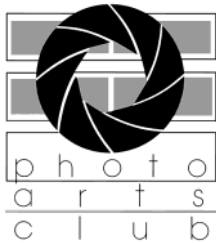


First Place Basic  
Assignment



Sandy Murcurio

December 2023



# The Viewpoint

## Letter from the President

### Greetings Club Members

November has been another busy month for the club.

The lights have been hung, the clubhouse decorated for Heralding the Holidays on December 1st thru 3rd. Many thanks to all who volunteered their time and energy.

The planning of our Members Holiday Party, and December Photo Walk are just a few of the events we are finalizing.

During our in- person monthly contest we had a very special visitor join us. Founder and Past President Dorothy Austin. She opened our meeting with her historic gavel and shared a scrap book of how our organization started. Dorothy has promised she would make a historic copy of the scrapbook for our clubhouse for all members to enjoy. It was truly an honor



### First Place intermediate



Wennie Anderson

### First Place Advanced Assignment



Ben Ayling

## Upcoming Member Events & Reminders

### **Dec. 1st, 2nd, 3rd- Annual Heralding the Holidays Event**

Dec. 6th- RSVP due for Photo Walk to Michele Kipplen

Dec. 9th - 2023 Scavenger Hunt Photos are due to Michele

Dec. 11th- RSVPs are due to Michele for the Members Holiday Party.

Dec. 14th- Photo Walk at Children's Wonderland, meet at 630pm at the entrance.

Dec. 17th- Members Holiday Party- 2pm at Toledo Artists building at the Toledo Botanical Gardens.



## **Education Night**

On January 11th We will have the privilege of having One of our members, **Mariano de Miquel** present

### **Tips for Better Portrait Photography**

It is in the Clubhouse at 7 pm All levels beginner to advanced are welcome to attend.

After completing this review the audience should have new ideas to take more imaginative portraits adjusted to what they want to convey to the viewer.

### **Studio Group -**

The Studio Group will meet on Saturday December 9th at 10am to noon, in the clubhouse. We will continue our "Back to Basics" format to lighting. Any and all members are invited to attend. PLEASE let John Dillon know if you are planning on attending.

[jdillon356@aol.com](mailto:jdillon356@aol.com).

### **Lightroom**

Lightroom will not meet in December but will resume in January.

Any suggested topics for January to Charlie Mather

[matherc@yahoo.com](mailto:matherc@yahoo.com)

**There is no Board Meeting in December.**



2023 Event Schedule Indiana Rail Experience  
Submitted by Anna Koperczak

*Dates, venues, prices, and trip details are subject to change. – December are to be announced.*

Diesel-powered train rides departing Angola, Indiana. Tickets start at \$15.00.

**DECEMBER 8TH-10th – INDIANA SANTA TRAIN**

Diesel-powered holiday excursions and events departing Pleasant Lake. Tickets start at \$35.00.

**DECEMBER 15TH – 17th – INDIANA SANTA TRAIN**

Diesel-powered holiday train excursions and events departing Pleasant Lake. Tickets start at c [Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society](#) and the [Indiana Northeastern Railroad Company](#). *Dates, venues, and trip details are subject to change as needed.*



## **1st Place Open Pictures**

Basic



**Sandy Mercurio**

**Intermediate Tie**



**Jamie Sampsel**

**Advanced**



**Ben Ayling**



## Membership:

We have 75 members, 4 of which are in the grace period.

## Membership renewals:

Leah Williams

## New Members:

Margie Black

Jamie Sampsel

Rick Garcia

The October monthly contest assignment was Barn(s), new or old. Contest had 19 entries from 8 members. There were 3 judges and it was a print contest.

## Competition assignments:

December – Trees

January – Weather, Clouds, Lightening, Rain, Wind, and or Snow

Jack [jrmymers@roadrunner.com](mailto:jrmymers@roadrunner.com)

Category	Level	Photographer	Title	Place
Assignment, Barn(s), new or oldB	Basic	Sandy Mercurio	Here Comes the Sun	1st
		Isaiah Miller	The Day is Done	2nd
		Sandy Mercurio	Down on the Farm	3rd
	Intermediate	Wennie Anderson	Old 1890 Stanford Barn	1st
		Wennie Anderson	All Set For the Holidays	2nd
		Wennie Anderson	The Blacksmith Barn	3rd
		Isaiah Miller	Country Glory	HM
	Advanced	Ben Ayling	Sunflower Farm	1st
		Michele Kipplen	Montana Timber	2nd
		Mariano de Miguel	Barn in Mist	3rd
		Michele Kipplen	Cattle Barn	HM
Open	Basic	Sandy Mercurio	Saturday in the Park	1st
	Intermediate	Jamie Sampsel	Ho'omalimali	1st
		Jamie Sampsel	Haleakalā	1st
	Advanced	Ben Ayling	Grassland Home	1st
		Ben Ayling	Light on the Fyord	2nd
		Ben Anderson	Cherry Blossoms	3rd
		Ben Anderson	Sutton's Bay	HM
		Ben Anderson	The Couple	

## **Photographing Seasonal Lights (source unknown but good tips)**

### **Outdoor Lights**

- ◇ Shoot with a low ISO to avoid grain. Shoot between 400 and 800 ISO. Lower is better. Try a few photos at different ISO's looking for the best ISO for your lighting situation.
- ◇ Create Bokeh with Shallow Depth of Field.
- ◇ Outdoors , aim to shoot at dusk, Too early and they won't look lit. Too late and you won't be able to see the background.
- ◇ Take many pictures so that you have plenty to choose from.
- ◇ Choose how close you'll be to the lights. Of course, a whole house picture will require you to be farther away than a picture of the ornaments on a tree.
- ◇ If you want to capture a close up of a tree for details of the ornaments, it will require less light than a picture of the whole house after the sun has set.
- ◇ Avoid using the flash as it will dull the brightness of the Christmas lights. For capturing an ornament or decoration on a Christmas Tree, use a macro lens. For an entire house or grouping of trees use a wide angle lens.
- ◇ You can purchase a wide angle lens for some cell phones.
- ◇ Set the aperture to a lower setting likely between f/2.8 and f/8. You need as much natural light as possible. F/2 or below will capture the lights floating. Higher f-stop will show the lights in focus.
- ◇ Use the shutter speed between 1/8 of a second and 2/5 of a second. On your phone use an app like Camera+2 to slow down the shutter.
- ◇ Switch your white balance to Daylight or Tungsten . These settings will make the lights clearest and accurately colored.
- ◇ For your cell phone use an app like the VSCO Cam.
- ◇ Find a great spot and take plenty of trial shots. Great spots will follow in the newsletter.

**Michele Kipplen**



## Christmas Lights Locations

One of the best that I have found is in

Sylvania off of Erie St. Go North off Erie on OLD FARM LANE and you will drive right into them. The one house

should be seen from the Space Station but is well done. The rest of the neighbors try to catch up so makes for an interesting drive thru.

**Dave McCanna**

**Join Us Thursday, December 14th, 2023 6:30 pm**



**JOIN US FOR A  
FESTIVE PHOTO  
WALK INDOORS!**

Thursday, December 14, 2023 6:30pm

**RSVP REQUIRED**

**by**

**Dec. 6th**

Michele at 419-283-4616-Text  
email: michelekipplen@gmail.com

**Children's Wonderland  
7060 W Sylvania Ave,  
Sylvania, OH 43560  
\$6.00 entry fee  
Payable at the door.**



## **Indoor Lights**

If you are photographing indoor lights, your lighting within the room is crucial. Take your pictures from several different angles ahead of time to see which one looks best. Avoid backlighting so your picture doesn't come out very dark. At night, dim your house lights so that the tree stands out but can still be seen. Indoor Lights If you are photographing indoor lights, your lighting within the room is crucial. Take your pictures from several different angles ahead of time to see which one looks best. Avoid backlighting so your picture doesn't come out very dark. At night, dim your house lights so that the tree stands out but can still be seen. Indoor Lights If you are photographing indoor lights, your lighting within the room is crucial. Take your pictures from several different angles ahead of time to see which one looks best. Avoid backlighting so your picture doesn't come out very dark. At night, dim your house lights so that the tree stands out but can still be seen.

## **Where to find the light...**

December is the perfect time to capture the holiday spirit. The bright lights the various colors and symbolic displays. There are many places to photograph the lights in our area. Annual Holiday light parades, winter fests, in your neighborhood, scenic drives and public displays. Here are just a few: The Toledo Zoo offers Lights before Christmas an outstanding display of thousands of lights arranged in delightful shapes and varying sizes. <https://www.toledozoo.org/lights> The Holiday Light Show™ Featuring dozens of dazzling, larger-than-life holiday themed displays to delight the entire family! Visitors are welcomed to bundle up in their car, pack a favorite snack or beverage and tune their radio to enjoy the synced light performance as they travel the more than 1 mile route through the Holiday Light Show™! Located at the Lucas County Fairgrounds. <https://www.holidaylightshow.com/lucascounty> Children's Wonderland- if you are looking for something indoors offering classic holiday displays then this would be the place. <https://www.playsylvania.com/childrens-wonderland/> See the information about our walk at the Children's Wonderland.

## **Some Nearby Zoos with Lights**

Columbus Zoo <https://columbuszoo.org/>

Detroit Zoo <https://wildlights.detroitzoo.org/>

Cleveland Zoo <https://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/>

2nd Place Assignment Basic



Isaiah Miller

2nd Place Assignment Intermediate



Wennie Anderson

2nd Place Assignment  
Advanced



Michele Kipplen

3rd Place Assignment Basic



Sandy Mercurio

3rd place Assignment Intermediate



Wennie Anderson

3rd Place Assignment Advanced

Cherry Blossoms

Ben Anderson

## Item for Sale

For Sale: Gura Gear Kiboko 22L+ Photo backpack, never used  
14" x 18" x 9", laptop pouch, rain cover, dividers, \$100

Jack Myers [jrmyers@roadrunner.com](mailto:jrmyers@roadrunner.com)







## Board Members

President - Michele Kipplen - [michelekipplen@gmail.com](mailto:michelekipplen@gmail.com) 419-283-4616

Vice President - Ross Ellet [rellet17@hotmail.com](mailto:rellet17@hotmail.com)

Treasurer - Michele Ross - [mickey.ross1204@gmail.com](mailto:mickey.ross1204@gmail.com) 419-360-0712

Secretary- Carolyn Ford-[cuervaMR3@outlook.com](mailto:cuervaMR3@outlook.com) 419-508-8758

Past President - Wennie Anderson - [wennieanderson120@gmail.com](mailto:wennieanderson120@gmail.com)

734-243-3346

### Board Members

Donna Gottschalk - [ddcampbell53@aol.com](mailto:ddcampbell53@aol.com) 419-349-4511

Charlie Mather - [matherc@yahoo.com](mailto:matherc@yahoo.com) 419-277-7060

Mary Mather - [mmather@toast2.net](mailto:mmather@toast2.net) 419-277-7050

Laurie Dietrich - [pictureperfectbylaurie@hotmail.com](mailto:pictureperfectbylaurie@hotmail.com) 419-290-7551

### Committees

Lightroom - Charlie Mather - [matherc@yahoo.com](mailto:matherc@yahoo.com)

Studio Group - John Dillon - [jdillon356@aol.com](mailto:jdillon356@aol.com)

Competition Chair - Jack Myers - [jrm Myers@roadrunner.com](mailto:jrm Myers@roadrunner.com)

Website Chair - Charlie Mather - [matherc@yahoo.com](mailto:matherc@yahoo.com)

Membership - Jack Myers - [jrm Myers@roadrunner.com](mailto:jrm Myers@roadrunner.com)

Newsletter - Mary Mather - [mmather@toast2.net](mailto:mmather@toast2.net)

For more information about the happenings or Zoom links to the meetings please check out the website.

<https://www.photoartscluboftoledo.com/club/clubschedules.aspx>.