May 2011 • Vol. XX #3

InFocus

Wisconsin Chapter of the Photographic Society of America

Calendar of Events - 2011

Friday - Sunday, May 20-22, 2011

Days Inn Motel -- Munising, in the U.P. of Michigan

- Meetings Friday night and Saturday afternoon
- Photo locations may include Pictured Rocks, Seney Wildlife Refuge, U.P. Waterfalls, Fayette Historical Site, Tahquamenon Falls, Grand Sable Dunes, Hiawatha National Forest
- Election of Chapter officers for 2011-2013
- BYO Shows
- As much shooting as you can manage

Mid-July, 2011 (date to be determined)

- Board Meeting - discuss and set 2011-2012 Chapter meeting dates, programs, speakers, and agendas

Sunday, October 23, 2011

Waukesha State Bank, Oconomowoc

- Business Meeting, topics to be determined
- BYO Shows
- Program - Marty Welter - Rodeo and Sport Photography

The PSA-WI Chapter dues year runs from June of 2010 to June of 2011. If you have not yet paid your dues for the current year 2010-2011, this will be your last issue of the PSA-WI Chapter *InFocus* newsletter. For dues information contact the Treasurer, Nancy Klemp nklemp@wi.rr.com. Also remember you must be a current member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) to be eligible for membership in the Wisconsin Chapter.

PSA Region 21 Directors' Report

All Region 21 members:

After a cool, rainy, and windy beginning to Spring, hopefully everyone is now in the mood for some good weather, and is looking forward to getting out and getting great images for future use in exhibitions, clubs, and for personal use.

Now that Spring is almost here, hopefully you are now preparing for the May meeting, editing images, and getting ready for and making plans for the l-o-o-o-ng weekend in May, in Munising, for our Chapter group photo outing.

Remember that the May meeting BYO subject is "Images from the U. P. of Michigan", or others, if you have not yet visited this wonderfully photogenic area. Remember that our May outing will be in Munising, in the U. P., with many GREAT photo opportunities. Hopefully you have all made your plans to attend. See more details on page 4.

The PSA Region 21, 2010 Club Showcase judging is now done, with all of the clubs having judged all of the images at a club meeting, over the last five months. Thank you in advance to everyone who participated, and hope you do well in the final standings, individually and as clubs. It appears we had another group of superb images for everyone to judge. The final results, some 15,000 plus scores, are now being compiled and tabulated to determine individual and club scores and rankings, and will hopefully be announced at the May meeting and then distributed to all club reps.

We wish to extend a very warm welcome to our newest members who have joined PSA and the Wisconsin Chapter, since the last newsletter was published.

Sunil Kumar Ancha	**Menomonee Falls, WI**
Craig Brown	**Muskego,** WI
John Consiglero	**Milwaukee**, WI
Todd Diener	**Kenosha,** WI
Lloyd Licht	**Kenosha,** WI
Kristi Olson	**Coon Valley,** WI
Brian Sprague	**Waukesha**, WI

We strongly encourage all new members to join a local photo club and attend as many PSA, Chapter, and Club meetings, functions, and activities as possible, to take full advantage of the many benefits available to you through your PSA membership.

For any new member who feels they would like or could use some "help or guidance" with their photography, refer to the Mentor Program. See details described on page 4.

For additional information visit the Wisconsin Chapter and PSA websites: www.psawisconsin.org and www.psa-photo.org

We urge ALL members and member clubs to fully review the PSA Services and Activities listings shown in the January, April, July, and October issues of the PSA Journal, to make use of the multitude of resources, programs, and functions available to everyone.

We hope that many of you are already planning to attend the PSA Conference in Colorado Springs, CO, in September. Hope to see many of you there. More details on page 12.

Hope you had a wonderful winter and great shooting. Hopefully we will see you on May 20.

PSA Region 21 Co-Directors

Donald Frisque, APSA, PPSA
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RANdom Thoughts

From the Chair

Please review the articles detailing some of the new programs and changes we hope to implement in the Chapter this year. Please provide any thoughts, ideas, or suggestions that **ANY** of you may have directly to me. The Board and other involved members will consider any and all material provided. Please participate, as this is **YOUR newsletter and Chapter.**

A few more items for contemplation:

"The great thing about shooting daily is soon you'll begin to remove labels from subjects and just learn to see light, pattern, form and design." - Darwin Wiggett

"Aspire to Inspire before you Expire." - . . . .

"Friendship isn't about who you have known the longest. It's about those who came and never left your side." - . . . .

"The goal of life is living in agreement with nature." - Zeno

" I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me." - . . . .

B Y O

BYO MEANS **BRING YOUR OWN IMAGES**

THIS MEETING'S "SHOW" THEMES - UPPER PENINSULA OF MICHIGAN (PREFERABLY SPRING IMAGES) OR ANY OTHER IMAGES OF YOUR CHOICE

With the age of digital photography now here, all of our future BYO shows will be presented by Digital Projection. This should enable anyone with a computer to put together a digital "show" using your **own** images.

Now you can make and bring your own image show for everyone to enjoy.

At all future meetings, we want each of you to bring your own "image show" on a jump drive (preferred) or CD. Size each of your images to 1024 w X 768 h pixels (max) @ 100 ppi. We will allocate time at all meetings for the shows.

All of the shows, (each up to five minutes long), will be shown as one program in a series of "continuous" mini shows, which replaces the "old" slide shows. This is your chance to be creative, showcase your best images, and be as simple or as complex as you choose. **You** are in control of the images and content format.

We all enjoy seeing good images, so remember to BYO to every meeting.

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Special Counsel

Committees

Membership, Signe Emmerich

Programs and Historian, Gerry Emmerich, Jr., FPSA, EPSA

Publications, Audrey Waitkus

Hospitality, Nancy Klemp

Showcases, Don Frisque, APSA, PPSA

InFocus, official newsletter of the PSA-Wisconsin Chapter, is published five times a year and is included in Chapter membership dues paid by PSA members who join the PSA-Wisconsin Chapter.

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MUNISING, MI - MAY 20 – 22
PHOTO WEEKEND - INFORMATION

The planned outing will be headquartered at the Days Inn Motel in downtown Munising, MI, the perfect central location for access to a large number and variety of great photo sites throughout this part of the Upper Peninsula: Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, Grand Sable Dunes, over a dozen waterfalls, several lighthouses, rocky beaches, Seney Wildlife Refuge, Hiawatha National Forest, many scenic lakes, (ideal for sunsets/sunrises), and more, all within about 35 miles of Munising. Also, within about 50 miles: Fayette Historic State Park, Upper and Lower Tahquamenon Falls, and more lighthouses. Also available, Pictured Rocks Boat Cruise each day.

Rooms at Days Inn will be $60/night, single, for a double or queen bed, and $66 for rooms with 2 double or queen beds. All rooms with 2 beds are on the on second floor (no elevator). A huge suite room, on the main floor, empty (except for chairs and table for us), will be our meeting room, available all weekend. Plenty of parking. We have a block of rooms reserved, (you must make your **own** reservations with your credit card). **I would like everyone who plans to attend to let me know soon, so I can develop a total number of planned attendees.**

Thanks, Don F.

NOTE: Motel Phone # 906-387-2493
Rooms/reservation rates good through April 30

There are three sit-down restaurants, open all day, all with full menus; also a Chinese restaurant, excellent pizza restaurant, and 3 chains – Subway, Hardees, Pizza Hut; plus 4 gas stations, a supermarket and general store in town.

I would suggest that anyone who can, plan to **extend** your stay by an additional day or even two, if possible, to include Thursday and/or Monday, to take full advantage of the many photo ops available while on this outing. We will be able to get the same room rates. Make your reservations now.

The Photo Outing is now here. Many of our Chapter members have signed up for this and we are going to have a large group, including some new members. Latest tally indicates over 20 avid photographers will attend. Hopefully there will be good weather and great photo subjects.

SPECIAL NOTICE
MENTOR PROGRAM

I have been asked by several new members, and others, about a mentoring program within the Chapter, which would assist some of the less experienced or new members in having photographic questions/problems addressed, techniques explained, exhibition entry assistance, or images critiqued by some of the more experienced and knowledgeable members of the Chapter. This would be done by email communication.

The format of email communication for both questions and attached images for critique, would be fast, easy to handle, and not require a great deal of "work/time" by the mentor(s).

We would like to "establish" a group of a few people who would volunteer to be mentors.

We would like to have some people from each of the following areas; Greater Milwaukee, Fox Valley, LaCrosse, Madison, and Central and Northern WI (I will cover this area). We would like to have available at least 2 people for Greater Milwaukee (basically all of Southern Wisconsin, Region 21 Director's area), the area with largest percentage of the membership; and one (minimum) for the other three "areas". This would allow us to "pair" up the member and mentor from the same basic geographic area.

This item was on the agenda at the March meeting, and will also be "discussed" by the Executive Committee members; AND I would welcome any and all comments, questions, or suggestions by **any** Chapter member. Send me an email anytime.

We would like to have this working by the May meeting. Need VOLUNTEERS.

We realize that there are classes, mentor programs, critique forums, etc., available at the National PSA level for all PSA members (which we also strongly encourage). But we feel this will be more personal, faster, and help create better camaraderie and program participation within the Chapter, and help promote better retention rates within the Chapter, local clubs, and PSA.

Thanks, Don F.

PSA-WI Chapter Member News

PSA-WI Chapter members Phil Waitkus and Audrey Waitkus have each completed the PSA Image Analysis Course.

"This online course is designed so the student may learn to formulate thought patterns regarding a pictorial photograph toward more intelligent discourse. This course is also designed to improve the student's personal work through comprehensive analysis of the work of others. The lessons contain the work of master photographers as well as the work of the amateur and beginner, for a broad range of visual stimulation."

For more information about the course visit http://psa-clubservices.org/club_services/judging_services.html and scroll down to find "Image Analysis Course" on the left.

Gerry and Signe Emmerich were judges for the 2011, 54th Saguaro Nature Exhibition, held in Tucson AZ.

PSA WI Chapter Who's Who
Phil Waitkus

My interest in photography began around age fourteen, when my family lived in Southern California. My father and I spent many great days in the desert shooting landscapes, desert flowers, and some still life around the house with a now ancient, but still functional, Voightlander Vitessa 35 mm. We developed and printed the results in the photography hobby center of the Air Base at which my father was stationed. High school brought sports photography and interesting experiments in infrared film photography. College, however, awakened an interest in chemistry, which usurped my interest in photography for the next 45 years. After earning my bachelor's degree and two advanced degrees in chemistry, culminating in a Ph.D. in Physical Organic Chemistry, I spent 39 years in the plastics industry serving as Corporate Director of Research.

Retirement has brought time to look into the arts. In 2007, while taking a course in basic photography with Hank Erdmann at The Clearing, a chance photograph of a misty morning began to say things to me about photography, which I had all but forgotten in the intervening 45 years of job pressures and family life. Since then I have been almost totally engaged in trying to recapture the excitement of the photograph that speaks to you in ways no words can. Since that magic moment, many wonderful instructors have guided my steps along the path. Fine photographers, like Hank, Mark Southard, Jerry Hug, Dan Anderson, and Will Clay, have contributed to my quest in too many ways to count, as have the members of the Urban Ecology Photo Club in Milwaukee and my wife Audrey, who also shares the avocation. The quest continues.

PSA-WI Chapter Sponsored Competitions and Awards

Region 21 Individual Showcase

First Place - Digital
Mary Lundeberg
Pelican Dance

First Place - Print
Phil Waitkus
Pirgos Passage

PSA-WI Chapter Sponsored Competitions and Awards

Region 21 Individual Showcase

Second Place - Digital
Don Frisque - Saw-whet Owl

Second Place - Print
Karl Hokanson - Sidecar 46

Third Place - Digital
Kathy Brand - Ice Landscape

No digital image was available. This is a cellphone copy of the print.

Third Place - Print
Kathy Braun - Smokies Waterfall

PSA -WI Chapter Sponsored Competitions and Awards

Region 21 Individual Showcase

Fourth Place - Digital
Joe Kubala - Evening Departure #2

Fifth Place - Digital
Nancy Klemp - Old World Sheep

PSA -WI Chapter Member Competitions and Awards

Don Frisque received an honorable mention in the 48th Annual Waupaca Art Show for "Suspended Leaf"

PSA -WI Chapter Member Competitions and Awards

PSA Councils Challenge

Wisconsin Area Camera Clubs Organization (WACCO) selected ten entries from each of the three categories, Color Digital, Monochrome Digital, and Print, for the PSA Councils Challenge at the May 7, 2011 WACCO meeting. Six WACCO-member clubs submitted photos for possible entry into the 2011 PSA Councils Challenge – East Troy Viewfinders, Image Makers Camera Club, Photo Pictorialists, Unlimited Visions Camera Club, Urban Ecology Center Photo Club, and Wehr Nature Center Camera Club. The ten images in each section were selected by about 20 members of WACCO clubs in attendance at the Spring 2011 WACCO Competition on May 7.

Congratulations to the following eight PSA-Wisconsin Chapter members who had an image selected for the WACCO entry in the following categories:

COLOR PROJECTED DIGITAL IMAGES

Henriette Lake Cranes	John Hasse
Lizard in Antelope Canyon	Gerald Emmerich, Jr., FPSA, EPSA
Mantis on Coneflower	Sandy Matson

MONOCHROME PROJECTED DIGITAL IMAGES

Alamo at Night	John Hasse
Portrait of Leo	Gerald Emmerich, Jr., FPSA, EPSA
DC Metro	Signe Emmerich
Schottler Kitchen	Sandy Matson

PRINTS

Teton Snow Storm	Kathy Braun, APSA
Science Fiction Museum	Gerald Emmerich, Jr., FPSA, EPSA
Yellow Wall	Signe Emmerich
Round and Round	Richard Yehl
Around the Bend	John Weber
Early Morning Ketchikan Docks	Sandra Weber

The images will be judged by Bowie-Crofton Camera Club, Bowie, MD, and all images, including the prints, will be exhibited at the PSA Conference in Colorado Springs, Colorado, September 18-24, 2011.

Remember Zen

by Phil Waitkus

Instead of the usual post-processing tips and tricks, let's jump all the way to the other end of the creative cycle to explore the seeing or finding of that Ah-Ha! image, the one that really drives your interest in photography.

While Audrey and I were at the PSA Conference this fall, we happened to win a number of books. Among them was one book by Wayne Rowe. The title was "Zen and the Magic of Photography--Learning to See and to Be through Photography."(1) Some years ago I took some management courses and among the recommended reading was a book with the unlikely name, "Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Repair." So this title sounded kind of like "*déjà vu* all over again," as Yogi Berra would say. So when I got home I read the book -- not once but twice! I was fascinated by the method used to enhance your visual awareness and how, in the act of photography, you can, in an abstract way, be what you see. I know it sounds kind of strange to western ears, but the number of examples with the wonderful narrative point to one Ah-Ha! moment after another. I said to myself, this really isn't strange at all, this is really a road map to much better photography, photography that radiates the feeling of the moment that I want to transmit. At the same time it also might indeed change how I view photography.

What is Zen exactly. Mr. Rowe quotes the Zen master D.T. Suzuki with his definition. It is, "Zen discipline consists in attaining enlightenment (or Satori) . . . Satori finds a meaning hitherto hidden in our daily concrete particular experiences. . . . The meaning thus revealed is in itself, in becoming itself, in living itself . . . in the "isness of a thing." The enlightenment, to which he refers, is not a piece of information but rather a state of mind in which you become exceedingly aware and open to the meaning of what you observe, and appreciative of the experience. This is not some drug-induced stupor or extended awareness, but a thoughtful, contemplative act. Mr Rowe gives this Zen Parable. It may take a little thought to arrive at its meaning, but it underscores the Zen experience. It goes like this.

"A man encounters a tiger in a field. The man flees, and in his efforts to escape the tiger, he lowers himself by a wild vine down the face of a cliff. Trembling, he suddenly realizes that the tiger he is fleeing from is directly above him and that another tiger is waiting below. His life now depends upon the strength of the vine. If this situation were not bad enough, two mice, one black, one white, begin to gnaw on the vine. The story ends as the man sees a luscious strawberry growing near him on the precipice. Grasping the vine with one hand, he plucks the strawberry with the other. "How sweet it tasted!"

The question you are probably asking is, "What in the world does this have to do with photography?" The answer is nothing, but at the same time everything. Think about it and see if your Ah-Ha! moment didn't have a lot in common with the time that fellow spent on the vine and his experience plucking and eating that strawberry. What about the mice? I didn't catch it right away, but Audrey did, and that's why she's a better photographer than me. I bet many of the great photographers in our group will catch it right away too. Ah-Ha! moments are indeed a Zen experience, but the mice tell the story of Zen's connection to our daily lives and to photography. Its quite simple but it is beautifully hidden. I'll let you find it yourself and find Satori.

(1) "Zen and the Magic of Photography -- Learning to See and to Be through Photography" Wayne Rowe, Rocky Nook, Inc, 26 West Mission St, Suite 3, Santa Barbara, CA 93111-2432 -- 2010 (ISBN#978-1-933952-54-3)

"IMPROVEMENTS to the NEWSLETTER"
TO ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS

As a result of our entering the annual PSA International Newsletter Contest, we received a report, with the judges' comments, which outlined some of the improvements that we could possibly implement to make the newsletter more appealing, informative, motivational, eye-catching, competitive, and educational for the members of the Chapter.

COMPILATION of COMMENTS and SUGGESTIONS made by the PSA judges, of our Newsletter entry, May 2010 issue, submitted for the 2010 PSA International Newsletter Contest

1. Revise masthead, to make it more "eye-catching," maybe adding more colors
2. Have some longer, "main" subject articles, written by ANY member or subject expert
3. Use some, (more), photos, related to articles, (color would be best), from **everyone**
4. List info on past events, competitions, etc., and info/entries for "new" events, competitions, etc.
5. Some type of member info column, e.g., Bio's. **Everyone** write one and submit to Audrey
6. Review the mix of font sizes used. Use fewer, and be consistent within articles/"formats"
7. Provide some "motivational" articles, not only informational
8. Use more graphs, maps, lists and photographs
9. Use more color throughout the newsletter

We would like ALL members to review this material, and please submit any ideas, thoughts, suggestions, comments, or recommendations to ANY of the Board members.

Please provide your suggestions to us by the end of May, so we may review and compile the information before the summer Board Meeting.

Remember, this newsletter is for the MEMBERS, so your input will help to create a better, more informative and useful document for all of the membership.

Wisconsin Chapter Member Awards and Achievements Recognition

In each issue we will be publishing major medals, awards, recognitions, and photographic-related accomplishments of ANY and ALL members of the Chapter. Please send any and all of these directly to Audrey Waitkus, as soon as YOU receive or achieve any of the above. These will be compiled and presented in each issue of the Newsletter. Again, only your participation, and submitting, will get into this listing. Hopefully this will help encourage more of us to participate in the many competition programs available at the many levels of PSA, as well as ANY other competition, exhibition, show, presentation, charity function, or other type of photographic events available.

Photographic Society of America
73rd Annual International Conference

Colorado Springs, CO - Sept 18 - 24, 2011
DoubleTree Hotel Colorado Springs, World Arena

Information about the Conference has been published in the February PSA Journal, and all successive issues. Be sure to review your monthly Journals for continuing information about registration, lodging, schedules, programs, classes, speakers, and tours for this major yearly PSA event, and start making your plans to attend. You will be able to visit the newly revised PSA website for registration and more details.

News You Can Use

PSA Individual Member Discounts and Exclusive Services

For specific details regarding these and other discounts and services, and how to take advantage of them, log in to the PSA website and navigate to the Members Only area under the "Membership" tab on the left.

* Adobe Software – 15% Discount - online store
* onOne Software – 15% Discount
* Topaz Labs – 15% Discount
* Nik Software – 15% Discount new products and upgrades
* ProShow Gold or Producer – 20% Discount
* Trek-Tek Products - 30% Discount
* ScanCafe - $29 off first order (~100 scans)
* National Geographic Traveler Seminars – 10% Discount
* SmugMug Gallery – 20% discount on first year
* Hunt's Photo & Video - Free shipping in Continental U.S.

You should be a part of this newsletter!

Send articles, ideas for articles, or related/appropriate photos to Audrey Waitkus at backstage284mail-dnld@yahoo.com. Anything you send will be used as space and deadlines permit.

NOTICE:

Chapter members may submit items for a FOR SALE / WANT column in the Newsletter, on a space available basis, for photographic related items only.

Please restrict your ad to a maximum of about 250 total spaces.

Submit ads for future issues directly to the Editor, Audrey Waitkus.

Directions to Waukesha State Bank
1227 Corporate Center Drive
Oconomowoc WI

From the East or West on I-94 -- take WI 67 North, exit 282, to the light at Pabst Farms Blvd. Turn left on Oconomowoc Drive, then left on Corporate Center Drive.

From the North or South take WI 67 to the light at Pabst Farms Blvd. Turn west on Oconomowoc Drive, then left on Corporate Center Drive.

On Corporate Center Dr., the Bank building is the second building on the left. Park on the south side of the building, and enter the doors at the SE area of the building. Meeting rooms are downstairs.

Nearby Lodging:

Hilton Garden Inn
1443 Pabst Farm Circle, 262-200-2222

Staybridge Suites
1141 Blue Ribbon Drive, 262-200-2900

Country Pride Inn
2412 Milwaukee Street
Delafield, WI - Exit 287 on I-94, at Hwy. 83
262-646-3300 (reasonable rates)