

August 2018

PSA MICHIGAN



PSA Michigan website:

<https://psa-photo.org/index.php?michigan>

Newsletter



The Story Behind the Picture photo this month
(article inside)



Meet the Photographer photo this month
(article inside)

Upcoming Events



Register Online today at:

<https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=2155399>

Michigan PSA clubs listing

Organization Name	Website
Blue Water Shutterbugs Camera Club	www.bwshutterbugs.org
Detroit Stereographic Society	detroit3d.org
Grand Rapids Camera Club	grcameraclub.org
Greater Detroit Camera Club Council	gdccc.org
Grosse Pointe Camera Club	gpcc.photoclubservices.com
Livonia Camera Club	livonia.photoclubservices.com
Midland Camera Club	midlandcameraclub.org
Motor City Camera Club	motorcitycameraclub.com
Oakland Camera Club	oaklandcameraclub.com
Photographic Guild	thephotoguild.org
Southwestern Michigan Council of Camera Clubs	swmccc.org
Twin City Camera Club	twincitycameraclub.com

Spotlight Focus on: Composition

This month's reading and video selections focus exclusively on tips to help you compose better photos! Learning the rules for proper composition is yet another tool you can use in creating world-class photographs.

20 Composition Techniques That Will Improve Your Photos

From *PetaPixel*

<https://petapixel.com/2016/09/14/20-composition-techniques-will-improve-photos/>

Beyond The Rule of Thirds: Advanced Composition With David Brommer

From *PetaPixel* (with *B&H* video)

<https://petapixel.com/2012/07/07/beyond-the-rule-of-thirds-advanced-composition-with-david-brommer/>

9 Photo Composition Tips (Featuring Steve McCurry)

Video from *COOPH*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ZVyNjKSrOM>

Photography Tips: 5 Composition Secrets with Huntington Witherill

Video from *Advancing Your Photography*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SSAMn1iLukc>



Hi there!

I'm David Smalldon and I'm your Michigan PSA State Membership Director. If I can be of any service then feel free to contact me! Also please remember to notify me if you change email addresses. I can be reached at:

smd-michigan@psa-photo.org

Or

ds3793579@gmail.com

My FLICKR photo album can be found at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/davidsmalldon/>

Greetings

Why are we here?

Why are we here? I don't mean why are we on this big blue planet we call Earth but rather why have we joined the PSA. I'm sure everybody has their own reasons but for most of us, I believe the answer would be that we are here to learn how to better capture life.

We are photographers and we go out in the great big world of ours everyday in the hopes of finding something that can express a sliver of life. That moment might be a birthday party or a graduation ceremony or the way somebody smiles. It all means something to us when we take that photo.

Recently I was asked by a photographer friend of mine to go down to Muskegon because they were giving **FREE photo classes** which happen to be THREE of my favorite words! So I decided to drive down there and attend the seminars and go on the photo walks along with the other photographers.

Once I arrived and got started on the photo walks, I was off and running capturing what I felt were the best moments of life I could find. A merchant smiling in a straw hat at the Farmer's Market. People enjoying themselves at the pier near the lighthouse. A sailboat basking in the golden glow of a sunset.

Life is what we try to capture each and every day that we pick up our camera. We try to find a way to tell a story about what we are seeing and feeling as the world unfolds around us.

So why are we here? We are here because **WE** are photographers and we are learning how to capture LIFE in all of its infinite moments! It's never easy and it's never dull but it sure can be a lot of fun when you relax and learn to enjoy it!

Until next time.... //



The Story Behind the Picture photo provided this month by PSA member Tom Richardson
Photo Title

The Story Behind the Picture

“If you look at the very center of the flame, the white part resembles a fireman (or an angel) carrying a baby out of the fire.”

Each September the Michigan Firemen’s Memorial Committee holds a three day event at the fire training grounds in Roscommon, Michigan. They offer training, competition events and a large display of fire related equipment. They also hold a memorial service to honor those fallen brothers each year. Firefighters from around the state attend. As a part of that event the Roscommon-Higgins Lake Lions Club puts on a chicken barbeque dinner on Saturday for all of the attendees.

The local Television station (9&10 News) does a series of live shots on Friday morning to promote the weekend of activities. Our Lions club was scheduled for the second live shot to promote our chicken dinner, which would be about 20 minutes after the “propane tank” live shot.

It was pitch black before 6:00 a.m. when they lit the propane tank for their live shot. I was off to the side waiting for our live shot, holding a chicken dinner in one hand, when this shot appeared out of the darkness. The only thing I could do was grab my camera with one hand and start shooting. The five firemen approach the tank together while flooding it with spray to cool it, then the center man shuts off the valve on the top of the tank.

We went on to do our “live shot” for the Lions Club, then headed to the warmth of our vehicles and back home. It was only after I got home and loaded the pictures on my computer that I realized that I had something special. If you look at the very center of the flame, the white part resembles a fireman (or an angel) carrying a baby out of the fire.

When I shared the picture with the Firemen’s Memorial Committee they asked if they could use the picture the next year on the cover of their statewide paper issued each year to promote their event. They included a nice article about me and the photo in the paper also . //

**Settings:
Canon Powershot SX10 IS
1/40 sec.
f/5
45mm
ISO 200**

**Submitted by: PSA Member Tom
Richardson of Roscommon,
Michigan**

MEET THE PHOTOGRAPHER

This month, we take a look at the images and words from PSA Member **Nick Muskovac FPSA MPSA**

- **What drives you to take the photographs that you do?**

I always accept a new challenge; I am now into stereo 3D photography which I enjoy very much.

- **If there was one piece of advice you could give other photographers, what would it be?**

Have fun.

- **When I am out taking photographs, the one thing beside my camera that I always like to have with me is? (Lens/accessory/etc)**

I take a camera bag with extra lens, batteries, and spare memory cards. I always carry at least two cameras with me; 35 mm SLR and a stereo 3D camera. Sometimes I bring along my GoPro.

- **When I am not taking photographs, I also enjoy ? (Other hobbies/interests)**

I like to watch sports live or on television. I play Bridge against the computer; I also work out at the YMCA

- **The most interesting photo I took was when I took a photo of (explain how you got the photo and some of the settings that you used)?**

A monarch butterfly emerging from its chrysalis. I set my GoPro on a tripod and set the timer to take a picture every 5 seconds to do a time-lapse photography sequence. Pictures were taken for about 2 hours which made over 1400 photographs! I selected one of the photos which told the best story. This photo is also on my website as a LINK to the time-lapse video which tells the whole story;

photographybuynick.net



Photo titled: ANTIQUE CAR IN CACTUS
done by PSA member Nick Muskovac, FPSA MPSA

• **For post-processing, one of the tips that I learned long ago which I always use is?**

Since I use Photoshop, I make use of layers; I always make a copy of the original layer and use it for processing. In this manner, I always preserve my original.

• **Who is the one person in your life that has influenced your photography the most?**

I would say my son, Matt; He advised me to join the Suncoast Camera Club of Clearwater, which I have now been a member for almost 30 years.

• **A book which I am currently reading or that I always recommend people read is (photography or other)?**

The only books that I currently read are on the card game Bridge.

Photographer Biography

Nick lives in Palm Harbor, Florida. He has been involved in photography for over 30 years. His work has been published in Popular Photography and Petersen's Photographic Magazines. Nick has also published several articles in the PSA Journal and one of his images appeared on the PSA Journal cover. He is a member of the Suncoast Camera Club in Clearwater, Florida; where he helps conduct the Electronic Imaging competition.

He is the past Chairman of the Central Florida Chapter of PSA and now serving as the Webmaster. He has given several Electronic Imaging programs for the Chapter members. Nick has been a member of PSA since 1992. He received his FPSA honor in 2010.

Nick was one of the original members of the PSA Electronic Imaging Division which was formed in 1997. While the other divisions were using slides in their exhibitions, Nick came up with the idea to use electronic images for the exhibition media. He started the first Electronic Imaging Exhibition for PSA in the

USA in 2002. Entry Forms and Images were sent ON-LINE via the Internet. Today, this system is still in use and there are hundreds of Electronic Imaging Exhibitions in PSA.

Nick was the chairman of the first Electronic Imaging Exhibition for PSA, which was named SUNCOAST VIRTUAL; there were two sections: OPEN and CREATIVE. He was the chairman from 2002 to 2012.

He also enters PSA exhibitions and has over 2500 acceptances, and has received over 100 medals. This earned him his MPSA honor in 2011.

Nick has also expanded into 3-D photography and has been doing it for over ten years. He wrote an article titled: "MAKING 3-D IMAGES", which was published in the PSA Journal, May-2011 Issue. He has given numerous programs on Electronic Imaging at a PSA Conference.

He does a lot of time-lapse photography where you set up to take a photo at certain time intervals and then play them back in a video slide show software. A good example is a flower opening.

Nick Maintains his own website; www.photographybuynick.net There you will see many of his photos and time-lapse videos

Besides Electronic Imaging, Nick likes to photograph nature out west (continued)



Title (photograph above): CAT BLOWS BUBBLES

(photograph on right): EGGMOBILE



and also takes advantage of the many bird species in his home state. He is an experimenter and loves to do Creative Electronic Imaging. Nick says he enjoys this phase of "Painting with Light" in his Computer Darkroom. He has been doing Electronic Imaging on the Computer for over 20 years.

He is a Photoshop user and has published a book on how to make creative images on the computer: titled: "PIXEL MAGIC" published by Amazon in 2013. He has a 2nd photographic book published by Amazon in 2015, titled: "NATURES WONDERS". Both books are on sale at Amazon.com.

Here is some of Nick's equipment:

**Cameras: Canon 40D, stereo camera Fuji W3, GoPro Hero 06
Canon Lens: 300mm 2.8, 100-400mm 5.6, 28-135mm 5.6
He also uses his I-Phone for some photography and enjoys his Apple Watch.**

HOW CAN I IMPROVE MY EXPOSURE IN THE PSA?

Article by David Smalldon

Somebody asked me recently how they can improve their exposure in the PSA organization as a photographer. I can tell you that there are no quick fixes first of all. But if you're willing to put in the time then there are several things you can do to achieve your goal!

- Have you submitted images on the PSA website for people to look at? Each member can submit up to 6 images for people to look at under their home state. This can be accessed under: MEMBERS ONLY (once you log into the PSA web page) and then under PSA Gallery Upload and then selecting Individual Member Gallery. There's also an option to submit ONE image for BOTH a first year gallery and second year gallery if you are either in your first or second year of membership.
- Have you tried to submit articles to the Michigan PSA newsletter? My "virtual boss" at PSA who is the Membership Vice President often looks at my newsletters and other people around Michigan as well as around PSA are exposed to this newsletter. It is a great way for people to raise awareness of themselves. Perhaps you would like to volunteer to be one of the photographers spotlighted in **MEET THE PHOTOGRAPHER** or maybe spotlight a photo in **THE STORY BEHIND THE PICTURE**. Perhaps you would like to write a feature article for the newsletter about something else photography-related. I'm always open to suggestions so feel free to let me know.
- Are you in any photo critique groups online that PSA offers? Some of the biggest names in PSA are in the online digital study groups and they will certainly start to take notice of your photos if you consistently submit photos and offer constructive feedback on other photos. Many people think that photography is all about taking photos but it's just as essential in being able to take a look at somebody else's work and understand what you like or dislike about a photo. It's also just as important to be able to take those likes/dislikes and turn them into informative words that the photographer can act upon. There are lots of online groups out there in many various genres for you to explore so feel free to explore one or two or three as you feel you would like to.
- Have you considered volunteering for a PSA position which allows you to communicate on a regular basis with PSA members far and wide? This is a perfect opportunity for you to talk with other people and allow them to learn more about you and your photography.
- What about taking an online PSA class or submitting a few of your images to the evaluation service that PSA has online? Both of these allow you to get your images in front of some of the best and brightest minds in the PSA organization. They will tell you what they like and don't like about your images and this will allow you to understand better some things that you can do to improve your photography.

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PSA Updates

NEW DISCOUNT OFFER

If you visit the member discounts page of the PSA website (login first) you will see a new offer from Routledge publishers. PSA members can now get 20% discount on all printed books published by Routledge and they have set up a special page that gives quick access to all their photography books. You can access the page [from this link](#) but you need to log in to the PSA website to get the discount code.

PSA MICHIGAN NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE

Don't forget that ARCHIVE copies of the PSA Michigan newsletter are now available! They can be accessed (except for the current copy) at: <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?michigan>



Photo title: **SQUEEZED-BY-A-GIRAFFE**
By **MEET THE PHOTOGRAPHER** subject **Nick Muskovac FPSA MPSA**



Photo Title: SAILING
Photographer: David Smalldon
Location: Muskegon