

Shutterbugs of Volo Bog

September 2018 Newsletter



"Hooded Mergansers Michael Schmitt"



CLUB OFFICERS

President

Michael Schmitt

Secretary

Marie Caviness

Prints

Jenifer kalter

DPI/NL Editor

Michael
Schmitt/Eileen
Klehr

CACCA REP

Tammy Rusch

Membership

Ellen Dallas

VP Programs

Bob Propelka

Judge Procurer

Gary Edwards

Treasurer

Tammy Rusch

Upcoming Events

September 19, 2018

Competition #1

October 17, 2018

Meeting night

November 14, 2018

Competition #2

Refreshment Calendar

September- Tom Sievers

October-Wayne McGhee

November-Gary Edwards

The Shutterbugs Camera Club meetings are held at 7 p.m. in the Visitor Center of the Volo Bog State Nature Area the 3rd Wednesday of every month, except in December.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Membership is \$25 per year⁴/single, \$30 per year/ couple.

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dnr.state.il.us/Lands/landmgt/parks/R2/VOLOBOG.HTM

[http:// shutterbugsofvolobog.com](http://shutterbugsofvolobog.com)



Submitted by Marie Caviness

From the Secretary

The August meeting was well-attended. Members enjoyed pizza and a delicious cake that Tammy brought for dessert.

Michael welcomed everyone. Paul announced the balance in the Treasury. Ellen asked for volunteers to sign up for the remaining slots for snacks next season. She also collected dues. Dues must be made before entering the September 2018 competition.

Members discussed the option of reimbursing program speakers. It was agreed the club would decide if the situation presented itself. Stacy mentioned the Moraine Hills would not be holding any future photo competitions. She encouraged members to think about entering the upcoming Volo Bog Photo Competition.

Election of officers was held at the meeting.

Officers elected for the 2018-19 Season are:

President-Michael S.

Programs – Bob P.

Secretary- Marie C.

DPI- Michael and Steve K.

Newsletter Editor-Eileen K.

CACCA-Tammy R.

Judge Procurer- Gary E.

Treasurer- Tammy R.

Membership and Hospitality – Ellen D.

Competition Chair and Prints – Jennie K.

Webmaster- Wayne M.

Thank you for volunteering. Special thanks to Michael for his willingness to continue on as president for the next two years. His role as president is vital to our club.

A big **THANK YOU** goes to Bob P. for volunteering for the Programs vacancy.

As you may know, Paul Howerton is stepping away from his role as Treasurer. He had served in this role for several years. The Shutterbugs would like to extend a thank you to Paul.



There was more to come during our August meeting. Michael shared his expertise with members on preparing images for DPI Competition under the new sizing dimensions. He worked with members on their laptops as they practiced resizing images.

We are also very fortunate to have Marie Caviness as our Secretary. She is amazing. Taking accurate and interesting minutes is a talent. Thankyou Marie!!

This quote appeared in the March 2018 CACCA News:

“What’s really important is to simplify. The work of most photographers would be improved immensely if they could do one thing: get rid of the extraneous. If you strive for simplicity, you are more likely to reach the viewer.”

---William Albert Allard

Allard born in 1937 is an American documentary photographer. As an intern at National Geographic his photographs of the Amish are regarded as key to the evolution of National Geographic. All his professional work is in color, unusual for those of his generation. If you are not familiar with his work a simple press of the Google button will bring you to the works of this amazing man.

Images from our members



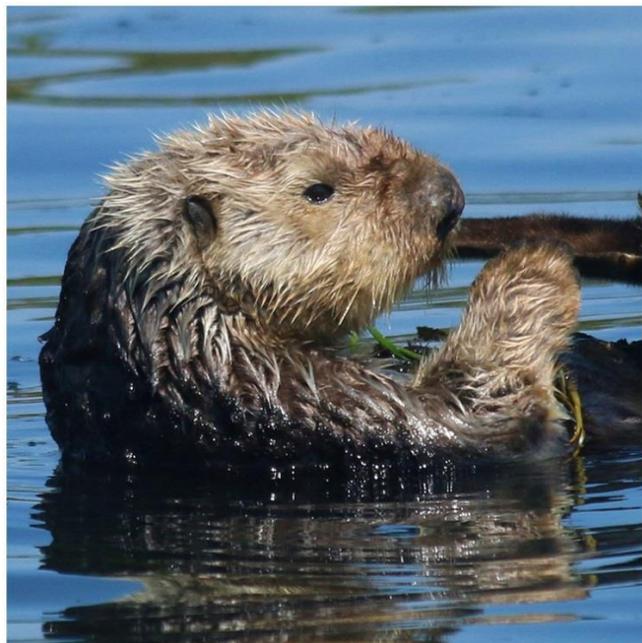
“Don’t Bug Me” Gary Edwards



“Pretty in Pink” Gary Edwards



Seclusion Bob Marx



Tammy Rusch “Morning D



Linda Willis “Hazy Winter” Linda Willis “Volo Tree Line”
And it might be referred to as “Just a Reminder”

Thanks to Wayne for the
following article.

9 Essential ways to capture sharp landscape photos

April 23, 2018 [Comments](#) in [Equipment & Fieldwork](#) /by [Anne McKinnell](#)

Every landscape photographer loves a grand vista – when you have a large scene with a distinct foreground, middle ground and background that gives your image depth.

The biggest challenge when working with this kind of scene is getting everything sharp. It can be frustrating to come home and look at your photos on your computer only to discover that part of your image is soft.

But remember that sharpness isn't everything! There are arguably more important elements of image making like composition and light. You don't always need to have everything super sharp.

As an artist, you can choose whether you want some elements in your scene to be soft for creative purposes. But if sharpness is what you are after, these tips will help you get there.



1. Use the sharpest aperture for your lens

Every lens is different and each has a “sweet spot” where it will make its sharpest image. For most lenses, this will be f/8 or f/11. This is an essential piece of information to know about your equipment so you can make the sharpest images possible.

While smaller apertures theoretically create more depth of field, they can often introduce “diffraction” which can ultimately make your image less sharp.

2. Remove unnecessary filters

Filters can be a good thing. Sometimes you need a UV filter to remove haze, a polarizing filter to remove glare, or a neutral density filter to even out the amount of light coming in through the lens. But if you don't need any of these filters for your scene, remove them!

Often photographers will leave a UV filter on their lens to protect it. But is it really worth reducing the image quality of every photo to protect your lens from an unlikely accident? The answer is your choice, but it's worth considering. The only time I use a UV filter is when I need to remove haze, or when I truly need to protect my lens like when there is a strong wind blowing sand on the beach.



3. Choose the right focus mode

For a grand vista type of scene, the best focus mode is single shot auto focus. That is when you focus once, and then shoot.

Only use continuous autofocus if you have a main subject in your scene that is moving. Otherwise, your camera will be continually trying to focus on a stationary subject, which can actually introduce blur.

Manual focus works too, especially if you use your camera's LCD to zoom in to make sure the focus is bang on.

4. Focus in the right place

Another important aspect of focus is the focus points. Most cameras have many focus points and a variety of options for using them, such as zone of focus points, a cluster of focus points, or a single focus point that is usually in the center.

Using the zone or cluster settings means that you are allowing your camera to make its best guess as to what should be in focus. To take charge of your camera, use the single focus point and move it around to the part of the scene that is most important.

Remember that depth of field is calculated from the focus point. That means that a certain amount of your scene in front and behind your focus point will be sharp. If you have a scene with a lot of depth, the general rule is to focus 1/3 of the way into the scene.



5. Know when to use image stabilization

If you are hand-holding your camera then use image stabilization to help you get a sharp image. However, if you are using a tripod, it is important to turn this feature off or it can introduce vibration that will cause your image to be soft.

6. Select the best ISO

If you are using a tripod, you can keep your ISO low to minimize noise (for example ISO 100), set the aperture to the sweet spot of your lens, and then let the shutter speed fall where it may for a proper exposure.

However, if you are hand-holding your camera, shutter speed becomes more important. The rule of thumb is to use at minimum the reciprocal of your focal length. So if you are using a 100mm lens, your minimum shutter speed should be 1/100th second. Set your shutter speed using this rule, set your aperture to the sweet spot of your lens, and then let the ISO fall where it may for a proper exposure.

7. Use a cable release or 2 second timer

If you are using a tripod, use a cable release or the 2 second timer to remove any camera shake introduced by pressing the shutter button. If you are using a DSLR, you can also use mirror lock up along with the 2 second timer to remove vibration caused by the mirror flipping up.



8. Review your image on the LCD screen

After you make your initial image, review it using your LCD screen and zoom in to make sure that everything you need to be in focus is indeed sharp. If not, review your technique and your focus point. If everything is still not sharp, you can try the next and final tip.

9. Focus stack your photos (Advanced)

Even when you follow all the advice above, there may be some occasions when you have so much depth in the scene that everything that you want to be in focus is

not as sharp as you would like. In that case you can try focus stacking to take multiple exposures with different focus points.



In the example above, because the saguaro cactus on the right was closer to me than the ones on the left, and because I was using a telephoto lens, I could not get all cacti in focus using any aperture. Instead I made 2 photos with different focus points and blended them together in post-processing to create an image where all the cacti are sharp.

About Author Anne McKinnell



Anne McKinnell is a photographer, writer and nomad. She lives in an RV and travels around North America photographing beautiful places and writing about travel, photography, and how changing your life is not as scary as it seems.