

Southwest Missouri Camera Club

Photogram

MARCH

Club Meeting Topics: Capture Groups /
Putting the Right Words with Your
Photography



Butterflies can't see their wings. They can't see how truly beautiful they are, but everyone else can. People are like that as well. --Naya Rivera



What's in it for you this month?

- March 11:** Connect Social - Sips & Scoops
- March 12:** Club Meeting at The Library Center * Capture Groups
- March 14:** Field Trip - St. Patrick's Day Parade, Springfield
- March 26:** Club Meeting via Zoom * Putting the Right Words with Your Photography * Scavenger Hunt, 2nd Quarter Competition, and PSA entries due
- March 28:** Field Trip - Ralph Foster Museum - Point Lookout

Carrie's Corner



Carrie Alkier
President

Spring is just around the corner, and I am thrilled to share more details regarding our "Sense of Place" project at our March 12th meeting! This partnership with the Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center is a wonderful opportunity to fulfill their photography needs while showcasing our members' immense talent.

I've been so inspired by the incredible energy in our Capture Groups lately, and I'd love to invite you all to bring that collective talent to the "Sense of Place" project. It would be wonderful to see each group's unique perspective represented in the photos we share with the Botanical Center!

Please mark your calendars for our Annual Club Picnic on April 9th at the Japanese Stroll Garden Pavilion. It's going to be a fantastic day of community, connections, and chow, but we'll also be putting our cameras to work for some great captures! We will be focusing on capturing the unique spirit of the gardens during the picnic, and these images will be collected specifically for the "Sense of Place" project. Stay tuned for more details.

Finally, as we plan for the future, I want this club to reflect your interests. I'd love to hear your thoughts on programming you would like for our monthly meetings, suggestions for Connect Social locations, and any Field Trip ideas. Additionally, we are looking into more SWMCC merchandise! We've already had requests for logo hats—what other items would you love to see? Please reach out with your ideas, and let's make this season our most productive one yet!

I can't wait to see what we capture together!

Carrie Alkier

 President, SWMCC



Photo Credit: Elaine Miller

Just for fun! There is a hidden pot of gold on one of the Photogram's pages. If you find it, make note of its location, and place it in a drawing at the March 12th meeting for a chance to win a 'fabulous' door prize! :)

Meet 'n Greet a Board Member



Lorl Long
Vice-President

This is me! If I named this chapter of my life, I would call it "Life with the Longs - An Extended Recess!" The title of "Mrs. Long" has been traded in for "Granda", and since retiring from a 30-year career in education, I have been immersed into full-time life on the family farm. My husband Ryan (38 years this month!) and I love small-town, rural life and living close to the lake. Our children and grandchildren live nearby, and we feel blessed to be close to them. In addition to pursuing my interest in photography, I enjoy other creative/academic avenues such as traveling to historic places, flower gardening, writing, calligraphy, and preserving/researching family history. The latter led us to qualify as one of Missouri's 8,000+ Century Farm families.

A couple of guiding principles I ascribe to in life: 1) Live life to the fullest and make a difference along the way, and 2) Let none say in the end, I have wasted it.

This is my photography! My first camera was a gift from my mother-in-law when I became a first-time mom - a Canon Sure Shot. I loved the opportunity to capture my sons' precious young years, their interactions, activities, and expressions. It allowed me to record a time that I can go back and visit whenever I like! I developed a real interest in photography itself when I began capturing their sporting events and learned a lot about the art of freezing action, the importance of timing, and composition. A few years later, when I became a yearbook advisor, photography revealed what a powerful role it played in the art of storytelling and preserving history: Within my own family, I am the historian - the picture taker, if you will. I hope my images will become as important to my children and their children as the ones I have inherited from generations before me! I enjoy capturing all ages of people in their natural element (especially kids - they're so genuine and expressive!), tender moments that speak for themselves, nature's beauty, sports, informal weddings, and documenting life on the farm and in rural areas. More recently, I have become interested in the "art" of photography and the painterly look. Because of my communication arts background, one of my favorite things to do is pair my photos with meaningful words - especially Scripture, adding a whole new perspective to the 'story' the photo tells and creating an additional design element. How's that for variety? It's what I love about photography - the diversity!



This is my photography philosophy! To me, photography is a form of powerful storytelling. I think the best photography makes the viewer stop and take a longer look, think, and/or feel something.

This is my vision! The dictionary states that a club is a group or association of people with common aims or interests. To me, that sounds a bit dry, cold, and not very personable! My vision for our club is that together we create a welcoming place where members interact in kind, encouraging, and constructive ways and experience a heightened sense of camaraderie. Because of my background, I advocate for quality learning opportunities to enhance all levels of members' skills and knowledge. As a result, I'd like SWMCC to become synonymous with a quality and worthwhile organization that impacts each participant in a positive way.



Carrie Alkier
President



Linda Wise
Secretary



Susan Gettys
Treasurer



Harley Dutoit
Competitions
Chair



Elaine Miller
Exhibits Chair



Jim Gulley
Field Trip Chair



Kerri Seichter
Web Admin/
Past President



Richard Baumann
Board Consultant

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances...

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Lori's Captures



Fun Facts!

- In back-to-back years, two of my Publications students WON Jostens National Photo Contest! There were between 4000-5000 total submissions. A third student received Honorable Mention.
- A highlight of my time in SWMCC was being awarded a silver medal from PSA last year.
- I photographed an NBA player who (while in high school) jumped center against my son at the Mizzou Arena during the Final Four Tournament.
- I teach photography skills to a local 4-H group.
- A recent trip to eastern TN resulted in us locating ancestors from both sides of our families as far back as the mid-1700's.



Let your
light shine
before men, that they may
see your good works, and
glorify your Father
which is in Heaven.

Matthew 5:16



MARCH ON OVER TO THIS MONTH'S CONNECT SOCIAL

Join us for our March Connect Social at **Sips & Scoops**. Whether you're looking to meet new faces, catch up with old friends, or simply enjoy the cozy atmosphere of one of Springfield's favorite spots, this is the place to be.

Why attend?

- Great Treats: Enjoy bold espressos, silky smooth lattes, creamy hand-crafted ice cream or small bites breakfast items.
- Better Company: Relax and informally network with local peers.
- Plenty of Connections: Expand your circle in a low-pressure environment.
- No rigid agenda – just show up, grab a snack, and let's connect!

3202 W. Republic Rd.
Suite 500



MARCHING INTO FIELD TRIP FUN

Oh, the places we'll go...

St. Patrick's Day Parade Downtown Springfield

Begins on South Ave. and Elm St. towards the square, then down Park Central East to end at Jefferson.

Saturday, 3/14 * Parade begins at 2:00 pm

Candid Portraiture

Focus: Street photography, capturing emotion, and street shooting skills

Logistic Note: Free to attend; practice shooting from the hip, anticipating action, and take advantage of colorful displays

Ralph Foster Museum College of the Ozarks

237 Christian Street
Point Lookout, MO 65726

Saturday, 3/28 - 1:00-4:00 pm

Indoor Photography

Focus: Lines, shadows, managing ambient light, composition of subject matter

Logistic Note: Good for a cold day! There is an admission fee, other sites on the campus include: The Hoge Greenhouses, the Gaetz Tractor Museum, The Memorial Chapel, Edwards Mill & General Store, Stained Glass and Candle Shop, and, if weather is good, The Patriots Park. The Keeter Center is available to anyone that wants to arrive early for lunch. Onsite parking, no charge.

EXHIBITS

Botanical Center Exhibit

Eight photos needed, 16"x20" matted/backed

Theme: Blooming Colors / Buds

Photos due at the March 12 meeting.

Barry-Lawrence County Libraries Exhibit

Up to 70 photos needed - various sizes - wired for hanging.

Matted and framed, canvas, or metal prints accepted.

No theme (any subject welcome).

Additional drop-off option:

March 23-28/Monett Library/2200 Park St.

Monett, MO 65708

Photo pickup: May 28th meeting



Photo Credit: Kerri Seichter

2026 BOTANICAL CENTER THEMES & DUE DATES



3/12 – Blooming Colors / Buds

5/21 – Butterflies & Buds

7/23 – Wildlife

9/24 – Fall / Fall Festival

11/12 – Christmas



MEMBERS WEIGH IN

The Ozarks has wonderful places to photograph. The most beautiful/interesting place I've captured so far within this parameter is....

Greer Spring (trail)

Alley Mill/Spring

Sweden Falls, AR

Falling Waterfalls

Kings River Falls

Dogwood Canyon

Route 66

Ha Ha Tonka State Park

Roaring River State Park

Eminence area

Nathanael Green Botanical Center

Gillioz Theatre

Pa's Posey Patch, Cassville

Relics Antique Mall

Grand Canyon of the Ozarks, AR

Hodgson's Mill

Besides your camera, what equipment/tool/software, etc., can you not do without as a photographer?

Lightroom Classic/Photoshop

Cotton Carrier Swag Bag (Camera Connect)

Topaz AI

Lensbaby Sweet 80

iPhone app: Circular Tiny Planet

Hasselblad Phocus

Canon program

Collapsible stool

On1 Photo RAW

Hand-held light meter

L-bracket

Polarizer

ND filters

Reflector



Teresa Brown - Immersion - Advanced
(TIE)

Ted Pagel - The Mess Chef - Advanced

1ST QUARTER COMPETITION RESULTS

First place images



Tom Severt - Nighttime Walk in Prague
Intermediate



Ross Payton - Welcome to Route 66
Beginner

Scavenger Hunt

The Scavenger Hunt Competition occurs twice a year - once in the spring and once in the fall. The purpose is to encourage creativity among the members and get them out and about to capture some fun and/or challenging photos. Members can submit up to one photo in each category. The window for the photos to be taken is between February 26 and March 26. Photos must be submitted to swmcc.competitions@gmail.com by midnight on March 26.

Spring competition topics are listed to the right:

-  APPLES
-  BUSY
-  COLORFUL
-  DOWNTOWN
-  EXPRESSIONS
-  FRONT DOOR

2nd Qtr Competition

Submissions for the 2nd Quarter competition are due March 26.

Enter your best capture!

PSA Competition

Round 2 submissions for the PSA competition are due March 26.

May enter one or more categories.



Zoom in to Our March 26th Meeting

Putting the Right Words with Your Photography



Lisa Langell
Langell Photography

A nature photographer and birder from the age of eight, Lisa is the founder of Langell Photography, LLC. (<http://www.langellphotography.com>). She started her business in 2010 after long vibrant careers as a floral designer, educational psychologist, and consultant. She also helped launch and manage two startups that grew into leading companies in the Ed-Tech space. Since then, she has earned numerous awards and has been published in *Outdoor Photographer*, *Arizona Highways*, *Ranger Rick*, *Images Arizona*, and more. She is an Image Master for Tamron Americas, an Ambassador for Fotopro Tripods, and is a judge for ViewBug. Lisa loves creating nature photography and art that is inspired by her background in psychology and design. When Lisa isn't having fun making photographs, she's thriving on teaching photography—both via engaging online/webinar-based classes and in her in-the-field sessions; she specializes in Alaska, Florida, Arizona and beyond. Her humility and passion for teaching and photography shines through! Lisa provides photographers with memorable, fun, and caring experiences that enrich, invigorate, and expand photographers' skills and portfolios in wonderful ways.



A great photograph can speak volumes, but the right words can take it even further. Whether you're titling your work, adding a thoughtful caption, or writing a short story to accompany an image, combining visuals with words can create a deeper emotional connection and give your photography new meaning.

In this creative and interactive session, Lisa Langell guides you through the process of pairing text with your images in ways that are meaningful, authentic, and expressive. You'll explore how to title your work with intention, craft compelling quotes, and even write brief stories or reflections that enhance the viewer's experience.

Lisa shares examples of how photographers, artists, and writers use text to elevate their imagery, and she'll offer practical tips on finding your voice—even if you don't consider yourself a writer. This session includes guided exercises to help you generate ideas and experiment with language in a playful and supportive environment. You'll leave with new techniques for developing titles, writing with emotion and clarity, and using your own words to enrich your visual storytelling.

Langell cont.

Members will need to login on Mar 26, 2026, at 07:00 PM Central Time. Everyone who registers previous to the start time will receive a confirmation email and then a reminder email which both contain the link to join the webinar. Here is the registration link for the webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/_pmonSMhReODmhu3WbWN0g#/registration

Within 24 hours of completion, an email of the webinar recording will be sent to everyone who registered for the webinar. The recording will be available for 30 days.



Photo Credit: Mike Holmes

Small Group Submission

Chuck Bruton

The Floral Macro Group met at Library Center Tuesday evening, March 3rd, for an equipment availability for macro flowers. Chuck Bruton showed his collection through the years for macro flower gadgets, lenses, land lights for macro floral photography. The group in attendance were Mike Holmes, Jim Gulley, Jo Bolton, Julia Warner, and Kerri Seichter.

Spring Begins at the Close of Winter's Day



Photo Credit: Lori Long



Photo Credit: Richard Baumann

Connect

www.snmcameraclub.org

www.facebook.com/snmcameraclub

www.instagram.com/snmcc_cameraclub

snmcamera@gmail.com

Save the Date

Club Picnic 4/9

50th Anniversary Celebration 6/25

Awards Banquet 12/17