

The Image

Journal of the Camera Club of Central Minnesota

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Meeting Notice

The May meeting will be held at the Paramount Arts District Parking Lot, 913 West St. Germain, St. Cloud, Minnesota. May 24th at 7 p.m.

This month's meeting is a "Photographic Scavenger Hunt". Should be exciting. Barry has been coming up with all sorts of good ideas, and there are sure to be some good prizes for the winners.

The executive meeting will be held at 6:30 pm to discuss administrative issues. All are welcome to attend this also.

Also – there will be a digital users group meeting on Thursday May 18th at 7pm at George and Bill's studio. All are welcome to attend. If you need directions Barry has posted a map both on the [Camera Club website](#) and at the digital users group website – www.digitalphotouser.com

No need to keep you copy of The Image! Barry has archived them on the camera club website! This will, little doubt, make many of our lives easier.

For those who don't use computers and email, LaVona Sherarts has offered to telephone members with information. Her phone is 320-255-1964. Let her know if you would like to be called.

Information:

The US Bank Show is up and hanging! Many thanks to Janice for helping to coordinate this and for those who showed up to help!

The discussion boards on the Camera Club's website have been getting a few more messages – make sure to stop by, register and take a look around. Click on the "Discussion" link along the

left side of the home page at www.cameraclubmn.com

Barry has also added a few new member galleries to the website as well.

Treasurers Report:

I was late to the last meeting and haven't gotten a copy of this. You'll have to hold your breath until next month's Image.

Other Items:

Members discussed the topic of having a long-term goal for a show, such as the St. Ben's showing, as a great way to keep focus and to really look at the content of their work. If anyone has an idea for a venue to hold another long-term project show please let Carol know. Also keep in mind possible themes and ideas.

Ideas shared: Disposable Camera Show- Letting the content of the work versus the technical aspect be the focus.

Call or [e-mail](#) Carol Weiler with other suggestions for programs: 251-9083. If you have a short topic you would like to share / discuss this can be set up for just about any meeting.

Carol also sent this in "...Whitney Senior Center is looking for photography exhibitors. If you are interested, please contact: Reena Shetty 320-650-3074.

Other News:

Nellie has a show at the Whitney senior center – it is scheduled to go up on April 1st and be there for three months.

Great River Arts Association's *2nd Annual Floral Arts Show* will be April 18 to June 16. Several of the club's members have submitted entries so be sure to drop by. I (Steve) have been up there and our club's presence is impressive.

The deadline for entries to the Minnesota State Fair is Monday, July 10th. Visit www.mnstatefair.org for more details.

Photoshop tips:

I got this one from DonH – a landscape photographer from Washington who's work I admire.

To simulate a graduated neutral density filter try this

1. Enter Quick Mask mode
2. Create gradient mask on image. Hold the shift key when doing this and it will be vertical. You can judge visually where you want to start and end the mask.
3. Exit Quick Mask mode
4. Create Levels layer (it will automatically use the GND selection)

You can adjust the opacity of the layer. And you can begin the gradient sweep off the actual image (in the surrounding gray area) to get a gentler grad. You can also start the sweep anywhere in the image and end it the same. Using a short sweep just across a horizon area causes the grad to be short, with all area before the start of it at 100% and all area after it at 0%.

Next tip is from Gary Steele, a wildlife photographer whose work I enjoy. When he has an animal (or whatever subject) that he wants to pull out or separate a little from a cluttered background he suggests these steps to start:

First, when shooting in bright daylight set the white balance to Daylight-Cloudy to give it a warmer glow. This will give a similar effect to using a warming filter on a film camera.

Then apply unsharp mask set at 25-50-0 before any other image processing. You might have to apply the sharpening via a mask to just the subject – just try and see.

That's the news. Be sure to take a look at the website's discussion forums – Barry has put a lot of hours in designing and setting this up and it really is a great way for us to communicate between meetings.

- Steve