



SPPC Perspective

The Seven Ponds Photography Club, formed in 2009, was created to promote the advancement of photography as an art. The purpose of the club is to bring together persons of like mind who are dedicated to the advancement of their skills by association with other members, through the study of the work of others and through spirited and friendly competition. The club exists to offer opportunities for all to share knowledge within the club and in the community, through exhibitions and programs that excite interest in the knowledge and practice of all branches of photography.

Workshop May 11th – Pete Fox Presenting “Your Portable Studio”

We are excited to bring Westcott representative Pete Fox to Seven Ponds Nature Center on Saturday, May 11th. Pete will walk you through methods for creating quality portraits anywhere, anytime. Participants should bring their cameras for some hands-on opportunities to work with the Westcott gear and models.



the Westcott gear. There will be multiple sets and live models to photograph, with experts available (Pete being one of them) to help guide you in taking the best photographs possible. All caliber of photographers are welcome and there will be something for everyone to learn.

Attendees are required to sign up on line, either by choosing the ticket option on our Facebook event <https://www.facebook.com/events/361835031099747/> or through the Troy Nature Photo Club website, https://www.troynaturephotoclub.org/index.php/registrations?fbclid=IwAR2RJ8B_gBcVwznGuYvaSl2vOeKaFMJh3tZ21wllOUEbPsU9HLiaJltbuK0. Come and have a great day with other photographers. As mentioned, there is no charge for the class but there is limited space and it will be first come first serve policy, so...sign up early.

If you have any questions please look on our [Facebook event](#), our [Seven Ponds Photography Club website](#), or email 7pondsphotoexpo@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you there.

Locations: Morning – Seven Ponds Nature Center, 3854 Crawford Road, Dryden, MI 48428
Afternoon – Imlay City Fair Grounds, 195 Midway Street, Imlay City, MI 48444



This is a free class and is open to the public. The day will start at 9:30am at Seven Ponds Nature Center. The morning session will include instruction from Pete, then will break for lunch. After Lunch the learning will resume at the Imlay City Fair Grounds, in Imlay City. This will be a great time to actually use



A special thanks to Westcott and Pete Fox, for making this event possible. <https://www.fjwestcott.com/>

May 3rd – Environmental Portraits by Mike Naddeo

Mike Naddeo will be presenting at our May 3rd meeting on Environmental Portraits.



An environmental portrait is a photograph that shows the subject and highlights an interest or activity they are involved with.

Mike is a commercial and editorial photographer working in the greater Flint, Michigan area. His work is often featured in My City Magazine. Mike holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Northern Michigan University.



You can find out more about Mike and his work on his web site, <https://www.mikenaddeo.com>.

“It’s one thing to make a picture of what a person looks like, it’s another thing to make a portrait of who they are.” — **Paul Caponigro**

June 7th - Night Photography by Rev. Kelly Todd

Please join us at Seven Ponds Photography Club on



June 7, 2019 for a night of photography fun, led by the Reverend Kelly Todd! We will explore different types of night photography and learn how to shoot award winning images!



We will explore different types of night photography such as Cityscapes, nighttime sports, fireworks, stars, star trails, Milky Way, lightning, and even gun fire. And we will discuss the following aspects of night photography!

- Think about what you will be shooting/block it out in your head
- What are you going to do, what is your purpose?
- Equipment
- Seasons/app/location of the Milky Way
- Choose a suitable foreground/background/ Choose a location
- Settings

Please join us for a night of fun and if the weather will cooperate... we will even get an opportunity to do some practicing as well!



Spring Trip – Nevada, Arizona and Utah

Contributor Tom Harpootlian

The last week of March, my wife Lin and I flew to Las Vegas with our two grandsons and rented an RV to travel for the next week. The weather was great! It was generally about 55-60F during the day with bright sun and blue skies. The first night we camped in Boulder City, Nevada and the next morning we stopped at the Hoover Dam where we took a general tour. Tours are on a first come, first serve basis but this early in the year we didn't have a problem. There is a security checkpoint before you drive over the actual dam to the parking lots on the other side. With an RV they walk through the unit and open every outside compartment to look for dangerous materials. This might have been a little time consuming but it was 9AM and there was no back-up. They constructed a new bridge over the Colorado River a few years ago so now if you are just traveling past you don't drive over the dam. The tour of the generator room was impressive as well as the construction details of how they built the dam.



After the tour of the dam we left about noon and drove to the south rim of the Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona just in time for sunset!! Not too great but there is never a bad shot of the Grand Canyon!!



My advice for good sunset photos is to scout out good vantage points either looking east or west or both. Then get there early and wait for the sun to start its descent. It gets very crowded at the good spots so take your pictures and move away to let others get their shots. We spent the whole next day visiting various lookout points around the rim and of course shooting all the time. It is very dangerous if you are not careful. There are some guard rails but most places the path runs right along the rim and you are warned to stay six feet from the edge. It's not a good place for small children. The week we were there two people were killed falling over. It was generally a 1,000 foot fall to the first ledge.



We camped in the small town about three miles outside the park, Tusayan. There was a very good shuttle bus system from there into the National Park as well as three different bus routes around the south rim. They were very convenient for getting around to the various viewing points. We drove east

out of the park the next morning and stopped by the Desert View Watchtower. More scenic views!!



After we left the park we turned north hoping to stop by Antelope Canyon and see the fabulous slot canyon but it is very controlled by the local Indian tribe. Tours are very expensive and very booked up so we bypassed that stop and drove on to the town of Kanab, Utah and camped there. We had wanted to camp right at Bryce Canyon National Park but it is at 9,000 feet elevation and no campgrounds were open yet. In fact most of the park had not been plowed out yet. The visitor center was open and a few of the viewpoints were accessible. It was very interesting with the snow on the red rock formations.



From there we drove to Zion National Park. We had been told that the east entrance was closed due to a washed out road but we found out the next day one lane was open. They were letting vehicles go through that section but controlled by traffic lights a few minutes at a time. Zion is fabulous because in this canyon you enter at the river level and are intimately in the valley with huge rock walls right in your face. This park also had an excellent shuttle bus service from the town of Springdale where we camped about two miles from the entrance. And the

shuttle bus service in the park again was very smoothly run and very convenient. It ran every ten minutes going in both directions. It would be almost impossible to take a private vehicle into the park and really there is no reason to do so. From the entrance you can ride the bus to the end of the road about seven miles into the park. At that point the canyon narrows down to the width of the Virgin River. This is called The Narrows and if the river is not running too fast you can walk upstream in very cold water but have to be aware of flash floods coming from many miles upstream. One afternoon we did drive out the east entrance road and the views were overwhelming!! There is also a famous photo spot there called Checkerboard Mesa.

All in all it was a very wonderful trip. It was beautiful but very short. There are many more exquisite and gorgeous national parks, monuments and state parks to see in the southern half of Utah, A few years ago we spent two weeks there and still could have stayed longer snapping photos!!

“The Colorado Plateau is largely made up of high desert, with scattered areas of forests. In the southwest corner of the Colorado Plateau lies the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River. Much of the Plateau's landscape is related, in both appearance and geologic history, to the Grand Canyon. The nickname "Red Rock Country" suggests the brightly colored rock left bare to the view by dryness and erosion. Domes, hoodoos, fins, reefs, river narrows, natural bridges, and slot canyons are only some of the additional features typical of the Plateau. The Colorado Plateau has the greatest concentration of U.S. National Park Service (NPS) units in the country outside the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Among its 9 National Parks are Grand Canyon, Zion, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, Canyonlands, Arches, Mesa Verde, and Petrified Forest. Among its 18 National Monuments are Bears Ears, Rainbow Bridge, Dinosaur, Hovenweep, Wupatki, Sunset Crater Volcano, Grand Staircase-Escalante, Natural Bridges, Canyons of the Ancients, Chaco Culture National Historical Park and the Colorado National Monument. The average elevation is between 5,000 and 11,000 feet”

--- Wikipedia ---

Competition Scoring

On April 8, Hank Lewis sent an email to all members of the SPPC. The email was sent to address inconsistency in scoring and more closely align SPPC scoring with the other clubs that make up the Greater Detroit Camera Club Council. Three documents were attached to that email. These documents should be reviewed by everyone who participate in the third Friday competition meetings. In addition to providing guidance on judging they also provide helpful information in what make up a good image, that we can all use to improve are photography. These documents can be found on the clubs web site at the following links.

Competition Meeting Scoring

<https://spnc.photoclubservices.com/Downloads/a13691f5-782d-4c28-8923-b46e44c2492d?o=y>

Interest Composition Technical Quality

<https://spnc.photoclubservices.com/Downloads/c900cc75-0610-4915-8e81-9123fd855712?o=y>

27 Point Scoring Guidelines

<https://spnc.photoclubservices.com/Downloads/899c1311-c5f7-48c5-9d5f-b86a090bdbc1?o=y>

How to check your competition score

What do you do if you entered you photo into a competition, but for some reason you were not able make the competition meeting and get your score? The SPPC web site provides several options to answer that question. Here is one of them.

Go to the SPPC web site, logon and then select the “Competitions” tab <https://spnc.photoclubservices.com/CompetitionsMenu.aspx>. You will see the following menu.

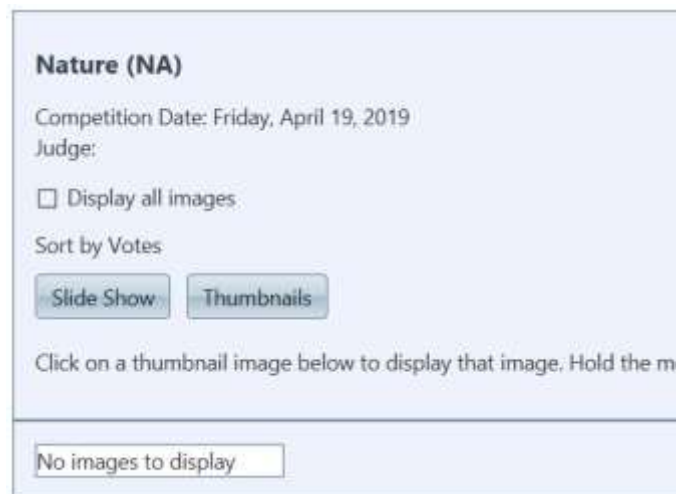


From that screen click on competition results.

Scroll down on the next screen until you see a list of recent competitions.

	Competition Date	Photo	Competition Title	Competition Type
Select	Friday, April 19, 2019		Color Creative (CC)	Color Creative (CC)
Select	Friday, April 19, 2019		Color General (CG)	Color General (CG)
Select	Friday, April 19, 2019		Monochrome General (MG)	Monochrome General (MG)
Select	Friday, April 19, 2019		Nature (NA)	Nature (NA)
Select	Friday, April 19, 2019	Basic	Follow Best	Follow Best

Select the competition you are interested in. When the “Competition Results” screen opens, scroll down until you see the information on the competition you selected earlier.

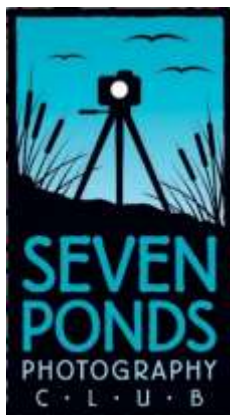


On that screen you will need select the “Display all images” option. At that point you should be able to see thumbnail images, and associated score, of all the images entered into the competition.



Newsletter Content

We are looking for members to contribute articles related to photography or club activities. Email your articles to [Mark Robinson](mailto:Mark.Robinson@spnc.com).



May/June 2019

SPPC - Activities and Events

Meeting Location

Seven Ponds Nature Center
3854 Crawford Road Dryden, MI 48428-9776

The Seven Ponds Photography Club holds its meetings on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. All meetings are open to members and nonmembers.

Special Events

May 11 - Workshop Your Portable Studio (Pete Fox from Westcott) See article above for details.

Guest Speakers & Events (1st Monday Meetings)

- May 3 - Environmental Portraits** (Mike Naddeo)
- June 7 - Night Photography** (Rev. Kelly Todd)
- July 5 - Photography Scavenger Hunt at Seven Ponds**
- Aug 2 - Nature Photography Composition and Creative Techniques** (David Stimac)

Assignment Topics (Review @ 1st Monday Meetings)

Assignment Reviews are typically reviewed on the first Monday of the month following the assignment month, unless otherwise noted. Please send your images to 7pondsphoto@gmail.com, by noon on the day of the meeting.

- May** - Something Old
- June** - Barns
- July** - We will be having an Outdoor Photo Shoot at Seven Ponds (scavenger photo hunt Images)
- August** - Leave it Alone (Shoot subject as found)

Club Outings

May 18 - Dow Gardens & Whiting Forest

The Dow Gardens and Whiting Forest provide many opportunities to photograph a vast variety of plant life as well as architecture. [Outing Details](#)

June 7 - Night Photography

Night Photography Mentoring following our June 7th meeting. [Outing Details](#)

June 8 - Green Field Village Trip

Day trip to Greenfield Village; opportunity to photograph farm animals, flowers, historical homes, working farms and more! [Outing Details](#)

June 1 - Toledo Zoo and Aquarium

This trip to the Toledo Zoo is a public bus trip is hosted by Romeo Parks and Rec and require tickets issued through them. [Outing Details](#)

Club outing details change due to various reasons. Please check the [SPPC web sites "Photo Trips Meet Ups" tab](#) for current details.

Meetings

The Seven Ponds Photography Club typically holds its meetings on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

1st Friday meetings focus on educational presentations and monthly assignment photographs.

3rd Friday meetings are competition night, photographs submitted by members are scored and reviewed. Some photos are then sent to the Greater Detroit Camera Club Council (GDCCC) to compete with other clubs.

Mentoring Sessions

Mentoring sessions are typically held the 4th Friday of each month please contact [Dale Vronch](#) if you plan to attend. Bring your laptop and an image to work on.

Note: No Mentoring Sessions in June, July or August.

Helpful links:

[SPPC Home Page](#) [SPPC Facebook Page](#)

[SPPC Member's Shared Images](#) [GDCCC Home Page](#)