Los Gatos-Saratoga Camera Club News

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TRAVELS IN IRELAND
by Harland Crowder

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I traveled around Ireland for three weeks this fall with a dozen photographers. Our trip was organized by the photography department at Foothill College. We were based out of three locations for about a week each – Galway, Cork, and Dublin – with lots of side excursions. Most of us tried to communicate and make friends with the locals by adopting the Pub Lifestyle. It worked fabulously. We also found time to take a few pictures.

Here are some highlights.

Blarney Castle
One of the biggest tourist draws in Ireland is Blarney Castle where, legend has it, if you kiss the Blarney Stone you are blessed with the Gift of Gab. My friends and family tell me I already have this wonderful gift, so I passed on stone kissing. But I did take some nice pictures of the castle and the grounds. We got there early to get good light and avoid the hordes of tourists.

Infrared Photography
I recently modified my Nikon D70 digital SLR to take infrared pictures. Infrared light is reflected especially well by green vegetation. Ireland is very lush, so this was a terrific opportunity to improve my infrared photographic skills. The results, especially for landscapes, are eerie and mysterious monochrome pictures that look like snow scenes from another planet.

Dublin Camera Club
Ten photographers in our group assembled a photo show before we left California. We arranged for a visit and presentation of our pictures to the Dublin Camera Club (DCC). The camera clubs in Ireland operate much like our clubs here: competitions, education sessions, and field trips. We had about 40 members of the DCC show up for our presentation, and they were delighted with our images and commentary. It was interesting that a big majority of DCC members were still using traditional film photography. The Digital Revolution had not swept Ireland – yet.

Other highlights included Newgrange, the Cliffs of Moher, the Aran Islands, Mizen Head, Dublin Jail, and the Irish National Stud.

Our group loved Ireland: the people were friendly, the food and drink were first class, and best of all, Ireland offered limitless opportunities for exercising our photographic eye.

Harlan currently has work on display at the Sanchez Art Center's 2007 Bay Area Annual Juried Competition in Pacifica through November 17. To view Harlan's website and gallery go to **www.harlanpics.com.**

ART MUSEUM OF LOS GATOS

PHOTO OP!! **AN INVITITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN *THE ART MUSEUM OF LOS GATOS* JURIED EXHIBITION**. Artists and photographers are invited to submit original miniature works of art (all painting, drawing media, collage and photography are eligible in representational, semi- abstract or abstract styles) as a 6x6 or 5x7-inch canvas or framed image, to a juried competition at the Art Museum. Donated works by participating artists will be displayed at the Art Museum's primary fundraiser *TOUCH My HeART 2008**, February 9, 2008. *Contact Noreen Christopher for a Prospectus and Application at nchris@aol.com.*

CLUB NOTES

THE *ART OF PHOTOGRAPHY EXIBIT* closes Thursday, November 8. **All art work must be picked up between noon and 1pm at the Council Chambers** or arrangements made for someone to do so.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM, Nov. 19 *Finding, Photographing, Researching, and Titling Story-Telling Nature Images* by portrait and nature photographer Claudia Peterson. Claudia, an award-winning member of the Santa Clara Camera Club, will discuss the capture of strong nature images in sharp, action detail with perfect exposure. She will also include how to title and find correct scientific names.

ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER AND PHOTO DISPLAY will be held December 17 at 6:30 at the Elks Club. Everyone is encouraged to sign up and bring a dish and a guest. Organizers Doris Vutz and Ronnie Rabedeau ask that if you can't come at the last minute that you let them know so food contributions can be adjusted. At the event all monthly winners will be displayed and the Club's "Best of 2007" in slide, print and digital categories will be announced as well as the winner of the Carolyn Ramsay Award.

NEW BOARD BLOOD NEEDED IN 2008! President Bernie Weinzimmer is looking for volunteers for Club Board positions and new members are encouraged to sign on. Members currently holding Board positions must let Bernie know asap if you wish to continue so open positions can be filled.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT NOT TO MISS! SFMOMA's world-renowned photography collection is on display through December 31 and includes pictures from the mid-1800s to the present that capture key moments in the development of the medium and reflect a wide range of practices. Among the highlights of the current presentation are a selection of photographs from the Prentice and Paul Sack Photographic Trust and several works by up-and-coming contemporary photographers.