

Photography West NEWS



APRIL 2024

This issue:



I gave Pouncer catnip for the first time and he's been in this salad bowl staring at his foot for the last 10 minutes

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Fridays

Member Photo

By Doug Pumphrey

Article P. 13

MEMBER PHOTO

Photos by Doug Pumphrey



A LUCKY SHOT

Like many of us, I have had a camera in my hand for as long as I can remember. I was often teased by my family and friends who would say, "...Watch out, here comes Doug with his camera."

On the farm where I was raised in Southeast Iowa, I always had a camera in my pocket. On this day, I had a relatively small camera, the Sony Cybershot. As luck may have it, I stepped out the back door of our farmhouse, I see my Dad with his great

granddaughter, BreAnn, talking and BreAnn was listening...and maybe understanding him! I pulled my Cybershot out of my pocket and quickly snapped this photo. Now, great photos are mostly products of a good camera, skill with operating it, and definitely skill in composing a shot that you plan to take. This photo was almost entirely a product of luck. I felt like it depicted the essence of my dad, who I revered. Even back on our first farm—a small tobacco farm in Kentucky, I remember him like this...strong...built like a brick sh..t house...as we use to say...but also kind and caring.

When I was a toddler, and Dad was headed off to the fields, I would run and get a diaper and say “go too.” Dad would lift me up on his back, and I would stick my feet in the back pockets of his overalls, ready for adventure. Later, when I played football in high school, Dad taught me an important lesson. It was my job to milk the cows, and I learned quickly that there were no “time outs” when the cows needed to be milked. Once, when I asked if he would milk the cows because I would be late coming home from football practice, he would simply say...”sorry, the cows will be waiting for you when you get home”...and he would add that they are going to be in pain and maybe a little testy the later you wait to milk them!

Dad is now gone and BreAnn is 23, fresh out of nursing school and working night shifts at the local hospital, not far from the Iowa farm.

How do you judge good photography? I could talk about the need to really know your camera, about the art of carefully composing each shot, about making sure the lighting is right. You could ask the question then...does this photo work? Well, it works for me because luck is also an important factor in getting a great photo. This photo is now a family treasure and that’s good enough for me!

WINDOWS AND BULLETINS

Check out the new outside windows.

Thanks Candi Worley!

EDUCATION

APRIL Workshops

- April 9 The last of the season iPhone Camera class with David Pickles.
- April 16 Create a Slideshow with Free Photostage Program with Tony Gross

APRIL Pop-Ups

- April 10 Learn to use our Equipment
- April 22 Macro and More

NEW CLASS!

Create a Slideshow with the free Photostage program with Tony Gross on April 16th

GOAL: Provide instruction on how to create a slideshow containing photos and music.

PREREQUISITES: Know how to use a Windows PC and mouse.

This class is for Windows PC users only

This class is designed to instruct the student in how to create a slideshow for our Friday photo club meetings or for any other purpose.

Students signing up for the class should have knowledge of using their Windows PCs. Knowledge of any particular photo processing software is not required.

There is no hands-on portion of this class. There will be demonstrations of many of the software program features. Class notes will be e-mailed to the students after the class is complete.

Class will be taught by Tony Gross and the cost will be \$5.00. Please email any questions to the Education Coordinator at photowestnews@gmail.com.

POP-UPS COMING IN APRIL

April 10th - What We Have

Several stations will be set up and there will be people to explain each of our many kinds of equipment. There will be demonstrations of how to transfer slides and tapes to a thumbdrive. There will be competition folks who will talk about the various types of competition, how to enter, what are the categories, and who to get help from. You can learn how to use our computers and find out what software is on them for your use, how to take that old slide you have just digitized and made it lighter, brighter, and get rid of the grain, have a demonstration about putting together a slideshow, how to use the hot press, and use the studio. Want to know what the classes are like? We will show you what's available and maybe teach a mini class. Learn about our travel programs and how to get more information.

And it's all **free**. You will go to each station, learn about the equipment, see a small demonstration, and go to the next station. Then learn how to use the Studio to create simple lighting to get that next family photo almost professional looking.

If this summer looms long and hot, you will be in the cool clubroom getting all your photos onto thumb drives, getting organized, getting smarter, and getting access to all kinds of cool toys.

April 22 – Macro Pop-Up

Several stations will be set up to facilitate some new types of Macro photos. In addition there will be opportunities to create the lightbulb art you've seen around the club, and what affect polarizing has on plastic items. Photos and more information will be coming. But – Macro back by popular demand!

Also see how pencils bend and check on your depth perception. Bring your camera and also your phone to this one. Lens should be about 100 mm, or Macro if you have one. Tripods OK, but not to be used for weapons, or staking out favorite stations.

Register Online!

SOCIAL AND SMALL GROUPS

LADIES BREAKFAST

At our March ladies' breakfast, someone said we should plan some more photography outings. So, on the spot the chosen destinations were Los Caballeros (March 18) and the Salt River to search for the wild horses (April 3). We have fun hitting the road with our cameras and enthusiasm! Remember that there is also our monthly breakfast on **April 10, at 8 a.m.**, at Panera Bread on Bell Rd. across from Kohl's. All the ladies are welcome at any of these events – we'd love to have you join us!

Over the months of gathering for our Ladies' Breakfast group, we have had so many fun and funny conversations. Other restaurant diners have come up to our table to ask if we are solving the world's problems or to find out what is so much fun at our table – their questions are indicators that we are truly enjoying our time together. The socialization has been fantastic! Laughing, talking, eating...it's a very good combination.



FLOWER HUNTING

Get on the list! Get notified when and where flowers are blooming and if your schedule permits, join a group of members and carpool to the flower destination.

Those interested can contact Bill Lane to get on the flower trip email list. Then periodically he will send an email inquiring who wants to go to one of our regional parks on a certain date. This may be at White Tank, Lake Pleasant, Cave Creek or Usury Mountain Regional Park. Since the various flower species take turns blooming, several trips are necessary to see and photograph many varieties. Get on the list! Email Bill at

williamlane2018@cox.net

PHOTOGRAPHY WEST SPRING SOCIAL

A BELATED



Saturday, April 6th at the Kiva Room at Kuntz Rec. Center

Doors open at Noon & Food Service at 1 P.M.



\$20.00 per person



CATERED BY PASCUAL SIGNATURES

IRISH BRAISED SLICED BRISKET

GARLIC SMASHED POTATOES

GREEN BEANS ALMONDINE

PUB SALAD

IRELAND SODA BREAD

OATMEAL & RAISIN COOKIES

+

VEGETARIAN PASTA

COFFEE, LEMONADE & WATER

***you may bring your own adult beverage**

Deadline for reservations is March 29th

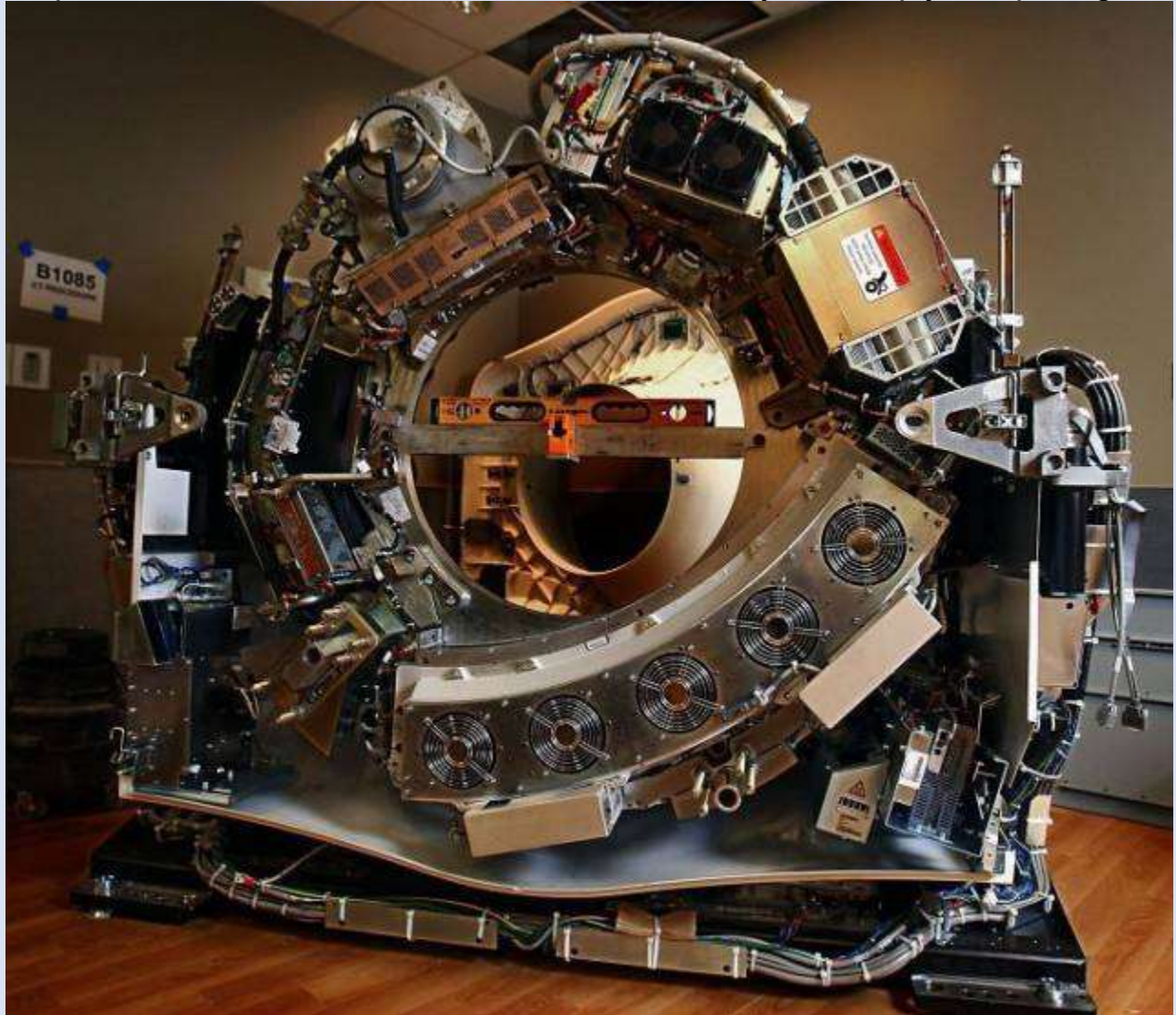
Reservations & payment will be made in the theater lobby

ENTERTAINMENT & IRISH TRIVIA INCLUDED



An Interesting Photo

Interesting photos do not need to be award winners, might not meet composition pleasantries, and can resist rules of thirds. They are simply compelling.



A CT Scanner Without The Cover On It



Just a reminder: A change in camera angle can have a surprising effect on your photo.

COMPETITIONS

MONTHLY PROJECTED IMAGE

RESULTS:

Class B - 1st Paul Luttenbacher, 2nd Scott Swanson, 3rd & HM Bob Smierciak

Class A - 1st Pam Meindl, 2nd Nap O'young, 3rd Mykee Cornelison, HM, Liz Mitofsky and Tom Richardson

April - Reflections

PROJECTED IMAGE COMPETITION

SPRING 2024

Results: April 5, 2024 (At Stardust Theater) 10 am

PRINT COMPETITION

SPRING 2024

Results: March 29, 2024 (At Sagebrush Room)
9:30 am view 10 am meeting

PORTFOLIO COMPETITION

There were 15 entries which was good for a new, specialized competition. The entries were reviewed, listed on an organizational sheet for the judges, and sent to California about March 10th. I know they have received them and downloaded the material. They did write asking questions about a couple of the entries. The portfolios are in the process of being judged at this time. We will send out up-dated information as it becomes available.

TRAVEL HERE AND THERE!

On the schedule so far are the following places. You can get more information from Ron at the Friday morning meetings or contact him at abaum936@aol.com or check our website.

DOMESTIC TRAVEL:

Ron is looking for ideas from you of where you would like to go. Just email him at abaum936@aol.com.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:

UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

HOLLAND & BELGIUM IN SPRINGTIME: We just confirmed a riverboat trip to Holland and Belgium for April 2025. This is a very popular trip and will sell out fast, so make your reservation soon. If you haven't traveled with Overseas Adventure Travel (OAT) or Grand Circle Travel before, say that Ron Appelbaum referred you to receive a \$100 credit towards this trip. The trip is rated "1" or easy on a scale of 1 to 5. To make your reservation, call 800-955-1925 and mention Group G5-27733. The cost is based on the type of room you reserve. The lower level (Prelude Deck) has a small window, but the cost is less. The top level, which has a balcony, is the most expensive. The price ranges from \$2,595 to \$4,095 per person, plus \$1,200 airfare from Phoenix per person. The Post-Trip extension is to Bruges, Belgium for \$895. There are two pre-trip options: Amsterdam for \$945 or Berlin for \$895. We should be able to get excellent photos of the Tulips in bloom and of the windmills. To see a detailed itinerary go to <http://www.gct.com/shh>.

Ron says this trip is open to friends and family. Is there is someone you would like to invite.



COMPLETED INT'L TRAVEL – Costa Rica

FRIDAYS

FRIDAY MEETINGS

(held every Friday at Stardust Theater in Keuntz Rec Center at 10 am)

PROGRAMS

3/29/2034: Print Competition – held at the Sagebrush room at Beardsley this date.

4/5/2024” Digital Competition

4/12/2024 Tom Richardson "Forbidden Fruit" long program. Short Program Emily Schwoerke, "Murals, Signs and Graffiti" Short Program: Don Robinson "Falkland Islands"

4/19/2025 Long Program TBA, short Program: Tony Mason "Hi"

FRIDAY PHOTO EXHIBITIONS

(held on the listed Friday at the Beardsley Club between 2 and 4 pm)

4/5 Iceland – by the Members that went to Iceland

FRIDAY POST EXHIBITION DINNERS

4/5 Chompies

These are once again being organized by Bob Hankin. Once you are certain you will be going to the restaurant, please contact Bob, sign up on the list at the Friday Meeting. His address is bobhankin76@gmail. Let Bob also know if due to something out of your control, you find you will be unable to attend.

PHOTOGRAPHERS LEARNING LAB

(Held on the First Friday of the month at the Beardsley Club at 1 pm.)

David Pickles dpickles1953@gmail.com

Article

Why I Switched to a Smart Phone for Photography

By Bill Lane

This is a story of conversion from use of a big camera to use of a smart phone. Phones are getting better and better at taking photographs. Can they compete with conventional cameras? The same was said years ago when digital cameras first became available. Most said that digital cameras are a clever invention but they will never match film photography. Well, they kept improving and here we are with everyone using digital cameras. Could something similar happen to phones?

My first camera, 70 years ago, was an Argus C-3. Remember that strange looking camera? Since then it has been a series of ever better film cameras over the decades of my photography. Then I switched to digital with a wonderful 4 MP camera. My how things have changed since then; better and better digital cameras.

I was reluctant to consider phone cameras for a few reasons. The controls were limited. No f-stop control, no exposure compensation control, no histogram graph to use while photographing. With some phones, there was limited ability to focus on precise spots. This has changed as some of the modern phone cameras have nearly all these features and more. Also, it was hard to see the screen in bright sun. It was impossible to see the screen of my previous phone in bright sun. This has changed. Many current phones have much brighter screens.

As I aged, I got tired of carrying a camera bag, big camera and multiple lenses. So, I switched to a small Olympus camera, but still had to carry a camera bag and telephoto lens, extra batteries and memory cards. A few of our club members started to show the results of their camera photography and my interest increased. It was intriguing thinking of a life without a camera bag, just a phone.

Looking at options, I studied features of various phones. There are many Web sites comparing various phone cameras. Recently I purchased a Samsung S24 Ultra. The Apple iPhone 15 and Google Pixel 8 also had great reviews regarding their phone camera and video features.

Phone camera use. My new phone has several lenses with 12, 50 and 200 mm sensors. It has sliders for zooming. It has a slider for exposure compensation (to make images brighter or darker). It has a touch screen focus point and of course has a histogram that can be used to assure that proper exposure. It has taken time to get

used to all the optional settings. However, it is a joy to carry around in a holster style carrying case. I bought a phone protector with a sliding door cover to protect the lenses.

The advantages I have seen so far.

1. No need to carry a camera bag.
2. No need to remove batteries to recharge, just charge the phone.
3. Ability to see the images on the big 6.8 inch screen.
4. Can use the Samsung Lightroom Lite to manipulate images.
5. No need to change lenses because telephoto capability is included.
6. Can email images or upload them to cloud storage.
7. Can use a conventional thumb drive to backup photos.
8. Wonderful video capabilities which I have not tried yet.
9. It has a higher depth of field due to small lens size
10. Future software upgrades will further improve images.
11. It can be attached to a conventional tripod with an inexpensive tripod attachment.

In addition to the above, my new “camera” can be used as a phone, access the internet, play games, see weather forecasts, act as a note pad, scan codes, map and guide to destinations, play music and TV, and so much more. I view it not as a smart phone but as a camera with a phone attachment.

I no longer make big print enlargements. Maybe the phone images are good enough for print enlargements. I suspect so, however, other club members may be doing phone image enlargements to show the capability of this modern marvel, the phone camera.

There is a very interesting 45 minute lecture about using a smart phone for photography by the well known writer of digital photography books, Scott Kelby.

He makes several interesting points and discusses the advantages of using a phone over a conventional camera. It is entertaining and thought provoking.

Copy link below and paste on your browser.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gWqR_SGyflQ

by Bill Lane

THE END

Send suggested Member Photos, Interesting Photograph, Photography Cartoons and Stories, and Articles for Newsletter to:

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