Los Gatos - Saratoga Camera Club Newsletter

Vol. 31 Issue 8 August 2009

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2009 Calendar

August

3 Competition: Color, PJ, and Travel - Slides and Digital Images.
Color, PJ, and Monochrome - Prints.

17 **NO MEETING** (Board Meeting Only: 7PM)

September

7 **NO MEETING**

21 Program: **TBD** and Post Card Judging

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JULIE KITZENBERGER PHOTOGRAPHY
Fine Art Landscapes - Travel - Events
juliekphoto@aceweb.com
408-348-4199
http://photo.net/photos/JulieKitzenberger

A Solo Show: "**Captured Landscapes and Abstracts – with a Touch of Us"**
July 28 – August 23, 2009

Reception/Meet the Photographer: Saturday, August 1, 2009, 5 – 8 pm

AEGIS GALLERY OF FINE ART
www.Aegisgallery.com/
14531 Big Basin Way at 4th Street
Saratoga , CA 95070
(408) 867-0171

Gallery hours:
Sun, Tue, Wed: 11 AM – 7 PM
Thu, Fri, Sat: 11 AM – 9 PM
Closed Mondays

LOS GATOS/SARATOGA CAMERA CLUB EXHIBIT 2009

Theme*: Through the Lens: Photographic Moments*

Sign Ups Begin July 6

It's time to begin planning for our Club's seventh annual photography exhibit that is scheduled to run November 12 through January 7, 2010. This exclusive LG/SCC show provides Club members the opportunity to exhibit their work in the "Art in the Council Chambers program sponsored by the Los Gatos Arts Commission and held in the Los Gatos Council Chambers.

SIGN-UPS: Beginning at the July 6 meeting, Club sign-ups will run until **September 1**. At that time the final number of images per person (up to 2 each) will be determined. All exhibit photos must be matted and framed under glass (or plexi) See Club website for complete exhibit timelines and hanging information.

POSTCARD IMAGE SELECTION: At our **September 21 meeting**, Club members will select an image to represent this show. All members wishing to have their image (one only, please) must bring a 4x6-inch print pasted to the center of a white sheet of letter-sized paper – your name will be on the back only. Last year John Bujak's image, *Gates of the Valley,* was featured on the exhibit postcard! Who will earn the honor this year???

This exhibit is the most popular of the Chamber Art series each year. What is also great is the opportunity to exhibit our Club's best work publically.

Questions? Please email Mary Ellen Kaschub: mekaschub@comcast.net or Betty Toepfer at toepferb@aol.com.

Small Study Groups

Members Interested in study groups should take a look at the courses that have been given or are in progress and the topics of interest to members.
We are in need of volunteers to lead small groups in any of those topics and if you are interested in sharing your experience please contact me, directly, so I can spread the word.

Thanks to
Joseph Grapa, for leading a Photoshop course
Munir Kareshi, for leading a nature course,
John Bujak, for leading a seminar in HDR
John Gerhardt, for leading a seminar on Photoshop Elements.
Joseph has kindly agreed to lead another course, but is making some adjustments. We will get back to you when he has completed his revisions.
John G has also agreed to repeat his seminar if there sufficient interest.
John B has also agreed to lead another seminar on HDR.

If interested, please contact them directly.

We are always trying to recruit volunteers to lead small group seminars.
Education is a major mission of the club, but depends on volunteer leaders to help promote this mission.

It seems that email has not been very successful in moving this mission forward. It is possible that some members do not read the emails, so if any of you know any members who might be willing to help, please chat with them personally and try to get them to share their experience.

Remember, there is tremendous flexibility - seminars can be on any subject any number of sessions (from just 1- to any more),with any number of students, on any schedule.
Thanks,
Michael Schneider

Members interested in taking or leading any courses should contact Michael Schneider at zapperms@comcast.net.

Have you calibrated your monitor lately?

No? Then it's time for you to have your monitor calibrated. It's painless, takes less than 30 minutes, and it's very effective at enabling you to edit your images with "standard" colors brightness and contrast, so that calibrated projectors and printers can render the same image you see on your screen. Using the club's Spider-3 equipment and software, Calibration Chair, Jeff Katz, will come to your computer and perform the service when it's convenient for you. Just phone him at 408-255-7423, or e-mail to jeffrudi@earthlink.net to arrange an appointment. And be prepared to donate $10 to the club to help cover the cost of the equipment.

Remember: monitors drift as they age. Pro image processors recalibrate every couple of weeks to assure consistent prints. We hobbyists can get by with less frequent calibration. CRTs should be recalibrated every 3-6 months and LCDs should be recalibrated every 6-12 months.

Editor's note:
For a great series on Color Management, visit:
Color Management Primer: by Jay Kinghorn
Part I: Color Management Overview | Part II: Monitor Profiling | Part III: Color Settings | Part IV: Printer Profiling
http://photo.net/learn/digital-photography-workflow/color-management/

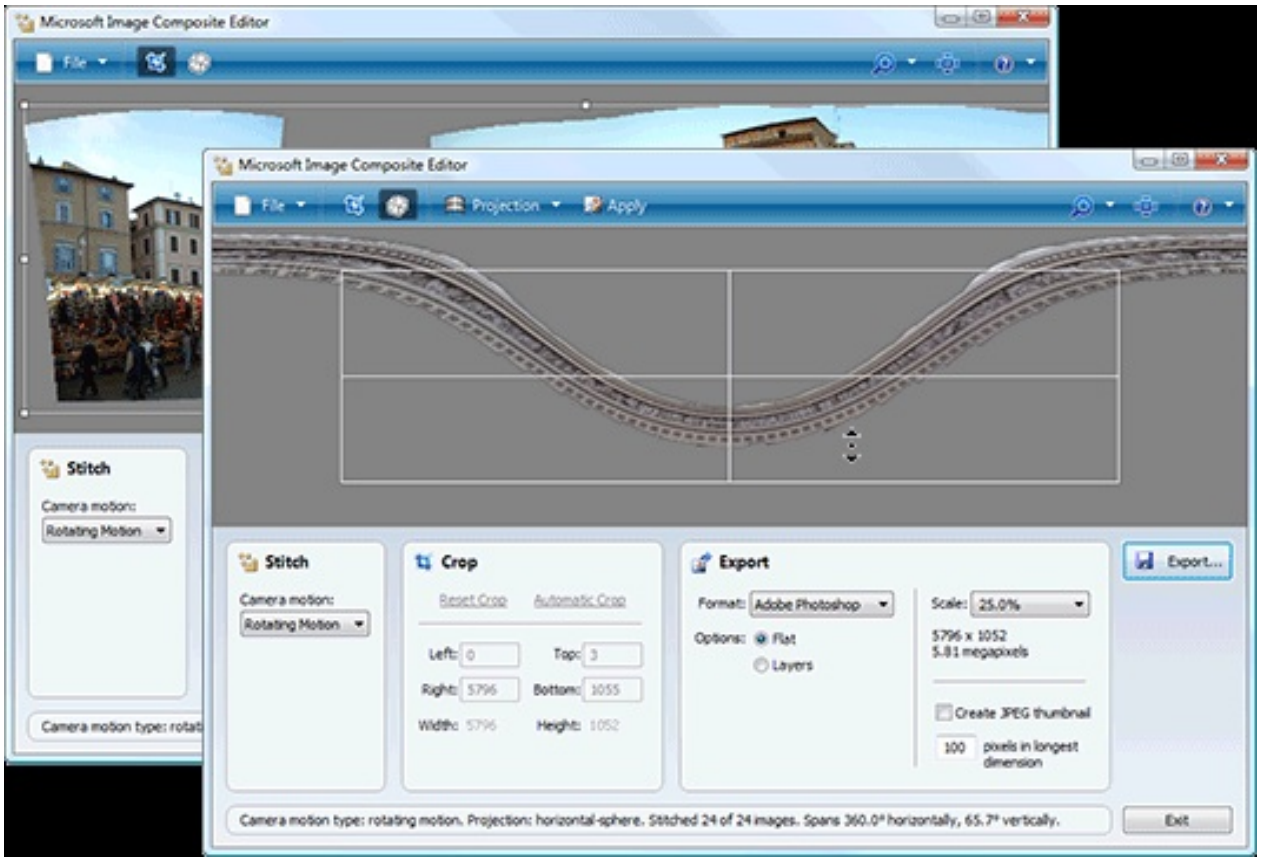
VIRTUALPHOTOGRAPHER

For those digital photographers who long for film-like styling, grain, and effects, VirtualPhotographer is a simple, yet satisfying program. VirtualPhotographer is a free plug-in filter for 24-bit photo imaging programs such as Photoshop or PaintShopPro, but it works on 24-bit RGB images only. Download and installation are easy. Once installed, it appears among your other filters and can be initiated from within the program to work on the active image. Options are limited, but straightforward, and give nice quality results. If you've ever worked in a film darkroom, you'll recognize the terms and effects for film-like grain, duotones, toning, brightness, contrast and so forth.

Virtual Photographer is not an end-all, be-all filter. But as far as it goes, Virtual Photographer does a rather nice job, and is a good first step in imaging that may give you just what you want without having to go further. Given that this little program is free and could possibly be the answer for small edits, it's certainly worth adding to even a professional system.
www.optikvervelabs.com/

Image Composite Editor (from Microsoft Research:
http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/um/redmond/groups/ivm/ICE/

What is Image Composite Editor? Microsoft Image Composite Editor is an advanced panoramic image stitcher. The application takes a set of overlapping photographs of a scene shot from a single camera location and creates a high-resolution panorama incorporating all the source images at full resolution. The stitched panorama can be saved in a wide variety of formats, from common formats like JPEG and TIFF to multi-resolution tiled formats like HD http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/um/redmond/groups/ivm/hdview/
and Silverlight Deep Zoom http://livelabs.com/blog/seadragon/silverlight-2-deep-zoom/.



Features
* State-of-the-art stitching algorithms automatically place source images and determine panorama type
* Advanced orientation adjustment view allows planar, cylindrical, and spherical projections
* Support for different types of camera motion
* Excellent exposure blending using Microsoft Research fast Poisson algorithm
* Automatic cropping to maximum image area
* No image size limitation - stitch gigapixel panoramas
* Native support for 64-bit operating systems such as 64-bit Vista
* Output in a wide variety of image formats:
    o HD View
    o Silverlight Deep Zoom
    o TIFF, JPEG, PNG, and more

Support
Microsoft Image Composite Editor is provided free of charge and without official support. However, if you have questions or issues with Image Composite Editor, you may find help at the Image Composite Editor Forum, which is monitored by the developers and provides community-based support.

Thanks for the Refreshments!
Thanks to the following people for providing refreshments for our July meetings: Julie KITZENBERGER, Stan LITWIN, Gary MARCOS, Gail NICHOLS, Peggy PATTERSON, and John BUJAK.

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http://www.losgatos-saratogacameraclub.org/

The official publication of the Los Gatos-Saratoga Camera Club. Meetings : first and third Mondays, 7:30PM at the Elks Club, No 1857 of Los Gatos, 105 Newell Ave. (At Winchester near Lark). Member of the Photographic Society of America.

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