Vol. 32
Issue 4

The Newsletter

April
2010

Los Gatos – Saratoga Camera Club

http://losgatos-saratogacameraclub.org/

Contents

Page 2

Page 5

Page 3

Page 6

Page 4

Page 7

Mon Apr 5	**Club Meeting** Competition: Travel and Color -- Slides and Digital Images. Monochrome and Color -- Prints Judge: Kenna Mawk Refreshments: Joseph GARAPPOLO, John GERHARDT, Charlie GIBSON
Mon Apr 19	**Club Meeting** Program: Secrets to Successful Image Transfer presented by Alison Brooks Refreshments: Harvey GOLD, Alex GOLDBERGER, Sherman GOLUB
Sun Apr 25	9 AM- 4 PM Yerba Buena Spring Chapter Day See page 6. MAGIC LIGHT - The Landscape Photographer's Passion presented by Tim Cooper Central Park Recreation Building, 50 5th Avenue, San Mateo
Wed Apr 28	Deadline for emailing digital images for the May club competition (PJ and Color)
Mon May 3	**Club Meeting** Competition: PJ and Color -- Slides, Digital Images, and Prints Judge: Jearme Greathouse Refreshments: , Joseph GRAPA, Barry GRIVETT, Sherry GRIVETT

Helen Riley

1925 -- 2010

It was with great sadness that LGSCC members learned of the death of long-time member Helen Riley, who succumbed to cancer March 4. Helen was a gifted artist as well as an accomplished photographer. She earned a fine arts degree from San Jose State College and was a contributing member of the Saratoga Contemporary Artists and the Los Gatos Art Association for many years. Helen's paintings and photographs are in many California homes and in the permanent collection of the Santa Clara Triton Museum of Art. She and her husband Jack, who died in 2004, spent many years contributing their time and talents to the Saratoga Camera Club in its earlier years and with the same zeal when Saratoga Camera Club and the Los Gatos Camera Club merged into a single organization. A few of Helen's award-winning images are shown below.

Death Valley Creative

©Helen Riley

Mono Lake Tufa and Snow Capped Mtns

Lotus in the Sunshine

©Helen Riley

Window Shoppers

Death Valley Dunes in the Morning

March Photo Competition

First-Place Winners Tell Us How They Did It

The Newsletter asked each of the first-place winners in our March competition to explain how they made their winning photos. Judging was by Marya Hart.

Prints: Nature
Flipper Prints of Young Harbor Seal *Phoca vitulina* ***Crossing Beach***
by Harvey Gold
"I was walking along Moss Beach, north of Half Moon Bay, when I looked over a fence and saw this seal pup just coming out of the water. It was late morning but thin clouds kept the light from being too hard. I framed and shot the image using my Nikon 18-200 zoom lens."

Duigital: Nature – *Open Wide!* *Crocodylus porosus*,
by Roberta Schwartz
"This was at Kakadu National Park in Australia when I was there on a three-week visit in 2005. I shot from a small boat on a tour led by an Aborigine guide. I spotted this big croc and was struck by his beady eyes. He seemed very close through the viewfinder. It was really hot and humid. On this trip I was fascinated by the tremendous variety of country Australia has."

Slides: Nature – *Male Elephant Seals Spar While Young Male Watches* *Mirounga angustirostris*, by Peggy Patterson
"I spent three days near San Simeon watching and photographing these elephant seals during their annual springtime courtship ritual. Watching them I noticed what different personalities individual seals have. This was one of ten similar shots I took at Piedras Blancas beach. The youngsters in mock fighting made good subjects. Sometimes the fighting became real and we had to watch out – these seals could move fast and we were as close as eight feet away. The big bulls let us know if we were encroaching on their territory."

March 1st Place Winners (cont.)

John Bujak

Prints: Color
Drill Press at the Mill, Bodie, CA, by John Bujak

"I took this on the same Bodie outing as my *Out of the Rain, Into the Mill* photo. We were ushered through the interiors very quickly by our ranger guide, so this was really an HDR grab-shot. I had the camera preset to take seven exposures, so it just took a moment for me to set down my tripod and compose the image. I worked on it in Photoshop to achieve the look and feel I thought it deserved. Since I processed this image, I've discovered some better software for natural looking HDR images: Unified Color, from a start-up in South San Francisco."

Prints: Color – *Mavericks Surf Contest,* by Rick Whitacre

© Rick Whitacre

"I booked a spot on one of the Mavericks charter boats and rented a 300mm f/2.8 lens. With my 1.4X teleconverter and the crop factor of my Canon 50D, this gave me the 35mm equivalent of more than 600mm. I set shutter speed priority at 1/1600 to freeze the action. There was strong afternoon light, so my aperture was between f/4 and f/5.6 and the iso below 200. I shot JPG which gave me a 50-frame buffer. I'd lose focus every fourth or fifth frame, but regain it quickly, so I just followed the surfers as best I could and kept shooting. The boat captain kept us at the edge of the break; the swell was impressive but I was too busy to get sea sick. If I did this again, I'd rent a 100-400 zoom. There were times I wanted to pull back to show a larger view."

© JoAn Lambert

Slides: Color
Sunlight Before the Storm, by JoAn Lambert

"Last September I was visiting Bryce Canyon National Park on a day of bright light and intermittent rain. I stood at this overlook watching the dark clouds when suddenly the dazzling sun broke through. The great light just came to me. My camera was on my Gitzo tripod; I think the lens was set to about 70mm. A few minutes later I was back in the car watching it rain"

Club Members Exhibit Photos at Local Café

LGSCC members Roberta Schwartz and Betty Toepfer arranged an exhibition of members' photos at the Cupertino *Coffee Society.* 33 travel, nature, and creative photos, both color and monochrome, from 18 members were on display throughout the month of March. Café patrons wrote numerous positive comments about the photos in a log provided by Roberta: "Amazing photos!", "Beautiful work.", "I want them all!" The café manager invited the club to exhibit more photos later in the year. Remarked one club member, "Wow! I've never exhibited before – This is fun."

Roberta relaxes after helping to hang 33 member photos at the Cupertino *Coffee Society.*

LGSCC Volunteers Photograph Elks' Installation of Officers

LGSCC members Bill Henderson, Lourdes Pollard, and John Gerhardt made formal portraits of the Los Gatos Elks Lodge's new slate of incoming officers at their installation ceremony March 27. Bill used his SB900 strobe in a Lumiquest softbox as the key light for the head-and-shoulders portraits, with a second strobe illuminating the American flag in the background. Bill and Lourdes also photographed the formal installation ceremony and took numerous candid shots of Elks Club members at the subsequent luncheon. The Los Gatos Elks provide space for LGSCC's twice monthly meetings for nominal rent, so members were glad to be able to provide them a service in return.

Bob Whittaker, Los Gatos Elks Lodge new Exalted Ruler

LGSCC photographer Bill Henderson frames a portrait of an incoming Elks Lodge officer and his spouse at the Los Gatos Elks Lodge installation ceremony March 27..

TIM COOPER
PRESENTS
MAGIC LIGHT
CRAFTING THE FINE LANDSCAPE
YERBA BUENA CHAPTER OF PSA SPRING CHAPTER DAY
SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2010, 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM
CENTRAL PARK RECREATION BUILDING,
50 5TH AVENUE, SAN MATEO
REGISTRATION FEE: MEMBER- $15 · NON-MEMBER: $30

Crafting the fine landscape begins with understanding and using natural light. Tim will begin the day by introducing you to the various properties of light and showing you how to use these properties to influence color, texture, shape, and shadow. Some of the world's most powerful images are made during the "Magic Hours" so Tim will explain the different forms of Twilight and show you how to be prepared for this magic light. Next, Tim will cover an approach to capturing your imagery so you are assured that you come home with the shot. He'll introduce the Zone System of Exposure for Digital Cameras and show you how to read your histogram to ensure a perfect exposure. The day will finish with a look at the various methods of dealing with difficult lighting situations. From using Split Neutral Density filters in the field, to blending exposures together on the computer, Tim will show you how to control the high contrast situations that are so common in Landscape Photography.

REGISTRATION FORM

Spring Chapter Day
Sunday, April 25, 2010
Central Park Rec Center

Name _____
Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone ( ) _____ E-mail _____
Camera Club or Other Affiliation _____
How did you learn about this Seminar? _____
Tickets (Member) @ $ 15 _____ Non-Yerba Buena Member @ $ 30 _____
(There will be coffee and breakfast buns. Lunch is not included)
Total Enclosed _____

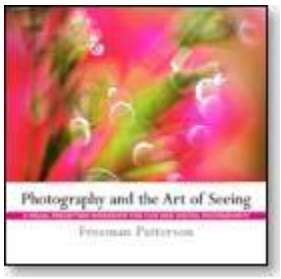
Please send registration form and check made out to
Yerba Buena Chapter of PSA
to Dick Stahlke, 1057 Sandpoint Drive, Rodeo, CA 94572

For more information, contact Dick at baleaf@aol.com or Joe Hearst at joe@jhearst.com

Classes by and for LGSCC Members

Camera-Specific Discussion Group

Bambi Cask will organize a discussion group on details of the Canon 50D camera. The intent is to provide a format for members to learn from each other about the features and custom functions of this camera. In the coming months discussion groups will be initiated for other camera models.



Freeman Patterson Workshop

A workshop is planned for May that will involve the use of one of Freeman Patterson's books. Specific photo assignments will be developed from Patterson's book. The participants should be intermediate to advanced photographers who will carry out the photo assignment over a two-week period and convene with the group to share their photos and learning experiences. More details will be made available in April.

Recent Club Field Trips

Chinatown Community Street Fair
Feb 27th, 2010

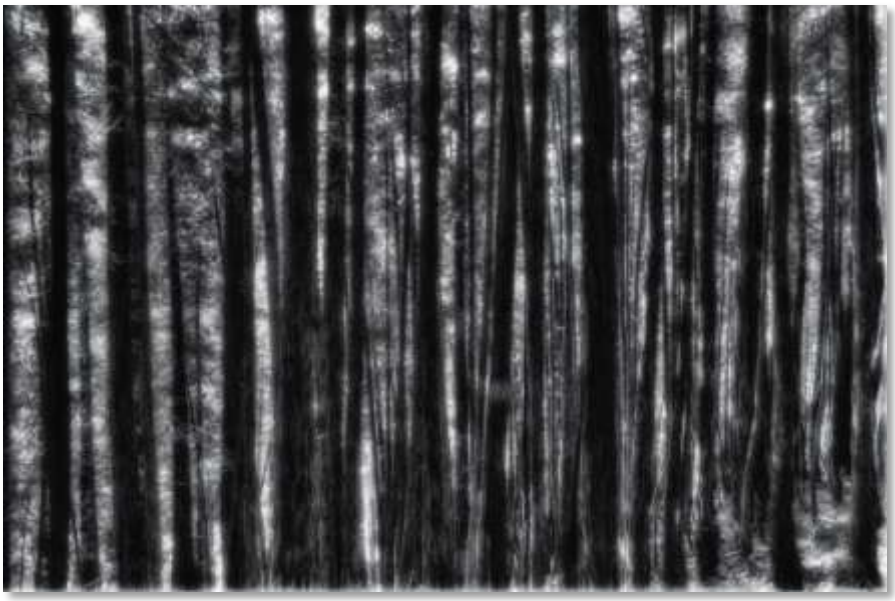
Led by Betty Toepfer

Photos ©Betty Toepfer

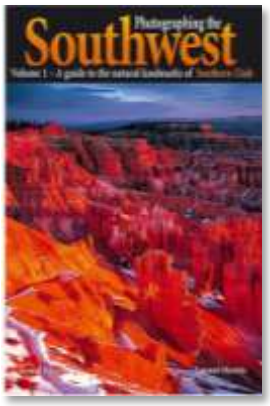
Muir Woods
March 18, 2010

Led by John Bujak

©Pat Pouder



©Bill Henderson



Book Recommendation

Photographing the Southwest, by Laurent Martrès
320 pages of information, with 240 full color photographs to help you previsualize most of the sites. Hundreds of locations, including the best spots and how to get there; all the major national parks, monuments and state parks. Lots of travel tips not usually found in traditional guidebooks: Where, when and how to get the best shots. Tips on composition, exposure and hard-to-shoot scenery.

Featured Website: Hold the Eye Images

LGSCC Member Bill Henderson 's web site features arresting images taken from nature and the studio, a blog updated frequently, and now podcast interviews with photographic luminaries.

http://www.holdtheeyeimages.com/

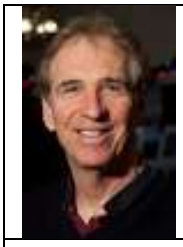
©William Henderson

LGSCC President Gary Marcos and past president Bernie Weinzimmer with PSA recognition certificate.

LGSCC Recognized for 40 Unbroken Years of PSA Membership

The Photographic Society of America recognized the Los Gatos – Saratoga Camera Club for 40 years of continuous membership in March. The Photographic Society of America was founded in 1934 to "Promote the Arts and Sciences of Photography and to further public education therein".

Key Contacts:

				Official publication of the **Los Gatos-Saratoga Camera Club**. http://lgscc.home.att.net **Meetings** : first and third Mondays, 7:30 PM at the Elks Club of Los Gatos, 105 Newell Ave. (At Winchester near Lark)
President Gary Marcos 741-5712	**Membership** Ken Bloomfield 268-5205	**Webmaster** Airdrie Kincaid 247-3743	**Newsletter** John Gerhardt 353-3949	Member of the Photographic Society of America.

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