

Southwest Missouri Camera Club
4th Thursday Meeting Minutes
July 23rd, 2026

Opening:

The 4th Thursday meeting of the Southwest Missouri Camera Club was held on July 23rd in the Springfield, Missouri Botanical Gardens main room. There were 30 members and 3 guests present. President, Carrie Alkier, called the meeting to order at 5:45 pm. She then reminded the members of upcoming events and activities.

Reports and Announcements:

- **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer, Susan Gettys gave the following report: Beginning balance = \$3,453.29. Total receipts = \$84.00, Total Expenses = \$115.38. The ending balance was \$3,421.91. Savings account = \$1,027.67, CD = \$4,044.24 and the cash on hand is \$100.00. Our club has 66 individual memberships and 14 family memberships. The total memberships are 95.
- **Exhibitions:** Chairman, Elaine Miller, reminded the members of the "wildlife" exhibit coming up at the Botanical center. In September the exhibit will be "Fall and Fall Festivals". The work of the "Capture Groups" will be exhibited at the Midtown library after the capture group presentation for the club in October.
- **Scavenger Hunt:** Chairman, Lori Decker, presented the categories for the upcoming activity. Using movie types for the 6 categories of: Action, Children's movie, Comedy, Horror, Musical and Science Fiction The images are due by September 19th, 2026.
- **Quarterly Competition:** Chairman, Harley Dutoit, reminded the group that the images are due by September 24th.
- **Field Trips:** Chairman, Jim Gulley, announced a reminder that the Scavenger Hunt at Bass Pro Is July 25th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Meet at the front door by the fireplace. He has made reservations at Hemingways for a group lunch after the activity. He also needs more volunteers for the club's booth at the upcoming fair.
- **Lighting Class:** Class leader, Richard Baumann, reminded members who have registered for the class, to be at the Brentwood library promptly at 6:00 pm for setup. Homework and instructions for this class have been emailed to the 12 class members. He also talked about the next special class "DSLR/Mirrorless" that is planned for August 10th at 6:30 pm. This class will be taught by Randy Henderson and will be held at the "Brentwood Library". Members can sign up on the club's Facebook page or at the meeting.

Program:

Vice President, Lori Long, then introduced our speaker for the night. Astrophotographer, Brennen Nicole, who leads adventure workshops into areas of the U.S. that are known for “dark skies”. Brennen is also an ambassador for several well known photography companies and for the state of Arkansas. Her informative talk was titled “ Intro to Astrophotography and Light Pollution”. She covered gear, the need for particular photography equipment, camera settings, editing and much more. She then gave suggestions for other types of “Astro” shots like phases of the moon, twilight shots, sunrise shots and light painting. Brennen also explained how “light pollution” affects both humans and wildlife. A great presentation!

Sense of Place:

President, Carrie Alkier, announced that the committee had chosen 201 images of the grounds, building and gardens and had presented them to the Botanical Gardens management. This was our way of paying for the use of the Botanical Garden’s facilities.

Adjourn:

President, Carrie Alkier, adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm. She encouraged members to stay and visit with each other as the room was ours until 7:45 pm. The next meeting will be on August 27th, 2026 at 5:45 here at the garden.

Submitted by:

Linda Wise
Secretary