Welcome to the world as I see it!
by Ron Curtis, CCC speaker on September 17th, 7:00 p.m.

I never set out to be a “photographer.” Several cameras have been purchased over the many years of my life, mainly to be used for those occasional snapshots. They were not great but captured the moment. Other than click the shutter and drop off the canister to be developed at the drugstore, I had no interest in another hobby. In 1986 I started a computer company, Computer Repair Services, CRS for short. We specialized in PC & Mac sales and service. During this time of helping companies learn desktop publishing, I ran across an article on anaglyph photography - using red and blue colored lens glasses to see comic books and view horror movies. Then the Viewmaster Slide system was introduced, and you could travel the world in 3D. I was easily impressed. In 1994, Apple came out with their first digital camera and others soon followed. CRS was tasked to help get those images printed and published. Still the bug didn’t bite.

Over the next several years, my only interest was helping others with their photography. Fast forward to 2004, now the company was developing web sites for customers. Getting images for customer web sites was much easier with a digital camera, so a camera was purchased. Still the bug didn’t bite.

Then in 2006, I read about a guy in Sports Illustrated who was taking 3D images with digital cameras. The images leapt off the page! I was HOOKED! The challenge was trying to figure out how to take 3D images as there was very little information available. Much experimentation and several ruined cameras, cables, software ensued. Finally a system worked and my first acceptable 3D image was born.

Since then, having retired and closed the computer store, photography has been my passion. In 2008, the website pictureky.com was started to highlight “The People and Places of Kentucky.” Images of Kentucky landscapes and events are displayed in the galleries in both 2D and 3D for anyone to see. To advertise the site, over 41,000 pairs of glasses have already been distributed with another 59,000 at the ready. The site has been visited by folks from across the US and over 17 other countries and is now available to any photographer who wants their work to be seen. This IS such great fun.
First Thursdays

Sept. 3rd/Photo Editing Challenge

Many times we are shooting our subjects or landscapes when the lighting is high contrast (i.e. at mid-day). What can we do to get more pleasing results? What software tools or techniques can be used? One strategy is to take a set of bracketed exposures and pick the one you like best. We have more options with today’s software, ranging from adjusting brightness and contrast to blending, applying masks and local adjustments or using HDR. What techniques do you use? Why?

We can all learn from each other and share our experience. Everyone’s “assignment” for our meeting on September 3rd is to pick one or more of the exposures, taken by Joe Omielan at Chimney Top Rock, and improve the image using your software and skill, recording what you did and why. We’ll ask everyone to share the result and what they did to achieve it. You can submit your images before the meeting to first.thursday.ccc@gmail.com (preferable). Feel free to submit if you can’t come. Or, bring your images and your laptop if you’re willing to demonstrate the steps you took to get the end result.

- Check the email that was sent to you on Aug. 15th for access to the link that will take you to the files we will be working with. The files for five bracketed exposures, RAW and JPEG, are on Google Drive.
- They were taken under hazy sunlight with a Canon 40D using an 18-55 mm lens with a circular polarizer, auto white balance, and evaluative metering. The exposures were as metered, +1 stop, +2 stops, -1 stop, and -2 stops. Have fun!

Contact Joe (joe.omielan@gmail.com) if you have questions or need help.

Oct. 1st / Print & Display Images

Join us as we explore different options for getting your digital images printed and displayed. We have the requirements for framing and displaying for the Print Show but there are other methods for preparing and getting your great images onto different media so people can enjoy them. Come and share your experience.

First Place

AMERICANA Competition / First Place

COLOR

Advanced

Name: Nancy Dawson
Camera: Canon EOS Rebel T3i
Lens: Canon 18-200mm @130mm
Shutter: 1/1600 (Action Program)
f/stop: f/5.6
ISO: 640

Intermediate

Name: Terry Bailey
Where: Frankfort, Ky.
Camera: Nikon D7100
Lens: Nikon 18-300 f/3.5-5.6 @21mm
Shutter: 1/60
f/stop: f/11
ISO: 160

Beginner

Name: Susan Clark
Where: Wilmore Veterans Parade
Camera: Nikon D5200
Lens: 18-200zoom @200mm
Shutter: 1/500
f/stop: f/5.6
ISO: 250

Above left
Name: Nancy Dawson
Camera: Canon EOS Rebel T3i
Lens: Canon 18-200mm @130mm
Shutter: 1/1600 (Action Program)
f/stop: f/5.6
ISO: 640

Above right:
Name: Susan Clark
Where: Wilmore Veterans Parade
Camera: Nikon D5200
Lens: 18-200zoom @200mm
Shutter: 1/500
f/stop: f/5.6
ISO: 250
All Winners - AMERICANA Competition

COLOR
Advanced
1st: Nancy Dawson
2nd: Jennifer Lackey
3rd: Jeff Lackey
HM: Nancy Dawson

Intermediate
1st: Terry Bailey
2nd: Jan McKinney
3rd: Bill Adams
HM: Lana Yeary

Beginner
1st: Susan Clark
2nd: Jerry Markussen
3rd: Scott Taulbee
HM: Jerry Markussen

BLACK & WHITE
Advanced
1st: Steve Bromley
2nd: Roger Ballard
3rd: Randy Dinkins

Intermediate
1st: Terry Bailey
2nd: Bill Adams
3rd: Marshall Smith
HM: Joe Omielan

Beginner
1st: Lori Rivera

Announcing - 2016 Competition Topics

It's never too soon to start preparing for the club's 2016 competitions! Our topics are (drum roll please) ... 

Feb: Country Roads
Apr: Historic Bluegrass
Jun: Abstracts of Nature
Aug: Automotive
Oct: Bridges

AMERICANA Competition / First Place

BLACK & WHITE

Advanced
Name: Steve Bromley
Where: Jamestown, MI
Camera: Sony RX100 Point & Shoot
Lens: Built-in zoom @28mm (10.4mm actual)
Shutter: 1/1000
f/stop: f/3.5
ISO: 125

Intermediate
Name: Terry Bailey
Where: Frankfort, Ky.
Camera: Nikon D7100
Lens: Nikon 18-300 f/3.5-5.5 @28mm
Shutter: 1/50
f/stop: f/9
ISO: 500

Beginner
Name: Lori Rivera
Where: Perryville Civil War Battlefield
Camera: Pentax K-r
Lens: Pentax-DA L 18-55 mm f3.5-5.6 lens @18 mm
Shutter: 1/400
f/stop: f/8
Advance Your Skills

Central Kentucky Computer Society is offering a photography class called “Photography: Improving your Camera Skills” for beginning and advanced photographers. It runs for 6 weeks from 1-3 pm starting Sep. 21st. Learn more at www.ckcs.org. Call 373-1000 to register.

And in October . . .

Kentucky PhotoScenic Weekend

The Kentucky PhotoScenic Weekend is an outstanding photography workshop for all skill levels. Join the fun, network with peers and expand your photographic experience in a lovely setting. This year’s event is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, October 2-3 at the beautiful Jenny Wiley State Resort Park.

• To register for the event or for more information, email Bill Luster at lusterphotos@gmail.com
• To reserve your room, contact Jenny Wiley State reservations. Please note that rooms have been blocked for this event, so be sure to mention the event when you call.
• $10 registration fee at the door

FRIDAY:
• Afternoon sessions:
  - How a Camera Works
  - Photoshop Tips
• Evening:
  - Speaker: David Stephenson, UK School of Journalism
  - Bring images for critique and judging - win great prizes!

SATURDAY:
• Shoot all day. Turn in images at 4 pm.
• Evening:
  - Speaker: Bill Pekela, Nikon
  - Critique and judging of images - win more great prizes!

Exceptional September Workshops!

Making Sharper Images / John Snell
Saturday, September 12
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

"Making Sharper Images," a hands-on workshop, will be led by John Snell at the Lexington School of Photography. Come and learn the ins and outs of getting your photos to be as sharp as you want them to be. The course includes classroom time and field work, giving you a chance to practice what you’ve just learned.

• September 12th, 9am-4pm.
• Lexington School of Photography is located at 400 Old Vine St., #200.
• Cost is $125 (includes lunch).
• Go to www.johnsnellphoto.com and click on “Events” to register.

Equine Palettes / Tony Bonanno
A Workshop to benefit The Kentucky Equine Humane Center
September 14 - 16

Join professional photographer Tony Bonanno of Santa Fe, New Mexico for an equine photography workshop. This 3 day (Sept 14-16) workshop will feature shooting opportunities to cover multiple facets of the equine spectrum at locations including The Kentucky Equine Humane Center, The Kentucky Horse Park and WinStar Farm. This workshop benefits The Kentucky Equine Humane Center, (KyEHC), a tranquil 70+ acre farm that provides a safe haven for equines in need.

• Deadline to register is Monday, September 7th.
• Registration fee is $750 / person for the 3 day workshop.
• To register or for more information, please email abryant@kyehc.org.
• KyEHC is located at 1713 Catnip Hill Rd in Nicholasville.
• The link to the Facebook event page is: https://www.facebook.com/events/853463241391292/
• For more information on Tony Bonanno, visit: http://bonannophoto.com/
Blue Ridge Parkway 2015 is a Success!

This year’s trip to the Blue Ridge Parkway saw 39 members in attendance, the largest contingency of any such outings. The weather was cooperative, for the most part, as we experienced lots of sunshine and pleasant temperatures. The only exception would be Friday’s sunrise, which was not as photogenic as we’d like.

The group photo from the Friday sunrise shoot at the Haywood-Jackson Overlook (some folks slept in that morning) recognizes the absence of two trip regulars, Jack & Jan McKinney. Jan broke her foot several months ago, and was unable to make the trip. We let them know they were not forgotten.

Flowers…turf’s cap lilies, bee baum, phlox, yellow coneflowers and other species…were out in full force.

The waterfalls were running well. Most folks seemed to enjoy their dinner at Fat Buddy’s BBQ on Thursday evening (32 of us were there), and we ate well at a variety of other restaurants throughout the region.

Sunsets were good, though the best one…and arguably the best one ever during a CCC trip…took place on Sunday, after most of the folks had returned home. Only five of us were there to witness some or all of the majesty displayed across the sky shortly after the sun had set. One of those photos is shown here, too.

Plan on seeing a slideshow of Blue Ridge Parkway images at the Christmas party, as there will be a show featuring images from all of the trip attendees. And we’ll be taking another trip next year, the exact venue and dates to be announced later. It is our hope you can be a part of it, wherever and whenever it takes place. These trips are such fun!

www.creativecameraclub.org
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Join Us!
The Creative Camera Club (CCC) can trace its roots back to the Lexington Camera Club of 1930. We welcome anyone interested in the art and science of photography from amateur to professional. To learn more, please visit our website or contact one of our officers or directors.

2015 Calendar

January
6  55th North Central Insect Photo Salon Open for Submissions
8  Meeting & Print Competition Judging / Member Vote
16  Print Show Reception / Gallery Hop
February
1  Tell a Story Submission Closes
5  First Thursday: Dave Perry | Tell a Story
16  55th North Central Insect Photo Salon Submission Closes
15  Competition Submission Closes
19  Competition: ANIMALS - MEETING CANCELLED due to weather
28  Pick up Prints, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
March
5  Camera Petting Zoo - MEETING CANCELLED due to weather
19  Competition: Animals
21  Basic Photography Workshop, led by Zane Williams
April
2  First Thursday: Photographer’s Phorum
11  West 6th Brewing - print drop off from 10 a.m. - noon
12  Competition Submission Closes
16  Competition: ABANDONED / Showing of 55th North Central Insect Photo Salon
May
7  First Thursday / Street Photography Field Trip (weather permitting)
12  St. Joseph Hospital East exhibit to be hung
21  Canon Explorers of Light Guest Speaker: Adam Jones (church gym)
23  West 6th Brewing - pieces due at the Brewery
June
4  First Thursday / Arboretum Field Trip (weather permitting)
6  Special Olympics 2015 Summer Games at EKU
21  Competition Submission Closes
25  Competition: STREET PHOTOGRAPHY
July
2  First Thursday / Share images from Street and Arboretum
6  Drop off at Christ Church Cathedral, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
16  Speaker: Jackie Hillyer, Fuji
17  CCC exhibits/hosts Gallery Hop at Christ Church Cathedral
30  CCC Blue Ridge Parkway trip hosted by John Snell
August
6  First Thursday / Creative Lens and Lighting Systems
16  Competition Submission Closes
20  Equipment Sale/ Swap/ Donation at 6:30 p.m. / Competition: AMERICANA
26  Pick up prints - Christ Church Cathedral from 4:00-6:00 p.m
September
3  First Thursday / Photo Editing Challenge
17  Speaker: Ron Curtis
October
1  First Thursday / Print & Display Images
11  Competition Submission Closes
15  Competition: FLOWERS
November
5  First Thursday
19  Speaker: TBD
December
15  CCC Christmas Party at Fasig Tipton