



Los Gatos/Saratoga
Camera Club
www.losgatos-saratogacameraclub.org

Newsletter

Volume 40 Issue 10

Oct 2018

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Updates

Eric Grays' Photoshop Presentation

Here is a YouTube link to Eric's photoshop presentation that was given to the club on Monday September 24, 2018:

<https://youtu.be/EiRr1HryD-k>

These links are to Elia Locardi's photoshop lessons that are recommended by Eric:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HLnYxbiz-10>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AS4x2IUjqfU>

Coming Club Events

See the [Calendar](#) on our web site for updates or further details.

Saturday Oct 6, 2018

11:30pm Projected Image Entry
Deadline: Color, Monochrome, Creative.

Monday Oct 8, 2018

5pm Online Print Entry Deadline
7:15pm Walk In Print Entry Deadline
Color, Monochrome, Creative
Judge: Dan Katzman

Refreshments: Bob Downs, Jon Cress, David Dorcich.

Monday Oct 15, 2018

Speaker: Charles Ginsburgh will present a program on macrophotography including examples of his work, and demonstrations of focus stacking and photoshop editing.

Sept 7 - Nov 4 2018 LGSCC Exhibit at the Addison-Penzak JCC of Silicon Valley in Los Gatos

Meet Eric Gray



I was born in Yokosuka, the son of an Army captain stationed in occupied Japan. My father loved photography and exposed me to developing film, prints and using Marshall oils. His cameras were a Leica IIIC range finder and a very early Canon range finder that was nearly impossible to differentiate from his Leica. As a teenager I was allowed to use the Canon but not the Leica. In this bio is a photo by my father, circa 1947. I am guessing he took this with his Leica and it shows a man and his Ox collecting “honeypots” early in the morning just outside the Tokyo city center.

I hope I was able to inherit his eye for a good photograph.

In college I majored in Journalism and Advertising at San Jose State. Then went to the Masters program in Mass Communications. Every summer since high school I had worked as a wildland firefighter to pay for college. While in grad school a Chief at the Santa Clara County Fire Department called me one morning at the crack of 10 a.m. and asked if I would interview for a job as the Public Information Officer for the county fire department. I got the job and began working with the press at all major emergencies in the county. I always took along the camera my brother gifted me while in college, a used Minolta SRT 101 35mm film camera. If you saw the image of the Tanker truck on fire it came from that time period. That Minolta had an F1.2, 50mm lens that probably cost more than the camera and it took great images.



Collecting “honeypots” in the early morning just outside Tokyo city center taken by Eric’s father.

After three years with the county I started my own marketing and design agency which grew to 26 employees. At first, I managed political campaigns and designed printed pieces for local politicians then branched out to graphic design and advertising for high tech firms, mostly semiconductor companies. My clients included Fairchild, Intel, Altera, Cypress, IBM, Cadence, Xerox and many others. I built a photo studio in our offices and my role at the company was President, creative director and photographer. Some of my cameras over the years have included the Hasselblad 500c, Cambo Master 4x5, Sony DSC F828, Canon 7D and Nikon D750.

In the last 10 years I have concentrated on Graphic Design and spent a bit more time with weekend photography. Photoshop is my go-to software to create complex multi-layer images to promote companies and their products. My wife, Debbie, is the Director of a large Pre-school on the Santa Clara University campus and we have two children. Laura, a medical robotics specialist that programs and runs a surgical robot side by side with surgeons doing hip and knee replacements in the Bay Area, and Katie, an Architectural designer in San Jose, currently designing three City of Santa Clara schools that will all be built at the Old Agnews Mental Hospital acreage.

For my photos I look for texture and color where you don’t always expect it. I still do marketing and design projects for high tech firms and hope to retire in 2022

Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It

The judge was Hal Green. We asked the makers of the first place images to send stories about what their subject was, when and where the image was taken, how it was created (photographed and/or processed), and why they created it.

September 2018 First Place Color/Projected



Dust Storm envelopes bent airplane, Black Rock City, Nevada **Gary Marcos**

The photo of the bent airplane was taken at Burning Man this year at Black Rock City, Nevada which is the 3rd largest city in Nevada while the event takes place for 1 week. It's an environment that is the harshest of conditions with temperatures consistently 90+ and the winds blowing an alkaline dust everywhere. The downside are the dust storms that can blow at 40+ mph creating almost

complete blackouts. However, the storms provide great opportunities for photography and while many are hunkering down during the storms, that's when I go out. This was the case for this shot as a dust storm was moving across the playa (dried lakebed). Dust storms are great because very few people are out allowing the subject to stand fairly isolated. Fewer people allows me more time to set up a composition. I was also lucky to have another art car pull into the frame with its pennants blowing high in the air with the wind. And, lucky again to have the storm show a clearing at the top of the image while still conveying its intensity at the bottom. Now that the event is over, I'm learning how to open and clean my Canon lenses. This shot was taken with a Canon 50D, 1/500th, 18mm, 17-55mm F2.8.

September 2018 First Place Color Print

Streak of Light at Minaret Lake **Tim Aston**

This was the first night of a three night backpacking trip in the Ansel Adams Wilderness. Flowers were blooming on the shore and the snow had retreated to above 11,000 feet at this point in the summer. I was scouting out compositions for sunrise after I arrived at the lake, but headed to the north side for sunset in search of more wildflowers. However, the sunset started to glow in a direction that fit with this composition, so I made an awkward jog back to this position as the colors reached their peak. If you look closely enough you can find the tent of a fellow hiker. This is a two shot blend for dynamic range hand blended in Photoshop. Sony A7R2 with adapted Canon 16-35 f/4 at ISO 100, f/11, and 1/4 second and 1 second.



*HY 17 Summit Tanker Fire May
1976*

Eric Gray



This scene was created by a trucker that had failed to engage his brakes adequately when he stopped then went in to eat at the Summit restaurant. The driverless double tanker truck rolled back across all four lanes to the east side of the highway, somehow avoided heavy 5 P.M. traffic and went over the embankment, bursting into flames. I got several excellent shots that evening. For this one I was about 30 yards away with my Minolta SRT 101, 35 mm film camera with

F1.2, 50 mm lens. Yes, it was extremely hot. I wore firefighter turnouts (clothing) but I was still only there for a few seconds each time I shot. This image appeared on the front page of the Mercury/News and Los Gatos Times Observer as well as on the cover with two shots inside of The Fire Journal. Yes, that was a real magazine, subscribed to by Fire Departments around the world at that time.

September 2018 First Place Photojournalism Print

*High Flying Bronco Competition in
Salem, N Dakota, High School
Rodeo, June 2018*

Jerry Held



I was on a trip to the Badlands of North Dakota and stopped in New Salem at a High School Rodeo competition. I was able to sit on the ground right next to the rodeo ring with an unobstructed view of the competitors. There were many different competitions featuring about an equal number of boys and girls. I spent several hours photographing many events. Most were

taken at 7fps and at least 1/2000 sec to catch the action. I liked this shot with the horse in the air, the rider coming up off of the horse, the hat in the air and all of the bystanders focused on the action.

Nikon D850 w/Nikkor 80-400 lens at 200mm 1/2000 sec f/8 ISO 640

Flowering Orb

Tim Meadows



My image is one in a series of focus-stacked macro flower photos that I've been interested in lately. Due to the dramatically reduced depth of field that exists in macro photography, the only way to get the entire flower in focus (if that is your desire) is to make a series of images where the focal plane is gradually (and manually) moved from closest to farthest. Some new cameras have this focus-stacking feature built in, but I adjust mine manually using a focus rail, then merge the images together in a focus-stacking application, in this case HeliconFocus. This image is a series of 55 photos shot at F8, 0.5 sec, ISO 200, processed in HeliconFocus, then adjusted in SilverEfxPro. While the original color image of the flower was a stunning pinkish-orange, I thought the pattern of this dahlia was more interesting, hence the black and white treatment. Camera: Nikon D810, Lens: Nikkor 105mm micro.

September 2018 First Place Monochrome - Print

2016 McLaren 512C

Jeff Balfus



Image of friends McLaren 512C taken at La Rinconada (just past the area of our Annual Picnic, shot in the late afternoon. Technical Info Shot with Sony A9 1/80 sec @ F/5.6 ISO100 Lens FE24-240mm @ 78mm Processed in LR Change to Monochrome adjusted the Whites and Blacks, Shadows and cleaned up distractions

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