



Focal Point

The news letter of the EASTSIDE CAMERA CLUB October 2025
Shelby Township Activities Center, 14975 21 Mile Rd



John Maffei
PHOTOGRAPHY

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Eastside Camera
Club, a club member
of the [Photographic
Society of America](#)



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New Members

David Knight

Group Meetings

October 16th:

Special Assignment: Detroit/
City/Urban, Color Creative &
Very Best

November 20th:

Reflections (preferably upside
down), Monochrome & Very Best

December 18th:

Best 10 from the year

January 15th:

Special Assignment: Trains/
Trams Busses, Group Shoot &
Very Best

Mentoring

Here's a link to the list of
topics and mentors:

[Eastside Mentoring Program](#)

Cover Photo

John Mattarella
Loren Andrus House

Group Outings:

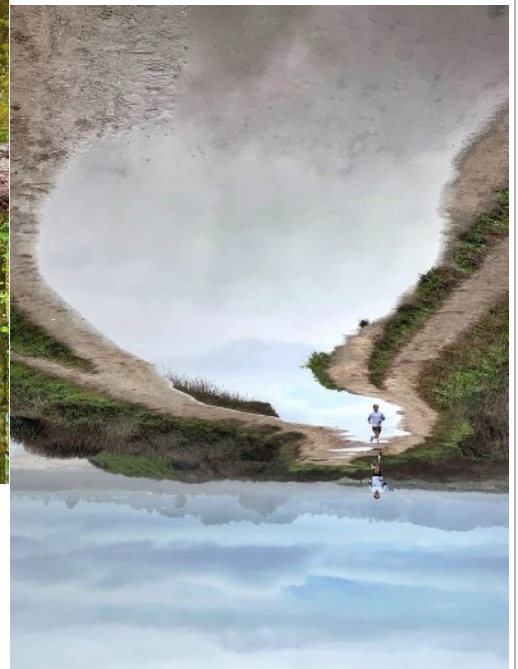
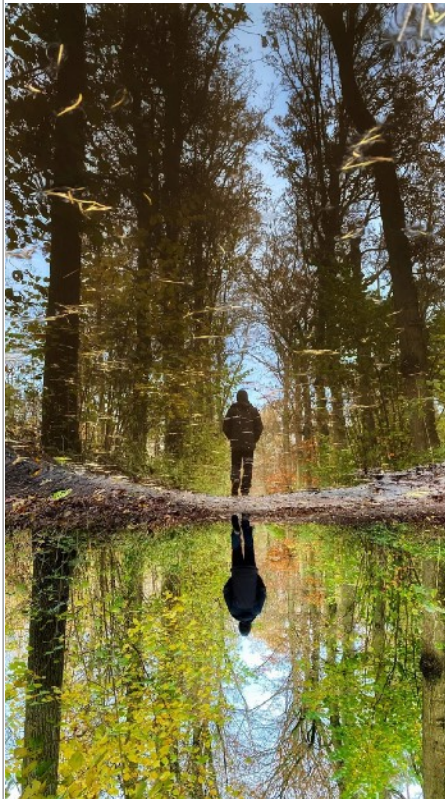
October 4th Belle Isle

October 9th Print Competition Mounting - Print mounting for the print competition (let Glen know if you want to use this service) meet at: Shelby Township Activities Center, 14975 21 Mile Rd

December 6th Pere Marquette 1225

November's Special Assignment:

Our November Special Assignment is Reflections (preferably upside down). Below are a couple examples of what we are talking about. (Thanks Bill for the photos)



Member Photos

Community Events

[Drumming along the Detroit River](#) October 5th
4-7pm

Cars and Coffee
October 18 9am-12pm
16600 Stephens, Eastpointe

40 West Howard Open
Studios
October 19 1-7pm
40 West Howard, Pontiac, MI



Monthly Training

- [CAMERA Stuff that's Actually WORTH the MONEY!](#)
- [One Click to Better Selections](#)
- [The NEW Actions Panel in Photoshop](#)
- [Cool New Stuff in LUMINAR NEO](#)
- [How to Capture Awesome Night Photos Handheld — No Tripod Needed!](#)
- [5 Quiet Photoshop Updates You May Have Missed](#)
- [30 Days of Photoshop with PHLEARN](#)



Nova Scotia Grey Seal Germaine Finley



Timothy Griffin



Mesquite Flats Chet Jankowski



Previous Monthly Trainings

- [How to Use the Alignment Tools in Photoshop](#)
- [Lightroom Tricks Nobody Talks About \(But Pros Use All the Time\)](#)
- [5 Lightroom Tips You Wish You Knew Yesterday!](#)
- [Luminar Quick Tip: My 3-Click White Balance Fix](#)
- [5 Lightroom Sliders You're Using WRONG!](#)
- [Mastering the art of food photography](#)
- [A New Improved Tool in PHOTOSHOP](#)
- [Replace the Sky using Luminar for Android](#)
- [Sharing Photos with others](#)
- [The Frame Tool in Photoshop](#)
- [5 Ways to Speed Up Lightroom Classic](#)
- [5 Things Everyone Should Know About Lightroom](#)

Composition Simplified

Our Seventh installment of Composition Simplified.

How to Center the Interest

Choose a view point that will enable you to get the most interesting Features of the scene within the range of vision.

Group the most interesting things near to each other, and keep everything else in the surroundings subordinate.

If objects in the foreground are too obtrusive, keep them in the shade.

When objects in the background are too attractive, they should be diffused or kept low in tone.

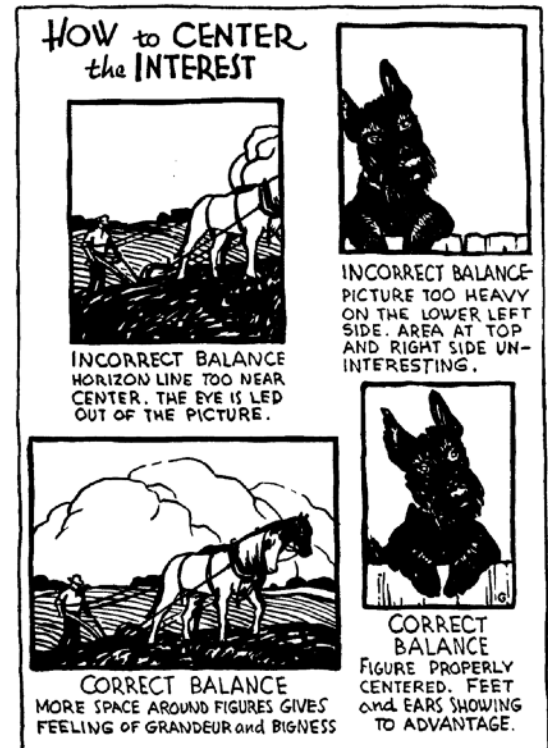
Never try to tell two stories at the same time, for by so doing, a feeling of divided interest is created which is detrimental to the unity of the whole.

If two objects of equal interest exist, keep one in shade and the other in light.

The strongest lights and deepest shadows should be kept away from the sides.

The chief point of interest should show the most contrast.

Avoid mechanical arrangements. The characteristics of nature are accidental in appearance rather than mechanical. No two things are exactly alike. It is this variation that makes nature interesting. Carry out these same principles in making pictures.



Who to Follow?

[Jared Platt](#)

[Ben Wilmore](#)

[Chris Orwig](#)

If you have someone you think we should be following let me know and I will add them to the newsletter.

DUES!

Reminder, it is that time of year again. Dues are due! Please pay Lorell when you see her. Cash only. Dues are still only 25 dollars.

Reminder

For members that cannot attend a monthly meeting in person, you are encouraged to submit pictures. If you do submit photos please put a "Z" at the start of the file name.



Mating Season Diane Kaluza

Better Photos are Just a Few Thoughts Away!

By George E. Norkus "How and Why" Series

This is the Third of a 5 part Educational Series.

When it comes to event and street photography, too many people fall into the "Good Enough" category. I feel this is wrong especially when just a little bit of thought could improve your photo.

Being that it's fairly easy to take multiple shots with digital photography, I highly suggest that you take an initial photograph then another just in case conditions change. At least you'll have something should things not pan out.

A few years back, I attended an Instrument Petting Zoo at a market fair. A local college had several musical students bring instruments for people to get the feel of playing what they were interested in. They got to try out various musical instruments. This brings out the love of music we all have in us and attempts to prepare the next generation of band and orchestra members.

My photography is done using the single shot mode being I was brought up in the analog world. This is where you have to think about what you wanted photographed in order to get it right in camera, at least I try. LoL.



Continued from Pg 5

Better Photos are Just a Few Thoughts Away!

By George E. Norkus

In the first example photo you'll notice a child being instructed on a violin. Most will think of this as a very good photo but I told myself that it could be better!

Forgetting the finer details like color correcting and balance, a simple crop could be used to remove some of the unneeded clutter in the background. Also note the girl's hands are being positioned correctly on the instrument by the instructor. That shows action which is a big plus added to the story. Remember to get it right in the camera.

Notice the small sign at the top back left. Looking carefully at it tells you what the event is. A person in back talking to others with a surprised and fun look. Emotions add interest and is always a very good thing to include.

With just a 90 degree change of view, photo #2 alleviated most of the background clutter seen in photo #1. That tells you to move around and when possible look for a better photo.

Sometimes it isn't possible to find a better view. For those times remember to watch the background. You'll want a minimum amount of distraction, "trees", and other assorted things growing out of peoples heads so-to-speak.



Photo 2

Depending on the reason you chose a particular photo, a tighter crop could help too. As seen in photo #2. This is something a photographer should always attempt to think about.

Photograph the subject with the final dimensions in mind. This is really not a requirement but it could help. Personally I'd not like it if later on I found that I didn't have enough room to fit the picture in the frame I purchased last week. Practice proper cropping in camera when possible so this doesn't become an issue.

Pay attention to what's happening. If you are able, study the event prior to arrival. Be prepared to catch something as it's about to happens.

When you are out and about, always know that every photo tells a story of some kind. Depending on your reason, a strong statement translates to quality. Knowing that, ask yourself "What's my story?"

Here is the link to the education page where this is stored: [Better Photos are Just a Few Thoughts Away!](#)

Click Outside the Lines

Newsletter **only** challenge for next year!

Forget coloring inside the lines—or photographing inside the rules. These photo challenges are here to stretch your imagination, flex your creativity, and possibly confuse your pets. (Seriously, try holding your cat up for forced perspective. Good luck.)

These will only be displayed in the newsletter, hopefully making the newsletter more interesting and fun to read.

January: Color Quest – Pick one color and let it guide your lens for the day.

February: Blur-tastic – Play with motion blur or intentional camera movement.

March: Mirror, Mirror – Capture reflections in water, glass, or anything shiny.

April: Get a Grip on Grit – Hunt for bold, unusual textures up close.

May: Flip the Script – Take a photo upside down and make the familiar feel strange.

June: Mini but Mighty – Turn small objects into heroes with clever framing.

Just email your photos to peter.drellick@gmail.com prior to last week of the month.

First photo due the end of December 2025

Behind the Lens Hacks

Do you ever find yourself needing an easy hack for a lens rest in your car?

A \$2 dollar piece of 1/2" pipe insulation just might be your fix. Best part is you get more than one for 2 bucks!



Cut the length you need put it on your window, now you can rest your lens right on your window without worrying about it making noise or sliding around as you try to take pictures from the comfort of your warm or cool car/truck.



2025 Calendar

2025 Eastside Camera Club Calendar

Revision #4 June 2025

	Group Meeting	Special Assignment - 2 per meeting	Very Best - 1 per meeting	Rotating - 2 per meeting	Group Shoots	Coordinator
January	16	Kogarashi - A Cold Wind That Ushers In Winter	Very Best	Nature	11 - Harley Ensign / Lake St Clair Metro Park	Pete D
					30 - Indoor	Glen S
February	20	Table Top / Macro	Very Best	Color Creative		
March	20	Transportation	Very Best	Monochrome	15 - Lexus Dome	Germaine F
April	17	Action / Movement / Blur	Very Best	Group Shoot	5 - Cuyahoga Valley NP	Tim G
May	15	Long Exposure	Very Best	Nature **	8 Shelby Twp Fire Station #1 (23 Mile Rd)	Glen S
June	19	1st Responders / Patriotic	Very Best	Color Creative		
July	17	Street Photography (with people)	Very Best	Monochrome	12 - Applewood Estate (in Flint)	Glen S
August	21	Flowers / Floral / History / Old	Very Best	Group Shoot	16 - Aramada Fair	Glen S
September	18	Rural / Country	Very Best	Nature **	20 - Detroit Night	Jeff B
October	16	Detroit / City / Urban	Very Best	Color Creative	4 - Belle Isle	Pete D
					9 - Print Competition Mounting	Glen S / Jeff B / Pete D
November	20	Reflections (preferably upside down)	Very Best	Monochrome		
December	18	Best 10			6 - Pere Marquette 1225	Jeff B
January 2026	15	Trains / Trams / Busses	Very Best	Group Shoot		

** = Nature = no dogs, cats, farm animals, no hand-to-man.

Contribute to your newsletter!

If you have stories or other information for the club
please forward it to:

Pete Drellick @ peter.drellick@gmail.com



Website - <https://www.eccmacomb.com/>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/eastsidecameraclub>

Flickr - <https://www.flickr.com/groups/1033583@N21/>

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