

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

OCTOBER 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

CONTENTS

October Meeting 1

President's Corner 2

Stephanie Tanke | Charlevoix 2

September Meeting Recap 3

Porter County Parks Calendar..... 3

Car and Bike Show 4

Artists' Guild of Valparaso 4

Basic Photography Class 5

Carter's Corner 5

Member Photos 6

Happenings..... 8

OCTOBER MEETING

Local professional photographer Trent Albert will be leading the October 7th meeting of the Duneland Photography Club.

He will be discussing "Doing Good with your Photography" and showing photos from Sierra

Leone. He will be inviting us to his property near the Indiana Dunes for a photoshoot and to see his studio on October 11th.

Show & Tell for the October meeting will be on the topic Water Photography.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



One member of the Duneland Photography Club, Tom Matthewson, recently wrote his "Photographic Biography." I was struck by a couple of things: how long he's been at it, and the changes that he has been willing to make over the years. Here are Tom's words.

"I received my first camera 63 years ago from my father. Our first child was born and dad said to me, take this and make good use of it. Well, it worked, and I have been thoroughly enjoying photography ever since.

About two years later, I purchased a Minolta rangefinder and also set up a darkroom in my basement.

I joined several camera clubs and began entering competitions, both in color slides and b/w prints which I printed in my own darkroom. I did quite well in club competitions and went on to become the president of one of the largest clubs in NW Indiana, back about 55 years ago. Over the years I purchased several more cameras and lots of accessories and got active in several more clubs in the region.

In 2005 I retired and by then digital photography was becoming the new way to go. I for one was a die-hard film shooter and always told everyone that I would never make the switch, well guess what? I bought a professional digital SLR that same year and have since picked up quite a few more, including quite a collection of lenses also. I currently do all of my own work in the computer, processing and printing my own large prints at my home.

I retired in 2005, moved to Plymouth in the same year and joined the Heartland Camera Club. I became their president in 2006 and I still hold that position with them and am loving every minute of it.

I learned virtually everything about photography through camera clubs and I now enjoy sharing those ideas and helping others learn in the same way. I enjoy the outdoors and so nature photography has always been one of my favorites, however I enjoy shooting scenic and close-ups as well.

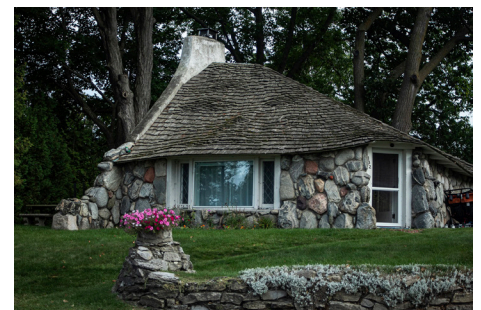
I recently became interested in Infrared photography and so I did purchase a new digital camera that was converted to only pass IR light, which as you know, is invisible to the naked eye. And so, life moves on, and who knows what the future will bring?"

Tom is an inspiration to all of us at the Duneland Photography Club. He regularly participates in meetings and club activities. I think he would challenge each of us: what would your Photographic Biography be?

Steve Bensing,
President



STEPHANIE TANKE | CHARLEVOIX, MICHIGAN



SEPTEMBER MEETING RECAP

Program speaker for the meeting was Max Dust. The topic was “Underwater Photography.”

Max presented a wonderful slide show of underwater photos taken in several different locations such as the Philippines, Hawaii, Fiji and the Caribbean. The photos were of many different sea creatures such as seahorses, turtles, eels, sting rays, barracudas, crabs, grouper, and coral. He shared with us how and when he began his work as a scuba diver, photographer and instructor.

We also learned about the equipment necessary for this type of photography. It was an amazing presentation!

Show and Tell theme was “Outside the Box”.



PORTER COUNTY PARKS CALENDAR



Jamie Spurr | 1st Place
Sunset Hill Farm Park



Peggy Carter | 2nd Place
Dunn's Bridge



Scott Miller | 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

CAR AND BIKE SHOW AT 49'ER DRIVE-IN

Several members of the Duneland Photography Club gathered at the 49'er Drive-In in Valparaiso to photograph a Car & Bike show. Members include: Terry Fairchild, Julius (Bud) Titak, Steve Bensing, and Harry and Nancy deCourcy.

The group saw some fun vehicles

including a 1955 Chevy owned by 12-year-old Chase and a Harley owned by a military veteran, Mike, who used a lot of military items on his bike. We also saw a Model A Ford that was used in the movie, Public Enemies, starring Johnny Depp as John Dillinger.



ARTISTS' GUILD OF VALPARAISO

Three members of the Duneland Photography Club received awards at the August exhibit of the Artists' Guild of Valparaiso.

- Dina Heijselaar | Honorable Mention | "Summer Guest"
- Steve Bensing | Honorable Mention | "NYC Street Artists"

- Larry Brown | BEST OF SHOW | "Sheep Rider"

Congratulations to all!



BASIC PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS

On Sunday, September 14th, Deb Armstrong taught a Basic Digital Photography Class for the public, sponsored by Duneland Photography Club for the Porter County Parks Department.

Deb taught composition, lighting, cell phone cameras, point-and-shoot cameras, bridge cameras, DSLR Cameras, photo modes,

exposure, camera settings, and many other related topics. There was also a hands-on time for taking photos outside.

The total attendance was 16, including Robert Evans, who ran the projector. There was much interest in joining the Photo Club

Photos by Steve Bensing.



CARTER'S CORNER

Rob O'Dea

Rob, and wife Dawn, visited Northwest Indiana from their home in Florida. They met club President Steve Bensing in Chesterton. Rob renewed his Duneland membership; and will be promoting the Club in Florida with Dawn's new Duneland cap. Rob says that there are no clubs like ours where he lives!



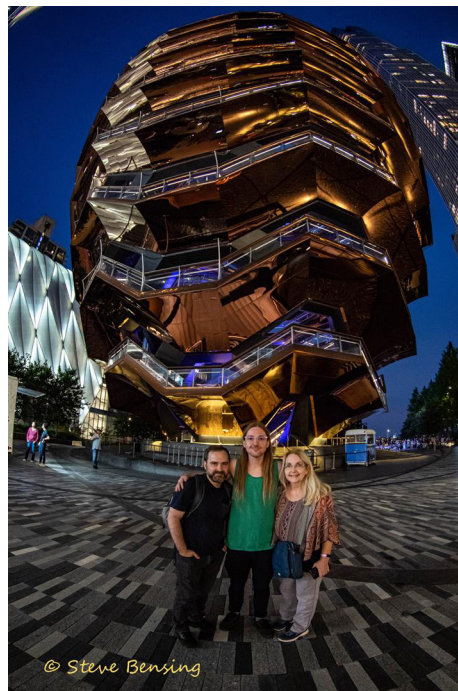
Sherri Holt

Sherri retired after 36+ years with her employer. She is looking forward to spending more time enjoying her hobbies including photography, making art with fused glass, gardening, camping, and cooking. She would also like to try something new like Improv classes. She is excited for this new chapter!



Steve Bensing

Steve traveled to New York City with his wife, Betty, and son Isaac. The main purpose of the trip was to visit son Silas for his birthday. While there, they visited some interesting places, including Rockefeller Center and Hudson Yards. Of course Steve and Silas visited their favorite camera store, B&H Photo.



Dina Heijseelaar

Dina visited family and friends in the Netherlands in August/September. Here are a couple of photos from her hometown Haarlem.



MEMBER'S PHOTOS



Wendy Vander Kooi



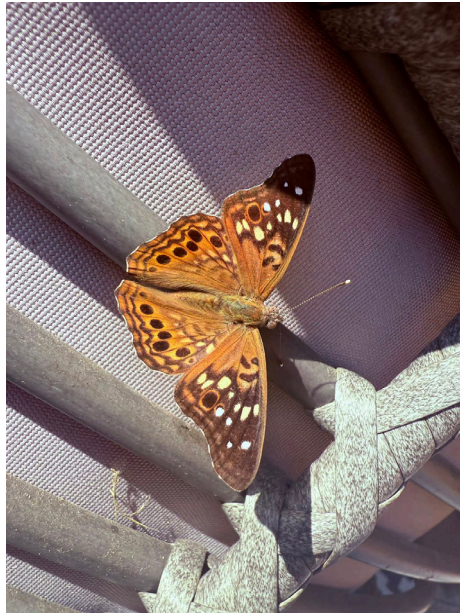
Harry de Courcy



Dawn Duty



Jerry Straw



Vanessa Shaffer



Julius Titak



Sheila Hathhorn Stephenson



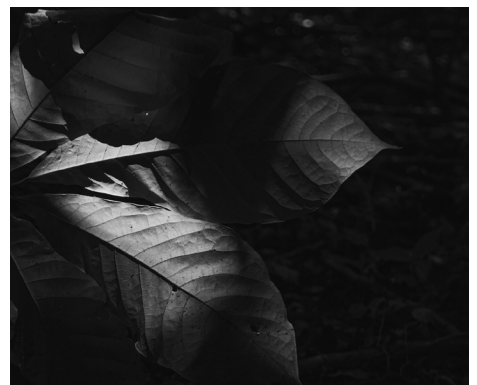
Chad Howell



Patrice Lawson



Chad Howell



Crystal Hollenbeck

PAUL EWING COLLECTION



TRIBUTE BIKE RIDE | “RIDE OF SILENCE”



Teresa Sheppard



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 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**.

Saturday, September 27 / 1pm

- 49th Annual Fall Harvest Festival
- Meet at Education Ceter (Grain Bin) for group photo
- Event runs September 26-28 / 9am-5 pm each day
- tinyurl.com/356pp99t

Saturday, October 4th

- Scott Kelby Worldwide Photo Walk
- For more information tinyurl.co/4mz999yc

Tuesday, October 7 / 5-8pm

- 5:00 pm | Mentoring
- 6-8 pm | Monthly Club Meeting
- Meeting presenter & topic | Trent Albert | Doing Good with your Photography-Photos of Sierra Leone
- Show and Tell | "Water Photos" bring photos on a thumb drive

Saturday, October 11th / Time TBA

- Photoshoot led by Trent Albert at his cool property and photo studio

Thursday, October 16th / 4-7pm

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

Saturday, October 18th / 7pm

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

Sunday, October 19th / 1pm

- Salon Show Reception
- South Shore Arts
- 1040 Ridge Road, Munster

Saturday, October 25th / 3:30pm

- Fall Colors Hike at Chellberg Farm
- tinyurl.com/27568a74

Date TBD

- Other Fall Photoshoot

Tuesday, November 4th / 5-8pm

- 5:00 pm | Mentoring
- 6-8 pm | Monthly Club Meeting
- Meeting presenter & topic | Scott Kinzie | From Vision to the Final Result
- Show and Tell | "Fall Favorites" bring photos on a thumb drive