


Duneland

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Meetings held at
SUNSET HILL FARM COUNTY PARK
Horton Educational Center
 755 Meridian Road
 Valparaiso, Indiana
 1st Tuesday of the month / 5-8 pm



NOVEMBER 2024

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| President STEVE BENSING | Exhibit Organizer DINA HEIJSELAAR | Newsletter TERESA SHEPPARD |
| Vice-President TERRY FAIRCHILD | Program Coordinator | Special Events PEGGY CARTER |
| Treasurer DAN RUGGABER | New Member Rep SUZAN PERRY | Webmaster/Zoom Master JOHN MOORE |
| Secretary PATRICE LAWSON | Parks Dept. Rep. BARB RUSS | Mentor Coordinator TERRY FAIRCHILD |
| Assistant Secretary TERESA MCGINLEY | Public Relations PEGGY CARTER | Projectionist/Meeting Tech ROBERT EVANS |

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NOVEMBER MEETING

The Duneland Photography Club meets the first Tuesday of each month.

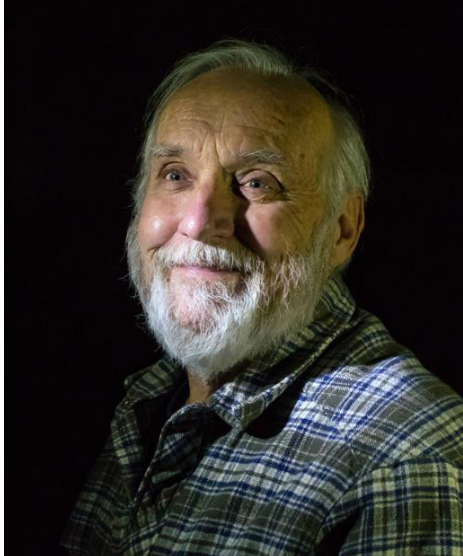
The November 5th meeting will be held at 6:00pm at the Sunset Hill Farm County Park. The club will meet in the white Program Center south of the "grain bin". Doors open at 5:00pm for mentoring and individual help.

Robert Evans will be sharing a video presentation on "Introduction to

HDR Photography." This is a follow-up on ideas to make your photos special.

There will also be a Show and Tell time on the topic "The Wow Factor."

In October, members of the club did take photos at the "Trunk or Treat" event at Sunset Hill Farm. They also did a fall photoshoot at the Indiana Dunes National Park, including Bailey Homestead and Chellberg Farm.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Each of us has some type of camera equipment, whether it is a cell phone, film camera, DSLR, or mirrorless digital camera. Do you know all the capabilities of your camera? Do you take advantage of all your camera can do? Or do you just use the auto settings and take just what the camera gives you?

I once met a photographer who intentionally uses old or cheap cameras to challenge himself to be creative. He took the oldest DSLR he had on a photo shoot. It did not have the latest bells and whistles. He was forced to work around the limitations of his equipment, but ended up with some very creative images. On the other hand, I met someone a few years ago that had a collection of very expensive cameras that gathered dust because he did not know how to use them.

Will having a new camera with more advanced features make you a better photographer? Or will mastering the equipment you have help you learn techniques that you weren't aware of? I am sure I don't even know half of the features that exist on my cameras, let alone use them. Maybe we

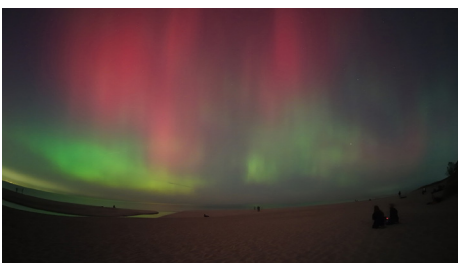
can challenge ourselves to learn something new with what we have until we really have the need for more advanced equipment?

To me, the camera is a tool to create an image. The most important part of making that image is the vision, imagination, and skill of the photographer. I believe I can create memorable art with a \$10 disposable camera. The key is to understand the capabilities and limitations of the tool I am using.

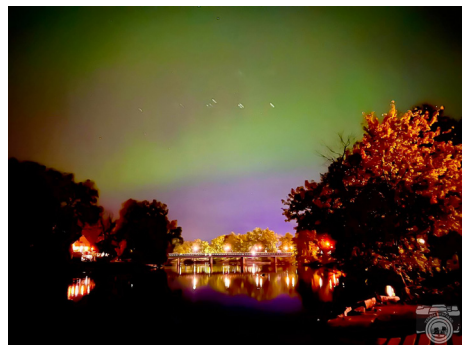
Be thankful for the opportunities you have. At the Duneland Photography Club, we strive to help each other grow as photographers. Don't be content with what you know today. Learn more each day and challenge yourself to try something new!

Steve Bensing
President

November is the month of Thanksgiving. It is a time to reflect and be thankful for what we have. Sometimes as photographers we are tempted to always be looking for more. We want the latest camera, that new lens, or that photography gadget. We can learn to be content with what we have as far as equipment goes. But we can also want more in our abilities or the qualities of the photos we create.



John Moore



Teresa Sheppard



Wendy Vander Kooi

OCTOBER MEETING RECAP

Steve Bensing was the Program Presenter

Steve presented information on the "Wow" factor. Steve's examples of what to keep in mind when taking photos that would have elements in them to create images that have a Wow effect were very helpful.

Steve explained how composition, perspective, and color balance can all be used to make an image so interesting that we would say Wow.

He told us that he is always on the watch for what he calls a serendipitous happening. He also shared how techniques such as using HDR and styles of editing can also make a big difference in how the final image we take can look. Great ideas and advice was shared. We should tell a story with our photos, make them unique and make them our own style.



KUDOS

October 19th was an amazing evening of fine art and great conversations at the Artists' Guild of Valparaiso. The judge was Post-Tribune columnist Phil Potempa, who did a brilliant job explaining exactly why he chose the winners that he chose.

Four members of the Duneland Photography Club participated: Dina Heijeslaar, Lorelei Brown, Carol Estes, and Steve Bensing. Pictured are some of their work:

Dina Heijeslaar with "Who Are You," Lorelei Brown with "Gathering at the Driftwood," Carol Estes with "Save Me: Bee Cause," and Steve Bensing with "Wolf Play." Carol was awarded 1st Place, and Steve got a 3rd Place.

Please do yourself a favor and see this show before it's gone!

The show continues at 255 and 257 Indiana Ave. in Valparaiso through November 14th.



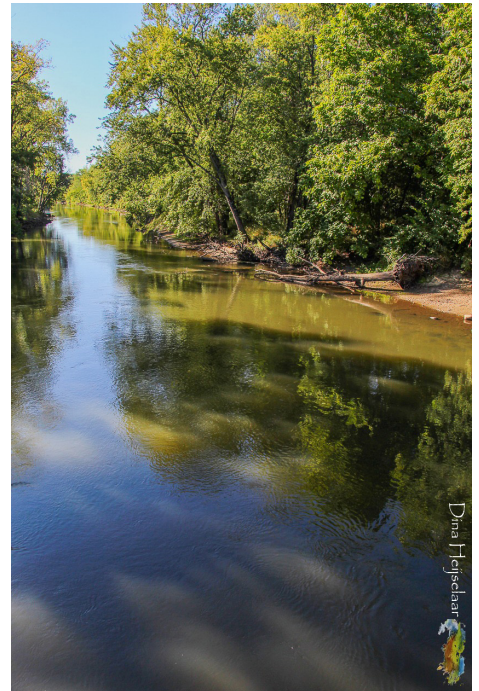
PORTER COUNTY PARKS CALENDAR



Jamie Spurr | 1st Place
Brincka Cross Gardens



Peggy Carter | 2nd Place
Brincka Cross Gardens



Dina Heijseler

Dina Heijseler | 3rd Place
Dunn's Bridge

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

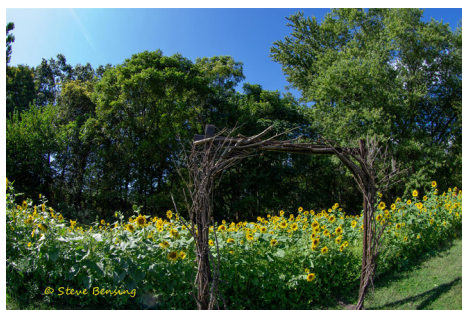
Brookdale Park | 919 N 50 W, Chesterton

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

SUNFLOWERS AT THE ART BARN

In September, members of the Duneland Photography Club enjoyed the sunflowers at the Art Barn.

In attendance were: Steve Bensing, Sandra Teutemacher, Max Dust, Melissa Brussa, and Suzan Perry (not pictured in the group photo). Photos by Steve Bensing.



© Steve Bensing



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© Steve Bensing



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TRUNK AND TREAT



Stephanie Tanke



Patrice Lawson



Patrice Lawson



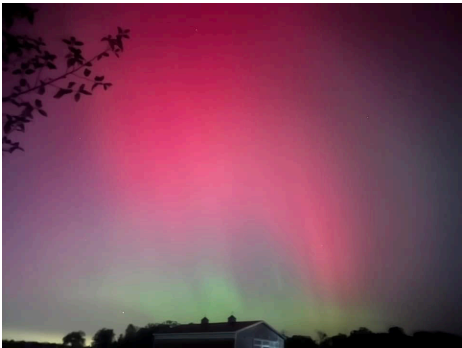
Patrice Lawson



Patrice Lawson



Stephanie Tanke



Dawn Duty



Teresa McGinley



Jerry Straw



CARTER'S CORNER

Teresa Sheppard

At the end of September, Teresa travels to Wyoming by way of Yellowstone National Park and the Grand Tetons. The highlight is Pug Roundup in Lander, Wyoming.

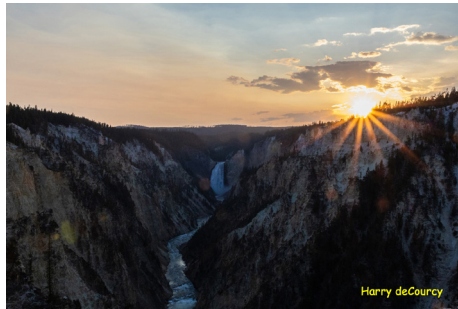
Teresa's travels took her through western North Dakota with a side trip down the Enchanted Highway, an artwork installation of oversized sculptures. It truly is enchanting.

Here is Sadie (my travel companion) posing with the family (one of my favorite in the 15-mile journey).



Nancy and Harry deCourcy

Nancy and Harry returned from a two week road trip to Yellowstone National Park. They spent seven days in the park photographing wildlife and the iconic YNP sites.



Teresa McGinley

Teresa's daughter was married on October 5th at Duneland falls Banquet Center in Chesterton. She was a stunning bride and they are patiently waiting for the professional pictures. Here is one Teresa took..



Steve Bensing

Steve recently attended his 50th High School Reunion for Waukegen (IL) High School. He was the official photographer for the event and was on the reunion planning committee. He shot the class group photo indoors, using some lighting advice from Norman Turner. A highlight for the Reunion Weekend was the opening of a Time Capsule that class members buried in 1974. Pictured are photos

of digging it up and viewing the contents when it was first opened (by classmates who originally contributed to the time capsule). It included a lot of memorabilia, including a cassette tape of music from the 1970's (including the song "School's Out" by Alice Cooper)!



Submit items of personal or family news for **CARTER'S CORNER** to DunelandPhotographyClub@gmail.com with the subject line of **CARTER'S CORNER**.

Sherry Holt

Sherry, and her husband Rod, visited Glacier National Park at the end of September. Montana's landscape is breathtaking; they don't call it the "Big Sky State" for nothing. Enjoyed some hiking and wildlife in the park; black bear, big horn sheep, a band of mountain goats, three new birds for Sherry's lifer bird list, and a herd of Pronghorn on the prairie. They hope they have the chance to return!



Rob O'Dea

Rob and his wife visited several locations in Arizona. The photo was taken at Submarine Rock in Sedona. Also visited were the Grand Canyon and Tombstone.



Yuli Soeter

Yuli and her husband, Ben, traveled to Iceland this past late September.

Iceland is known as the "land of fire and ice" because of the dramatic contrasts that include 30 active volcanoes and some of Europe's largest glaciers. It did not disappoint! Aging lava fields are everywhere. This contrasted with large grassy fields speckled with sheep, plots of colorful shrubs and dwarf birch trees. Stands of evergreens were even more beautiful in this environment. During their visit, they saw many waterfalls. Waterfalls with names like Gullfoss, Seljalandsfoss, and Skogafoss. Yuli and Ben walked between the abducting North American and Eurasian tectonic plates, climbed volcanic craters, hiked canyons and lava fields, and visited Vatnajökull and Thingvellir National Parks. Giant glaciers and their lagoons with floating glacier fragments were indeed a visually unforgettable experience.

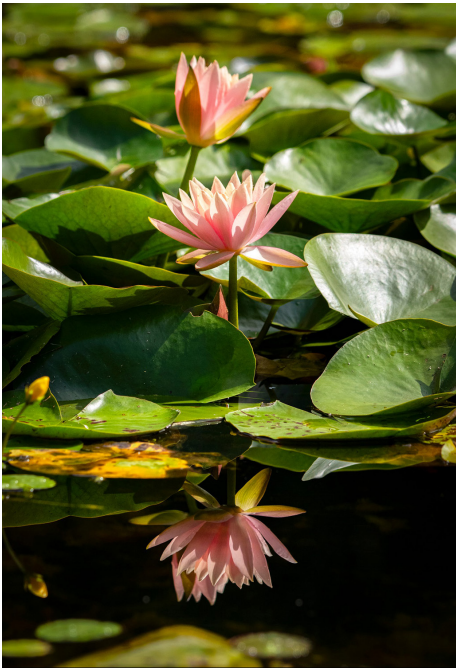
As an added benefit they had conversations with fellow tourists from around the world and included visitors from places such as Portugal, Spain, Germany, Malaysia, China, The Philippines, Singapore, Iceland, and others. Everyone was friendly as we shared

our common experience.

Iceland truly is the land of fire and ice. It's a place of raw natural invigorating beauty. It is certainly a place that should be high on one's bucket list!



MEMBER'S PHOTOS



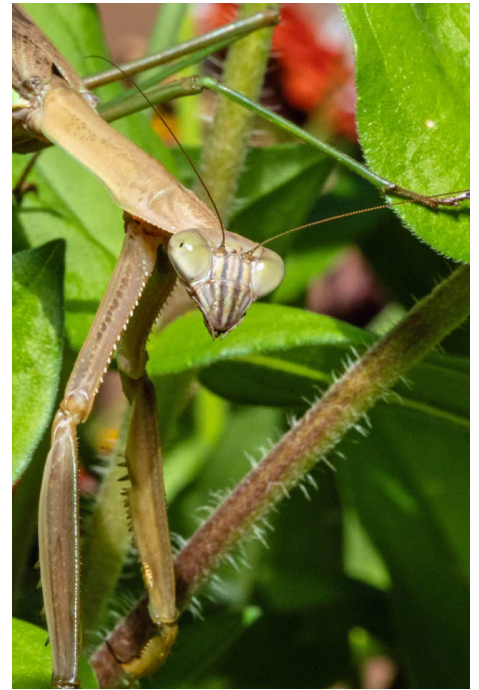
Bob Capen



John Moore



Paul Ewing



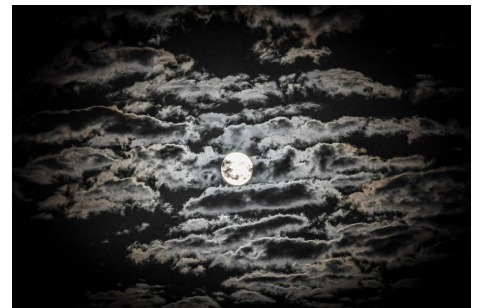
Harry de Courcy



Mark Robinson



Linda Camp



Vanessa Shaffer



Simona Podlecki



Sheila Hatthorn Stephensoni



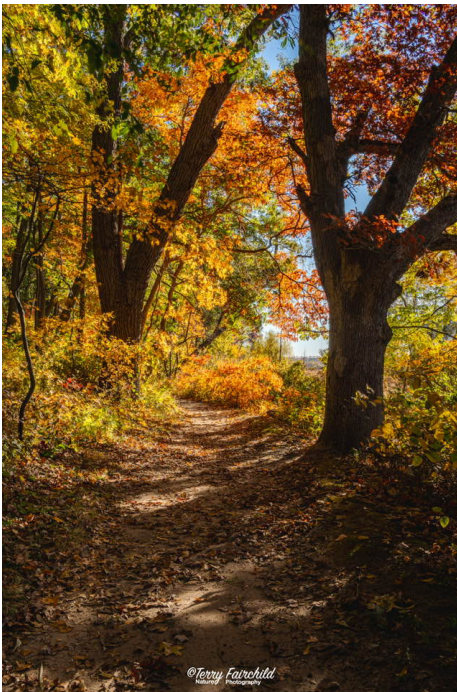
Wendy Vander Kooi



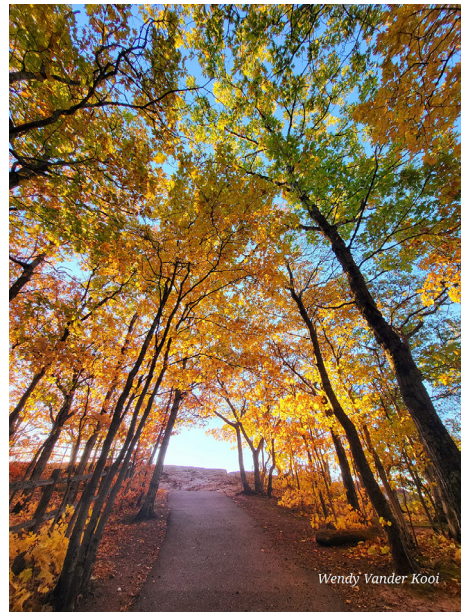
Des Kashyap



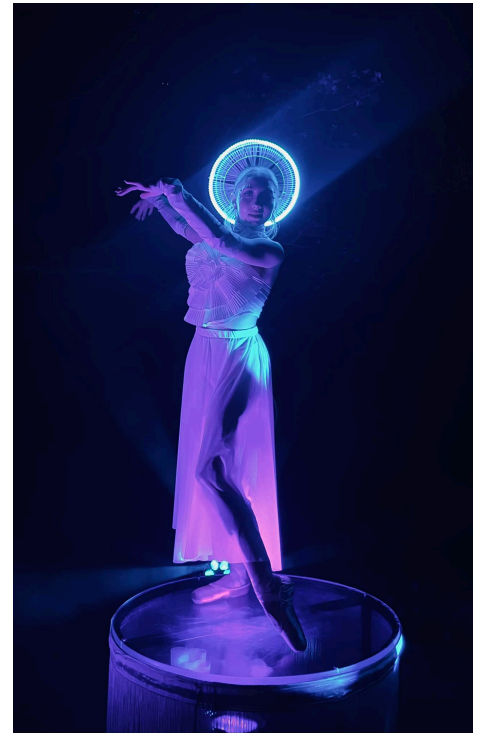
Wendy Vander Kooi



Terry Fairchild



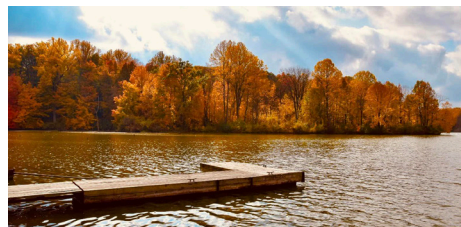
Wendy Vander Kooi



Vanessa Shaffer



Julius Titak



Sheila Hathhorn Stephenson



Paul Ewing



Teresa Sheppard

HAPPENINGS

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**.

Tuesday, November 5 / 5-8pm

- 5:00 pm | Mentoring
- 6-8 pm | Monthly Club Meeting
- Meet in Program Center (due to election)
- Meeting topic, "Introduction to HDR"
- Nomination of Officers
- Show and Tell | The "WOW" Factor" bring photos on a thumb drive

Thursday, November 7 / 6:30 pm

- Headshots
- Memorial Opera House
- 104 Indiana Avenue, Valparaiso

Friday, November 15 / 4-7 pm

- Drop-offs
- Artists' Guild of Valparaiso
- www.agofvalpo.com

Saturday, November 16 / 7 pm

- Reception
- Artists' Guild of Valparaiso
- www.agofvalpo.com

Saturday, November 23 / 3 pm

- Sandhill Cranes
- Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife
- 5822 Fish and Wildlife Lane
- Medaryville, Indiana

Saturday, November 30 / 5 pm

- Twilight Parade
- Hometown Holiday Celebration
- Chesterton, Indiana

Tuesday, December 3 / 5-8pm

- 5:00 pm | Mentoring
- 5:30-8 pm | Monthly Club Meeting
- Duneland Photography Club Christmas Party
- Election of Officers
- Show and Tell | Photos from the 2024 will display on the screen

Saturday, December 14 / 1-6 pm

- Santa Photoshoot
- Sponsors: 1-3 pm
- Public: 4-6 pm
- Sunset Hill

TBD

- Holly Days, Valparaiso
- Christmas Lights