

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

The Duneland Photography Club is a group of individuals helping each other improve their photography skills through classes, photoshoots, meetings, individual mentoring, community service, and other activities.

For more information, contact the club at DunelandPhotographyClub@gmail.com or find us on Facebook at facebook.com/dunelandphotoclub

SEPTEMBER 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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SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our September 2nd meeting will be lead by Max Dust on the topic, "Underwater Photography."

Max is an avid diver and underwater photographer and has traveled to many exciting places to capture his colorful underwater images.

Don't miss it!



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



I recently read an article by Jerry Davich, "Sorting fact from fiction in photos." He wrote about a man who saw a beautiful rainbow and asked his friend, a professional photographer, to take a picture of it. The photo taken by Don Becker was clear and brilliant. So, the question is, was that a true representation of the rainbow, or was it doctored?

This is a very important question these days. As we know, there are many ways to alter a photo. We can

even create something with artificial intelligence, AI, that doesn't even exist. Is it ok to alter images, and if so, when?

The purpose of the photo is a key factor in answering the question. If the photo is for documentary or photojournalistic purposes, we would need to be cautious. For example, Mr. Davich mentioned the famous photo of the Kent State shooting in 1970. A fence post was removed from behind the head of the girl kneeling over a victim in the published photo. Should photos of such an event be altered?

But another purpose for photography may be artistic. We may use editing tools to enhance the subject. If I take a portrait, and there is a post behind the head of my subject, I may want to edit it out to enhance the subject. On one of my canoe trips to Boundary Waters, I saw a beautiful rainbow. When I edited the photo, I used HDR to bring out the colors that were already there. To the human eye, I saw more than what the unedited view directly from the camera showed. Here are the original and edited images.

Some people believe that photos should not be edited. If you are a newspaper photographer capturing an event, or a forensic photographer

at a crime scene, the integrity of capturing reality is critical. Even cropping, lightening an image, or color correcting an image, can be done, but with care, so as not to misrepresent the subject. But for our art, we are creating the final image to tell a story.

At the Duneland Photography Club we encourage each other to tell the stories we photograph. Then we help each other to edit, or not.

Steve Bensing,
President



TERRY FAIRCHILD | COLOR OR BLACK/WHITE?



AUGUST MEETING RECAP

Program speaker for the meeting was Carol Estes. The topic was “Thinking outside the box, again. Science can be fun!”

Carol began the lesson by stating that all types of images can be made with items in the kitchen. Carol has experimented with film positives on a variety of leaves. She shared with us some amazing

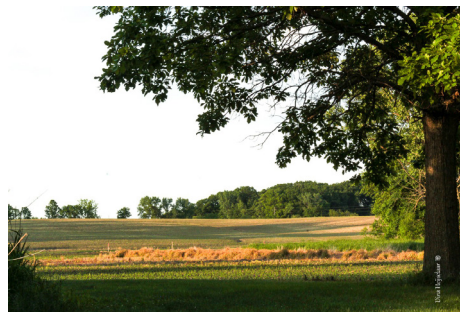
works that were made using hosta leaves and hydrangea leaves placed between glass and set in sunlight or under LED lights. She introduced us to Anthotypes, Lumin Prints, Cyanotypes, and Chlorophyll Printing. In addition to talking us through the processes she uses to create her work. She showed us her beautiful, creative art work.



PORTER COUNTY PARKS CALENDAR



Paul Ewing | 1st Place
Brincka Cross Gardens



Dina Heijselaar | 2nd Place
Brookdale Park



Steve Bensing | 3rd Place
Sunset Hill Farm 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 Bridge | 500 E (over the Kankakee River), Kouts

KUDOS

Steve Bensing and Carol Estes

Congratulations to a couple of our members who had work accepted in the 82nd Annual Salon Show for the South Shore Arts.

Carol Estes had her "Nature's Perfection" selected. This was the second year in a row that she had something chosen. Steve Bensing submitted work for the first time this year, and his piece, "Fair French Fries" was selected for the show.

The exhibition will be at South Shore Arts at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana. There will be an artist reception/awards presentation on Sunday, October 19 starting at 1:00pm. The exhibit will run from September 5th through November 9th, 2025.



Peggy Carter

Peggy traveled to Northern Wisconsin to attend a pancake breakfast at Camp Jörn.

While there she was able to take photos of a beautiful sunset and Friendship fire at camp.



Steve Bensing

Steve attended a concert near the old Lighthouse in Michigan City on beautiful summer evening. Joining him were his wife Betty, Peggy Carter, and other friends.

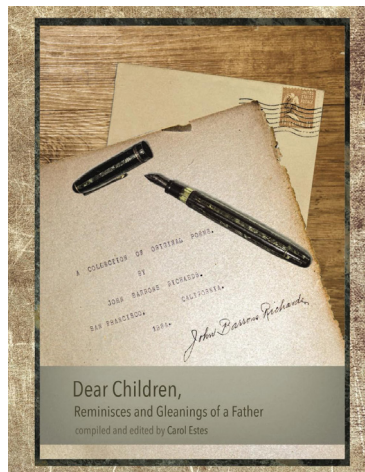
The group was Dancing Queen: A Salute to ABBA. They played all the hits, and had the crowd dancing.



Carol Estes

Carol wrote a book called Dear Children, Reminiscences and Gleanings of a Father. It is a historical perspective of one man's poetical renderings, life journey as a boy from Wales to San Francisco, where he met his sunset. It is a prolific desire to learn and pen his thoughts in story and verse.

Carol inherited a box of writings that were an amazing look thru the eye and pen of John Barrons Richards, her great grandfather. His family took the arduous journey on the Steamer Palestine from Wales when he was 14. They landed in Boston, and stepped onto American soil with flags at half-staff after President Garfield was shot in 1881.



He wrote religiously, documenting miners in Wales, family, and politics of the 1930's. He penned ruminations and reflections during those difficult years spent in San Francisco. He loved writing poetry and essays on literary greats, like Shakespeare, Sidney Lanier, and he references others. There were wonders, like the opening of the Golden Gate Bridge in 1937, and the Golden Gate International Exposition (World's Fair) in 1939. He had such a love for San Francisco. Introspective, and true to himself, he penned lyrical language far beyond his final school days at age 14. He stirs emotion, a nod to history, and passes on his life lessons.

Sharon Kerner

Trumpet Vine would like to welcome a new artist to their shop! Sharon Kerner has brought in a variety of beautiful photography, some framed and some matted

Stop in and check out her photography!

Trumpet Vine Garden and Gift Shop is located at 1430 S US 41, Morocco, Indiana. It is open Tuesday through Friday from 9am-3 pm.



BUTTERFLY RELEASE

On August 3rd, Jamie Spurr led a Butterfly Release at Coffee Creek Nature Preserve in Chesterton. Jamie raises Monarchs, and had a number of them ready to release

Besides Jamie, the following attended the photoshoot: Julius (Bud) Titak and his wife Deb; Stephanie Tanke; Patrice Lawson; Barb Russ, and her daughter Sofia.



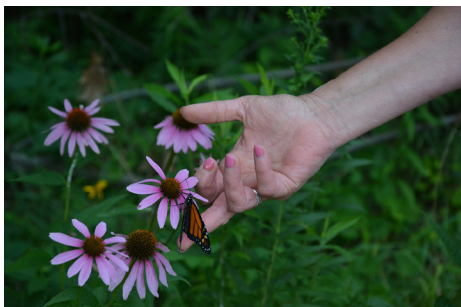
Jamie Spurr



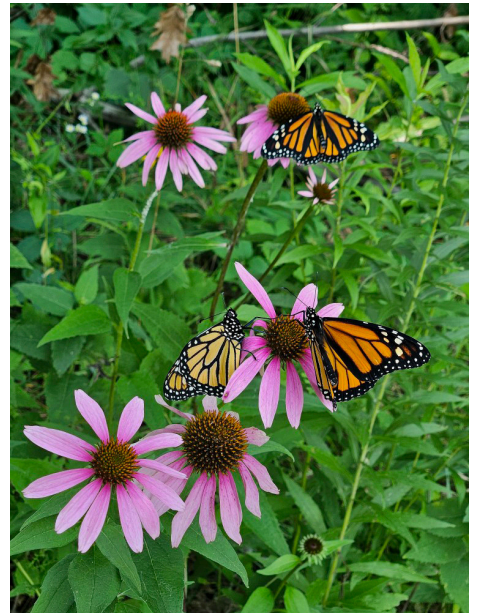
Patrice Lawson



Barb Russ



Barb Russ



Stephanie Tanke



Jamie Spurr



Barb Russ

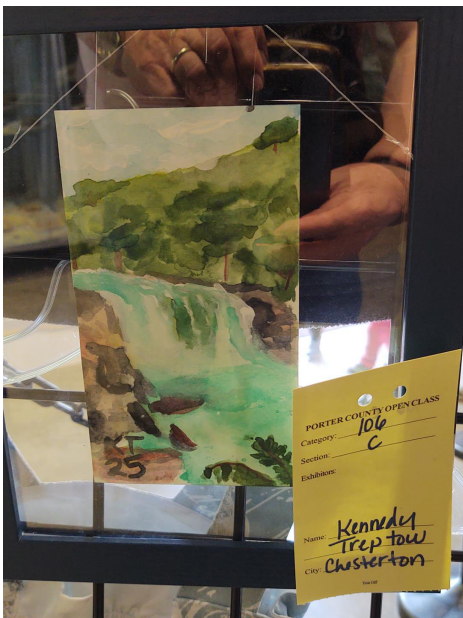
PORTER COUNTY OPEN CLASS PHOTOGRAPHY

At least eight members of the Duneland Photography Club participated in the Open Class photography show at the Porter County Fair. Out of 12 photography categories, members of our club earned first place ribbons in eight of them.

These categories were: Black and White Portraits, Black and White Other, Color Portraits, Color - Nature Flora, Color - Insect, Color - Other, Digitally Enhanced, and Photo on Canvas. There were also numerous second, third, fourth, and fifth place winners.



Peggy Carter



Kennedy Treptow

The following members entered their work in the Open Class: Steve Bensing, Lorelei Brown, Peggy Carter, Terry Fairchild, Michael Kobe, Sheila Stephenson, Sandra Teutemacherm, and Kennedy Treptow.

Apologies if anyone was missed, since there is no list to work from. Here are photos of only some of the entries from our members (one from each of the participants).



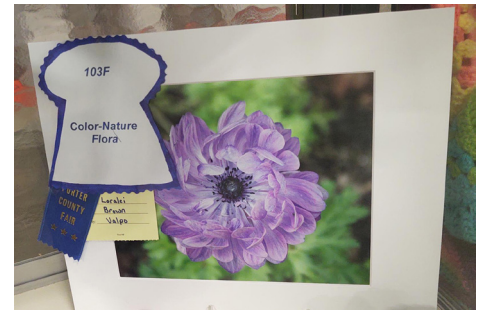
Sandra Teutemacherm



Michael Kobe



Steve Bensing



Lorelei Brown



Sheila Stephenson



Terry Fairchild

FUN DUNELAND PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB PHOTOSHOOTS

In early August, the Duneland Photography Club had two photoshoots

The first was the Valpo Cruise-In at Sunset Hill Farm County Park on August 9th. There were old, unusual, and classic cars. It was attended by Steve and Betty Bensing, and Sandra Teutemacher. They also viewed the Illiana Garden Railway Society at Sunset Hill and visited with their president, Lance Molenda.

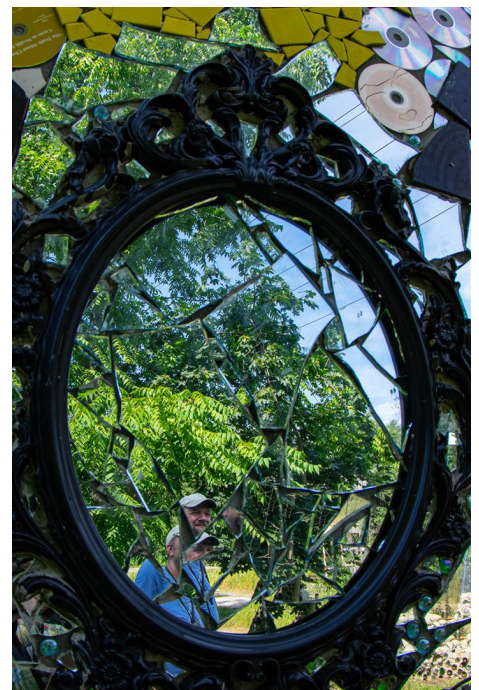
On August 10th, the club had a photoshoot at the Sparkle House in Miller. This was the same day as the Gary Air Show, so the sounds and

sights of the planes were around and above us. But the Sparkle House and its gardens were equally impressive. The house, studio, sun house and gardens were colorful and unusual.

There was a lot of glass used on the buildings and in the sculptures. You have to see it to believe it.

The following members were in attendance: Steve Bensing, Chad Howell, Melissa Jongkind (not in photo), Suzan Perry, and Sandra Teutemacher.

Photo credit: Steve Bensing



WORLD CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Member Wayne Wodrich scheduled a couple of other Duneland Photography Club members to serve as volunteer photographers for the World Cultural Festival in Valparaiso.

This is an annual event to celebrate a wide variety of culture with performances and food.



Steve Bensing



Sheila Stephenson | pc: Steve Bensing

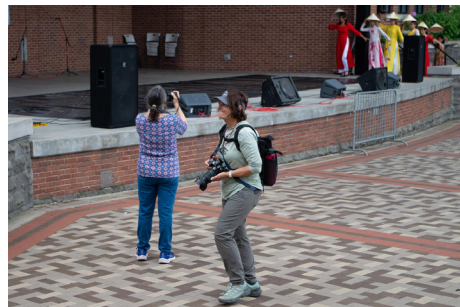


Steve Bensing

Steve Bensing, Mary Dahl, Patrice Lawson, and Sheila Stephenson took photos; John Moore also attended.



Steve Bensing



Patrice Lawson & Mary Dahl : pc: Steve Bensing



Steve Bensing



Patrice Lawson



Patrice Lawson



Steve Bensing

LIGHTHOUSE SKY

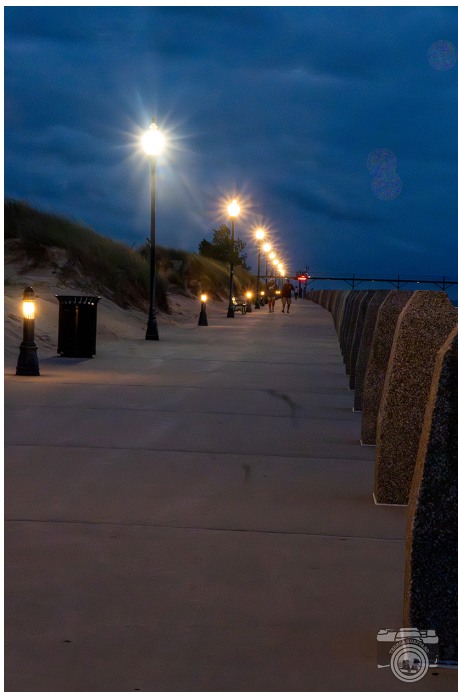
Duneland Photography Club members recently participated in a photoshoot at Washington Park in Michigan City. We were able to get good shots of the Lighthouse, sky, and lake. Unfortunately, the weather prevented us from seeing the sun set over the Chicago Skyline

We could vaguely see the buildings, but no sun.

In attendance were: Rita Anthony, Steve Bensing, Melissa Jongkind, Patrice Lawson, John Roquet, Teresa Sheppard, Greg Stephan, and Jerry Straw.



Steve Bensing



Teresa Sheppard



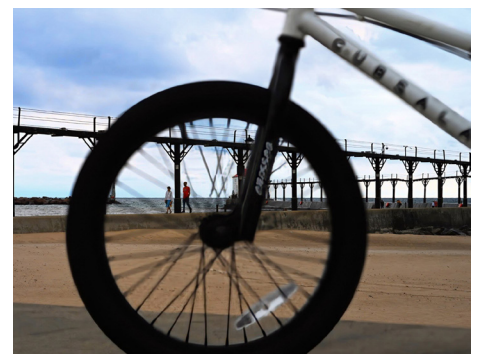
Teresa Sheppard



Patrice Lawson



Teresa Sheppard



Patrice Lawson



Steve Bensing



Steve Bensing



Steve Bensing

ARTISTS' GUILD OF VALPARAISO

Five members of the Duneland Photography Club participated in and attended the Artists' Guild of Valparaiso in July.

They included: Steve Bensing, Larry Brown, Lorelei Brown, Carol Estes, and Dina Heijseelaar (not pictured)

Carol earned 2nd place for "A Bridge to Far" and Honorable Mention for "Kemil Respite."



Carol Estes



Pictured | Steve Bensing, Carol Estes Lorelei Brown, and Larry Brown



Dina Heijseelaar

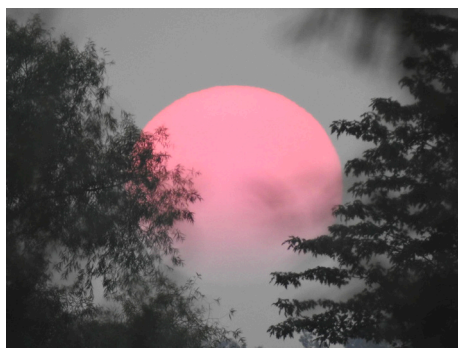


Lorelei Brown

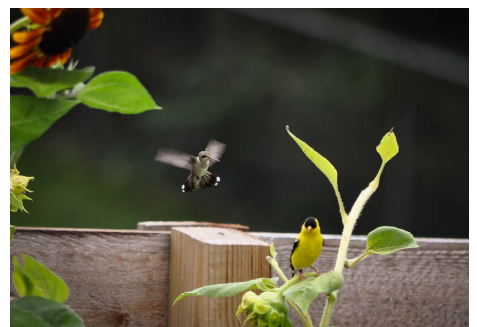
MEMBER'S PHOTOS



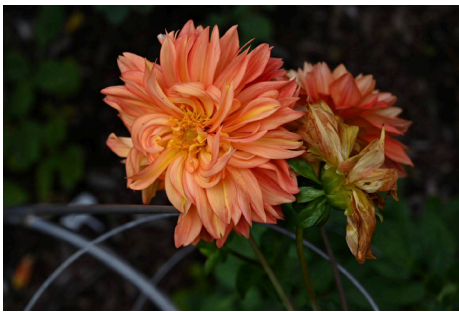
Wendy Vander Kooi



Dawn Duty



Vanessa Shaffer



Dawn Duty



Stephanie Tanke



Bob Stockton



Teresa Sheppard



Bob Capen



Julius Titak

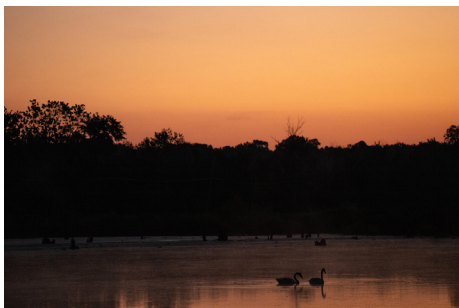


Chad Howell



Paul Ewing

Do you have a photo you'd like featured? Be sure to send to Steve Bensing with subject, "Member Photos."



Harry de Courcy



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 excursions 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, September 2 / 5-8pm

- 5:00 pm | Mentoring
- 6-8 pm | Monthly Club Meeting
- Meeting presenter & topic | Max Dust | Underwater Photography
- Show and Tell | "Outside the Box" bring photos on a thumb drive

Saturday, September 6 / 8am-6:30pm

- Popcorn festival
- Parade 10am
- tinyurl.com/2ppd6ruh

Saturday, September 13 / 1-3pm

- Car and Bike Show
- tinyurl.com/2uh2t8nj
- 49er Drive-In Theatre
- 675 N Calumet Avenue, Valparaiso

Sunday, September 14 / 2-5pm

- Beginning Digital Photography Class with Deb Armstrong
- Sunset Hill Farm County Park
- tinyurl.com/4h39db4c

Thursday, September 18 / 4-7pm

- Artists' Guild of Valparaiso
- Drop-offs
- 255 Indiana Avenue, Valparaiso
- agofvalpo.com

Saturday, September 20 / 9am-5pm

- Art Blitz
- Arrive early to shoot sunflowers
- Art Barn
- tinyurl.com/2k59jxpj

Saturday, September 20 / 7pm

- Artists' Guild of Valparaiso
- Reception
- 255 Indiana Avenue, Valparaiso
- agofvalpo.com

Saturday, September 27 / 1pm

- Annual Fall Harvest Festival
- Meet at Education Center for group photo
- Event runs September 26-28; 9am-5 pm
- Sunset Hill Farm County Park
- tinyurl.com/356pp99t

Tuesday, October 7 / 5-8pm

- 5:00 pm | Mentoring
- 6-8 pm | Monthly Club Meeting
- Meeting presenter & topic | Trent Albert
- Show and Tell | "Water Photos" bring photos on a thumb drive