

Grand Rapids Camera Club  
**Lights & Shadows**

SEPTEMBER 2022 VOL. 123 No. 7



**WELCOME BACK!**

From GRCC President Jan Lewis

Even though GR Camera Club's competition and fiscal year runs from January to December, because we take a summer recess, our meeting year more closely aligns with the September through June school calendar. While on summer recess your Program VP, Evie Carrier, has been busy lining up programs to educate us and challenge and expand our photographic horizons.

I hope you had a wonderful summer taking in all that our great state of Michigan has to offer, either in the natural world or at events and festivals. Hopefully you were also able to gather with family and friends, something that has been more difficult in our last few pandemic-ruled years. Perhaps you even ventured beyond the state line or even the US boundaries. Regardless of how far afield you ventured, I hope you had your camera along (surely at least your phone!) and were able to capture some great images to share with your fellow club members. I encourage you to submit some of your best captures in our monthly competition. If you have never submitted in our monthly competition, there is no better time to start than now! If you are unsure of the procedures, you can refer to our [Membership Manual](#) for full details, or contact Jeanne Quillan ([photobug49@comcast.net](mailto:photobug49@comcast.net)) or me ([jklewis52@gmail.com](mailto:jklewis52@gmail.com))

If you are still uncomfortable submitting images for monthly competition, then I encourage you to submit some images in the monthly Edit Challenge. Images submitted in the Edit challenge are not judged. There is no scoring. Anything goes in terms of editing. It truly is a judgement free zone. There is a subject or technique theme each month (for September it is **Create an HDR Image**). However, even that is pretty loose. If you have an image you would like some peer input on, you can send it to Russ Barneveld [barnever@gvsu.edu](mailto:barnever@gvsu.edu) for inclusion. Participation in the monthly challenge has waned of late, and I don't quite understand why. One request that we repeatedly get from club members is for input, assistance, critique, ideas, etc. on their images and this is THE PERFECT venue for that. The Edit Challenge meeting is always the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday by a Zoom gathering. Details about how to participate can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

See you in September!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jan".

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**DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER:** FRIDAY, September 23, 2 p.m.

Email articles to [gcferguson@me.com](mailto:gcferguson@me.com)

### OUR SEPTEMBER 21 MEETING



#### ***“Improving Your Photography – without buying any new gear”***

Presented by Mike Mitchell

**September 21, 2022 at 7:15 p.m.**

Mike will discuss ways to improve your photography, not by buying equipment, but by using a number of methods, projects and education experiences to become a more proficient photographic artist!

Mike has lived in the Grand Rapids area his entire life and has been making photos since the young age of 10. He saved cereal box tops so he could send away for his first camera, a gray plastic box camera with a built-in flash. It used 127 roll film and he had to take the film to the drugstore to get it developed. In HS he took pictures for his school newspaper and yearbook. Photography became his profession and he worked for over 20 years as a staff photographer at Meijer, Inc., retiring 2 years ago. Mike has shown his photography in a number of shows and festivals in West Michigan and has participated in ArtPrize three times. He is a long time member of GRCC and is also a member of Grand Valley Artists.



You can find more about Mike online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/votrepear/>

<https://votrepear.aminus3.com/>

This meeting will be in-person at the home of Grand Valley Artists, 2661 29th Street SE, Suite B, Grand Rapids, MI 49512. The meeting on Sept 21 will start at 7:15 p.m. (so plan to arrive at 7:00 p.m.). Masks are encouraged, but not required to attend this meeting. Come catch up with your friends, view the September print competition and learn from Mike!

Optionally, you may attend virtually using the Zoom Link below.

#### **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84838799518?pwd=U2NWNjU1UllwZTNQdTRHLzRzaHFYdz09>

# Lights & Shadows



## YOU ARE INVITED to a CULINARY EXPO of Photographic Proportions!

**Thursday, September 8 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

Grand Valley Artists has extended an invitation to Grand Rapids Camera Club members to attend their opening event on September 8th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. as their guests.

GVA photographers and GRCC members are invited to photograph the artfully prepared and presented food between 6:30-7:00 p.m. Several small stations will be set up with tables, lights and black table cloths. After 7 p.m. the buffet table will be open for consumption! Photographers can submit their best photo by September 22 and a juror will select three images whose makers will each receive a \$50 restaurant card. The event will be held at the GVA studio 2661 29<sup>th</sup> St SE, Suite B where we hold our meetings. Complete photo submission details will be available at the event.



“Beauty is in the eye of the fork-holder.”

*The mission of Grand Valley Artists, a 501(c)(3) organization, is to nurture excellence in the visual arts by providing opportunities for self-expression, education, and exhibition within West Michigan’s dynamic cultural community.*

*Grand Valley Artists is supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, the National Endowment for the Arts, and generous individual and corporate donors. Thank you!*

## COMPETITION CORNER

September 2022 Competition Deadline is midnight **Wednesday, September 7**. Email your entries to Shea at [images@grcameraclub.org](mailto:images@grcameraclub.org) Print Deadline is September 12. Contact Jan Lewis at [jklewis52@gmail.com](mailto:jklewis52@gmail.com) to drop off prints early. **September’s Assigned subject is “In the Garden.”**

### 2022 Assigned Subjects

October: Night Street Scene      November: Long Exposure      December: Glass

### 2023 Assigned Subjects

January	Leading Lines	June	Circles	December	Abstract
March	Minimalism	September	Floating		
April	A Movie Title	October	Window Light		
May	Take Three	November	Long Exposure		



### THE FUTURE OF PRINTS

Submitted by Jeanne Quillan

*“The print is the final step in the photography process. It is tangible evidence of the work you have done. You can hold it, you can admire it, you can hang it on your wall. It demonstrates permanence. The perfect print gives you satisfaction of a job well done.” – John Gregor of Coldsnap Photography*

The committee to discuss the future life of our print competitions has convened several times this summer and will be presenting its results at the upcoming board meeting for approval. Over the last few years, the number of members that enter the print competitions has been dwindling. The committee’s goal is to determine how to go forward in the future while maintaining its current level of competitors plus possibly draw in a few new ones. Before our first meeting, I sent a quick questionnaire to all of our print competitors as to why they compete in print competitions (some of the comments are listed below) as well as to those that have stopped entering, asking why they stopped. A lot of the reasons for cutting back were covid related, logistics getting prints to the meetings, time constraints, and cost.

The good news is with board approval – prints will go on with a few changes in order. I’ll keep you posted! Look for further updates – The Future of Prints Part 2 in October.

*“Entering the print competitions gives me an opportunity to show more of my images”*

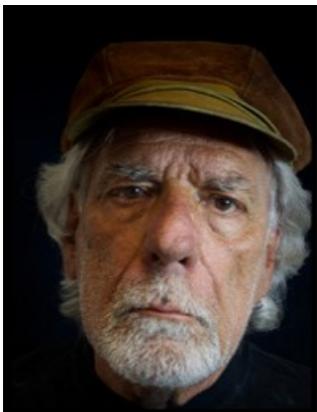
*“Printing is a different skill set – I get a lot of satisfaction holding a good print in my hand”*

*“Earning more merit points toward year end is a definite plus”*

*“I can share 4 additional images each month. Some images just look better printed!”*

*“There is nothing more satisfying than holding a great print in your hand”*

*“Prints are a lot more satisfying and creative. I LOVE seeing my prints roll off the printer!”*



### SEPTEMBER EDIT CHALLENGE

submitted by Russ Barneveld

The edit challenge category for September 2022 is “Create an HDR image.” HDR is an abbreviation for High Dynamic Range. Some people love it, some hate it, but have you tried it? HDR can be created from a single image or a series of images taken at a variety of exposures. Most editing programs have an automated HDR function. It is available in Photoshop, PS Elements and Lightroom. Check out the help function in your software to see how it is done. Now is your chance to experiment with this interesting effect. Submit your edited September HDR challenge images to Shealyn

([images@grcameraclub.org](mailto:images@grcameraclub.org)) by September 7. It is a good idea to copy Russ ([barnever@gvsu.edu](mailto:barnever@gvsu.edu)) on the email too. You can also include the original images you used to create the final HDR. Looking ahead... the Edit Challenge theme for October will be Focus Stacking. *(continued)*

## Lights & Shadows

### *September Edit Challenge.... Continued from previous page*

Since the number of submissions and participants has been low, feel free to share any images with us that you are proud of, want suggestions for edit, etc. Send those images directly to Russ Barneveld.

A Zoom gathering will be held on Wednesday September 28 at 7:15 p.m. to show and discuss the September Edit Challenge images.

Join this Zoom meeting at

<https://gvsu-edu.zoom.us/j/98488913175?pwd=WkxCM1BxdFhvaEtwcmIYMXhsSkh5UT09>

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**TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP NEWS** submitted by Christine Mooney

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO GRCC**

We have a new member who joined our club recently.

**Allen Brooks** who shoots with a Fuji and Nikon.

**Jon Hilty** rejoined our club and shoots with Shen Hao 4X5.

Welcome Allen and Jon!

### **EQUIPMENT FUND**

Thank you very much to the members who have donated to our Equipment Fund. The current total in the Equipment Fund is \$ 1,773.56.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation by check payable to GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB, you may send it to our Treasurer at: Christine Mooney, 4280 Brooklawn Lane SE, Kentwood MI 49512

There is also a PayPal Donation option on our [website](#) under the Join/Donation

### **When Changes Occur – Let Christine Know**

If you have any changes to your email address or other information (to keep our membership list up-to-date), email Christine Mooney at [treasurer@grcameraclub.org](mailto:treasurer@grcameraclub.org)

### **Membership Dues**

Membership runs January through December. Dues are \$35 for each member. Please check the website for additional information regarding dues. If you join our club during the fall months your membership will be good through the end of the following year.

We have PayPal available on our Grand Rapids Camera Club website for your convenience (a small PayPal processing fee will be applied). Click on "Join/Donate" tab to find the PayPal link.

If you prefer to pay dues with a check payable to GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB, you may send it to our Treasurer at: Christine Mooney, 4280 Brooklawn Lane SE, Kentwood MI 49512

### IMAGE OF THE MONTH JUNE 2022



#### “Coffee Break” by Roger Fry. Chosen by Diane Charvat

**ABOUT MY IMAGE:** My “Coffee Break” photo was taken on Fulton Street at a coffee shop. One nice evening as I was searching for something neon for our assigned photo, I happened to find the “ESPRESSO” sign and was intrigued by the subtle lighting in the shop and how it gave a feeling of privacy for the four customers sitting around a table having coffee. The photo was taken with my Canon EOS with a 50mm lens at f/2.8 at 1/80 of a second. I took

four shots and on the first one, a girl looked out the window. When I loaded the photo into Photoshop on my computer, I felt the sign was too bright, so I reduced the brightness of the sign and did some minor contrast adjustments.

After I finished adjustments, several things struck me. First, I liked the way the light lit the faces of the customers and how the shop lighting enhanced the atmosphere. The longer I looked at the photo I realized the lighting on the peoples’ faces was from their electronic devices. Even though they were sitting at the same table it looked like each of them was in their own world, isolated from each other – a rather sad view of society today. –Roger

**WHY I LIKED IT:** As I was looking through all of the images for this month, “Coffee Break” just spoke to me. Or, perhaps it was the young lady on the right who was looking at the photographer, while capturing this image. The lighting is perfect and I just love the mood and texture. The image is processed very creatively. I love everything about this image, looks like a place I’d like to visit. Well done!! - Diane

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#### IN MEMORY

It is with great sadness that we lost GRCC past President, and Hall of Fame honoree, Ranger Steve Mueller on June 16, 2022. As many of you know, Ranger Steve fought a long battle with cancer, and he more than beat the odds the doctors gave him with his initial diagnosis. Always positive and always active, he shared his love of nature, both through photography and many local nature organizations despite the many health challenges and obstacles he faced. He often hosted nature groups and GRCC members at his beloved property, Odybrook Nature Sanctuary in Cedar Springs. He was an engaged member in the organizations he joined, offering both kudos and constructive input and ideas. Steve regularly participated in our monthly competitions. According to Jeanne’s records, he first entered competition in 1986 and rarely missed a competition in the last 36 years, even as his health failed in the waning months. He was our resident nature expert. When we needed to know about a butterfly or if a plant qualified as wild, he was our go-to guy. He will be greatly missed. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his wife Karen, also an active GRCC member, as well as his entire family.