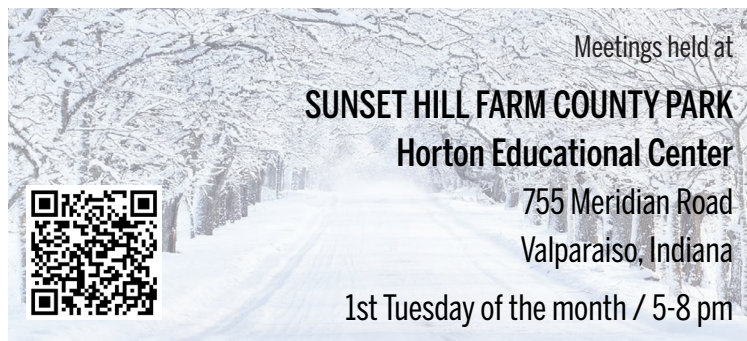


Duneland

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB



JANUARY 2025

President | STEVE BENSING

Vice-President | TERRY FAIRCHILD

Treasurer | DAN RUGGABER

Secretary | PATRICE LAWSON

Assistant Secretary | TERESA MCGINLEY

Exhibit Organizer | DINA HEIJSELAAR

Program Coordinator |

New Member Rep | SUZAN PERRY

Parks Dept. Rep. | BARB RUSS

Public Relations | PEGGY CARTER

Newsletter | TERESA SHEPPARD

Special Events | PEGGY CARTER

Webmaster/Zoom Master | JOHN MOORE

Mentor Coordinator | TERRY FAIRCHILD

Projectionist/Meeting Tech | ROBERT EVANS

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JANUARY MEETING

At the January 2025 meeting of the Duneland Photography Club, Kristina Knowski will be doing a presentation on "Framing Your Photography." Kristina is the owner and framer at the Ancillaerie Gallery and Frame Shop in Chesterton.

There will also be a Show and Tell time on the topic "Holiday Photos."

The Duneland Photography Club is a group of individuals helping each other to improve their photography skills through classes, photoshoots,

meetings, individual mentoring, community service, and other activities.

The Club meets the first Tuesday of each month. The January 7th meeting will be held at 6 pm at the Sunset Hill Farm County Park in the Horton Family Education Center. Doors open at 5 pm for mentoring and individual assistance.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



It's a new year, a new beginning. Five years ago, I wrote something like this, but I have modified it a bit. These words are always timely in a New Year. Some people make resolutions. I like to think of it as a great time to set goals. In the 365 days of 2025, what would you like to do, what would you like to become?

As members of the Duneland Photography Club, naturally, we take photos. Maybe you have a goal to take more pictures. But you might want to be more specific, like

challenging yourself to take at least one photo each day (Project 365), each week (Project 52), or at least a good picture every month (Photo of the Month). You might also set goals to take more of specific types of photos. Figure out ways to collect and share your work. Get feedback.

Another set of goals may be around learning something new, or learning to excel in a certain aspect of photography. Maybe you struggle with camera settings or the features of your camera and how they affect your photos. Make it a goal to learn how aperture, shutter speed and ISO work together and shoot more manual photos. Or you might want to experiment with 5–10 features on your camera that you have never used before.

Maybe you do great with the composition of landscapes. Get out of your comfort zone and shoot sports. If you understand how to use natural lighting, challenge yourself to learn how to take great portraits with artificial lighting. You may have no problem with daytime photography, but play with night photography, using what little light is available to make a dramatic image.

You may know enough about basic photo editing to get a good image. But you may want to take classes and practice to become a master of Photoshop or Lightroom or other tools. Learn more what you can do, using your camera and post-processing together, to get the image that you envision in your mind. Become an artist. Challenge yourself to show your work in at least one exhibit (like the ones our club is putting on this year) or enter a contest.

Finally, teach something you know to someone else. As a member of the Duneland Photography club, you know more than most people. Help them! Be a mentor. That is our goal, to help one another get better and enjoy our photography.

Steve Bensing
President



LEONARD MAK, IN MEMORIAM

We lost this wonderful man on December 1st. Leonard has been a member of our club since 2018.

Leonard was 81 years old and lived an amazing life. He was in the U.S. Navy and a proud member of the Operators Local 150, just to start. He married the love of his life,

Janice, in 1971 and they lived in DeMotte throughout their lives.

Leonard loved photography and the Duneland Photography Club. When his health allowed, he was at most of our club functions helping and giving people a hard time (all in fun).



DECEMBER MEETING RECAP

The December meeting of the Duneland Photography Club included our annual Christmas Party. We also honored the longtime service of Sharon Kerner to the club. We also re-elected our current officers for 2025, Steve Bensing - President, Terry Fairchild - Vice-President, Patrice Lawson - Secretary, and Dan Ruggaber - Treasurer.

The party included food, a cookie exchange, a white elephant gift

exchange, an “ugly” Christmas sweater contest, centerpiece prizes, and a holiday photo shoot.

Thanks to Peggy Carter for planning this event. Also thanks to Henry Schultz for the backdrop and Des Kashyap for the lighting. Sharon provided the frame.

These photos were taken by Des Kashyap. Thanks to everyone who participated!



PORTER COUNTY CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 14th members of the Duneland Photography Club volunteered to shoot photos of kids with Santa for the Porter County Parks Department.

Participating were: Robert Evans, Mark Zimmerman, Max Dust, Patrice Lawson, Stephanie Tanke, Dan Ruggaber, and Steve Bensing. Some did the Santa pics while others shot candids.

There were two sessions. One for Parks Sponsors from 1:00-3:00pm. The other was for the general public from 4:00-6:00pm.

Group photos and setup photos by Steve Bensing. Kids with Santa by Stephanie Tanke. Plus some of the activities - photos by Patrice Lawson.



Steve Bensing



Steve Bensing



Patrice Lawson



Patrice Lawson



Patrice Lawson



Patrice Lawson



Patrice Lawson



Patrice Lawson



Patrice Lawson



Patrice Lawson



PORTER COUNTY PARKS CALENDAR



Crystal Hollenbeck | 1st Place
Brincka Cross Gardens



Yuli Soeter | 3rd Place
Sunset Hill Farm Park



Teresa McGinley | 2nd 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

ARTISTS GUILD

On December 21st, several members of the Duneland Photography Club attended the reception for the December/January exhibit.

Steve Bensing, Deb Armstrong, Carol Estes, Lorelei Brown, Larry Brown, and Robert Evans attended. Steve, Deb, Carol, Lorelei, and Dina Heijselaar exhibited their work in the show, with Dina and Steve earning ribbons.



KUDOS

Dawn Duty

My photograph "Red Head in Spring" was selected for inclusion as part of the Braugher Center's new decor. There will be a reception in January after the center for our Westchester Public Library for all the photographers whose pictures were selected. I love our library!



Do you have something that needs to be announced to the group? Please submit to DunelandPhotographyClub@gmail.com with subject KUDOS.



CARTER'S CORNER

Steve Bensing

Steve joined his brother Bill in a week-long trip to Pasadena, California. Bill has volunteered as a member of the Tournament of Roses Committee since 1997. This year, Steve and his family came along to see the Rose Parade, view the Rose Bowl Game, and even be involved in some volunteer work. Bill's main assignment was Decorating Places,

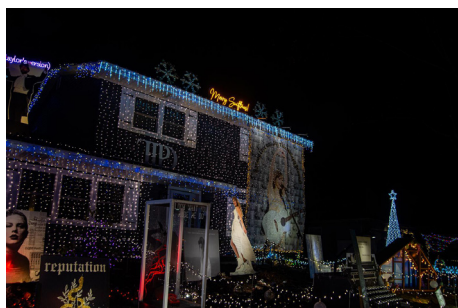
where the floats are built. Steve got to see this from the inside. His wife, Betty, enjoyed going to Manhattan Beach on the Pacific Ocean, along with sons Isaac and Silas. Steve and Silas saw Ohio State win the Rose Bowl.

The family also saw sights like the Griffith Observatory and what Steve called California Chickens (Peacocks) near their motel.



Peggy Carter

Peggy traveled with her daughter, Candi Jones, to Naperville, Illinois to see a house decorated with holiday lights that had a Taylor Swift theme. Candi is a big fan of Taylor Swift, so she asked her mother to join her there in mid-December. Here are some photos taken by Peggy.



Teresa Sheppard

Teresa made a quick trip to the Davenport, Iowa area to catch pictures of the eagles along the

Mississippi River. While the temperatures were warmer than usual, a few birds were still seen. A visit back in February is planned.



MEMBER'S PHOTOS



Vanessa Shaffer



Wendy Vander Kooi



Paul Ewing



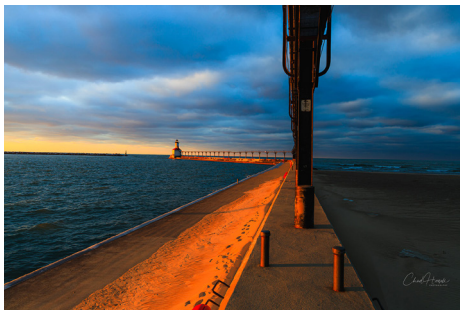
Julius Titak



Wendy Vander Kooi



Julius Titak



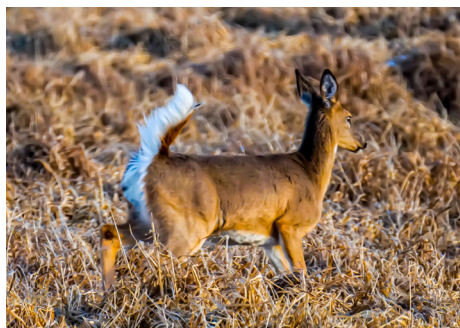
Chad Howell



Paul Ewing



John Moore



Paul Ewing



Teresa Sheppard



Wendy Vander Kooi



Jerry Straw



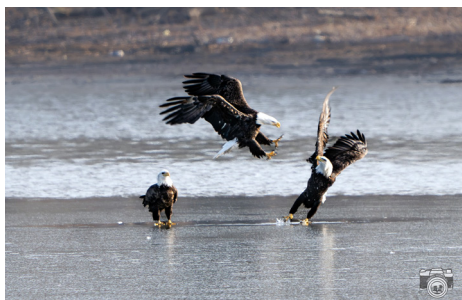
Paul Ewing



Teresa Sheppard



Jerry Straw



Teresa Sheppard



Terry Fairchild



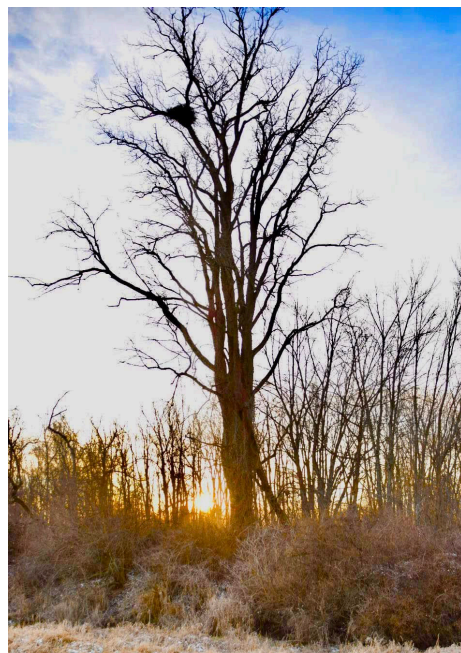
Wendy Vander Kooi



Sheila Hathhorn Stephenson



Teresa Sheppard



Sheila Hathhorn Stephenson

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, January 7 / 5-8pm

- 5:00 pm | Mentoring
- 6-8 pm | Monthly Club Meeting
- Meeting presenter & topic | Kristina Knowski, Framing
- Show and Tell | The "Holiday Photos" bring photos on a thumb drive

Friday, January 17 / 8:30am-4pm

- Deadline to submit photos for the Porter County Master Gardners Photography Contest. Cooperative Extension Office, 155 Indiana Avenue, Suite 301, Valparaiso

Friday, January 17 / 4-7pm

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

Saturday, January 18 / 7pm

- Artists' Guild of Valparaiso | Reception

Monday, January 20

- Winter Wonders exhibit at Art Barn | Entry Forms due to dunelandphotographyclub@gmail.com

Saturday, January 25 / 9am-4pm

- Annual Gardening Show | Porter County Expo Center

Friday, January 31 / 1-4 pm or Saturday, February 1 / 10am-1 pm

- Drop off artwork at Art Barn for the Winter Wonders exhibit

Tuesday, February 4 / 5-8pm

- 5:00 pm | Mentoring
- 6-8 pm | Monthly Club Meeting
- Meeting presenter & topic | Jim Rettker "How to do HDR"
- Show and Tell | "Winter Pictures" bring photos on a thumb drive

Friday, February 28 / 11am-4pm

- Pick up artwork at the Art Barn