

# THROUGH THE LENS

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Newsletter of the Arlington Camera Club

November 2005

## President's Comments . . .



Many thanks to all who assisted with our first competition of the year. Paula Matzek, Diana Jacobson, Barbara Borchert, Wally Franks, Jim Emmerson, Bill Kruser and our Chairlady Carol Arnolde all deserve a big thank you for keeping our competition night running smoothly. Also, thank you to Scott Gross and Walter Hoffman for filling in as judges. Cindy Kuffel's baking was wonderful, as usual, and she even chipped in to help collect dues!

Just a couple reminders/suggestions about your competition entries. All prints must be mounted on a mount board, either 11x14 or 16x20. No other size is acceptable. While I generally try to have some 11x14 mount boards with me I **DO NOT** carry any supplies to mount a print. Please plan on having your images mounted prior to arriving for competition. If you need mount boards, let me know at least a day before our meetings so I'm sure to have enough with me. They are \$1 each.

A competition tip. You're trying to make a good impression with your entries, often it's better to not leave any border around your inkjet prints, but if you do leave one, make sure it is even all the way around. This is especially important for entries we take to CACCA. If you're lazy like me and don't like to trim off the border, most 8x10 prints can be resized to 8x10.5 in Photoshop with no noticeable distortion. When printed on 8 1/2 x 11 paper it will leave an even 1/4" border all the way around.

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## Upcoming Events at ACC

**Important: ACC meets at the Arlington Historical Society, 110 W. Fremont, Arlington Heights.** {The Arlington Historical Society is located 2 blocks west of Arlington Heights Road, just south of Euclid}

### November 2 - Workshop

Mounting and Matting - Carol Arnolde & Diana Jacobson

### November 16 - Program

Allen Kaleta - "From hobby to vocation: Doing life with Photojournalism".

Arlington Camera Club meets on the first and third Wednesday, from September through June at 7:30 PM.

## Officers

President - Ken Olsen  
Treasurer - Brian Kruser  
Programs - Scott & Laura Gross  
Competition - Carol Arnolde  
Workshops - Dave Lomblad/Paula Matzek  
Judges - Mary Stitt/Kathy Wessels  
CACCA Representatives - Mary Stitt/Scott & Laura Gross  
Newsletter - Diana Jacobson  
Publicity - Laura Gross  
Web Page - Bob Schwarz  
Arlington-In-Pictures - Bill Kruser

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Finally, regarding competition entries, the Club entry sticker should be placed on the back of the mount board, in the upper left corner. Please be sure to note whether the entry is commercial or home-made as this classification is very important for entries in the CACCA competitions. A Commercial Print is a print produced by a licensed retail photo establishment from an original image (slide, negative, digital camera file) without alteration of the subject matter. The only printing modifications allowed are routine adjustments such as exposure, color correction, brightness and cropping (i.e., no "Custom Print" work may be done). Homemade (which CACCA calls maker-made) prints can be inkjets or made in a wet darkroom. They can also be commercial prints that have undergone more extensive Photoshop enhancements or alterations (maker-designed). Please see the complete CACCA rules for further discussions on categories. <http://www.chicameraclubs.org/rules.htm>. They also provide definitions for terms such as altered, enhanced, maker-made, maker-designed etc

Bring your mounting and matting questions to our November 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, as our very own

Carol Arnolde and Diana Jacobson will be demonstrating how to mount and mat. I have seen first-hand the great job they do and we should all be able to learn something from them.

Our November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting will feature Photojournalist Allen Kaleta with his program "From Hobby to Vocation: Doing Life With Photojournalism". Last year Allen's program was impressive and I'm sure we're in for a treat with this one. Please try to make this meeting and show Allen we appreciate his efforts!

I recently received a suggestion that all members be required to enter at least two prints or slides in our competitions during the course of the year. Let me know what you think of this idea. Whether positive or negative I'd like to hear your comments.

**Please give me your suggestions for 2006 programs/workshops. We need them immediately!**

*Ken Olsen*

### *Arlington Happenings by Bill Kruser*

Well here we are in the fall of the year already. What a great time of the year for photo opportunities. You will note in Ken's column where he asks your thoughts on setting a number of prints or slides that each member must submit, which I think is a very good idea. In order to help our members get out there and shoot we have many, many, events planned.

In fact we have a new column that is written by Cindy Kuffel on field trips and happenings. I hope that each and every one of our members takes part in a field trip. They are extremely helpful in getting some pictures for competition.

In Arlington Heights alone we have several things coming up, including a Christmas decorations field trip. We might try and do another night shoot of the decorations and see what we can get.

Remember that when you go out and get a bunch of photographs, keep the best ones for yourself and then donate the rest of them to the Village and to the Historical Society. The Village and the Historical Society will give photo credits

to the photographer when they are used. You can give me all your shots taken in Arlington Heights and I'll record them and then send them on to both parties. By doing this you keep our Club's name in front of everyone, and the community spirit our Club has gained over the past couple of years has really been impressive. We are very well known throughout Arlington Heights, so wear your member badge proudly.

Also, just a reminder that the current Village Hall building is about to change. The addition has already started to the east of the building and soon the current building will only be a memory. If you need something to do, get a few good shots of the current structure.

Because of this volunteer effort, the Historical Society named us a partner three years ago and allows us to meet at the facility at no cost. This is a big benefit to us. So let's keep those photographs coming.

Please look over the upcoming events that Cindy has tentatively scheduled for us and lets all get out there and do some shooting and have

some fun along with it. It would be nice if each of our members could make two field trips a year. What fun we would have and also get a lot of pictures.

So look over the upcoming events in the area and see if you would be interested in attending some of them with us.

Enjoy the wonderful fall season.

### **CACCA Competition – October 2005**

#### **Slides**

Millennium Park Showers	Ray Perry	19	
Red Bench	Jim Emmerson	19	
Waukegan Art Object	Ray Broda	18	
At the end of Cimarron Rd	Pat Wadecki	23	AW

#### **Small Color**

Night Train	Paula Matzek	18	
Majestic Blue Parrot	Cindy Kuffel	20	
Sprint to the finish	Ken Olsen	21	
Navy Pier	Bill Kruser	21	

#### **Monochrome**

Buick	Paula Matzek	18	
SKF	Jim Emmerson	19	
Frozen Oak	Bob Webb	19	
Washer Woman	Ken Olsen	22	

#### **Commercial**

Old Lookout Shack	Jeff Basko	20	
Reflection of Alycia	Carol Arnolde	22	
Marmot	Paula Matzek	22	
Tuscan Shadows	Cindy Kuffel	21	

#### **Theme slides**

Reflections	Ray Perry	19	
Reflection	Scott Gross	21	HM
Barber Pole Reflection	Ray Broda	18	

#### COMING IN DECEMBER:

December 7 – Competition

December 21 – Holiday Party and Critique Workshop

CACCA Theme: Letter “H” (in the title)

*Arlington Camera Club Travels & Events*  
*By Cindy Kuffel - [ckk116@comcast.net](mailto:ckk116@comcast.net)*

Greetings and welcome to what will hopefully be a very interesting, jam packed and fun filled monthly article. Any suggestions would be GREATLY appreciated.

I am sorry that I was unable to attend Saturday, October 15th outing to Old World, Wisconsin. Carol and Ken were kind enough to write this:

Imagine what it must have been like to live in the late 19th century without today's modern conveniences. Countless European immigrants packed up their families and only a few belongings, leaving behind their homeland, their people, their customs and their language in search of an economic opportunity as well as religious and political freedom. Here on 576 acres in Wisconsin, you can see how they lived and survived.

Several members of the club took a day-trip and visited Old World Wisconsin. The German area, Polish area, Norwegian area, Danish area, Finnish area, African-American area, Yankee area as well as the Crossroads Village were some of the many areas we enjoyed. You can walk or take a tram from village to village. Some of the interesting features and photo ops were the many docents reenacting life back in the 19th century. Among them was the gentleman playing his fiddle, the blacksmith forging hot metal into tools, hardware and utensils, and the slaughtering and butchering of a pig. They also demonstrated the fascinating process of sausage making. Oxen in the fields helped with farm chores in the German area. Draft horses plowed the fields and pulled wagons. One of the most fascinating features was watching the steam engine power the sawing of logs into boards on the Schultz farm. Bread making, wool dyeing, soap making, and butter churning were just a few of the interesting demonstrations here at Old World.

Photo ops were many. From photographing the 65 relocated and restored historic buildings to macro and still life photography. As an example, you could photograph a lantern, book, and teacup set on a table by a window. Great shot! Of course, nature photography was all around. It was a beautiful clear day and photographers were everywhere. You can use a tripod just not inside the buildings.

Old World Wisconsin is located in Eagle, WI. It's approximately one and one-half hours from Arlington Heights. Easy to find and a great place

to visit and bring your camera and lenses. We hope you will join us next time we take a field trip. This one was certainly worth the time and effort. We had a great time!

For additional information, go to their website: [www.oldworldwisconsin.org](http://www.oldworldwisconsin.org) or email your questions to [oww@whs.wisc.edu](mailto:oww@whs.wisc.edu).

### **Events**

Friday - November 25th Arlington Heights Tree Lighting Ceremony - North School Park - 4:45 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, November 25th & 26th Christkindl Market/Eastman St./North School Park - 11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. and visit with Santa - Harmony Park (fountain area) 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday - December 3, Arlington Heights Christmas Shoot photographing the Christmas windows, decorations and followed up by dinner in downtown Arlington Heights.

Saturday, February 18, 2006 Volo Car Museum, Volo, Illinois.

### **Travels**

As far as winter shooting, I know it isn't going to be easy. Some suggestions that were made - Lincoln Park and Garfield Park Conservatories, Art Institute.

I have already started sending out e-mails and making phone calls regarding future outings. I have e-mailed Cantigny and asked for information for a Spring shoot, their 2006 events calendar doesn't come out until the 2nd week of January so I have to do something I am not very good at - BE PATIENT!

Another Spring/Summer shoot - Volo Bog State Natural Area to photograph a wide variety of bog plants and orchids in bloom.

I have also contacted Starved Rock State Park, they have four events in 2006 which sound like a lot of fun. The first, is their Winter Wilderness Weekend January 21 & 22, for those of you who like cross country skiing this is your chance if there is snow, they also have hikes to the local ice falls and different activities in the surrounding areas. January 28 & 29 is their Eagle Watch Weekend. Maybe we can combine the two weekends and view everything on the January 28 and 29. Also, May 6 & 7 they have their Annual Wildflower Pilgrimage and later in the

year their Fall Colors Weekend, October 21 & 22.

Summer 2006 – Renaissance Faire in Wisconsin, Indiana Dunes State Park.

Fall 2006 – House on the Rock, Spring Green, Wisconsin, view fall colors and also tour local

artist colonies, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 20, 21, & 22. If we get enough interested individuals reservations would be needed in advance. Let's really give this some thought, we could go up on a Friday, coming home on Sunday late afternoon. This is really a fun event, car pooling a must.

## **Outdoor Portraits -- Lighting**

### **LIGHTING - what type of light source is available at the location?**

**Direct Sunlight** - what is the Sun's location/direction? Will you use it as a main-light, rim-light or accent? Is a 'fill-in' flash or white reflector required?

**Daylight (cloudy/overcast)** - will you use the brightest part of the sky (Sun's location) as the main-light, or will you use a flash or tinfoil reflector as the main-light?

What will you use for a fill-in ...another part of the sky or a silver reflector or a flash?

Would a flash used as an accent or kicker light add life to the photograph?

**Skylight (in the shade)** - what is the Colour Balance of the light? Is the sky mainly blue? If so, how will you correct the colour cast... with a filter or a flash?

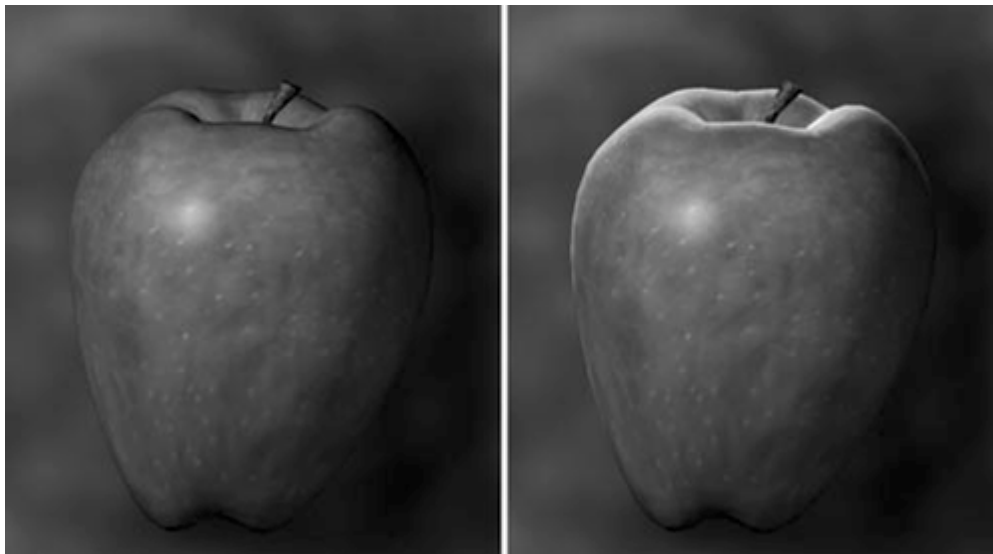
André Cabuche, AFIAP 639 Pimlico Road, Kelowna, BC, CANADA V1W 2Z2 Tel: (250) 764-0560 E-mail: [andrecabuche.photoarts@telus.net](mailto:andrecabuche.photoarts@telus.net) With permission.

Let's define a few of the terms used above:

**Main lights** – Sometimes also called the “key light”. This is the primary source of illumination on the subject.

**Fill lights** – Additional light typically from a flash or reflector that is used to soften shadows or brighten dark areas of the picture created by the main light.

**Rim lights** – Light placed behind (and often slightly above) the subject. Rim lights can help separate a dark subject from a dark background and can render a strong highlight (glow) around the top or sides of the subject. They fall within the category of “accent (or kicker) lights” which can be used to highlight a particular area of the subject, i.e. hair.



No Rim Light (left), Rim Light added (right).

Reflectors - Any device used to reflect light onto a subject to improve balance of exposure (contrast). Light does not always fall exactly where you want it, so for this reason reflectors are used. Place reflectors facing the light, reflecting the light to an area of the scene that is a little dark and needs illumination. Gold reflectors can be used to warm a scene because of the color change caused by the gold reflector. Silver and white reflectors provide nearly the same color hue as daylight, with White more subtly filling shadows and the silver providing more "punch" and contrast. **Caution: Never use a gold or silver reflector to reflect full, bare sunlight into the subjects face; it can cause permanent eye damage. Instead, use a white reflector with full sunlight.**

Let's take a look at a couple examples to see if we can illustrate some of the previous concepts.

The first example illustrates shooting an outdoor portrait in open shade. Open shade is often preferable because it naturally softens the light. Mark McCall, a Texas portrait and wedding photographer, has done a great job of illustrating various lighting setups, mostly indoors. He started this series on <http://www.photosig.com/go/users/view?id=168009> (free registration required) but a PDF file of 10 different lighting examples can be downloaded from his website: <http://www.markmccallphotography.com/Uploads/TenLessonswCommentsWeb.pdf>

Here is an example photo and Mark's comments:



“Technical details: Available light. Skylight coming in from behind the couple and from behind the camera.”

“I used two 4’x4’ reflectors to bounce some fill back into the faces. Focal length, about 150mm. Exposure, F4 @ 200. Reflectors are made from construction insulation found at Home Depot. (About \$8), cut in two, with taped ends. Find the type that has white on one side, silver on the other. Use white for sunny days, silver for low light and cloudy days.”

“I should also mention, the guy is not clenching his teeth. He has very large upper and lower teeth, with gives him that “grrrrr” look.”

“Note: Both subjects have weight placed on the back foot. This creates a great portrait 90% of the time. “

*Copyright Mark McCall, 2005.*

Another nice example on the web is located at:

[http://ny.webphotoschool.com/A\\_Daylight\\_Outdoor\\_Portrait](http://ny.webphotoschool.com/A_Daylight_Outdoor_Portrait)



Sunlight only



Sunlight and reflector fill light

Notice in the sunlight only shot, her face is too dark since it is in shadow. By utilizing reflectors for fill we open up the



In this example the sun is coming in from behind the subject. We've often heard that your subjects should be facing the sun. Don't do it! In the least your subject will be squinting into the sun, which will create a poor photograph. If you must be in direct sunlight (open shade is better) position your subject so the sun is behind them or to the side, and use reflectors or flash to provide some fill. Note that in this example the sun provides a nice highlight in her hair as it

works as a rim light. The photographer in the last picture (white shirt between the reflectors, demonstrates the popular "stop, drop and shoot" low camera position.

In workshops coming in 2006 we're going to explore using flash to improve our photographs and we'll spend some time discussing posing in portrait photography. If you've found this series of articles helpful, please let us know.



No place is boring, if you've had a good night's sleep and have a pocket full of unexposed film.

*Robert Adams*

Success is what happens when 10,000 hours of preparation meet with one moment of opportunity.

*Anonymous*

*Just Say Cheese!*  
By Sue Farwick

**STRICTLY FOR THE BIRDS**

To claim that I am a photographer would, to say the least, be stretching the truth. I do enjoy taking pictures, however, and over the years this universally popular hobby has served as a diverting and enjoyable adjunct to my other activities which have, at one time or another, included writing, gardening, painting, ballet dancing and fencing.

These sporadic forays into the world of photography have often resulted in lighthearted, nostalgic and maddeningly frustrating moments to which I hope some of my fellow camera enthusiasts can relate and sympathize.

My subjects have been many and varied, and none more fascinating than the birds, animals and creepy-crawlies that share our world but which are sadly becoming increasingly squeezed out of the ever-burgeoning suburban environment.



Hawk



Duck

I would, therefore, like to dedicate this little piece to some of the birds that have flown, hopped or otherwise wandered obligingly in front of my camera lens.

As many of you can attest, birds are not the easiest things to photograph and let me say here that any half-way decent pictures that I've been lucky enough to obtain have been just that, sheer luck. I've never been able to master the intricacies of shutter speed, lighting, etc., but rely heavily on an inexhaustible amount of patience and reasonably quick reflexes and, every once in a while it pays off, though not, I'm sorry to say, in the following instance.

Many years ago a pair of robins set up housekeeping in a shrub conveniently located just outside my daughter's bedroom window. By dint of climbing atop a rather shaky chest-of-drawers we were able to watch as, over the ensuing days, they flew industriously back and forth with bits of nesting material, busily constructing what our local realtor would have described as a highly desirable residence. (Some of today's houses should be built so well.)

But try as I might I could never seem to get a good enough shot of the proceedings; the branches always got in the way and, because this was in pre-digital camera days, it wasn't until after it was too late to retake the pictures that I discovered, upon getting my prints back from the pharmacy, that my efforts had met with little or no success.

Meanwhile, the babies emerged, ugly and featherless, immediately demanding to be fed while both parents tirelessly kept up a supply chain of worms and other delicacies for those hungry, gaping beaks that was nothing short of amazing.

Thanks to their heroic efforts, three skinny, defenseless young robins quickly developed into cocky, self-opinionated adolescents and it wasn't long before we witnessed their first attempts at flight. Eventually the day dawned when, looking from our vantage point on top the chest, we experienced, literally, that empty-nest feeling, when we realized that the "kids" had grown up and left home.

Then there was the red-winged blackbird that landed on the feeder by our kitchen window one afternoon, looking like the proverbial "wounded soldier". With a broken leg, severely mauled wing and no tail feathers to speak of, he certainly didn't look as though he could survive for very long. But he was a feisty little thing and showed more resilience than we gave him credit for, surprising us by not only returning the following year (he wasn't hard to recognize), but also bringing a girlfriend with him. And

just to prove that it was no fluke, he shoed up again for one final visit the year after.

Or the one-footed crow that ruled his territory with an iron beak and visited us regularly for four years, flying down into the garden the minute he saw me set foot outside the back door with a crust of bread or handful of crackers, whilst the others in his group stood respectfully back to allow him first rights over whatever was on the menu that day.

And the ducks that, although frequent visitors to our yard, never actually nested there but still took the trouble, one beautiful spring morning, to march their eight fluffy offspring over to see us before moving on.

Since living in our present home we've been fortunate enough to serve as host to all manner of winged creatures, from hummingbird to hawk. We even received a brief visit once from a great blue heron that had doubtless been given erroneous

directions, but I didn't have my camera handy at the time and was unable to record the moment for posterity.



Hummingbird



Robin

But more often than not, I've managed to capture these feathered friends (strictly on film, of course) and will continue to look for that perfect shot, though of course I won't really know what I'm doing; I'll just do as the birds and wing it.

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING



