



Focal Point

The newsletter of the EASTSIDE CAMERA CLUB May 2026
Shelby Township Activities Center, 14975 21 Mile Rd



Contents:

Group Outings

Group Meetings

Member Spotlight

Members Photos

Members Articles

Announcement!

The Newsletter has a new email address:

eccmacombnewsletter@gmail.com

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



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New Members

Group Meetings

May 21st:

Special Assignment: Music / Singing, [Rule of Odds](#), [Group Shoot](#) & [Very Best](#)

June 18th:

Special Assignment: Head Stones, [Frame your Subject](#), [Nature](#) & [Very Best](#)

July 16th:

Special Assignment: Woods, [Symmetry](#), [Color Creative](#) & [Very Best](#)

August 20th:

Special Assignment: Car Details, [Diagonal](#), [Monochrome](#) & [Very Best](#)

September 17th:

Special Assignment: People at work, [Negative Space](#), [Group Shoot](#) & [Very Best](#)

October 15th:

Special Assignment: Music / Singing, [Rule of Space](#), [Nature](#) & [Very Best](#)

Mentoring

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

[Eastside Mentoring Program](#)

Cover Photo

Timothy Griffin, Sensoji Temple

Group Outings:

May 14th [Stahls car photo shoot](#)

May 16th [Edsel/Eleanor Ford Estate](#)

June 27th [Howell Balloon Fest](#)

July 25th [Detroit Polo Club](#)

August 15th [Jackson Civil War Muster](#)

September 12th [Detroit Night Shoot](#)

October 8th [Print Competition Mounting](#)

October 17th [Detroit River Walk](#)



From the Editor

May: The Stories Behind the Shots

Every photograph has a story—but not all of them are obvious. Some images capture a moment in time, while others hint at something deeper: a feeling, a memory, or a fleeting connection. This month, think about the story behind your photos. What drew you to that subject? What were you feeling when you pressed the shutter? Sharing those stories can add a whole new dimension to your work—and help others see your images in a different way.

What story are your photos telling?

If you have a photo with a story, please send it to me along with the story so it can be shared with the club.

Pete - eccmacombnewsletter@gmail.com

Lightroom Shortcuts

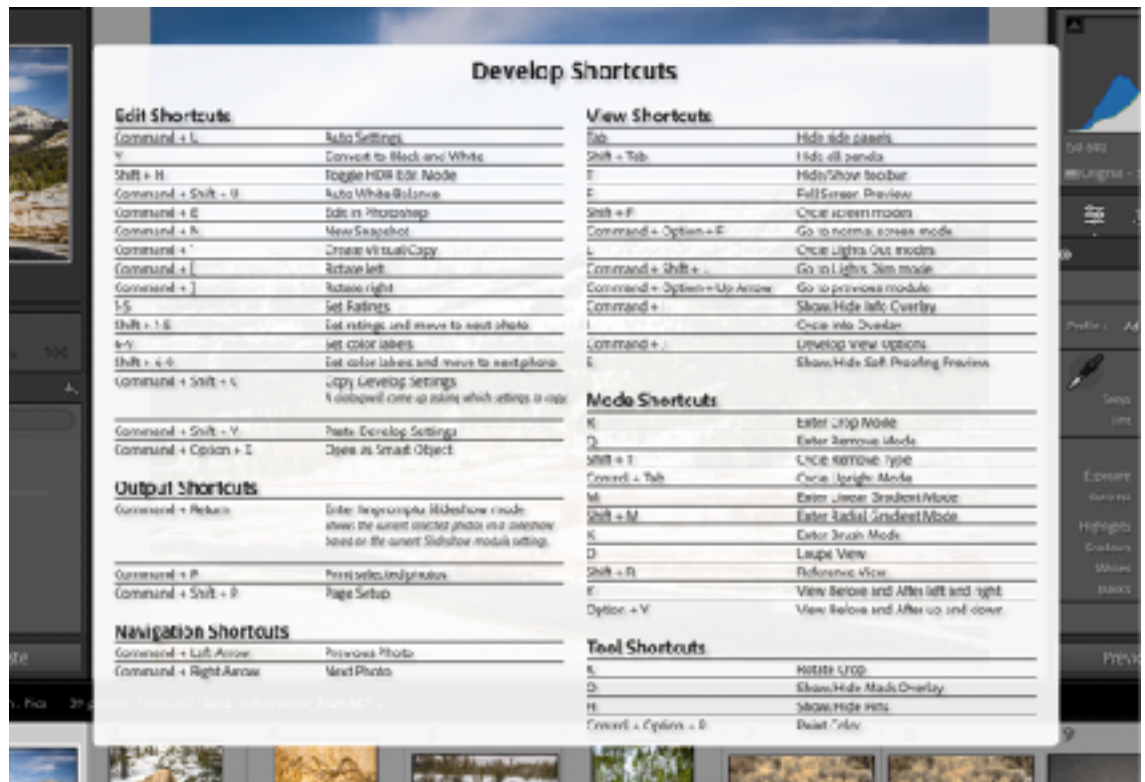
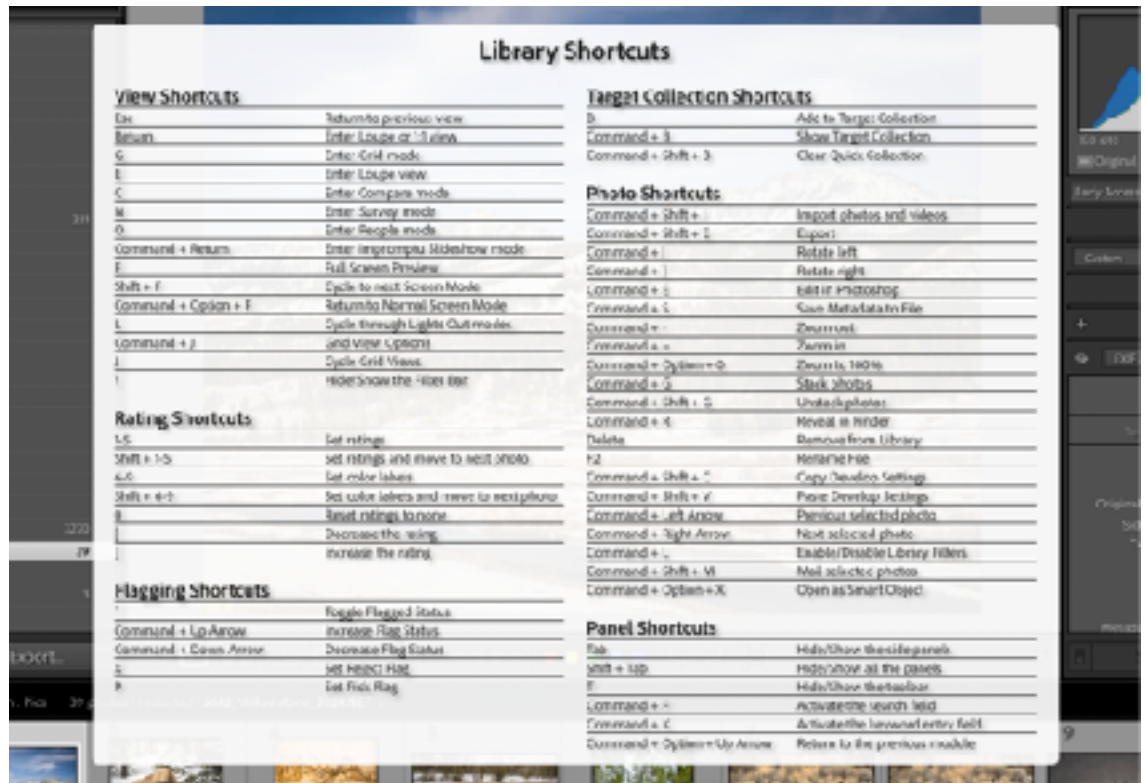
If you would like to see all the short cuts for the module you are working in when in Lightroom use the following prompts.

Mac:

Command + /

PC:

CTRL + /





Monthly Training

- [Masking From A–Z in Luminar Neo](#)
- [Great New Feature in Photoshop!](#)
- [4 Tips & Tricks for RAZOR SHARP Photos in LIGHTROOM!](#)
- [Lightroom Classic 2026: Everything You Need to Get Started! \(Photo Editing Tutorial\)](#)
- [Tip to Get the Best Edit Possible in Lightroom](#)
- [Simply the BEST PHOTOGRAPHY ADVICE Gary Gough](#)

Articles

- [Over 70 Powerful Winners From the 2026 World Press Photo Contest](#)
- [Artemis II Crew Witnessed Meteorites Hitting the Lunar Surface During Flyby](#)
- [10 PHOTOGRAPHY PHRASES THAT NEED TO GO](#)

Member Spotlight

Timothy Griffin

Favorite Style/Genre:

Landscape and Nature

How did you get started in photography?

When I was 12 years old, I found a Brownie camera in a closet and was off and running from there.

What inspires you most when you're behind the camera?

Sharing what I see with others.

Do you have a favorite photo you've taken — and what's the story behind it?

This is a hard question. But a picture I took of my granddaughter when she was about 6 has always stood out for me. If I was to pick a landscape image, it would be the one of the Polychrome hills in Denali National Park up in Alaska. I nailed it straight out of the camera with no editing needed.

What's one tip or lesson you've learned that you'd share with other photographers?

Learn your equipment. That way I can concentrate on my subject and composition and not worry about "finding that setting"

If you could photograph anywhere in the world, where would it be and why?

This is easy for me. I would go back to Antarctica, but stand on the land and explore it. I have wanted to see it for a very long time. I got to see it, but want to go back.

Where can we see more of your work?

Instagram: @__t12griffin_

Other: <https://www.facebook.com/t12griffin/>



Photo by Elke Kroenung





Previous Monthly Trainings

- [A More Creative Way to Blur](#)
- [The NEW Rotate Object in PHOTOSHOP!](#)
- [The NEW Layer Masking in On1 Photo Raw](#)
- [THIS IS WHY YOU "BLOW OUT" YOUR HIGHLIGHTS.](#)
- [Fix UNDEREXPOSURE Without BLOWING OUT Highlights in Lightroom!](#)
- [Try This Little Used Feature of Luminar Neo](#)
- [What's NEW in the February 2026 Lightroom Updates?](#)
- [Topaz GIGAPIXEL now in LIGHTROOM](#)
- [You're Missing This in Your Landscape Photos](#)
- [TWO NEW Adjustment Layers in PHOTOSHOP!](#)
- [Masking From A-Z in Luminar Neo](#)
- [The Ultimate Guide to Generative Credits in Photoshop & Lightroom](#)
- [Affinity vs Photoshop: Time to Switch... Really?](#)

Composition Simplified

Treatment of Edges

The concealment of lines is just as important as showing them. Nature is ever mysterious; you can always see something, but never see it all.

A good picture will suggest more than it represents. The quality of lost and Found edges is what makes a picture mysterious and charming. If nothing is left to the imagination, a picture will appear as hard and dry as a road map. By analyzing Nature we discover how to build pictures. Take particular note of clouds. They are always on the move, their edges changing from sharpness to softness, and then

gradually disappearing from view. A small stream, winding gracefully through its mossy groove, loses itself in shadows, then emerges pure as crystal into the broad open light.

The quality of lost and Found line can be put into portraits as well as Nature studies. Emphasize the most important parts of the figure with strong lights and sharp lines. Keep all minor parts soft or veiled with shadow. Try to keep the shadows luminous, rather than dense. Carry out the same principles in still-life studies.

Study the works of Rembrandt. The beautiful quality of illusiveness and mystery in his handling of light and shade has never been surpassed. His sketches and etchings are just as modern in treatment today as they were over two hundred years ago.



COMPOSITION SIMPLIFIED By Hermon Gabriel

Previous Monthly Articles

- [13 Photographer Personality Types You Meet at Every Shoot](#)
- [Interview with Sigma CEO Kazuto Yamaki](#)
- [A Beginner's Guide to Bird Photography:](#)

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.



Posing Tom Vezina

New Member Spotlight

Chuck Gettig

How long have you been into photography, and what do you love shooting most?

I'm just now getting back to photography after a lifetime of being away from it. In my early twenties I started taking pics with a used "Yashica" TL Electro SLR with a screw mounted telephoto lens and I was hooked. I was rushing the stage at concerts, getting up early to get downtown to shoot in the streets and driving my friends crazy with turning the lens on them. I had the desire to become a photographer just not the means as my family was getting started.



Years passed and the next thing I know I'm retired and get the idea that shooting a few pics might be fun.

What camera or gear are you currently using?

I have a Nikon Z50 with several lens. This is where I need to be careful. I love collecting gear as evidenced by a basement full of hunting gear.

Share one fun fact about yourself (photography-related or not!)

I spent twenty years in the automotive field (tool and die) and another twenty years as an emergency room nurse. When I tell people this, they don't see the connection and find it funny.

Spring Into Shooting: Nature & Outdoor Photography

As winter fades and the first signs of green appear, spring offers photographers a refreshing opportunity to get back outdoors. Blooming flowers, returning wildlife, and vibrant landscapes make it one of the most rewarding seasons for photography. Whether you enjoy capturing wide landscapes, delicate flowers, or wildlife in local parks, spring provides endless inspiration.

Landscape & Nature Photography Tips

Spring landscapes are full of color, movement, and contrast. Fresh foliage, flowing streams from melting snow, and dramatic skies can all combine to create dynamic images.

One of the most important factors in outdoor photography is **light**. Early morning and late evening—often called the golden hours—provide soft, warm light that adds depth and dimension to landscapes. Midday sun can be harsh and flatten details, so if you're shooting at that time, try finding shaded scenes or using backlighting creatively.

Strong composition can elevate a landscape photo. Look for **leading lines** such as paths, fences, or streams that guide the viewer's eye through the image. Including a foreground element—like rocks, flowers, or textured ground—adds depth and helps create a more immersive scene.

Spring weather can also produce dramatic skies. Don't forget to look up. Interesting clouds can add energy and balance to a landscape photograph.

Photographing Flowers

Spring flowers are a favorite subject for many photographers. Their vibrant colors and delicate details make them perfect for creative close-up images.

Getting close is key. A macro lens or a lens with good close-focusing ability allows you to capture details like petals, pollen, and water droplets. Using a wide aperture such as **f/2.8 to f/5.6** can create a shallow depth of field, helping the flower stand out against a soft, blurred background.

Wind can be challenging when photographing flowers. If conditions are breezy, increase your shutter speed or look for flowers that are naturally sheltered by trees or structures.

Overcast days are often ideal for flower photography because the clouds act like a natural diffuser, producing soft, even lighting.

Wildlife in Local Parks

Spring is also a great time to photograph wildlife. Birds return from migration, animals become more active, and many species begin raising their young.

Local parks and nature areas can provide excellent opportunities for wildlife photography. Early morning is usually the best time, as animals are more active and the light is softer.

Patience is important when photographing wildlife. Move slowly, observe animal behavior, and allow time for animals to become comfortable with your presence. A longer lens—such as 200mm or more—helps you photograph animals from a respectful distance while also creating pleasing background blur.

Whenever possible, focus on the animal's eyes. Sharp eyes bring life and connection to a wildlife photograph.

Spring doesn't last long, and the landscape can change quickly from week to week. Grab your camera, visit a local park or trail, and take advantage of the season's beauty. Some of the best photographs are waiting just outside your door. 📷🌿



Click Outside the Lines

Newsletter **only** challenge!

Here is a way to make our newsletter more interesting and fun to read by having a newsletter only photo challenge. These categories do not align with anything for our club meetings.

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.)

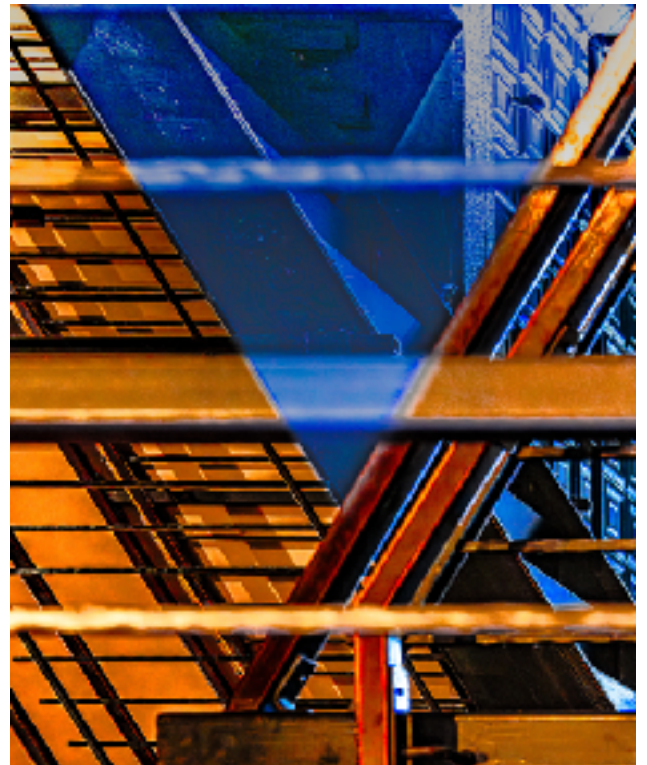
1. **Color Quest**—Pick one color and let it guide your lens for the day.
2. **Blur-tastic**—Play with motion blur or intentional camera movement.
3. **Mirror, Mirror**— Capture reflections in water, glass, or anything shiny.
4. **Get a Grip on Grit** – Hunt for bold, unusual textures up close.
5. **Flip the Script** – Take a photo upside down and make the familiar feel strange.
6. **Mini but Mighty** – Turn small objects into heroes with clever framing.
7. **Wait... What?** – Find look-alikes: shadows, clouds, or objects that resemble something else.
8. **Lost in Space** – Make negative space the star of your shot.
9. **Photo Rembrandt** – Recreate a famous painting or artwork with photography.
10. **Pocket Giants** – Use forced perspective to make people or objects huge (or tiny!).
11. **Triple Shot Story** – Tell a beginning, middle, and end in three photos.
12. **Face It!** – Discover faces hiding in everyday objects around you.

Click Outside the Lines

Photos “*Flip the Script*”



Glen Suszko



Jeff Bondono

Click Outside the Lines

Photos *"Flip the Script"*



Pete Drellick

Member Photos



Route 66 bottle Gregg Smith



Rising Moon Vezina Tom



No-Change-Bill Buchanan



Valve Roman Paul

Vol 2 #5



Blue Trees Pete Drellick

Member Photos



Tuscan Glow John Matarella



White Pelican Tom Barr



Casino Karen DeCoster



Great Egret Babies Joe Gazzarato

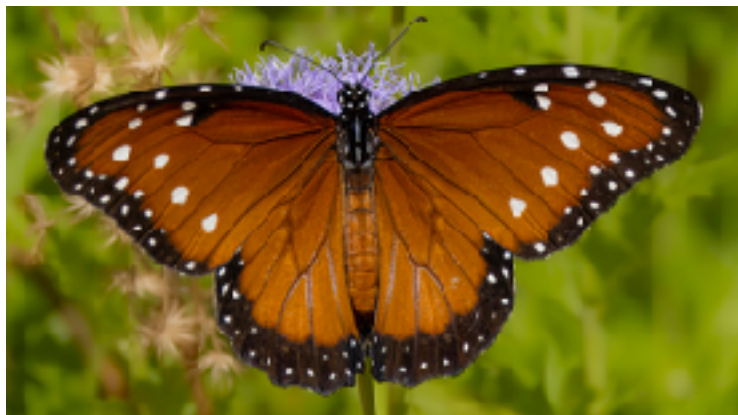


The-White-Dove Bill Buchanan

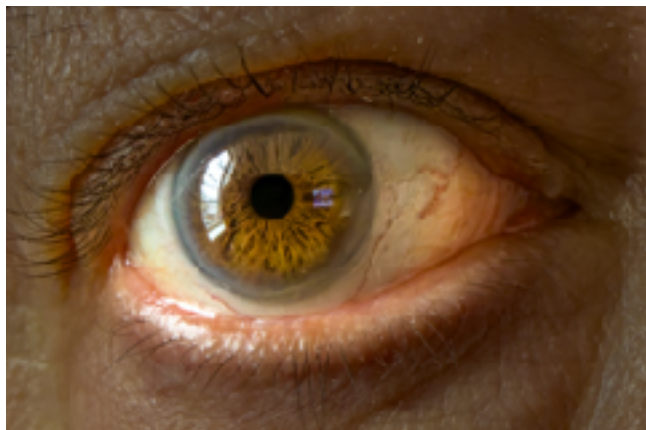


Cabin Pete Drellick

Member Photos



Queen Butterfly Gregg Smith



Sphincter Pupillae and Dilator Pupillae muscles
Jeff Bondono



Steve Wormlight



1760 Playing Cards Lorell



Chisako Thomas

Member Photos



Checking Messages Glen Suszko



MartiniTime Karen DeCoster



Bygone Years Lorell



Jinx Pat Reed



Red Rose Bill Buchanan



Antique Telephone Tom Barr

Member Photos



Packard Sliding Boy David Gzesh

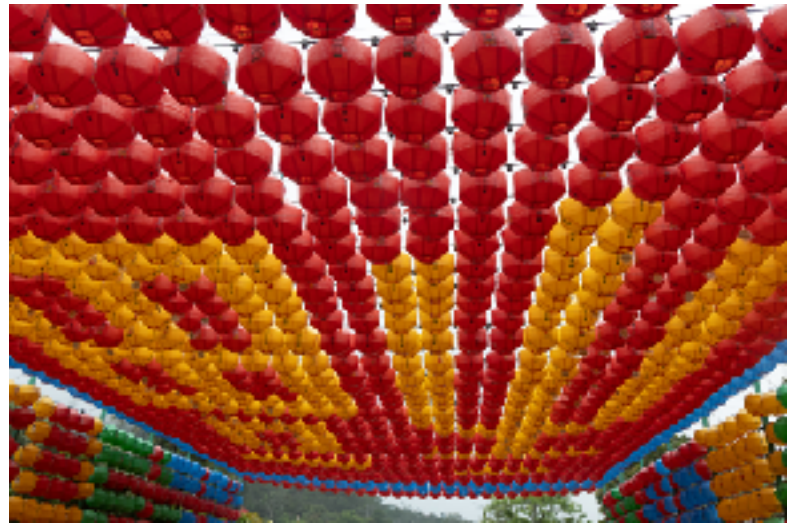


Tom Vezina
Lorell Leon

Long Long Times Ago (NO AI) Lorell



Leapfrog at the Rodeo Diane Kaluza



Timothy Griffin

Member Photos



Artemis II launch Glen Suszko



Nashville Thomas Chisako



1905 Edison Cylinder player Tom Vezina



1980 in Hart Plaza - Jeff Bondono

Contribute to your newsletter!

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

@ eccmacombnewsletter@gmail.com

2026 Calendar

[Link to Calendar](#)

2026 Eastside Camera Club Calendar

Revision #9 Dec 2025

Meeting Date	Special Assignment (SA)	Composition Rules (CR)	Very Best (VB)	Rotating (MO GS CC NA)	Group Shoots / Education	Date	GS Coordinator
January 2026	<u>15</u> Trains / Trams / Busses Ex1 Ex2	<u>Rule of Thirds</u>	<u>Very Best</u>	<u>Group Shoot</u>	Education - <u>Get To Know Your Camera</u>	<u>8</u>	Tim G
					<u>In Door</u>	<u>22</u>	Glen S
February	<u>19</u> Subject: <u>initial of last name</u>	<u>Leading Lines</u>	<u>Very Best</u>	<u>Nature **</u>	Education - <u>Composition</u>	<u>5</u>	Tim G
					<u>Stahl's</u>	<u>7</u>	Lorell L
March	<u>19</u> Macro Ex1 Ex2	<u>Patterns</u>	<u>Very Best</u>	<u>Color Creative</u>	Education - <u>Milky Way / Night Sky</u>	<u>5</u>	Tim G
					<u>Detroit Historical Museum</u>	<u>14</u>	John M
April	<u>16</u> Throw Back to Years Ago Ex1 Ex2	<u>Fill the Frame</u>	<u>Very Best</u>	<u>Monochrome</u>	<u>Eastern Market Murals</u>	<u>18</u>	Tim G
May	<u>21</u> Music / Singing Ex1 Ex2	<u>Rule of Odds</u>	<u>Very Best</u>	<u>Group Shoot</u>	<u>Edsel/Eleanor Ford Estate</u>	<u>16</u>	Tim G
June	<u>18</u> Head Stones Ex1 Ex2	<u>Frame your Subject</u>	<u>Very Best</u>	<u>Nature **</u>	<u>Howell Balloon Fest</u>	<u>27</u>	John M
July	<u>16</u> Woods Ex1 Ex2	<u>Symmetry</u>	<u>Very Best</u>	<u>Color Creative</u>	<u>Detroit Polo Club</u>	<u>25</u>	Tim G
August	<u>20</u> Car Details Ex1 Ex2	<u>Diagonal</u>	<u>Very Best</u>	<u>Monochrome</u>	<u>Jackson Civil War Muster</u>	<u>15</u>	Pat R
September	<u>17</u> People At Work Ex1 Ex2	<u>Negative Space</u>	<u>Very Best</u>	<u>Group Shoot</u>	<u>Detroit Night Shoot</u>	<u>12</u>	John M /Tim G
October	<u>15</u> Street Photography (w People) <u>defined</u>	<u>Rule of Space</u>	<u>Very Best</u>	<u>Nature **</u>	<u>Print Competition Mounting</u>	<u>8</u>	Glen S / Pete D
					<u>Detroit River Walk</u>	<u>17</u>	Pete D
November	<u>19</u> Windows Ex1 Ex2	<u>Contrast</u>	<u>Very Best</u>	<u>Color Creative</u>	<u>In Door</u>	<u>5</u>	Glen S
December	<u>17</u> Best 10				<u>PM1225</u>	<u>5</u>	Jeff B

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

2026 Calendar Categories

For each meeting starting in January you will submit a total of 5 photos. One photo for each category (Special Assignments, Composition Rules, Very Best & Rotating). Your fifth photo can be a photo from any of the 4 categories. Yes you can submit 2 Very Best photos if you would like!

Jeff has put hot links into the calendar (anything underlined) these links will take to examples of photos for each category or an article pertaining to Composition Rules.

Website - <https://www.eccmacomb.com/>
 Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/eastsidecameraclub>
 Flickr - <https://www.flickr.com/groups/1033583@N21/>
 Hash Tag: #eastsidecameraclub



Parting Shot



Brotherly Love Joe Gazzarato



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Shelby Township Activities Center, 14975 21 Mile Rd