

JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER



Annual Club Picnic Shawnee Mission Park, Shelter #10 SATURDAY, June 21st at 4:00 PM

It's time for the annual DD&B picnic! This year it will once again be held at beautiful Shawnee Mission Park, Shelter #10.

Members and their family members and guests are all welcome to join us for lots of fun activities, great conversation, and club community spirit.

For those who would like one there are box dinners available for just \$5 per person - members and guests alike. Dinners will include your choice of turkey, ham, or roast beef sandwich or sub with chips, a cookie and bottled water. **To help us plan, please** make sure to sign up HERE to reserve your meal. Bring cash (preferably a \$5 bill) and pay Mary Kapka when you arrive at the picnic.

If you are not interested in the box meal, no need to RSVP but please feel free to bring your own food and/or just join us for the fun.

A club group photo will be taken at 4:30, with dinner served at 5:00 PM. After dinner we'll have a fun photo activity with prizes for winning photos.

Club Leadership Update

June is the official kick-off month for a new year of DD&B activities. That means annual membership fees are due; if you haven't paid yet here is a <u>link</u> with info about how to pay.

The leadership torch was officially passed from Mary Kapka and Vicki Darr to our new club leaders, Garren Stickleman and Tom Strongman. Many thanks to all of them for helping guide us on new photography journeys and experiences.

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- * Info on upcoming July club outing at the Historic Lansing Kansas State Prison (p. 2)
- Overview of July club program and other local photo opportunities (p. 2)
- * Carole's Corner on SHOOTING FIREWORKS TIPS AND TRICKS (p. 3)



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. Guidelines here.

NOTE: No monthly submissions for the monthly slideshow as we will be at the park for our annual picnic.

William Cumberland on Athletic Portraits - July 17th Meeting

We're looking forward to hearing from William Cumberland, a local Kansas City photographer of WBCVisions who will be the speaker at our July 17th club meeting. William is well known for his amazing sports photographs; you can find examples of his work on both Instagram (@wbcvisions) and Facebook (link here).

Kansas City Dragon Boat Festival Saturday, June 21st 10:00 am-3:00 pm

Look for some unique photo opportunities at the annual Dragon Boat Festival on Country Club Plaza, details at this <u>link</u> if you're interested.

Kansas State Prison Photo Tour Sunday, July 20th in Lansing, Kansas

Join us for a rare opportunity to explore the Historic Kansas State Penitentiary on a photography-focused guided tour.

📆 Date: Sunday, July 20

Time: 3:00 PM (Tour is 3 hours long)

Cost: \$40 per person

Starting Location:

Lansing Historical Society & Museum 115 East Kansas Avenue Lansing, KS 66043

This special photographers-only tour provides unique access to this atmospheric site with ample time for shooting. You'll want to bring your low light gear for this one! Tripods are not only allowed but recommended.

Pre-registration is required; spots are limited.

You may register at this link:

lansingkansashistory.com

- 1. Scroll down and click "KSP Tour Tickets"
- 2. Under "Photography Tour 3 hours," click the "Book" button
- 3. Select the number of tickets
- 4. Choose July 20 and 3:00 PM \$40
- 5. Complete the contact and payment form
- 6. Submit and look for a confirmation email

You can find a multitude of photos of the prison museum as it stands today <u>here</u>, courtesy of the Andrea, "the prairie wanderer," a Kansas photographer dedicated to sharing the geographical and historical treasures that are found in the state of Kansas.

CAROLE'S CORNER

FIREWORK PHOTO TIPS

Exciting times for fireworks photos are here! So, here are some essential, yet not-so-technical, tips for capturing those breath-taking moments.

Plan ahead by practicing with your camera in the dark. Try changing your settings without using a flashlight until you're proficient at it. Also, are you able to change lenses in the dark? Do you need to turn on a flashlight? Get comfortable with it at home before you're stuck in a dark park surrounded by a noisy crowd.

Beforehand, practice using your camera (and tripod) sitting down if that is how you plan to take any of your fireworks photos. This is how you'll discover any problems and prepare solutions. Also, if you may alternate sitting and standing, find out in advance if you'll have difficulty getting up and down multiple times with your equipment in your hands.



Photo by Nancy Armstrong

Scout your chosen location so that you'll know what can be included in your images. It is fun to have a variety of shots to choose from after the event. See what's in the surrounding environment such as

the ground (trees, buildings, bridges, signs, concession stands, etc.) and spectators. Find the location the fireworks will be shot from, where they will appear and land.

Decide what you want to take pictures of. Only close-ups of fireworks bursts in the sky? Entire sky? Certain color combinations? Certain graphic patterns? Or also some scenes that include the environment?



Lens and camera selection - expect to use more than one focal length. A zoom lens gives you the most flexibility to capture a variety of looks. It's worth trying your camera's fireworks mode if available. Don't forget to use your cell phone camera, too!

A tripod or other steady support is usually used. Experiment with resting your camera on a picnic table, arm of a chair, fence, or other nearby inanimate object. Try holding your camera very still against your knees when sitting, or on the shoulders of someone in front of you.

Technically-speaking, the common wisdom is to keep your ISO low enough to avoid a grainy image. Use f/8 and f/16 for the sharpest images and two to five seconds shutter speed to capture the full explosion then adjust your settings as needed.