

# IN FOCUS . . . . .

*The Newsletter of the Rockford Photo Club*

Volume XXXX, Issue Number 7

July 2011



The objectives of the Rockford Photo Club shall be to improve our photography, and to appreciate photography as an art form.

## Upcoming Events

**Thursday, July 14 - 6 PM** - Committee meeting at the Art Museum. All club members are welcome.

**Thursday, July 14 - 7 PM** - Program on Bird Photography by Steven Servantez, who is an excellent photographer and speaker.

**Tuesday - July 19 - 7 PM** - Pixel Meeting at Jerome Jones's, 798 Ivy Oaks Dr, Caledonia. From the IL 173 (West Bend Road)/I 90 interchange go east past the first stop light at Belvidere/Beloit Road. Go a little more than another mile and turn right on Ivy Oaks Drive. 798 is on the left side toward the bottom of the hill. Look for white van in driveway. A good thing to bring along is a jump drive.

**Thursday, July 28 - 7 PM** - Display. Subjects: Birds and Horses. To show the new things you have learned from the recent shoots and programs. You might even use an 'old' bird shot and a 'new' one.

**Future Programs** (will be updated as I know more)  
Sept 8 - Portrait Photography with Scott Hale  
Sept 22 - Brian Hampton new date  
Oct 13 - Program  
Oct 27 - Raptor Shoot  
Nov 10 - 4 Seasons (shoot the same place 4 times)  
Dec 8 - Party - Slide Show - "2011 Favorites"

**Boone County Fair is Aug 9-14**

**Winnebago County Fair is Aug 16-21**

Club members who can help with the photo contests **Sunday or Monday before**, call Connie (395-1436 or 871-8208) or Vicki Marcum (997-3225)

The new 'webmasters' **are now accepting** images for posting in the new Gallery, so start gathering a few together. We don't yet know how many, but 5 or 6 should be safe to start. Email them to Rose, Connie, Jerome, or Kandie.

**Thursday, Aug 11 - 6 PM** - Committee meeting at the Art Museum. All club members are welcome.

**Thursday, Aug 11 - 7 PM** - Second Chance Contest - for all club members who did not win an award in a club contest. Open subject. Usual contest rules apply (see Page 2). Previous contest entries are acceptable, as long as they didn't win.

**Tuesday - Aug 16 - 7 PM** - Pixel Meeting at Jerome Jones's, 798 Ivy Oaks Dr, Caledonia. From the IL 173 (West Bend Road)/I 90 interchange go east past the first stop light at Belvidere/Beloit Road. Go a little more than another mile and turn right on Ivy Oaks Drive. 798 is on the left side toward the bottom of the hill. Look for white van in driveway. A good thing to bring along is a jump drive.

**Wednesday - Aug 24** - Field Trip - Tall Ships Chicago. New website is [rockfordphotoclub.typepad.com](http://rockfordphotoclub.typepad.com), and we'll try to put more information there, as we did for the horses. You can also make your own arrangements for car-pooling, lunch, etc.

**Thursday, Aug 25** - Display. Subject is 'Signs and Faces-that-are-not'. In other words, if you see a knot in a tree that looks like a face, or a cloud that looks like a face, that works. Doesn't have to be a human face. A cloud like a crocodile face is good, or a Mickey Mouse face that's a pancake. Which leads to the question 'Can you make a face out of beads, or snow, and photograph it? If a piece of fabric falls off a chair into a 'face' shape, is that different than arranging it? I can't answer those.....

**Saturday, Aug 27** - The Boone County Photography Club is planning a trip to the **Bristol Renaissance Faire**, and has invited us along. More details soon.



Above is **Dick Morris'** photo of a roll cloud at Nelco Bay, Antarctica, which was featured on the Weather Page of **USA Today** on March 7th.

On right are snaps from our **'3-Ring Circus'** Workshop, featuring 'Matting and Framing' with Ron Bott, 'Basic Digital Photography' with Dave Donahue, and 'Macro Photography' with Dick Morris. At the end, we have Jerome and Sue reviewing what they have learned.



**Dave Donahue** has some Epson cartridges for sale, for an **Epson R1800**. He's selling them for \$10 each, and has all colors in assorted quantities. Contact him at 885-3540

**Jim Franklin** has some **software for sale** that he bought, and then received better as Christmas gifts. He has Adobe Photoshop Elements 8, and Corel Paintshop Pro Ultimate Photo X2 both still in the original boxes, unopened. Call him at 815-623-2626 between 6 and 10 PM to discuss the price.

**Janice Collins** still has some **HP photo paper for sale**, in assorted sizes. To see what is left, call her at 815-979-0569.

**Policy on Meeting Cancellation** due to inclement weather. If the Museum is open, the meeting goes on, but please be very careful driving

**For all club-meeting displays**, prints, slides, and digital images are allowed, usually 4 or 6. Prints must be mounted on something stiff, and must be at least 5x7" (or 35 square inches). **Prints for contests** (maximum of 4) must have a border or mat. Images that have won previously in a club contest are not eligible for another club contest. Contest entries are limited to club members, but anyone may participate in displays.





## Meet

# Bonnie Wemken

- 1- **How long have you belonged to this camera club and do you belong to another one as well?** I have belonged since January of 2011.
- 2- **Was there a particular event or moment that got you interested in photography?** I love to make people smile when they see themselves in pictures. Now I love the challenge also.
- 3- **What was your first camera?** Yashika 35mm.  
**What do you shoot now?** Sony A200 and Canon D40.  
**Future?** Just a few more lenses.
- 4- **What club events would you like to see happen more?** I like the mini classes, field trips and contests (or critiques).
- 5- **What has been your personal "best moment" at camera club - and why?** So far, my best moment is when people of professional status tell me my pictures are awesome (the guy who critiqued last month).
- 6- **Are you shooting digital and do you also belong to Pixel People?** Yes, but I have not attended Pixel People yet due to my work schedule.
- 7- **What photography magazines do you subscribe to - and which are your favorite(s)?** I subscribe to PSE [Photoshop Elements],
- 8- **Is there a photo book (digital photography, Photoshop or other) that you would recommend and why?** Photoshop Elements 7 by Scott Kelby/Matt Kloskowski.
- 9- **What Display or Contest did you most enjoy? And do you have any suggestion for a topic for a future one? (Don't be afraid to think "outside of the box" here.)** I like all the displays, especially when given a topic, to see how differently people take it.
- 10) **If you could make one suggestion to the new members of our club, what would it be?** Don't miss a meeting. They are so inspiring and everyone is always willing to help or give advice.



## Pixel People

SHARING INFORMATION  
ABOUT  
DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

### NEXT PIXEL PEOPLE MEETING

**All those interested in digital photography are welcome!** The next meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Tues., July 19, at the home of Jerome Jones, 798 Ivy Oaks Drive, Caledonia, IL. More detailed instructions can be found on Page 1 of this newsletter. **Bring digital problems, prints, digims (digital images) to project, equipment problems or new equipment you want to show.**

### Working With Your (Human) Subjects... by Kandie Bott

Scott Hale will present a program which will show you how to photograph people (or models) on September 8th.

For those of you who think this program is all about "the big studio lights", for those of you who are not interested in portrait photography, let me explain - it is not.

It will help you at family reunions, Christmas, other holidays and events. Scott's Main expertise is in portrait photography. He is very good at working with his subjects and making them feel comfortable (very important).

This program will help you learn (1) how to work with your subjects and (2) how to pose them. Scott will set them up while Ron Bott will push the shutter and, hopefully, if everything goes the way it's planned, you will be able to see the photo as taken on a large monitor sync'd to the camera.

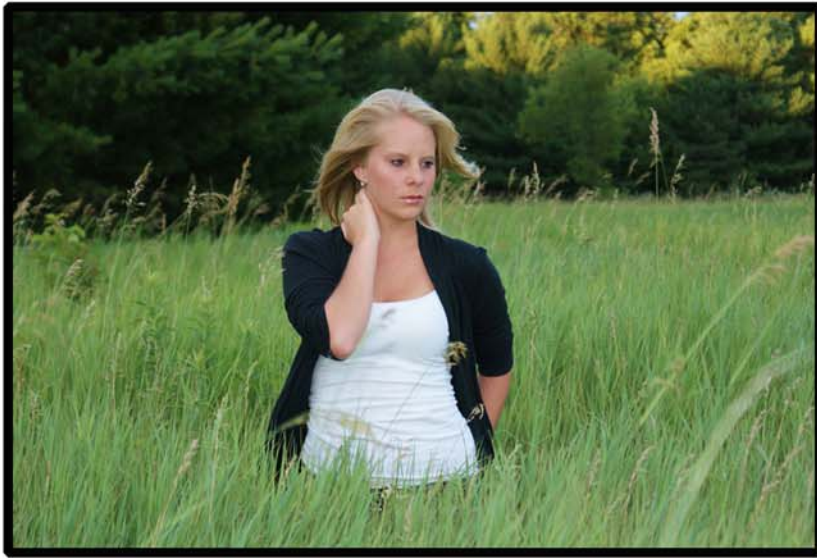
You will be able to use this information with natural light, window, outdoor or flash photography. It will help you see the best way for your subjects to sit or stand and learn how to set up the best composition for your portraits.

While this is not a hands-on program, bring your camera to shoot the setups you like... and bring a notebook for jotting down points you can use in your own photography.

For those of you who want to do studio work, it will be a must-see program for you.

Pixel Pages are open to anyone... if you have not been featured and would like to be... or if the last time you were featured was quite awhile ago and you have photos you'd love to share now, please contact Kandie Bott for instructions either at 815-623-9656 or send an email to [1rkbott@charter.net](mailto:1rkbott@charter.net).

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PHOTOGRAPHY BY  
**BONNIE**  
**WEMKEN**



### **Wildlife Photo Tours and Workshops**

Professional wildlife photographer Suzi Eszterhas leads tours for small groups of 4-10 people, offering some of the world's best photo opportunities in the best locations. Tours are comfortable, fun, educational, and suitable for all levels of photographic experience. Each tour itinerary is uniquely designed to maximize the photographic potential of the location and the animal subject. Suzi's tours recently received rave reviews in Photo Travel Review Magazine: <http://www.phototravelreview.com/ptr-recommended-photo-seminars-suzi-eszterhas-photography/>

About Suzi Eszterhas:

Wildlife photographer Suzi Eszterhas spends nine months of the year shooting a wide variety of wildlife in the field. Her photographs have been published in books, magazines and newspapers all over the world, including, Smithsonian, Audubon, BBC Wildlife, Scientific American, GEO, National Geographic Kids, Ranger Rick and more. Most recently, her iconic picture of an Adelie penguin was featured on the front cover of TIME Magazine. A Fellow of the International League of Conservation Photographers, she has also won awards in the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition and National Wildlife Photo Contest, and was awarded Ranger Rick Photographer of the Year in 2008. Although Suzi works primarily in Africa, she has undertaken commissions and led instructional photography tours and workshops everywhere from Antarctica and the Arctic to Alaska and Montana.

### **Wildlife of Borneo Photo Safari: September 25 – October 12, 2011**

- We'll photograph orangutans up close at world-renowned Camp Leakey, including rehabilitated orangutans now living in the forest, as well as truly wild ones. We'll also have a very special opportunity to visit a rehabilitation center for orphan orangutans. This center is normally closed to the public and photography is usually prohibited, but we'll have exclusive permission to photograph behind the scenes.
- In addition, we'll explore the wildlife rich region of Sabah. Here, we'll visit a special sanctuary to photograph habituated proboscis monkeys, cruise rivers to photograph rare pygmy elephants, and wander tree canopy walkways to photograph gibbons, wild orangutans, leaf monkeys, flying squirrels, many gorgeous birds, frogs, butterflies and much more.

- Travel as a small group of photographers of all skill levels and receive one-on-one instruction from professional wildlife photographer Suzi Eszterhas. Suzi's evening lectures and discussions cover digital workflow, Photoshop, editing your best work and more.

### **Monterey Bay Private Workshops: Scheduled throughout 2011**

- Suzi teaches all levels of nature photography, from absolute beginner to serious advanced, in the Monterey Bay area. Here, Suzi's extensive knowledge of local wildlife populations yields rare opportunities for world-class photography of sea otters, seals and sea lions and a variety of gorgeous birds. These are one-day courses, including lunch, for one or two people.

### **2012 TOURS AND WORKSHOPS**

Wildlife of Costa Rica Photo Safari: February 13 -26, 2012

- This safari takes you to the best locations to photograph scarlet macaws, toucans, parrots, four different species of monkeys, three-toed sloths, coatis, tapirs, anteaters, several species of brilliantly colored frogs, many gorgeous birds, and much more. The group is limited to only six participants and includes exclusive use of private bird blinds specifically constructed for photography.

Wildlife of India Photo Safari: April 2012

- Photograph the exotic wildlife of India on elephant-back and by private jeep. This safari takes you to the best parks for photographing wild tigers, Asian elephants, Indian rhinos, leopards, water buffalo, swamp deer, chital, wild boars, langurs, macaques, gibbons, monitor lizards, a variety of gorgeous birds, and more.

Madagascar Lemurs and Reptiles: October 2012

- Photograph some of the most unique and endangered wildlife in the world as we explore the amazing country of Madagascar. The group will photograph a variety of lemurs and reptiles, including ring-tailed lemurs, aye-ayes, indri, sifakas, chameleons, geckos, and many more.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS PLEASE VISIT:

<http://www.suzieszterhas.com/toursWorkshops/>

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## **FIRST CLASS MAIL**

### **Rockford Photo Club Operating Committee:**

**Chairman: Jerome Jones - 312-593-4925 (jerome@youngbloodjones.com)**

**Vice Chairman: Julie Thompson - 815-742-0315 (julienona21@yahoo.com)**

**Secretary: Jennifer Mahan - 815-608-9165 (gottaluvme127@yahoo.com)**

**Treasurer: Kathleen Ryan - 815-394-4818 (k\_ryan@att.net)**

**Kandie Bott - 815-623-9656 (1rkbott@charter.net)**

**Jeff Carpenter - 815-623-6918 (JCLCJCBC@charter.net)**

**Connie Youngs - 815-395-1436 (connie6121@juno.com)**

**Webmaster: Jason Rotello - 815-621-5860 (jason@jrotello.com)**

**2nd Webmaster: Rose Hoffa - 815-815/531-1816 (rshoffa@gmail.com)**

**Newsletter Editor: Connie Youngs - 815-395-1436 (connie6121@juno.com)**

**For a current member list, send me an email (connie6121@juno.com) and I will send it to you. I can send an RTF (generic document file) or PDF (Adobe Acrobat file).**

**For those who may not have noticed, Camera Craft has moved its store from the Edgebrook Center to 3801 N. Perryville Rd.**

The following club members have volunteered to provide free one-on-one training for people interested in basic digital photography and/or computer image processing: Paul Crittenden (964-8252), Paul Mueller (874-6790), Al Westman (399-2584), and Connie Youngs (395-1436).

The Rockford Photo Club generally holds its meetings on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month starting at 7 PM. We are currently (since the big remodeling project) meeting in a basement room of the Riverfront Museum Park Building (the former Sears Building), 711 North Main St. in Rockford. During the summer months, the time and place may change. Contact a committee member for more information.