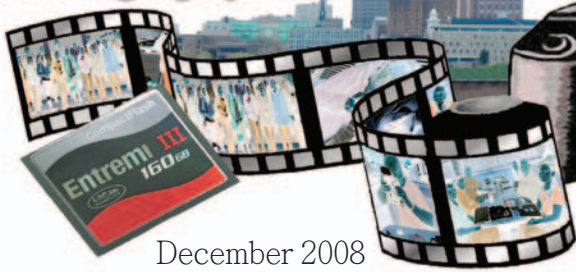


# Lehigh Valley Photography Club



December 2008



PO Box 62  
Macungie, PA 18062

<http://www.lvphotographyclub.org>

## *A Word From Our President, Andrew Smith*

Season's Greetings!

I hope this message finds you in good health and ready to experience the joys that this holiday season brings. As winter approaches, many of us are wondering what type of pictures we can take and whether we will be able to cope with the cold weather.

Winter presents some unique challenges to photographers both from low temperatures and technical difficulties, including choosing the right exposure. I know that I am always a little worried about whether I will be able to remember the basics and cope with the cold. Below is a summary of some of the key tips to remember for winter photo shooting. Hopefully they will be helpful.

One of the main challenges for winter photographers is to get the correct exposure when the ground is covered with snow. While these pictures can be very beautiful, getting the right exposure can be tricky since the camera meter can be fooled by the extra light. To prevent the snow from becoming gray you need to add more light to the scene. Usually the recommended compensation when photographing snow is +1 stop of light. It may also be better to take snow pictures early in the day to avoid the bright sunlight bouncing off the snow.

When photographing people or other subjects in the snow, you may want to use the "full flash" feature of the camera. If you try to take a portrait of somebody standing in the middle of a snow field, chances are your subject will be too dark if you expose for the overall picture. Full flash lightens the shadows and reduces the white background. Using filters is also useful. While some recommend the use of warming filters, the polarizing filter can help reduce glare from the snow.

If you are wondering what may be a good subject for your composition, remember that winter light is soft. It enhances details and therefore can be ideal for images containing texture. Shots with the sun situated across the subject (side lighting), rather than in front or behind is the most effective. This increases the detail and texture.

Another tip to avoiding boring winter scenes with too much white is to select objects that add color and contrast to the picture. You can balance the snow with beautiful cloudy skies during sunset. Or look for bright ski clothes. These objects will add emotional impact to your pictures. I find all of these composition tips to be really helpful.

There are some additional technical tips on how to protect your camera equipment in the winter. Check the temperature limitations of your photo gear. Try to keep your equipment and batteries warm. This can be done by keeping the batteries in your pocket, in your camera, in a bag or inside a jacket, preferably next to your body for warmth.

Another problem is the fogging of camera optics when moving from outside to a warm location (building or car). Professionals recommend putting the camera in a plastic bag before moving it inside and then waiting fifteen or twenty minutes before removing the camera from the bag. That way the condensation will form outside of the bag instead of on or in the camera.

Finally, temperatures can fall really low, so make sure you dress for the cold weather, preferably in layers so that you can adjust clothing if you feel too warm or too cold. Also, keep your hands warm by using gloves. There are special fingerless gloves or gloves with fingertips that fold back out of the way which are particularly useful for photographers. Good luck!

Here is a link I found that you may find to be useful.

Improve your photos and learn to critique

Follow the link to [www.radiantvista.com](http://www.radiantvista.com) then click on the Daily Critique. Recently this is also available as a iTunes download. Each day a 3-5 minute video is available for download. This video will feature a submitted image for critique onscreen with a soundtrack, which contains the same kind of spoken critique you would receive on a workshop - along with a pointer onscreen that will be used just like a laser pointer would be used in a live critique.

Many other useful resources are also available on the site.

Happy Holidays!

## ~ LVPC Club Calendar ~

The December Photo Assignment Theme is Symmetry

Sunday, December 7: 4PM to ?  
LVPC Photo Walk - Bethlehem, PA  
Meeting at City Hall Plaza

Thursday, December 18: 7PM  
LVPC Club Meeting  
Banana Factory Bethlehem, PA  
Program: Macro Photography 101  
Speaker: Betsy Dallas

The January Photo Assignment Theme is Blue

Thursday, January 15, 2009  
LVPC Club Meeting - Details TBA

Thursday, February 19, 2009  
LVPC Club Meeting - Details TBA

For more information on all club events  
and other events from around the Lehigh Valley,  
visit the LVPC Club forum.

## Our Executive Board & Committee Chairs

President Andrew Smith  
President@lvphotographyclub.org  
Vice President Sandy Gellatt  
VPresident@lvphotographyclub.org  
Treasurer Jeff Grim  
Treasurer@lvphotographyclub.org  
Secretary Susan Smith  
Secretary@lvphotographyclub.org  
Internet Technologies Scott Husted  
ITC@lvphotographyclub.org  
Educational Programs Lee Friend  
Digital@lvphotographyclub.org  
Events Chairperson Loretta Killian  
Events@lvphotographyclub.org  
Digital Committee Nick Democritos  
Images@lvphotographyclub.org  
Public Relations Coordinator Teresa Delikat  
PublicRelations@lvphotographyclub.org

Summary of Treasurer's Report for the Month Ending 11/30/2008:  
Jeff Grim, Treasurer

Beginning Balance (11/1/08)	\$1,997.34
Add: Total Receipts (prorated dues for 1 Individual membership effective 12/1/2008)	15.00
Less: Total Disbursements	0.00
Ending Balance (11/30)	\$2,012.34



Notes: Reported on a cash basis.

Above does not reflect the cost of donated supplies and services to-date (copying costs, laminating, postage, etc.)

For information purposes, the net ending balance for the 2007-08 year (on an accrual basis, after adjusting for prepaid dues and sale of discount books) was \$162.04. Total membership fees of \$2,045.00 have been collected for the current year (for 72 memberships, 79 total members) and \$280 for the sale of discount books.

Copies of the complete report will be made available, and at the regular meeting, upon request,

Membership Update: 78 - Total membership as of October 30, 2008.

The Club's year runs from June 1st through May 31st. Our By-Laws provide for the dues to be prorated for the first year of membership, depending on when you first join. So, beginning December 1st, new member dues are: \$15.00 (Individual), \$10.00 (Senior) and \$22.50 (Family Membership). These amounts, which are 50% of the normal dues, will have you paid through May 31st, 2009."

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## Lee Levin-Friend



Lee's photo was originally published in the Morning Call, Allentown, PA on Monday, October 27, 2008. Taken with an Olympus E510. Camera settings: 1/125 sec. @ f8.0, 54 mm, iso 100

# LVPC EVENTS



LVPC December Photo Walk  
Christmas City; Bethlehem, PA  
Sunday, December 7, 2008

We will be meeting at 4 pm at City Hall Plaza in Bethlehem at Church and New Streets to do some dusk and dark shooting of the downtown historical district. We'll walk around taking photos of the holiday lights and decorations, shoppers, shop windows and whatever else catches our eye.

Afterwards, if anyone is up for it we could stop somewhere and have a drink too.

This will be an all-weather shoot so if it is raining or sleeting or just generally nasty, we will find some indoor venues to shoot like the Christmas Trees from Around the World display in the Comfort Inn and whatever other suggestions people have.

As always, if you can't make this Group Shoot, you can shoot downtown Bethlehem at any time during the calendar month of December and add your holiday themed images to our thread in Share Your Images in the Members Only section.

Hope to see you there spreading holiday cheer!!  
Your Events Committee  
Loretta, Sandy, Jeff, Judy and Rhonda



*Happy Holidays  
Everyone!!*



LVPC December Program  
Macro Photography 101  
Speaker: Betsy Dallas  
Thursday, December 18, 2008

Betsy Dallas will be the guest speaker for our December meeting program.

Her presentation on Macro Photography will include basic concepts including equipment options, aperture, shutter speed, lighting and exposure, filters, composition, and creative options.

Betsy Dallas is an enthusiastic nature and macro photographer and resident of Lake Hauto, Pennsylvania. Through her lens she explores the patterns, textures, and intimate details found in nature to produce images that speak to the heart about the beauty that surrounds us.

Betsy has been a lifelong photographer, enhancing her skills through classes and workshops at Muhlenberg College [Allentown, Pa.], Lehigh Carbon Community College [Schnecksville, Pa.], Dan's Camera City [Allentown, Pa.], and the Pocono Environmental Education Center [Dingman's Ferry, Pa.]. Inspired by nature photographers such as John Barclay, Tony Sweet, and Nancy Rotenberg, Betsy enjoys participating in workshops where new techniques and ideas are learned and shared with other photographers.

Betsy is a member of the Hazleton Area Camera Club [Hazleton, Pa.], Palmerton Camera Club [Palmerton, Pa.] and Pocono Photography Club [East Stroudsburg, Pa.]. Her work was recently published in Popular Photography magazine.

To see more of Betsy's images, visit her website at [www.betsydallasphoto.com](http://www.betsydallasphoto.com).

"Nature is the Art of God"  
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

# Our October Club Assignment Theme Was Girl



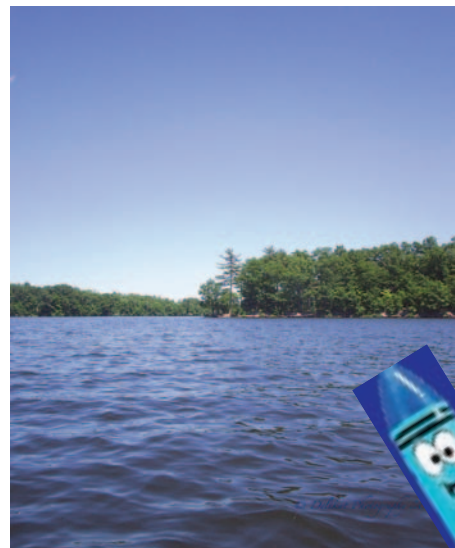
*The Winning Photographer was Sandy Gelatt.  
Congratulations!!*

Don't forget to vote for the November Theme ~ Chocolate!!  
Voting runs December 1 - 10.

Our Next 2 Photo Assignment Themes Are:  
December: Symmetry ~ Post December 1 - 31, Vote January 1 - 10  
January: Blue ~ Post January 1 - 31, Vote February 1 - 10



Symmetry - close agreement in size, shape, and relative position of parts on opposite sides of a dividing line or plane or around a central point.



# Our November Club Photo Walk

## Lehigh County Covered Bridge Tour

Tom Latone



Nick Democritos



Karl Graf

# Our November Club Photo Walk



Loretta Killian



Lee Levin-Friend



Rhonda Pagano

## What's New In The Forums?

### LVPC Photography 101 – An Outline

By Jeff Grim

1. Get the Equipment
  - Finding the right camera, lens, filters, bags, other accessories, printer, scanner and software
2. Get the Shot
  - Using your camera by controlling image quality, exposure, color and focus
3. Edit the Shot
  - Using software for correcting flaws, retouching, enhancing
4. Store/Organize the Shot
5. Print/Display/Share the Shot
6. What to Shoot (list)
7. Where to Shoot (list)
8. Other Topics
9. Learning More (list of publications and online sources)
10. Links to Outlined Topics

Photography 101 for the LVPC is NOT intended to be a comprehensive treatise on everything there is to know about photography. That's best left to others. What it IS is simply an outline of photographic topics. It's intent is to spur interest in learning more and developing information for LVPC members over time. For example, it could be used to consider what topics members would like to learn more about. It will be added to and modified over time, hopefully with more links to informative posts in other areas of the forum.

### While you're visiting the forums.....

Be sure to welcome Brian Keifer as a new forum moderator!

And, check out these topics and more!

- Official Canon Gear
- Official Nikon Gear
- Official Olympus Gear
- Official Sony/ Pentax Gear

- Do you have favorite photo shoot places outside of the Lehigh Valley? Stop on by the Forum Thread called "SUGGESTIONS FOR PLACES TO SHOOT OUTSIDE THE LEHIGH VALLEY" and let us know about it!

- Do you know what DNG conversions are? You'll find the answer under the Forum Theme "Post Processing, Work Flow & Printing"!

See you around the forums!

"Tj"



Lehigh Valley Photography Club  
Meeting Minutes - November 20, 2008

Opening

The regular meeting of the Lehigh Valley Photography Club was called to order at 7:10 PM by President Andy Smith.

Treasurer and Secretary Reports

Reading was dispensed with because these reports appear on the club website.

Events Committee - Loretta Killian

Suggestion of a picnic at year end (June). Will be discussed closer to spring. Sunday November 9 was the covered bridge tour. The next event will be a meeting on Sunday, December 7 in downtown Bethlehem to photograph the holiday lights. In case of bad weather, there are indoor sites available. May meet for dinner afterwards.

Program Committee - Lee Friend

Next month's meeting will be held at the Banana Factory. Betsy Dallas will give a presentation on macro photography.

Photo Assignment

Sandy Gelatt was the winner of last month's photo assignment (Girl). November's theme is Chocolate, December's is Symmetry and January's is Blue. Andy Smith asked whether we should continue awarding trophies. It was moved, seconded and approved to do away with them. There was some discussion of what should take their place, but nothing was decided. SmugMug does give out awards.

Tom Grim mentioned that there are some problems posting to the photo gallery. Sandy Gelatt urged more people to participate in the assignments and also to vote for the winning photo. Nick Democritos said people are having trouble interpreting the subject. It was suggested that there should be a broader subject such as landscape or nature.

New Business

Jeff Grim discussed the discount books from Dan's. He contacted Mike at Dan's. Mike will put together a packet for the 13 people who signed up.

Alice Lipe announced that Greg Crisp, the sports photographer who spoke at September's program, is willing to conduct a group instruction for up to 5 people. There will be 2 sessions. Cost is \$100 per session. There will be both a question and answer session and opportunity for hands on shooting at a sporting event.

Program

This month's program was a critique of members' photos. Some photos were projected via computer and other members brought framed photos for consideration. The criticism was very helpful and informative.

Thanks to Nick Democritos for coordinating the photo submissions and putting them on his laptop

The meeting was adjourned at 9 PM

Minutes submitted by Sue Smith, Secretary