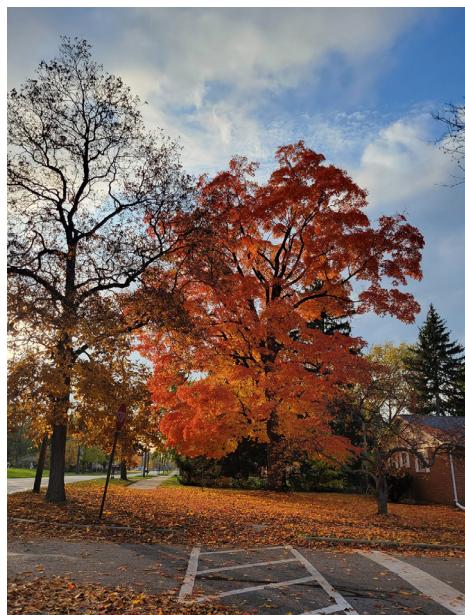
Tommy Gonzales



Vanessa Shaffer



Kim Long



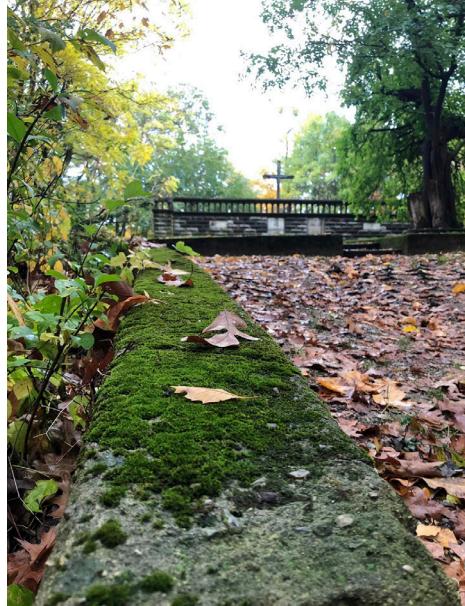
Suzan Perry



Paul Ewing



Deb Stipp



Kristy Murray



Bob Capen



Yuli Soeter



Des Kashyap



Upcoming Club Events / Photo Opportunities



Ongoing Monthly

- Take photos at Porter County Parks for upcoming calendar. Submit (up to) three high resolution photos to DunelandPhotographyClub@gmail.com with subject line of **PARKS CALENDAR**. Include the name of the park where each of the photos was taken.
- Submit items of personal or family news for **CARTER'S CORNER** to DunelandPhotographyClub@gmail.com with the subject line of **CARTER'S CORNER**.
- Submit **MEMBER NEWS** of photography interest for the newsletter to DunelandPhotographyClub@gmail.com with the subject line of **NEWSLETTER**.

Wednesday, November 29
10 am-4 pm

- Artwork pickup
 - Chesterton Art Center
 - 115 S Fourth Street
 - Chesterton, Indiana

Saturday, December 2 / 1-6 pm

- Santa Photo Shoot
 - Sunset Hill Farm County Park
 - 775 Meridian Road
 - Valparaiso, Indiana

Tuesday, December 5 / 5:30-9 pm

- 5:30-7 pm | Mentoring
- 7-9 pm | Monthly Club Meeting; Election of officers
- 5 Minute Tip | Sharon Kerner
- Christmas party
- Photos taken throughout the year will play on screen
- Last day to purchase backing boards

Saturday, December 9 / 10 am

- Lake County Photo Club
 - Deep River Park County Park
 - 9410 Old Lincoln Highway
 - Hobart, Indiana

Saturday, December 9 / Noon-2 pm

- Reception for Member Show
 - Chesterton Art Center
 - 115 S Fourth Street
 - Chesterton, Indiana

Saturday, December 16 / 5 pm

- Holiday Lights
 - Sunset Hill Farm County Park
 - 775 Meridian Road
 - Valparaiso, Indiana

Thursday, December 28 / 5 pm

- Deadline to send in Show & Tell "Favorite Photos of 2023"
- Email DunelandPhotographyClub@gmail.com with subject **FAVORITE PHOTOS**

Tuesday, January 2 / 6 pm

- ZOOM
- 6-8 pm | Indianapolis photographer, Scott Kinzie, will be discussing topic "Selling your Photography: Art Fairs and Galleries vs. Online Sales"
- Show & Tell "Favorite Photos of 2023"

Friday, January 12 / 8:30 am-4:30 pm

- Deadline to submit photos for the Porter County Master Gardener's Photo Contest
- 8x10's on backing board (no frames or mats)
- Cooperative Extension Office, 155 Indiana Avenue, Suite 301, Valparaiso, Indiana

