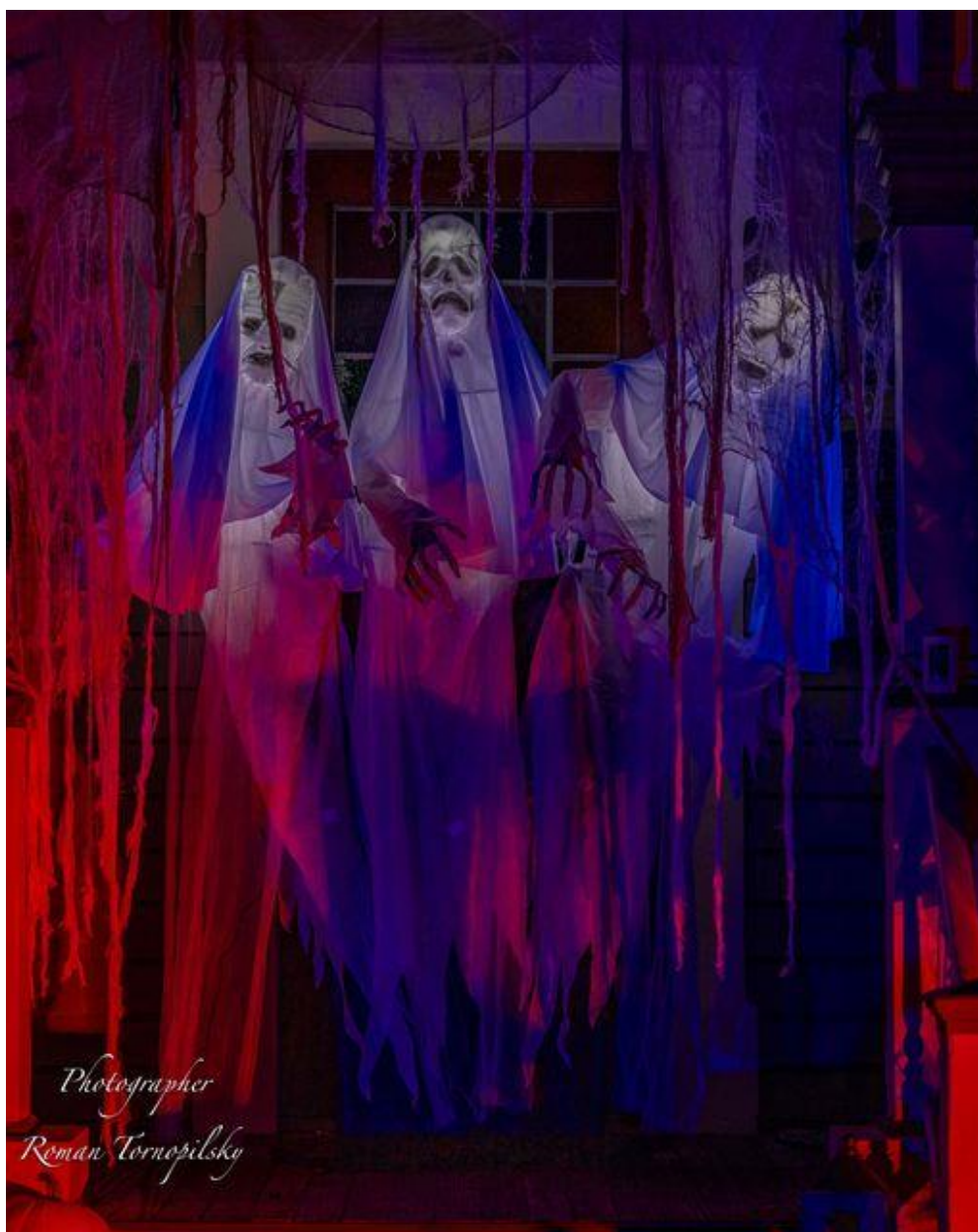


The SPPC

Perspective



October 2024

Highlights in this issue...

- About the Cover Image
- Focus Topics
- Photo Tips & Techniques
- SPPC Trips & Workshops
- Current & Upcoming Events
- & Much More...

Table of Contents

Page 1	Cover photo
Page 2	Focus Topics 2024
Page 3	Bird Photography Basics & Beyond
Page 4	Windrush Farms Horse and Driver Events
Page 4	Metamora Balloon Festival
Page 5	Festival of the Hawks 2024
Page 6	SPPC Zion, Monument Valley, and Antelope Canyon
Page 7	Toledo Zoo
Page 7	Light Painting Workshop
Page 9	Tillson Street
Page 10	Photo Tips
Page 11	2025 SPPC Kickoff
Page 12	GDCCC Update
Page 13	SPPC Activities and Events

SPPC Members,

Currently, we are having meetings in person at Seven Ponds Nature Center on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month.

Keep checking the [7 Ponds Photography Club Website](#) for updates on upcoming meetings.

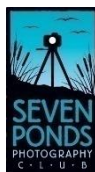
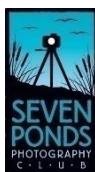
11-1-2024 – 1st Friday Competition & Focus Topic Review Meeting 7-9pm

11/15/2024 [Speaker Bob Rentschler -Depth of Field / Focus-Problems and Solutions](#)

12-7-2024 [Seven Ponds Nature Center Holiday Auction & Christmas Party](#)

1-17-2025 2025 SPPC Holiday Kickoff 6-9pm @ Seven Ponds Nature Center \$25 see [Bobbie Lewis](#)

1-25-2025 EOY GDCCC Banquet @ Club Venetian Hall 29310 John R Rd, Madison Heights Mi (tickets \$40 each at the Nov 15th meeting, see Germaine or email germaine.sppc@yahoo.com)



About the cover photo

SPPC is looking for members to help in the following areas:

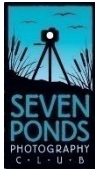
- ✓ Judge our monthly GDCCC competitions.
- ✓ Newsletter Contributions – submit articles on trips, techniques or product/gear reviews to germaine.sppc@yahoo.com
- ✓ Bring individually wrapped snacks.
- ✓ Setting up or taking down tables and chairs.
- ✓ Lead a photo outing, or a fun shoot.

Email 7pondsphotoexpo@gmail.com to volunteer

Congratulations to Roman Tornopilsky for taking this image at the annual club visit to Tillson Street this year. Specific data on photo (text by Roman) - Canon R5, RF 24-70mm @ 70mm. Used my lightweight Ulanzi Zero F35 tripod. The tripod is my favorite for any travel that may need a tripod, carbon fiber and very light yet sturdy I might have been able to get away with a monopod. Image made at ISO 1000, f/2.8, and 1/40 second. Used the shutter on camera, no cable release. The scene on Tillson street after dark, about 7:45 pm was very crowded and basically had to go along with the crowd between homes. People were very accommodating of this photographer setting up and taking the image in all of about 30 seconds. I was

there for the club shoot in the morning so I had ideas what could be made. This on the other hand was a surprise and I couldn't pass up.

Thanks again Roman for sharing your images on the [Seven Ponds Photography Shared images FB page](#) 😊



Focus Topics – 2024

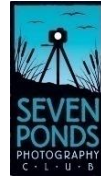
After receiving feedback from the club requesting more frequent Focus Topic reviews, there has been a change.

For 2024 Focus Topics will be reviewed at the 1st Friday Competition Meeting. All focus topic images need to be uploaded to spnc.photoclubservices.com

Images should be entered via our website in Focus Topics. Use tab at top of page {competitions} (Submit Image to Competition) {Focus Topic}

Be sure to include the Focus Topic in the image title – ie *Edsel Ford House – Old Buildings*

Month	Due	Topic
January	1/3/2024	November 2023 Color Theory and December 2023 Zoom Burst and/or light painting
February	1/31/2024	Abstract
March	2/28/2024	Good for a Giggle
April	4/3/2024	Old Buildings
May	5/1/2024	Sunrise /Sunset
June	6/5/2024	Reflections
July	7/3/2024	Amphibians/Reptiles/Insects
August	7/31/2024	Lake/Water/River
September	9/4/2024	Vehicles
October	10/2/2024	Birds
November	10/30/2024	Dogs/Cats/Horses



Pay SPPC Membership Online

We have received a few questions on how to pay online. If you are unsure, checkout the following:

On the Seven Ponds website click on the [Pay Online](#) link. Then you will see the following and click on the button

Seven Ponds Photo Club Membership

05/01/2021 12:05 AM - 04/02/2023 11:55 PM ET

[Click here to register online](#)

It will bring you to your existing account with the Seven Ponds Nature Center. If you don't have one, create one or continue as a guest and fill out the required name, address, etc. fields. You will end up with a screen to check your info before pressing the **Complete Registration** button to proceed to the payment screen.

Press **Submit** and you will get a confirmation email

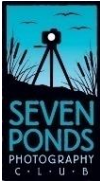


New Members

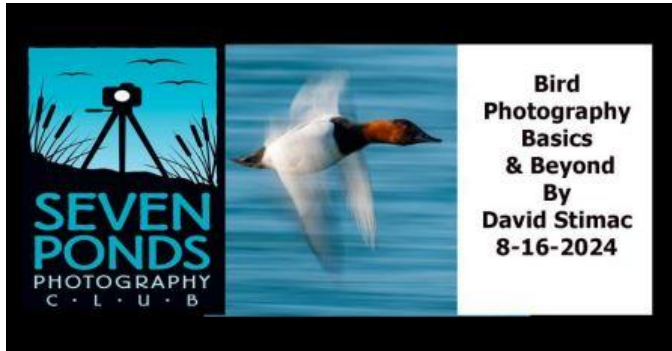
Please welcome new member:

Veleta Carpenter

Welcome to the club!



8-16-2024 Bird Photography Basics & Beyond by David Stimac



In this workshop David Stimac helped us learn more about the equipment and techniques for making beautiful bird images, as well as the importance of blinds, how to attract birds, and the special considerations for successful flight photography. David also shared his favorite tips on the best timing and locations for great bird photography opportunities.



Fall Migration Map – Dave's Presentation

Fall:

Birds at these locations generally aren't very close but occasionally are, with Holiday Beach being the better spot.

[Holiday Beach Conservation Area, Ontario](#)

Raptor migration Sept-Nov (best on days with a north wind)

[Lake Erie Metropark, Michigan](#)

Raptor migration Sept-Nov

Winter:

[Kensington Metropark, Michigan](#)

This location is good throughout the year but winter offers the best opportunities for tame songbirds coming very close for birdseed around the nature center area.

The public areas along the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers can be excellent for a variety of waterfowl species during cold winters when birds are forced into ice-free areas.

The St. Clair River can be good from the parks in Port Huron, Marysville, St. Clair and Marine City as well as some of the parks on the Canadian side.

The Detroit River spots are [Dingell Park](#), Wyandotte, the Lake Erie Metropark boat ramp and [Lakeview Park Marina in Windsor](#).

Spring:

Spring Migration hot spots include [Port Crescent State Park](#), the Grindstone City area and [Whitefish point](#) for raptors in April. Days with south winds are best.

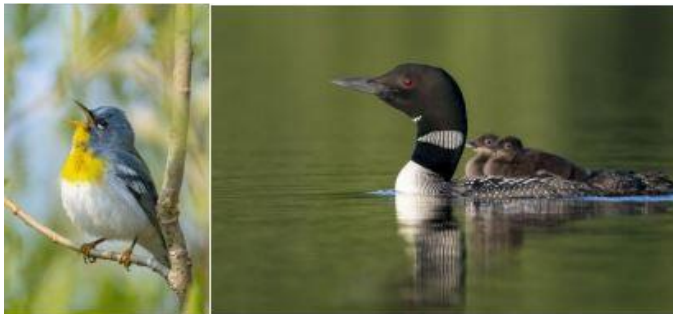
For warblers and other neotropical migrants in May, try [Tawas Point State Park](#), or the [Erie Marsh Preserve](#). [Point Pelee National Park](#) in Ontario and [Magee Marsh](#) in Ohio can be excellent but are often very crowded.

Please note that the Erie Marsh is managed by a hunting club and is closed during hunting season.

Summer:

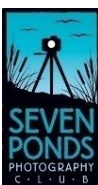
Summer is a relatively slow time for bird photography, but late July and August can be excellent for shorebirds, depending on water levels.

[Pointe Mouillee State Game Area](#) offers the best opportunities but requires very long walks or bike rides out to the areas where the birds are. Please note that there is restricted access during the hunting season.



Photos by David Stimac

See [David Stimac Photography](http://www.davidstimac.com)
www.davidstimac.com



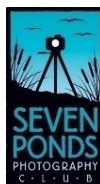
8-16 to 8-18-2024 – Windrush Farms Horse and Driver Events
 – *Highlighted Photo Op*

This was an event that was put on the board during the August meeting that I thought why not go. So, I went to my very first horse and driver event and saw a few other members there – Jim and Bobbie Lewis, Kristin Grudzien and Larry Ludwicki (Cindy was in the event and if others went and I missed you, I am sorry for the omission, but I am sure you had fun too). Below are a few shots of members waiting for the drivers to come to our location –



Photos by Germaine Finley

It was a fun event, and I will probably do it again as it was great practice on shooting moving targets and trying to get an interesting composition for the action. So, the lesson is – watch the board and website for events happening and reach out to the group on FB to see who might want to join up.



8-23-2024 – Metamora Balloon Festival - Group Shoot

		<p>SPPC Metamora Hot Air Balloon Photoshoot Fri 8-23-2024 Sat 8-24-2024</p>
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Once again, the group got together to photograph the balloons at the 2024 Metamora Balloon Festival. There were numerous group members there on Friday to capture the launching activity. We always get ringside seats thanks to Jim and Stu. Thanks to all that went and shared their images on our Facebook page. Here are a few member pictures taken at the event:



Photo by Tina Daniels



Photo by Roman Tornopilsky



Photo by John Brown



Group shot by Jim Lewis



9-14 to 9-15-2024 Festival of the Hawks 2024 - Highlighted Photo Op

This was mentioned by Larry Ludwicki and Dave Stimac in their respective presentations, and it also made it as a Photo Op on the whiteboard at a few meetings. Again, I decided that this was a good year to see what it was all about and convinced my husband to take a drive over to Canada with me.

The drive to Holiday Beach Conservation Area was about 1 hour 20 minutes from my house in the metro area. When we arrived at the conservation area, there were volunteers guiding you to a

parking area and there were food trucks available for lunch. We saw Larry and then hiked a short way down a trail to an observation tower. The tower had several levels so you could choose to be up high in the sun or cool off a bit on the second level in the shade. Both levels offered excellent views into the marsh that was filled with swans, ducks, cormorants and herons (later images shared on Facebook, showed hundreds of white pelicans).

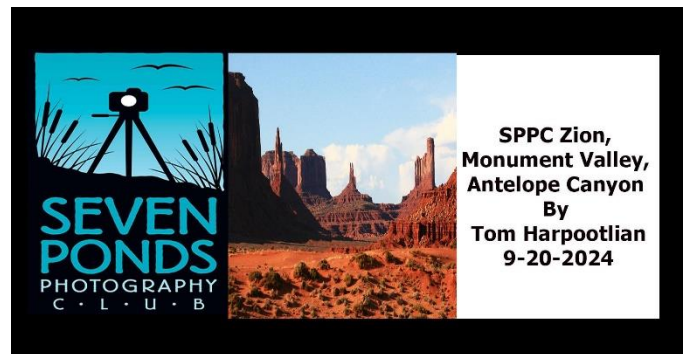
We watched awhile unsuccessfully for the Osprey to return but then went back to the main area for some demonstrations on measuring and banding a owls and hawks. It was a real joy to see the birds that the Holiday Beach Migration Observatory were releasing that day.



Photos by Germaine Finley



9-20-2024 – SPPC Zion, Monument Valley, and Antelope Canyon by Tom Harpootlian

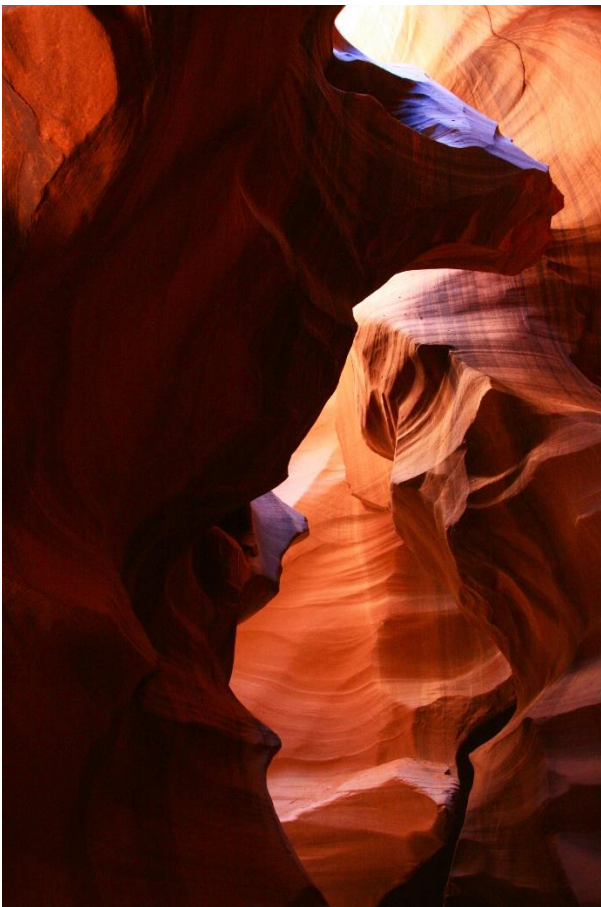


After our September speaker cancelled, Tom graciously volunteered to give a presentation on his photographic adventures at Zion, Monument Valley, and Antelope Canyon. He shared some beautiful

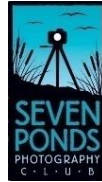
images and fun stories about his travels. I have never seen Zion and after seeing his presentation, I think that it would be a fantastic place to visit. Thanks for sharing your images Tom and great information for those wanting to photograph these locations.



Zion by Tom Harpootlian

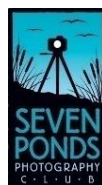


Antelope Canyon by Tom Harpootlian



10-2-2024 – Toledo Zoo – photo op group meetup

Here is another outing that was advertised on the whiteboard during meetings. Romeo-Washington-Bruce Parks and Rec sponsor some trips throughout the year for Seniors. These are open to residents and non-residents and include (usually) a meal or snacks and transportation to and from various places of interest. This trip was to the Toledo Zoo. Several members and spouses made the trip and had a fun day. Here are LeeAnn and Tina trying to be dessert.



10-18-2024 – SPPC Light Painting Workshop by Germaine Finley and Tina Daniels



Tina and Germaine gave a short presentation on what light painting is, types of light painting, tools

involved, settings and showed a short YouTube video on how to make a Fabrege Orb by Jason Page. We then broke into 2 groups. One group went outside to practice some of the techniques for on camera light painting, including the Fabrege Orb while the other group stayed inside doing some table top light painting.

Basically, light painting is a set of photographic techniques of moving a light source while taking a long exposure. You can point the light toward the camera to draw, illuminate an object from off camera and paint the light into the image or move the camera itself to create the light movement trails.



Light Painting Examples - photos by Germaine Finley

Check out some YouTube how to videos from these light painting artists:

Eric Paré– [How to make yourself invisible](#)

Susan Magnano – [5 Light Painting Photography Tips](#)

Jason Page – [How To Paint a Perfect Circle Long Exposure Photography Tutorial](#)

Easy Light Painting Tutorial with a Phone

Jordi Koalitic – [10 Light Painting Photography Ideas](#)

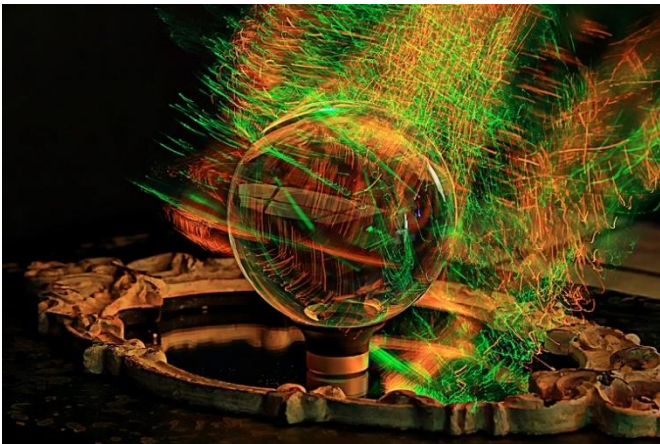
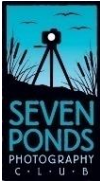


Photo by Tina Daniels



Photo by Dave Ulman from the class



10-21-2024 – SPPC Tillson Street by Stu Davis

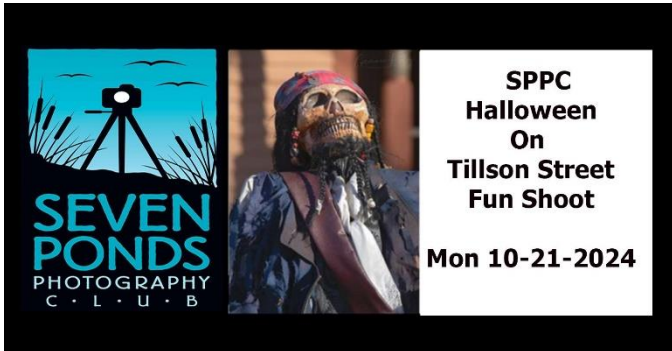


Photo by LeeAnn McLaneGoetz



Photo by Roman Tornopilsky

Once again, the group met at Tillson Street in Romeo to photograph all the new and old Halloween setups on the street and a nice lunch at Times Square Restaurant afterwards. For those unfamiliar with the [Terror on Tillson Street](#) event, it is a truly unique experience and a great example of a



Photo by LeeAnn McLaneGoetz

community pulling together. Follow the [Terror on Tillson Street](#) link to read in detail the history of the event and how it benefits the whole community with [scholarships](#) to; high school pay-to-play, the Skills U.S.A. vocational program, the Romeo votec robotics team (the Byting Bulldogs) as well as the [Wounded Warrior project](#). The residents accomplish this by selling "Halloween on Tillson Street" t-shirts and cookbooks to visitors. Attendance is free and the residents do all the decorations and provide candy to all the trick or treating as a community service. If you do visit, have a great time. It is fun to photograph day or night but be respectful of not walking on the residents' lawn (it gets a lot of traffic).

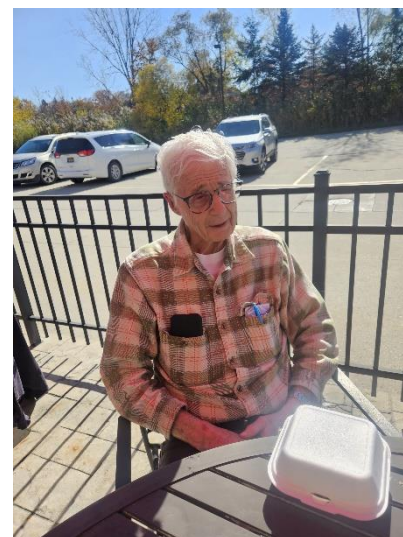


Photo by LeeAnn McLaneGoetz

Thanks, Stu, for leading this fun annual outing.



Winter Photography Tips

Yes, it's coming and it's cold but it is also a great season to photograph. Here are some tips to remember as it gets colder.

- Adjust the white balance
- Maintain detail in the highlights
- Lighting for maximum sparkle in the snow
- Try night photography and/or light painting
- Process for added detail and texture
- Add some animal subjects to your photos

Adjust the white balance

Setting your white balance to a cooler end of the spectrum (not shade or cloudy which can give a dirty/warm look to snow), you can get a colder feeling in your image.

Maintain detail in the highlights

You NEED to have both highlights and shadows to make a pure white object appear textured and three-dimensional. Make sure you do not have blown out highlights by turning on the highlight warning on your camera.

Lighting for maximum sparkle in the snow

Hard light will provide drama, intense shadows and texture and back lighting your scene will enhance snow texture even more.

Try night photography and/or light painting

Use holiday decorations at blue hour for the best color in the sky and to capture the lights.

Process for Added Detail and Texture

Don't forget in post processing to add contrast, play with the Curves and Clarity or Structure sliders, and make sure your subject is crisp and sharp

Add some animal subjects to your photos

Even if you can't travel to capture wildlife in winter, try going to a farm, local zoo or dog park and capture how animals work, play or just try to stay warm.



The above tips were from [6 Important Winter Photography Tips for Stunning Photos](#)

In addition:

Try some macro shots

- *Snow Crystals/ Snow Flakes*
- *Ice bubbles*

For some more Winter inspiration, check out [28 Winter Wonderland Frozen Images to Get You Out in the Cold](#)

Remember –

Dress warm, bring extra batteries, let your camera gear acclimate to the cold before shooting and protect your camera and gear in a camera bag to warm up slowly when you get back inside.

SPPC 2025 Holiday Kickoff and Potluck

Socialize, Enjoy Prints and Digital Images from the year, Delicious Dinner, Awards and Prizes

6:00 PM - 6:30 PM Pre-dinner meet and greet. Share your 3 images with photo buddies.

6:30 PM Welcome Guests

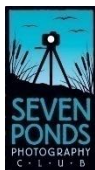
7:00 PM Catered dinner via Ankley Farms [Kates Kitchen](#)

Catered dinner to include:

- Garden Salad Choice of Dressing
- Oven Baked Chicken
- Vegetable Lasagna
- Red Skin Potatoes
- Broccoli, Cauliflower Carrot Medley
- Dessert Various
- Coffee, Tea, Lemonade

Post dinner we will share a sneak peek of what the 2025 season has to offer, Germaine and Kristin will present the 2024 GDCCC Image Competition award winner ribbons, followed by a “pick your prize raffle” you will not want to miss!





GDCCC Update

Every club in the GDCCC that participates in competitions takes their turn judging both digital images and prints. The club that hosts the judging volunteers 3 judges that remotely judge the digital images and will judge in-person for prints. Seven Ponds will judge the March Digital competition and May Print competition. This means that we will sit out and judge and not put images in for the month of March or prints for May.

Print judging is open to club members to come to any GDCCC competition night. It is a nice way for our club members to meet other clubs in addition to seeing the prints in person. This is the only time that some of these prints will be seen as only the winners get displayed on the web.

2024 GDCCC DPD Competition Schedule	
2/19-23/24 (images due 2/16)	Toledo
3/11-15/24 (image due 3/8)	Seven Ponds
4/22-26/24 (image due 4/19)	Windsor
9/9-13/24 (image due 9/6)	West Oakland
10/7-11/24 (image due 10/4)	Livonia
10/28-11/1/24(image due 10/25)	Oakland
EOY Competition	Oakland

2024 GDCCC Print Competition Schedule	
3/28/24 (images due 3/24)	West Oakland
4/16/24 (images due 4/12)	Windsor
5/23/24 – Thursday	Seven Ponds
8/29/24 (images due 8/25)	Motor City
10/4/24 (images due 10/8)	Grosse Pointe
11/12/24 (images due 11/8)	Oakland
EOY Competition	Oakland

News from GDCCC –

EOY GDCCC Banquet

There will be a slide show showing all the End of Year (Best of the Best) award winners for the Digital Divisions – Color Creative, Color General, Monochrome General and Nature Divisions. All Color and Monochrome prints that have won EOY honors will be on display at the Banquet. It’s a good place to meet other photographers in our council.

Date: Sat 1-25-2025

Cost Dinner Tickets \$40

Time: 11:00AM - 3:00PM

Location: Club Venetian Hall -29310 John R Road, Madison Heights Mi

See Germaine or email germaine.sppc@yahoo.com for tickets



SPPC Activities and Events

Upcoming Events

11-1-2024 – 1st Friday Competition & Focus Topic Review Meeting 7-9pm

11/15/2024 *Speaker Bob Rentschler -[Depth of Field / Focus-Problems and Solutions](#)*

12-7-2024 [Seven Ponds Nature Center Holiday Auction & Christmas Party](#)

1-17-2025 2025 SPPC Holiday Kickoff 6-9pm @ Seven Ponds Nature Center \$25 see *Bobbie Lewis*

1-25-2025 EOY GDCCC Banquet @ *Club Venetian Hall 29310 John R Rd, Madison Heights Mi (tickets \$40 each at the Nov 15th meeting, see Germaine or email germaine.sppc@yahoo.com)*

Upcoming Virtual Workshops

[B&H Event Space \(Free Webinars\)](#)

[Hunts On-Line Classes](#)

Free Training

[f64 Free Photoshop Tutorials](#)

[Photoshop Training Channel Tutorials](#)

GDCCC Sponsored Training

3/12/2025 [GDCCC Sponsored: Long Exposures – Light and Magic 7-8:30pm](#)

Self-guided Trips

Nov 22nd 5pm - midnight [Campus Martius Park Tree Lighting & Ice Skating](#)

Nov – 24, 25, 26, 30 [Winter Wonder Lights at Meadow Brook Hall in](#)

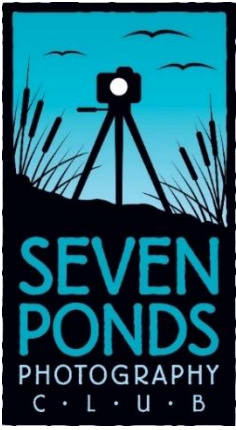
Dec – 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, [Rochester](#)

9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30 *tours begin at 5:30p*

Nov 25 & 24 7:00 pm [The Big, Bright Light Show](#) in downtown Rochester

Nov 23, 24, 29, 30 [Wild Lights](#) @ Detroit Zoo
Dec 1, 6-8, 12-23, 26-31
Jan 2-5

Dec 8 [Rochester Area Hometown Christmas Parade](#)



About SPPC

The Seven Ponds Photography Club, formed in 2009, the club was created to promote the advancement of photography as an art. The purpose of the club is to bring together like-minded people 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.

We meet the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month at 7:00 PM at Seven Ponds Nature Center

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings.

President	Jim Lewis
Vice President 1	LeeAnn McLaneGoetz
Vice President 2	Bobbie Lewis
Secretary	LeeAnn McLaneGoetz
Treasurer	LeeAnn McLaneGoetz
SPPC Website	LeeAnn McLaneGoetz
Digital Projection Division Manager(s)	Germaine Finley, Kristin Grudzien
Print Division Manager(s)	Germaine Finley, Kristin Grudzien
Competition Printing	Jim Lewis
Focus Topic Manager	Kristin Grudzien
Trip Manager(s)	Tina Daniels
Trip Manager(s)	LeeAnn McLaneGoetz
Face book Manager	Kristin Grudzien
Fund Raiser Manager	Shannon Hintz
Library Manager	To Be Announced
SPNC Activities Coordinator	Dale Vronch
Board Member	Stu Davis

Contact Information

Website <https://spnc.photoclubservices.com/>

Email 7pondsphotoexpo@gmail.com

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SevenPondsPhotography>

Address 3854 Crawford Road
Dryden, MI 48428-9776



Seven Ponds Photography Club is a proud member of the [Photographic Society of America](#) & [Greater Detroit Camera Council](#)