

Saskatoon Photography Club

Capturing Moments, Creating Memories

August 2025

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President's Message

Hello everyone,

I hope you're all enjoying the long days and golden hours that summer has to offer! August is one of the best months for photographers in Saskatchewan — from dramatic prairie skies and canola fields to warm evening light and starry nights, there's inspiration everywhere you turn.

Many of you are probably making the most of your travels, cabin weekends, or even just backyard moments — all fantastic opportunities to practice and play with your photography. Remember, the best camera is the one you have with you, so don't be afraid to experiment and capture the little things too.

Don't forget we have some of summer fun shoots coming up in August. If you have an idea for a fun thing to shoot let us know.

As we look ahead, we're already starting to prep for the new club season in September. There are some exciting competition themes and outings planned, and we can't wait to see what you've been working on over the summer. Don't forget to upload your best shots and get ready to share your stories.

Until then, keep shooting, keep exploring, and enjoy every moment this beautiful season has to offer.

See you soon!

Warmly,

Maurice Vold

President – Saskatoon Photography Club

Upcoming Events

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July 19 CANCELED: [Sask Mounted Shooters in Rosetown](#)

Due to the bad weather this weekend, the event has been canceled



Railway Museum Photo Walk

SUMMER FUN



July 21, 2025



7:00 pm


Steve Hiscock has arranged a photo walk at the Saskatchewan Railway Museum for Monday July 21 at 7-9pm. They will have a volunteer to let us in and out. This is an outdoor museum, so if it's raining, I have arranged an alternate date of Monday July 28, same time. They are located south west of Saskatoon on the Pike Lake Highway, two kilometers off the highway to Calgary on Highway 60. [Google Maps Link](#)

Upcoming Events



Kinsmen Park Photo Walk

SUMMER FUN

 August 12, 2025

Join Scott Prokop for a walk around Kinsmen park to get creative angles of the rides and local scenery and take a walk to the river. Meet at the Ferris Wheel at 7pm at Kinsmen Park (619 25 St E).

 Upcoming

Upcoming Events



University Photo Walk

SUMMER FUN



August 26, 2025

Take a walk around the University of Saskatchewan to get great photos of the architecture and landscapes that make this an icon of the city. Meet out front of Place Riel (1 Campus Dr) at 7pm and we will tour around.



Upcoming

Photography Bingo

Every summer we issue a Bingo Card. By playing Photo Bingo, you will be challenged to respond to at least 5 categories that are designed to stretch your creative limits and improve your camera skills. How many categories will you get?



Treasure Hunt

Great opportunities to go out to take great photos with special categories. Members vote on their favorites.

1. The Letter G
2. Green
3. Gallop
4. Goat
5. Guitar

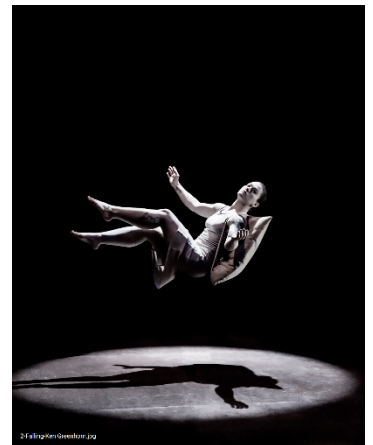
Submissions: one digital image per topic (set of five images must be submitted)

[Deadline: November](#)

Members Vote on Favorites: December (Christmas Party)

Here are Some images from last years Treasure Hunt

1. The Letter F
2. Fire Engine Red
3. Falling
4. Fox
5. Fence



2025 PSA Annual Large Prints Exhibition



Iron Gaze Right – by Cheryl Lalonde

Bronze Medal with a score of 14 out of 15 in Open Color Category



Snapshot Insights

Quote

“You don’t take a photograph, you make it.”
– Ansel Adams

Understanding Aperture (f-stop) The Gateway to Light and Blur

What Is Aperture?

In essence, **aperture** is the **opening in a lens** through which light travels to your camera sensor.

Think of it like the **pupil of your eye**: it widens in the dark and shrinks in bright light. Likewise, your lens can be opened wide or pinched small to let in more or less light. That’s aperture.

We measure it using **f-numbers**, or **f-stops**—like $f/1.8$, $f/4$, $f/16$.

What Is an f-stop?

The **f-stop** or **f-number** (written like $f/2.8$, $f/4$, $f/16$) tells you **how wide or narrow** the aperture is.

Key Rule:

- **Smaller f-number ($f/1.8$, $f/2.8$) = Wider aperture = More light**
- **Larger f-number ($f/11$, $f/16$) = Narrower aperture = Less light**



Bonus: Why Is It Called “f/” ?

The **f-number** is a ratio:

$$f/\text{stop} = \frac{\text{focal length}}{\text{aperture diameter}}$$

Example:

On a 50mm lens at **f/2**, the opening is 25mm wide ($50 \div 2$).



The Backward F-Stop Rule

Ah yes—the part that confuses everyone:

The *smaller* the f-number, the *larger* the aperture.

The *larger* the f-number, the *smaller* the aperture.

So:

- $f/1.4$ = **huge opening**, more light, shallow depth of field
- $f/16$ = **tiny opening**, less light, deep depth of field

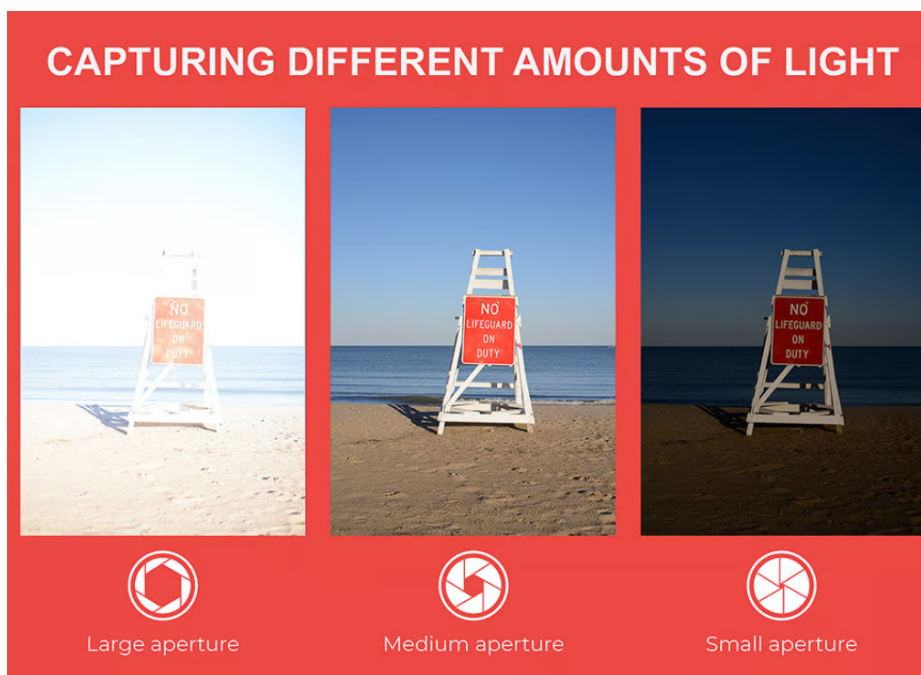
It's like golf, but with light and confusion.



What Aperture Affects

1. Exposure – How Bright the Image Is

- A wide aperture ($f/1.8$) lets in **more light** → brighter image.
- A narrow aperture ($f/16$) lets in **less light** → darker image.



2. Depth of Field – How Much Is in Focus

- **Wide aperture** ($f/1.4$) → **Shallow depth of field**: dreamy, blurry backgrounds.
💡 Think: romantic portraits or food photography.



F/2.2

- **Narrow aperture** ($f/11+$) → **Deep depth of field**: everything in focus.
🏔️ Think: landscapes, architecture.



F/22

Practical Examples

Aperture	Light	Depth of Field	Use Case
f/1.4	☀️☀️☀️☀️	Shallow (blurry background)	Portraits, low light
f/4	☀️☀️☀️	Moderate	Street, events
f/8	☀️☀️	Deep	Group photos
f/16	☀️	Very deep	Landscapes, architecture

Let's Visualize It

Imagine a row of ducks:

- $f/1.8$: Only one duck is in focus. The others? Vague blobs of duckdom.
- $f/8$: Several ducks are crisp. Duck democracy.
- $f/16$: Every duck, every feather. Utter clarity. No duck left behind.



Try This Exercise

1. Set your camera or phone (if supported) to **Aperture Priority mode (A or Av)**
2. Take 3 photos of the same subject:
 - $f/2.8$
 - $f/5.6$
 - $f/16$
3. Compare the **brightness** and **background blur**

You'll instantly see the effect of changing aperture!

Happy Snapping!

Cheryl Lalonde
PSA Representative
Saskatoon Photography Club

August 2025 celestial events

For those who love Night Sky Photography, here is a list of some events happening in August from the Photopills website.



Sony A7RIII, Tamron 17-28mm lens at 17mm F2.8 ISO 4000

August 2025 celestial events, one by one

Unfortunately, this year one of the most popular events photographically speaking, the Perseids, are hardly visible. The peak date of this Meteor Shower is very close to the Full Moon. So, the sky is too bright... :(

In August you can still photograph the Galactic Center of the [Milky Way](#) :P

At the end of August, the [zodiacal light](#) is visible again. In the Northern Hemisphere, it's visible to the east, before the morning astronomical twilight, in the direction of Sunrise. On the other hand, in the Southern Hemisphere it's visible to the west, at the end of the afternoon astronomical twilight, in the direction of the Sunset.

As for [Star Trails](#), you know they are a photographic opportunity I love to play with. They are always the perfect excuse to go out and take pictures at night.

But above all, don't miss...

- **The Full Moon on August 8 or 9** is always an opportunity to get a spectacular image.
- **The Perseids Meteor Shower on August 12-13.** During those nights the conditions to enjoy it might not be very good because of the Moonlight. But it all depends on your location!
- On **August 19**, you can photograph **Mercury at greatest western elongation**.
- Take advantage of the **New Moon week (August 22 or 23)** to photograph the **Galactic Center** of the Milky Way.

Here you have the complete list of the most important celestial events happening in August 2025.

August 9: Full Moon.

The Moon is on the opposite side of the Earth so the Sun illuminates it completely. Full Moon is at 07:56 UTC.

Depending on where you are on Earth, it's on August 8.

Full Moon days are perfect for photographing it with an interesting subject. Get the most out of the Full Moon with [this article](#).

August 12: Conjunction of the Moon and Saturn.

The Moon passes at 4.0° to the south of Saturn at 15:17 UTC. The Moon is at a magnitude of -12.5, and Saturn at a magnitude of 0.6. At this time the Moon phase is 86.8%.

August 12-13: Perseids Meteor Shower.

The Meteor Shower runs from July 17 to August 24.

But the best night for photographing it is the one between August 12 and 13. The peak is on August 13 at 02:38 UTC with 110 meteors per hour. At this time the Moon phase is 83.0%, so the conditions to enjoy it might not be very good because of the Moonlight.

Use the [Meteor Shower Pill](#) and the [Meteor Shower Layer in the Planner](#) to figure out all the key Meteor Shower info for your location or place you wish to photograph it.

This Meteor Shower is visible from both hemispheres. Although it's best visible in the Northern Hemisphere. In the Southern Hemisphere it has a lower intensity.

Learn how to photograph a meteor shower with our [Meteor Showers guide](#).

August 19: Mercury at Greatest Western Elongation.

When Mercury reaches its greatest elongation at 12:25 UTC, it's located 18.6° west of the Sun, and it's shining at a magnitude of -0.2.

Mercury's orbit is closer to the Sun than that of the Earth, which means that it always appears close to the Sun and is faded because of the Sun's brightness most of the time. You can only observe it for a few days each time it reaches its greatest separation from the Sun (greatest elongation).

This phenomenon repeats itself approximately once every 3-4 months and occurs alternately during the morning or afternoon, depending on whether Mercury is to the east or west of the Sun.

When it's located west of the [Sun](#), it rises and sets just before the Sun, and it's visible before Sunrise. The best time to photograph Mercury is shortly before Sunrise.

August 19: Conjunction of the Moon and Jupiter.

The Moon passes 4.5° to the north of Jupiter at 21:05 UTC. The Moon is at a magnitude of -10.5, and Jupiter at a magnitude of -2.0. At this time the Moon phase is 13.1%.

August 20: Conjunction of the Moon and Venus.

The Moon passes 4.5° to the north of Venus at 10:52 UTC. The Moon is at a magnitude of -10.1, and Venus at a magnitude of -4.0. At this time the Moon phase is 9.1%.

August 21: Conjunction of the Moon and Mercury.

The Moon passes 7.3° to the north of Mercury at 16:16 UTC. The Moon is at a magnitude of -8.8, and Mercury at a magnitude of -0.5. At this time the Moon phase is 2.9%.

August 23: New Moon.

The Moon is between the Earth and the Sun, so the bright side of the Moon is facing away from the Earth. The Moon phase is 0% at 06:08 UTC.

Depending on where you are on Earth, it's on August 22.

The days around the New Moon are great for photographing the night sky.

You can also capture [Star Trails](#). Have you ever captured a circumpolar? No? Then it's a good time to try.

Use [PhotoPills](#) to learn more about the [Milky Way](#) and [Star Trails](#) in your location ([section 14](#)).

August 26: Conjunction of the Moon and Mars.

The Moon passes 2.5° to the south of Mars at 16:41 UTC. The Moon is at a magnitude of -10.2, and Mars at a magnitude of 1.6. At this time the Moon phase is 11.7%.