

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN FIELD SEMINARS

## LEARN ♦ EXPLORE ♦ ADVENTURE

### ELEMENTS OF OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHY

MAY 30-31, 2008

COURSE LEVEL: I      COURSE #: 08-009

FEE: \$170

INSTRUCTOR: LEE KLINE



PAGE 1 OF 3

**LOCATION:** Rocky Mountain Field Seminar & Conference Center  
1895 Fall River Road, Estes Park, Colorado

**TIME:** FRIDAY: 8:30 AM – 8:00 PM  
SATURDAY: 8:30 AM – 8:00 PM

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** “See it, compose it, and shoot it!” Those three steps would seem to imply that making great outdoor images is easy. In fact, quite the contrary is true. “Seeing it” may take a lifetime of learning to refine your creative vision. “Composing it” will dramatically change the impact and power of what you see. Finally, your vision and composition may be completely wasted by poor photography fundamentals and techniques when you “shoot it.” All three steps must work in concert to make great outdoor images, and there is not just one recipe for a delightful outcome!

**COURSE LEVEL: I**

**Short-distance walks on accessible trails and/or indoor classroom sessions in accessible buildings**

**BRIEF INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY** (additional information available at [www.rmna.org](http://www.rmna.org)):

Lee Kline’s love of nature and wildlife is clearly epitomized in his award-winning photography. His work is recognized internationally for its excellence in capturing the most intimate moments of wildlife in their natural habitats. A native Coloradoan, avid outdoorsman, and amateur naturalist, Lee has spent his entire life at the foot of the Rocky Mountains. An accomplished writer as well as photographer, Lee’s articles and images have regularly appeared for more than 26 years in scores of magazines, books, calendars, natural history interpretive displays, advertising, and other media. Lee’s photography has earned several prestigious commendations, including multiple Nikon Sports Optics/Outdoor Writers Association of America awards for excellence. His latest book, *Colorado Wildlife Portfolio* (2005 Farcountry Press, 120-pages hardbound), is a collection of images and narratives from his favorite encounters in wild Colorado. Also, his newly released DVD video titled, *Through My Lens – A North American Wildlife Picture Show*, includes more than 140 stunning nature and wildlife images from across the Continent and is accompanied by the spirit, emotion and tempo of a powerful soundtrack for a unique viewing experience.

**INSTRUCTOR’S WEBSITE:** [www.leekline.com](http://www.leekline.com)

**EXPECTATIONS:** Professional conduct will be expected from participants at all times. Individual ideas will be respectfully considered. Except during course breaks, cellular phones, pagers, and personal entertainment devices are strictly prohibited in the classroom and during field sessions.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:** Students will be introduced to photography methods, techniques, and reference materials for future study, to enhance their creative and technical abilities to make better outdoor pictures.

**COURSE SCHEDULE:**

Friday, May 30, 2008 (11 hrs)

8:30 AM	Introductions and discuss students' photography experience, and expectations and goals.
9:00 AM	"Shoot it!" Photography fundamentals – using YOUR equipment.
10:15 AM	Break
10:30 AM	"Shoot it!" continued
11:45 AM	Lunch break (bring your own sack lunch)
12:45 PM	Critique of students' prior work; presentation of instructor's work
2:00 PM	Depart for in-field session
2:30 PM	In-field demonstrations, discussion and image opportunities (bring snack/drink)
7:30 PM	Return to Field Seminar Center (after sunset)

Saturday, May 31, 2008 (11.5 hrs)

8:00 AM	Review Day 1 images; Q&A on photography fundamentals
9:30 AM	Break
9:45 AM	"See it and compose it!" Your vision and creativity
10:30 AM	Break
10:45 AM	"See it and compose it!" continued
11:45 AM	Lunch break (bring your own sack lunch)
12:45 PM	Critique of students' prior work; Q&A on class
2:00 PM	Depart for in-field session
2:30 PM	In-field - more image opportunities (bring snack/drink)
7:00 PM	Return to Field Seminar Center
7:30 PM	Course conclusion and evaluation

**CAR-POOLING:** Rocky Mountain Field Seminars courses utilize car-pooling to limit vehicles traveling into the Park. Car-pooling makes it easier to keep the group together, reduces transit time, and allows courses greater access because fewer parking spaces are required at destinations. In addition, it provides an opportunity for participants to discuss course material in small groups during transit. Typically, a few participants from each course volunteer the use of their vehicles for car-pooling to course locations.

**PRE-SEMINAR HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT:**

A basic working knowledge of your camera equipment is necessary. Review your camera's manual or other knowledge-base so you know how to use the basic features of your equipment:

1. Changing your camera's operating mode, e.g., setting to manual, auto focus, shutter/aperture priority
2. Using exposure-bracketing feature, if present
3. Setting the camera's mirror lock-up and self-timer, if present

**OPTIONAL (BUT HIGHLY ENCOURAGED):**

Bring 4-6 nature images (slides or prints) for sharing—your favorites or something you would like to improve, or something that you had problems with when photographing.

**WHAT TO BRING: There is no need to purchase new equipment for this seminar; however, knowing how to use what you have is essential.**

- Sack lunches, snacks, energy bars, beverages, & **WATER**
- Camera (digital or film), lenses, and other accessories you choose to carry
- Camera bag /backpack large enough to comfortably carry gear (can double as a daypack for rain gear, extra jacket, etc.)
- Camera Owner's Manual
- Tripod and cable/remote shutter release
- Knee pads, kneeling pad, or small ground cloth
- Insect repellent
- Light gloves
- Small notebook and pen for note taking or pocket tape recorder

**REMEMBER TO BRING THE 10 ESSENTIALS:**

Rocky Mountain National Park recommends that hikers always carry the 10 essentials in their daypacks.

- |                               |                 |                                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| ▪ Raingear                    | ▪ Map & compass | ▪ Flashlight or headlamp        |
| ▪ Sunglasses & sunscreen      | ▪ Candles       | ▪ Matches or other fire starter |
| ▪ Pocketknife                 | ▪ First-aid kit | ▪ Extra food & water            |
| ▪ Sack lunch, snacks, & water |                 |                                 |
| ▪ Extra layers of clothing    |                 |                                 |

*Note: Rocky Mountain Field Seminars recommends that participants for all courses dress in layers and wear comfortable/sturdy hiking boots/shoes. Participants should be prepared for sudden changes in temperature and weather conditions.*

**RECOMMENDED READING:**

There are many, many books on the subject of nature photography. A few of my favorites are (some of these may be out of print):

Brandenburg, Jim. *Chased by the Light*

Randall, Glenn. *Colorado Wild and Beautiful*

Kline, Lee. *Colorado Wildlife Portfolio*

Patterson, Freeman. *Photography and the Art of Seeing*

Shaw, John. *John Shaw's Focus on Nature*

Shaw, John. *Nature Photography Field Guide*

**TEACHER RECERTIFICATION CREDIT**

All courses are eligible for teacher recertification credit through the Centennial Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES). The new fee is \$25.00 per seminar (.5 units) or \$25.00 per series of threaded seminars (1.0 - 3.0 units). A list of threaded seminars can be found in the Field Seminar Catalog or online at [www.rmna.org](http://www.rmna.org). Participants must enroll in all seminars of a threaded series in order to qualify for the \$25.00 multi-unit fee. Please be prepared to pay for this credit with a check, made payable to BOCES, on the first day of a seminar or on the final day of a threaded series of seminars.

**THIS COURSE IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR CSU CREDIT.**