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# EXPOSURES

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February 2008



Member

## The Grasshopper Chronicles

Steven M. Hale

## Inside this issue:

The Western Reserve Photographic Society is Northeast Ohio's greatest camera club. Like you, I became a member with hopes of making new friends, sharing ideas, learning more about photography, having lots of fun, and somewhere along the way...becoming a better photographer. Have you been enjoying all of these great benefits? I have, and I hope you've been enjoying them too.

It would be natural for you to assume my meaning to be: I've been enjoying these benefits as a result of regularly attending club meetings and outings, and while it is true they can be obtained in this manner, my own enjoyment of these benefits originated in a completely unexpected way.

At the conclusion of the awards reception of the 2007 Lake Metroparks Photography Contest, where I had just received several awards, Dee Hudson happened to be standing nearby with one of our newer members, Linda Terdan. As I was getting up to leave, I waved to Dee to say hello, and she acknowledged by waving back. In the next moment, Linda, whom I had never met before, pointed at me and exclaimed, "I want him!" As I stood there with somewhat of a dumbfounded look on my face, Dee explained that she had just been telling Linda about the WRPS mentoring program. She then chuckled something about Linda "not wasting any time in choosing her mentor," and before I even knew what

was happening, I had been drafted into service as Linda's new mentor.

Driving home from the reception that night, I couldn't help wondering if I was even qualified to be a mentor. After all, I was a relatively new member myself, one who hadn't been involved in many club activities as yet. Choosing to deal with a more urgent question—"What do I do now?"—I decided to ease slowly into my new position by asking Linda to tell me a little about such things as: why she joined the club, the type of photographic equipment she owns, her level of photographic experience, and what areas of photography she is most interested in. For this purpose, I created a simple questionnaire and emailed it to her the following day.

Hoping to find just a small parcel of common ground between us, I awaited Linda's reply with a bit of nervous anticipation. Much to my relief, that common ground soon revealed itself in Linda's completed "mentoring entrance examination." She enjoys referring to my *simple* questionnaire in this teasing manner. From her responses, I learned that Linda had joined the Western Reserve Photographic Society for the *exact* same reasons as (you and) me. I was happy to also discover that we had other common interests, such as

photo editing and macro photography.

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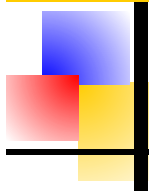
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# FEBRUARY 2008

## Schedule of Events

2nd: OUTING (see p. 3)

12th: *MEETING AT PG!*

Eileen Findak will do a presentation on Portraiture "Seeing people in a different way".

13th: OUTING (see p. 3)

16th: OUTING (see p. 3)

19th: **Board Meeting** @ the home of Marty Kreger.

26th: **Member's Mini Shows.** If you have a mini show less than 10 minutes long, call or e-mail Marilyn Beasley (marilynphoto@yahoo.com) to sign up for a slot.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 1-3 & 3-5 outings
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 7:30 Meeting	13 6-9 outing	14	15	16 2-5 & 5-7 outings
17	18	19 7:30 Meeting	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 7:30 Meeting	27	28	29 LEAP YEAR	

**Looking ahead:** **March 25** the "Mundane" interclub entries are due. Should be a photograph of any non-offensive mundane (ordinary) object, but it must be photographed in an UNUSUAL way (i.e. paint by light, odd angle, object moving that would normally be stationary, etc.). Must be able to tell with reasonable certainty what the object is – this is NOT an abstract competition!

Limit: 2 entries in any medium (digital – code "I", print, or slide). The top 30 entries will be shown and judged from each club at our meeting on April 8.

## Upcoming WRPS & PSA competitions

### WRPS

#### March 11 —Breaking the Rules

**DEFINITION:** Any photograph that breaks a common rule in photography, but still "works" as a good photograph with good composition, impact and technique. Example: the subject is directly in the center of the photo (FOR A REASON). Another example would be a horizon perfectly in the center, or an object heading OUT of the frame rather than into it. Many more common photographic rules are waiting to be broken, but it should be OBVIOUS to the experienced photographer exactly WHICH rule you have broken. This is NOT an OOPS competition – entries should be

properly exposed and should be well thought out. Know what rule you are breaking and WHY you are breaking it! You may be asked what rule you broke & why!

Limit: 2 slides, 2 color prints, 2 B&W prints, 2 Digital Manipulation (code "R") & 2 Digital Realism (code "R").

**Note: MAXIMUM 8 TOTAL entries, no more than 2 in one category!**

### PSA

**MAR. 11, 2008**

COLOR PROJECTED IMAGE  
(DIGITAL)

**APRIL 8, 2008**

TRAVEL SLIDES

**APRIL 24, 2008**

NATURE SLIDES

*Limit: 2 entries per person in each*

## FEBRUARY

**Saturday, February 2** 1-3 pm Eagle Creek Greenhouse @ 18548 Chillicothe Rd, Bainbridge & then onto...  
 ...3-5 pm Thorn Creek Winery & Gardens @ 155 Treat Rd, Aurora

**Wednesday, February 13** 6 – 9 pm Findak Photography Studio @ 30 W. Main St., Madison (Limited to 10 attendees- **RSVP** to be put on sign-up sheet). We will model for each other.

**Saturday, February 16** 2 – 5 pm Findak Photography Studio @ 30 W. Main St., Madison (Limited to 10 attendees – RSVP to be put on sign-up sheet). We will model for each other. And then on to...  
 5 - 7 pm Grand River Cellars @ 5750 Madison Rd. (Rt. 528), Madison.



## Refreshments

February refreshments will be provided by:

**Feb. 12** Brian Norcross  
Steve Hale

**Feb. 26** Bill Butler  
T.B.A. (to sign up, please e-mail Audrey Buchina).

Thanks to those that provided Dec. & Jan. refreshments:

**Dec. 11** (at Wlby Brewery)  
Ed & Sheila Hodina  
Linda Terdan  
Jamie & Kate Vanek

**Jan. 8** Michael Pittenger  
Bonnie Charvat

**Jan. 22** Marty Kreger  
Daniel Patchin

## MARCH

**Saturday, March 1** 1-3 pm Eagle Creek Greenhouse @ 18548 Chillicothe Rd, Bainbridge & then onto...  
 ...3-5 pm Thorn Creek Winery & Gardens @ 155 Treat Rd, Aurora

## APRIL

**Sunday, April 27** 9am – 1pm Hogback Ridge @ 4888 Emerson Rd, Madison & then to...  
 ...1 – 3 pm Ferrante's Winery @ 5585 State Rt. 307, Geneva

### Looking Ahead/Possible overnights

I am looking to arrange 1 or more overnight outings & will be sending a survey around at upcoming meetings looking for possible interest. Here are the locations and then possible dates for you to consider & have in mind when you receive the survey:

- The Wilds (+ other attractions) in Cumberland OH
- Geo Eastman House & Gardens in Rochester NY
- Hocking Hills, Ohio
- Ogleby in Wheeling, West Virginia
- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

*If you have any questions, or to RSVP, e-mail Bonnie at: [bonbon1356@alltel.net](mailto:bonbon1356@alltel.net) or call (440) 564-9618.*

Audrey Buchina



## New members

WRPS would like to welcome our newest members to the club. **Brian Verdi** of Perry, and **Bonnie Brass** of Mentor have both joined recently.

Updated membership lists with complete address and phone numbers are available to current members. Please request via e-mail from Michelle Drackett. Membership lists should be kept confidential!



We have our next **new member orientation** scheduled for February 26, 2008. If you have not attended one of these, please see Wilmer Stowe for your membership packet and/or ask any board member if you have any questions. These orientations take place immediately following the regular program of the evening. These mini meetings help explain things from the new member packets. Anyone who has recently joined, but not attended one of these, is encouraged to do so.

## Around town

**Tinkers Creek photos sought.** The Tinkers Creek Watershed Partners is sponsoring a photo contest for its 2009 calendar. Tinkers Creek is a 30-mile-long creek that drains parts of Portage, Geauga, Summit & Cuyahoga counties. It's the largest tributary of the Cuyahoga River, contributing one-third of its water flow. The **deadline** for submissions is **April 30, 2008**. Entrants must submit an 8x10 print, and a digital copy must be available on request. Include name, address, phone number, e-mail address, site of the photo and T-shirt size with the entry. Send the photo to Tinkers Creek Watershed Partners, Attention: Mike McNutt, 5550 Venture Drive, Parma, OH 44130. For more information, call 216-201-2001, ext. 1224.

Don't forget to sign up for the **Rocky Mountain School of Photography weekend** in Cleveland (Sheraton Cleveland Airport) on April 12-13. Topics include: Photography Basics, Photography Basics II, Understanding Your Digital Camera, Image Management and Organization using Adobe Lightroom™, Processing Your Images: The First Steps, Processing Your Images: Fine Tuning with Layers and Masks, Understanding Exposure – Zone System for Color, Low Light and Night Photography, Macro Photography, Understanding Light, Composition, Photographing People, Sunrises, Sunsets and Flowing Water, Sports and Motion, Photographic Techniques in Photoshop & a critique! Sign up by going to [www.rmsp.com](http://www.rmsp.com) and click on CLEVELAND for details. If you are a WRPS member, contact Lori Diemer or Michelle Drackett for \$20 discount code.

### **Digital SLR BOOTCAMP**

**February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 2008**

Holiday Inn Select, Strongsville, Ohio

Website: [www.dsrlrbootcamp.com](http://www.dsrlrbootcamp.com)

Email: [bkulon@hotmail.com](mailto:bkulon@hotmail.com) or Phone: 330-635-7557 (leave message)

**If we get 6 WRPS members, we can get group rate of \$150 (reg. \$180). We have two already. See or e-mail Michelle Drackett for details!!**

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# The Grasshopper Chronicles

Steven M. Hale

(Continued from page 1)

In my first official act as a new mentor, I suggested that Linda keep a journal, a simple reference of any detailed information she would be receiving from me. Reluctantly, she agreed to do so after first recalling something about having a bad experience with homework in her youth. Email proved to be an excellent means of asking and answering questions, providing new information, exchanging photos and ideas, and getting to know each other better. We agreed to arrive at club meetings 30-45 minutes early (on mutually convenient dates) to talk about photography, play with camera settings, discuss competitions, and to make plans to attend upcoming outings together. I would also use these wonderful opportunities for “pop quiz” reviews of her journal, which she always passed with flying colors.

It is little more than one-half year later. If asked how she feels about being part of the WRPS mentoring program, a very appreciative Linda would tell you that she has made a new close friend, and she is grateful for the time he has spent helping her. Linda would also tell you that she has enjoyed sharing ideas; she has learned more about photography; she has had lots and lots of fun, and somewhere along the way...she has become a better photographer.

As a mentor, I have enjoyed the wonderful satisfaction that results from simply helping a friend, and if that were all I could say about my mentoring experience thus far—it would certainly be enough for me. However, the truth of the matter is: I’ve received so much more.

This past Christmas, Linda, an avid and talented scrapbooking artist, surprised me with a *very* special gift, a “secret project” she began working on shortly after I became her mentor. Entitled, “The Grasshopper Chronicles,” it is a beautiful scrapbook—filled with photographs, meaningful thoughts and comments, unique cut-outs, and creative text—that documents our mentoring journey together. Allow me (at this point) to confirm what you must already be thinking: Yes, it is true, we adopted the Kung Fu Master / Grasshopper *thing* (pretty early on). It has indeed been lots and lots of fun.

Being a mentor is not about knowing everything there is to know about *any* particular subject. Being a mentor is simply about being a friend who is willing to share what you already know. By sharing my own knowledge of photography and photographic techniques with Linda, my understanding of these things has been strongly reinforced. This has motivated and inspired me to explore new directions and creative techniques in my photography. From these experiences, I have learned so much more, and somewhere along the way...I became a better photographer.

The Western Reserve Photographic Society is *truly* Northeast Ohio’s greatest camera club. Have you been enjoying all of the benefits it has to offer? If not, don’t wait for someone to point at you and say, “I want him (or her).” Be a friend who is willing to share. Be a mentor. You’ll make some wonderful friends and share great ideas. You’ll learn more about photography and have lots and lots of fun, and somewhere along the way...you’ll become a better photographer too.

## Get well wishes

submitted by Eileen Findak

Everyone from the club wishes **Paul Newman** a speedy recovery after suffering a stroke in October. We hope you are back on your feet soon to take more great pictures!

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**PSA COMPETITION RESULTS**

Three judges determine scores: 5 - Superior, 4 - Above Average, 3 - Average, 2 - Below Average  
The maximum possible point total = 15

**PROJECTED IMAGE (PICTORIAL)**

<i>A View from Oxbow</i>	Terry Lewis	14*
<i>Lady of the Hood</i>	Brian Norcross	10
<i>Conneaut Fireworks</i>	Dee Riley	12
<i>Golden Stairs</i>	Dee Riley	9
<i>Morning Photos</i>	Marilyn Beasley	9
<i>Canoe at Dusk</i>	Michelle Drackett	<u>10</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>

\* Award of Merit

**KUDOS!**

Deepak Puri's shot of the Denver Performing Arts Center had been short-listed for inclusion in Schmap's Denver guide, and he showed some members the print at the Christmas dinner. He recently learned that the image HAS BEEN selected for the guide.



**Quote of the day**

submitted by Frankie Leighton

Now, to consult the rules of composition before making a picture is a little like consulting the law of gravity before going for a walk.  
—Edward Weston

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## Food for thought

There may be some club Officer positions opening up this spring. We thought we would point out what positions are responsible for what. If YOU would like to get more involved in YOUR camera club, now is the time to start thinking about it. If you are interested in becoming an Officer, please contact **Ed Hodina**. Ed will be the chairman of the nominating committee which is forming at this time.

President: Preside at all club & board meetings.  
Appoint committee chairpersons.  
Club Spokesperson.  
Supervise and monitor club activities.  
Assign responsibility of P.O. Box keys for mail pickup.  
Voting member on Executive Board.

1<sup>st</sup> V.P.: Assume duties of President in his/her absence.  
Chairperson responsible for programs from September through June (18 meetings a year, less 6 competitions, less 1 banquet makes approx. 11 programs and/or guest speakers that need to be scheduled).  
Assist 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President in greeting new guests and members.  
Voting member on Executive Board.

2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.: Assist 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Monitor guest book and name badges.  
Official greeter; introduce guests.  
Promote and develop membership.  
Distribute new member kits/badges.  
Voting member on Executive Board.

Secretary: Record minutes of all meetings.  
Notify members of all meeting and events.  
Handle club correspondences.  
Prepare election ballots if necessary.  
Voting member on Executive Board.

Treasurer: Maintain records and custody of club funds and dues.  
Maintain records of club expenses and disbursements.  
Present report of club finances when requested.  
Provide members with oral report of Club finances at last meeting of each month.  
Prepare annual budget.  
Prepare annual report to members.  
Voting member on Executive Board.

### TERM OF OFFICERS:

Officers shall be elected for a period of one (1) year that will begin the day after the May banquet and awards dinner.

The following are NOT elected positions, but if you are interested in holding a committee position, or even helping on a committee, please talk to **Dee Hudson**.

### COMMITTEES & CHAIRPERSONS:

Perform activities assigned by the President. The length of term is at the discretion of the President.

### CHAIRPERSONS:

Appoint necessary number of assistants.  
Prepare progress reports for Executive Board.  
Inform members at meeting.  
Voting member on Executive Board.

### TERM OF CHAIRPERSONS:

Chairpersons shall be appointed for a period of one (1) year, coinciding with the term of the elected officers. This appointment may be renewed by the President for the next elected term.



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Meeting location:  
Penitentiary Glen Nature Center  
8668 Kirtland Chardon Rd.  
Kirtland, Ohio 44094



Basic Info: (440) 946-5008

Mailing address:  
P.O. Box 714  
Willoughby, OH 44096-0714

Since 1967, The Western Reserve Photographic Society, has been a source of creativity, camaraderie, and education for many photographers in Northeastern Ohio. We meet twice a month to compete, present ideas, critique, welcome guest speakers, and participate in a variety of photographic outings. We have an annual awards banquet each May where the membership comes together to socialize and recognize the previous year's competition winners. Visitors are ALWAYS WELCOME!

## F Y I !

Frankie Leighton and Bill Hudson are planning a WRPS **weekend-long outing in/near Columbus coming up in June**. Some ideas that are being worked on are Conservatory, zoo, rose garden and a park. There will be options for day trips as well as over night accommodations. Please see Frankie if you are interested.

Lori Diemer says there is a new name to that place in Mentor that prints on canvas. She has used them and they do good work. The new name (but same address is):

### **Just A Moment Canvas Images**

9350 Progress Parkway  
Mentor, Ohio 44060  
Jackie Swanson, Proprietor

IF THE **WEATHER** IS BAD THE DAY OF A MEETING WE MAY CANCEL THE MEETING. We will try to make a decision to cancel the meeting BEFORE 5:00 pm. If you have questions if a meeting is cancelled, please CHECK YOUR EMAIL! An E-mail will be sent only if the meeting is CANCELLED. If you do not have access to e-mail, please call Dee Hudson at (440) 946-7193.