

Photo by John Caulfield

## August Meeting: Susan Pfanmuller on Frozen Flower Photography

Susan will share her work with frozen flower photography including some of her “how-tos”. To see more of Susan’s amazing and unique work be sure to check out her [Instagram page](#).



Photo by Susan Pfanmuller

Susan worked for multiple news organizations over the years including the Enid, Oklahoma News and Eagle where she won the Photographer of the Year and several photo of the year awards from The Oklahoma Press Association

She currently lives in Overland Park, Kansas where she works as a freelance photographer. She has worked extensively with The Kansas City Star, the cities of Overland Park and Olathe and has been published in the New York Times, Newsweek, People, Field and Stream and various other local, national and specialty publications and websites.

Mark Asbury will share Photographer Tips and Tricks using Google Maps and Google Earth. He will also discuss location options for photographing the August 30 Blue Moon that might include the Kansas City skyline.

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Photo by Kevin Vivers

### Member Slide Show

Each meeting we have a slideshow of photos submitted by our members. The photos submitted for the slideshow will be available for viewing on the DD&B website and a few may be selected for this newsletter. We hope that most members will participate.

They are displayed by both member name & by month. If for some reason you would NOT like your images (new or past photos) displayed on the website please let us know at the same email you use to submit.

Submission Guidelines:

- You may submit up to 5 images.
- Please be prepared to share some of your technical information such as aperture, shutter speed, lens, etc. and why you feel the image has impact and is enjoyable to you.
- JPEG format. 1600 pixels on the long side at 90%/high jpg quality is recommended for the best viewing later on the website but feel free to submit larger or smaller.
- Please leave EXIF data if possible
- E-mail your images to:  
ddkclideshow@gmail.com

\*Submissions accepted no later than 11:00 pm Wednesday night before the meeting. You are also encouraged to bring hard copies of your photos to share before and after the meeting at a table in the foyer.

### Are You Up-to-Date on Club Dues?

Membership runs from June through May of the following year. Dues can be paid at the in-person club meetings at the check-in desk. DUES: Individual \$30/yr Family \$40.00/yr Senior \$20./yr. (60 & over). Or mail dues to: Digital Dimensions and Beyond P.O. Box 4221 Overland Park, KS. 66204-4221 (please make checks payable to Digital Dimensions & Beyond)

### Upcoming Meeting Info

#### September 21 - Tom Strongman on Car Photography

Our own club member Tom Strongman, previously the Automotive Editor and car photographer for the Kansas City Star, will talk about his work with car photography. He might even divulge some of his car photography secrets!



Photo by Tom Strongman

### Upcoming Club Field Trips

#### Weekend of September 15-17 - St. Louis

Join us for all or part of the club "Weekend in St. Louis" outing. There will be lots to do and choose from depending on your interests. On the 16th there is a balloon show. We'll be joining forces with St. Louis Club photography club. There will be a club dinner Saturday evening (the 16th). Reservations are needed so please be sure to contact Dara Russell if you plan to join us. The suggested hotel is the Best Western in Kirkwood.



## Sunflower Season Begins!



Photo by Nancy Armstrong

There are multiple locations in the Kansas City area where photographers are allowed to photograph in fields of these iconic flowers. Most fields are at peak bloom in August or early September. One of the best places to get up-to-date information on local sunflower fields is Facebook. These pages usually provide updates on blooms and current field conditions. A muddy sunflower field is no fun! The two fields listed below are by no means the only ones available.

[Russell Sunflower Patch](#) on Highway B in Richmond, Missouri is open. It offers a taco truck and shaved ice on weekends in addition to fields of sunflowers.

[Grinter Farms](#) near Lawrence, Kansas is one of the best known Sunflower Fields around. As of this writing they are on pace for a Labor Day(ish) bloom.

## McClouth Threshing Bee

The annual [McClouth Threshing Bee](#) will be September 15-17th. This event offers lots of family activities amid photo-friendly antique tractors and farm equipment. McClouth, Kansas is northwest of Kansas City, a 30 to 60 minute drive depending on your starting point.

## Super Moon Viewing August 30

You'll have to wait nine years for the next opportunity if you miss the Super Moon this coming August 30th. There is a good summary of the event and what makes it so special on NPR's website [here](#).

Several DD&B Club Members attended a last-minute Super Moon gathering to photograph the Super Moon on August 1st. This was announced on the club Facebook page; some great photos resulted! Several club members have expressed interest in the August 30th event. If you're interested in leading a Blue Moon outing, please let Vicki or Mary know.

## Upcoming Photography Workshop Opportunities

Reed Hoffman, the photographer who gave such a great presentation at our July meeting on his work with the Kansas City Chiefs, has had a last-minute opening in his Sedona Arizona workshop August 21-26. Additional information is available [here](#); you contact Reed directly at (913) 568-5444.

Craig McCord, another club member, local photographer and teacher also offers photo workshops throughout the year in several stunning locations. The next one scheduled is on the Oregon Coast, October 2-5. You can find information about the Oregon workshop and other workshops planned for 2024 [here](#).



Photo by Craig McCord

# CAROLE'S CORNER

## SELF ASSIGNMENTS

Practice, practice, practice! It takes practice to become a successful photographer, but repetition of the same techniques puts limits on a lifetime of improvement. Self-assignments vastly increase the opportunities for improving. Plus they renew the photographer's original excitement about photography.

Ideas for self-assignments are endless. They can include subject matter, mood, composition, lens, focal length, aperture, shutter speed, depth of field, camera angle, filters, lighting, weather, time of day, a collection of similar objects, or themes such as seasons and colors and so on.



Photo by Patricia Fries

When challenged to take, for example, forty images of the exact same object or scene, the photographer first relies on already learned skills. Practicing these familiar techniques polishes the abilities of both beginning and advanced photographers.

After using familiar techniques for the first group of images, the photographer feels compelled to think of something new and different. How to add a mood to the image? How to go beyond a beautiful picture postcard look? How to reduce the snapshot look? How to figure out a personal photographic style?

How to influence the viewer to be as interested in the subject matter as the photographer is?

The length of time to practice the self-assignment could be one day, one year, or forever. For example, a

long period of time can result in wonderful collections of skies, doors, foggy days, sad portraits, or anything orange! A one-day project exercises the imagination while forcing it to recall all its photographic knowledge. Repeating the same self-

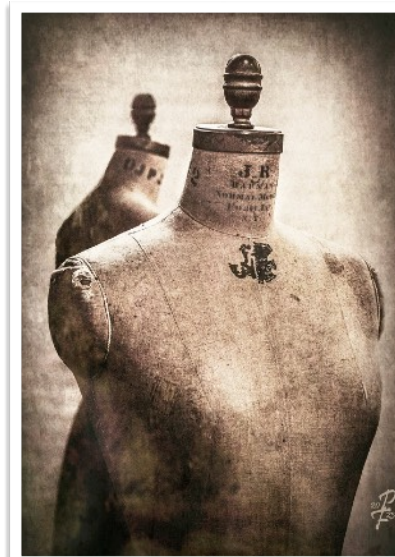


Photo by Patricia Fries

assignment a year later allows the photographer to use the new knowledge learned during that year.

Reviewing the images is part of the challenge of self-assignments. Why do the "good" images look good? Why are the "bad" images less successful? What could be done differently the next time? The purpose of self-assignments is to find one or more solutions for every problem, either from something learned but forgotten or from something new. The first review done immediately should produce different results than a review one year later, thanks to newly acquired knowledge and recent experiments.

Ideas for photo self-assignments abound on the Internet. They will expand the photographer's awareness of everything involved for a successful image. The mental and visual stimulation are invaluable.