

# Duneland

## PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB



Meetings held at

**SUNSET HILL FARM COUNTY PARK**

**Horton Educational Center**

755 Meridian Road

Valparaiso, Indiana

1st Tuesday of the month / 6-8 pm

## January 2024

President | STEVE BENSING

Vice-President | TERRY FAIRCHILD

Treasurer | DAN RUGGABER

Secretary | PATRICE LAWSON

Assistant Secretary | TERESA MCGINLEY

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 |

Webmaster/Zoom Master | JOHN MOORE

Mentor Coordinator | TERRY FAIRCHILD

Projectionist/Meeting Tech | ROBERT EVANS

## CONTENTS

January Meeting.....	1
President's Corner .....	1
December Meeting Festivities .....	2
Porter County Park Calendar .....	4
Kudos .....	4

Holiday Card from Gordon Wilder .....	5
In Memorium: Tommy Gonzales .....	6
Carter's Corner .....	7
Member Photos .....	7
Happenings.....	10

## January Meeting

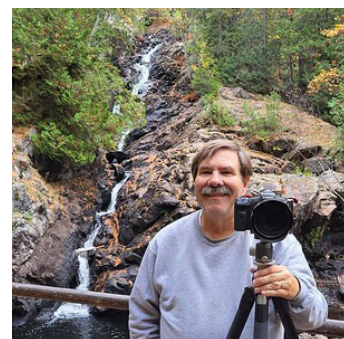
Scott Kinzie, an Indianapolis photographer, and member of the Photo Venture Camera Club, will speak to our club in January regarding "Selling your Photography: Art Fairs and Galleries vs Online Sales."

He will discuss getting started, what sells, time and costs, and pricing. Check out his work at <https://www.scottkinzie.com>. You can also sign up for his free newsletter which has great photo tips.

The meeting will be via Zoom. Duneland Photography Club members will receive a link.

Scott shares the following about himself:

"Hi. I am a nature and wildlife photographer from central Indiana. I enjoy exhibiting the many nature scenes that the Midwest has to offer. While most of my images are from Indiana and surrounding states, I love to travel and explore other photographic opportunities as well. I am retired from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, am a member of the North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA) and a past president and current member of Photo Venture Camera Club of Indianapolis. While I try to keep my photographs as real as possible, there are a few that have been edited for a more artistic effect. I will never add subject matter into a photograph that was not there when the image was taken. I like to say, "What you see is what I saw".



## President's Corner: Steve Bensing



This is an edited version of my first President's Corner, written in 2015. Though much has changed over these years, a lot of the thoughts are the same. Here is a photo taken that year at Washington Park in Michigan City.

Well, a new year has started, giving us new opportunities, while building on what has gone before. I am happy to continue to serve as your president and look forward to an exciting year for the Duneland Photography Club.

As a club we have had a wonderful 2023. Due to the participation of many, we have grown as a group with many interests, but a common purpose. With great participation of all of you, we have had a lot of fun and learned much. Our philosophy as a club will continue to be to help each other grow and become better photographers. We all have something to offer to each other.

It is my goal to build on what we have done in the past. I want to continue to encourage everyone to participate as much as possible. I know that I have learned a lot from many of you. No matter what your level of experience or expertise in photography, you have something to offer. We have those who are just beginning to really get into photography, all the way up to those who have done it for many years. We also have many interests, from those who take photos to document their family life, to those who make a living in photography. Whatever your level or interest, we all benefit from what you have to offer. We have many members who mentor. Take advantage of their expertise.

I'd like to challenge each of us to become better photographers this year.

Think of yourself as an artist. Think of photography as part of the broader art community. Look for opportunities to improve your techniques, both with the camera, and with processing your images. Look for opportunities to photograph new subjects or old subjects in new ways. Learn how to better express in a photo the idea or subject you want to convey effectively and in an aesthetically pleasing way. Look for ways to share your work, your creativity, your art, with others. We are planning for more exhibitions, even for those who have never done it before!

The Duneland Photography Club can be better than ever, as we all grow together! Doing and learning and accomplishing and helping others and the community is the joy of photography!

Steve Bensing  
*President*



## December Meeting Festivities

The December meeting of the Duneland Photography Club was our annual Christmas Party!

The event was planned by Georganna Edmonds and included pizza, and gift and cookie exchanges.

Henry Schultz brought a Christmas backdrop and Des Kashyap brought lights so we could have fun with selfies.

Annual elections were also held with the following to serve in 2024:

- Steve Bensing, President
- Terry Fairchild, Vice-President
- Dan Ruggaber, Treasurer
- Patrice Lawson, Secretary.

Thanks to all who who participated.







# Porter County Parks December Calendar



Steve Bensing | 1st Place  
Sunset Hill Farm Park



Deb Stipp | 2nd Place  
Brincka Cross Gardens



Christina Wagner | 3rd Place  
Brincka Cross Gardens

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

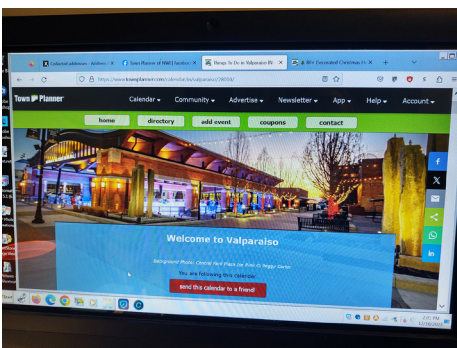
Brookdale Park | 919 N 50 W, Chesterton

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

## Kudos

### Peggy Carter

Peggy had her photo of the Urschel Pavilian chosen by the Town Planner as the cover photo for their Valparaiso page on their website. Congratulations, Peggy!



### Tommy Gonzalez

Tommy's photo of fireworks above the Library as the Christmas tree was lit up in Chicago was seen on WGN Channel 9 News (Chicago).

Also featured on WGN-TV (Weather) was a photo of a bluejay .



Do you have a "kudo" coming your way? Be sure we know about it ... submit your photo and information to us at sbensing@juno.com.



Steve Bensing

The 2024 Town Planner Calendars were just released. Steve Bensing had

his photo "Sunflower Field" chosen for the cover of the Valparaiso

edition. You can enter your photos for the 2025 Calendar at <https://www.townplanner.com/event/607598/>



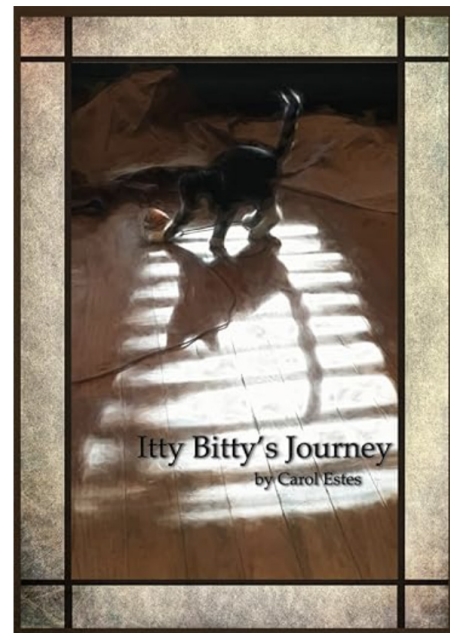
Carol Estes

Carol is a children's book author! You can purchase "Itty Bitty" on Amazon. Here's a brief summary of the content!

Itty Bitty was a failure to thrive. With patience and courage, Itty Bitty became a gritty kitty who truly rules the house.

It is a wonderful "tail", written for First Graders, but everyone will smile.

The story is true. Minutes after a delivery notification, I found four kittens sitting halfway up the yard under a tulip tree. Two more were rescued out of the pole barn the next morning. So, the journey began.



## Holiday Card from Gordon Wilder

My holiday card to ALL my friends for this year. This year the pix are secular and I tried to include ALL my friends whatever your belief or non belief.

The large picture is our front yard where we lived for 58 years, where our children grew up and so many,

many memories. The smaller picture below was taken through our back window and the two pictures appearing on both sides is of the entrance to where I now live.

My best to all of you.





# In Memorium, Tommy Gonzales

Duneland Photography Club member Tommy Gonzales passed away on December 16th.

Tommy took up photography a few years ago after he retired and joined the Club in January 2022.

Tommy was interested in landscape, birds, and music, as well as cityscapes and street photography

He learned his craft well, and was able to share his knowledge with fellow photographers. In August 2022, Tommy gave a presentation to the Duneland Photography Club on Concert Photography, sharing his experience and insight.

His last activity with the club was to join the headshots photoshoot at the Memorial Opera House in November. Also in November, he had one of his bird photos featured on WGN Weather and a photo of the fireworks at the Christmas tree lighting in Chicago shown on WGN News.

Tommy Gonzales was loved and appreciated by his fellow photo club members and will be missed.







## Carter's Corner

### Margaret Hubrich

Margaret was at the Holly Jolly swim meet hosted by Valpo swim club, it was also her first time taking pictures as a swim club photographer.

She used to take pictures of her daughters from the bleachers, high and far, but this time she got wet with lots of action shots that she loved, pictures of coaches and volunteers, pictures of their teammates, and the moments they smiled and cheered for each other.



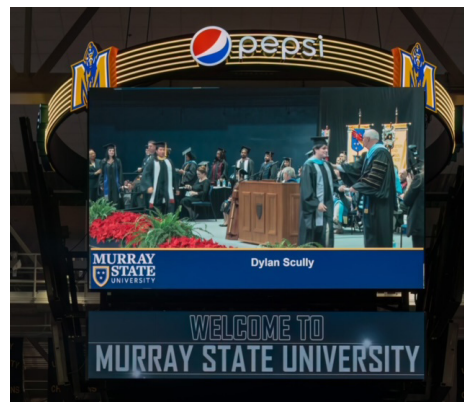
### Steve Zensing

Steve had his brother Bill visit from Peru during the week of Thanksgiving. They visited Red Cup in Chesterton and White Fence Farm in Romeoville, Illinois along with their cousin Gaye and her husband Mike from Naperville, Illinois, and brother Doug from Mt. Prospect, Illinois.



### Joyce Sully

Joyce and Bob went to Kentucky to watch their son receive his masters degree. They are very proud of him.



## Member Photos



Peggy Carter



Krista Murray



Sheila Hathhorn Stephenson





Dave Lasayko



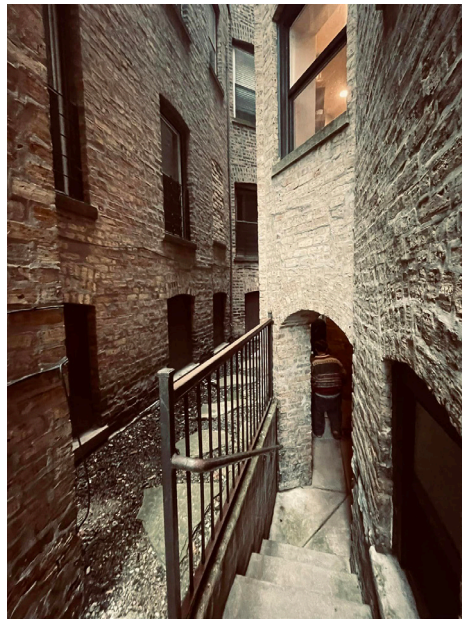
Vanessa Shaffer



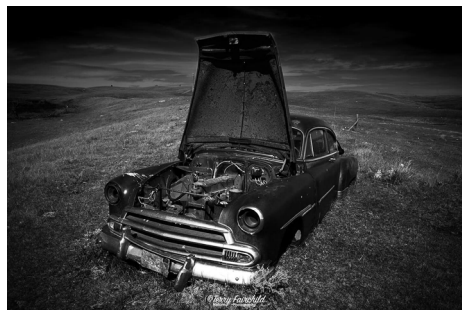
Jerry Straw



Carol Estes



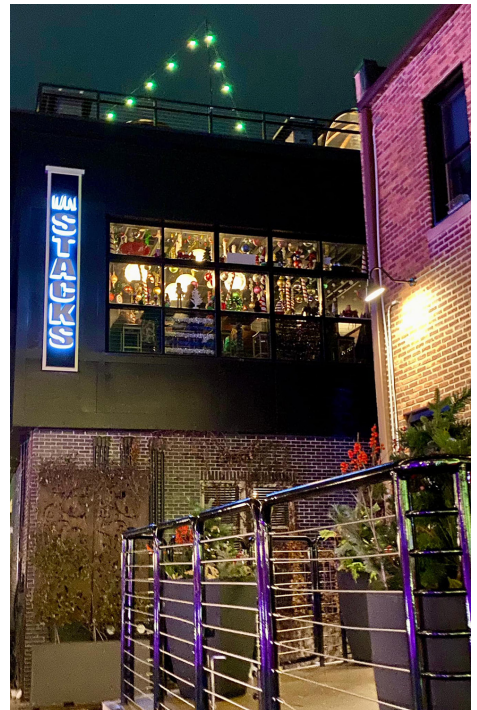
Vanessa Shaffer



Terry Fairchild



Julius Titak



Loralei Brown



Terry Fairchild





Teresa McGinley



Des Kashyap



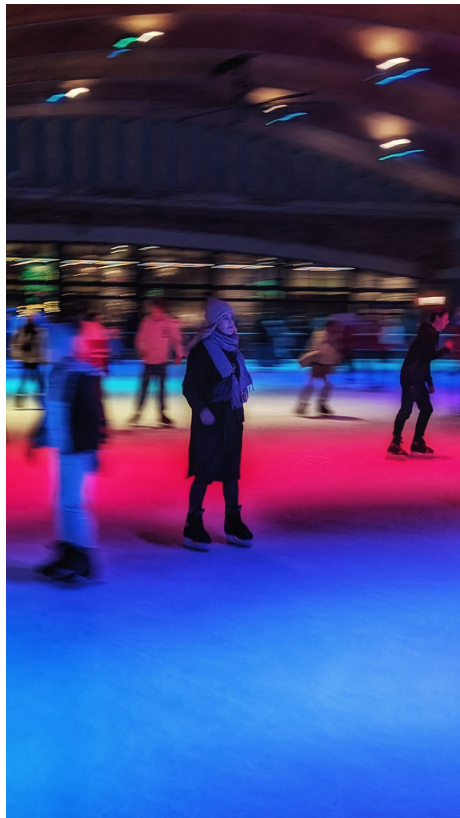
Dawn Duty



Sheila Hathhorn Stephenson



John Moore



John Moore



Joyce Scully



Margaret Hubrich



Mark Robinson



Henry Schultz



# 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 nexs 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**.

## 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 / 6-8 pm

### Via ZOOM

- 6-8 pm | Monthly Club Meeting
- Indianapolis photographer, Scott Kinzie, will be discussing the topic, "Selling your Photography: Art Fairs and Galleries vs. Online Sales."
- Show and Tell, "Favorite Photos of 2023." Send photos, by December 28, to DunelandPhotographyClub@gmail.com with subject, "Favorite Photos"

## Thursday, January 4 / 5 pm

- Victor Grimes Exhibit in his memory
- SIP Cafe
- 2815 Jewett Avenue
- Highland, Indiana

## 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



## Saturday, January 20 / 8 am-4 pm

- Annual Gardening Show
- Porter County Expo Center
- 215 E Division Street
- Valparaiso, Indiana

## Saturday, January 27 / 5 pm

- Night Lights and Ice Skating
- Central Park Plaza by Urschel Pavilion
- 63 Lafayette Street
- Valparaiso, Indiana

## Tuesday, February 6 / 6-8 pm

- 5:00 pm | Mentoring
- 6-8 pm | Monthly Club Meeting
- Gordon Wilder will present a slideshow of his work, a trip to Washington, DC with Norman Turner
- Show and Tell, winter or holiday photos; bring on a thumb drive