

LGSCC Camera Club

losgatos-saratogacameraclub.org

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Next Competition -Travel August 5th

Our Judge will be listed on the website - A Travel picture must express the feeling of a time and place, portray a land, its people or a culture in its natural state, and has no geographic limitations. Ultra close-ups which lose their identity, studio-type model shots, or photographic manipulations which misrepresent the true situation or alter the content of the image are unacceptable in Travel competition. No manipulation or modification is permitted except resizing, cropping, selective lightening or darkening, and restoration of original color of the scene. No special effect filters can be applied. No elements may be moved, cloned, added, deleted, rearranged or combined. Any sharpening must appear natural. Borders are not permitted. ... [MORE](#)

Notices and Coming Events

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

Monday August 5, Competition - Travel

7:30 p.m. See deadlines and more info on the website

Monday September 9, Competition - Photo Journalism



Previous winning image - Travel

Upcoming Programs/Trips

Exhibit - California History Center, De Anza College

Our club will exhibit with Official Opening: Sept 28

Take down of photos: Dec 8. Details - [click here](#)

August 19th Program Night
and September 12th

Both program nights will be all about critiquing member images. Bring an image about which you would like feedback and learn a few helpful tips for the creation of a better image. How would you improve the image below?

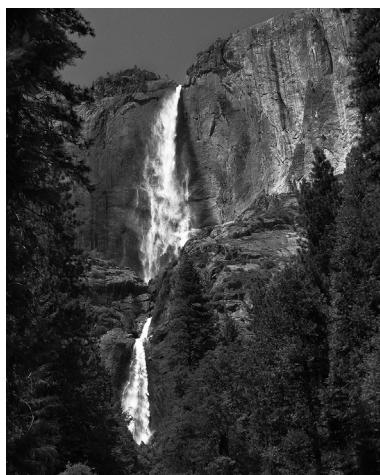


Water, Water, Everywhere - Club Exhibit

Theme - California Fresh

*Creeks, Lakes and
Rivers, Mother Nature's
Precious Gift*

In December there will be a large wall at the JCC for themed water images and in the additional space we will hang our best images of any type. See details by clicking [Exhibitions](#) on the club home page.

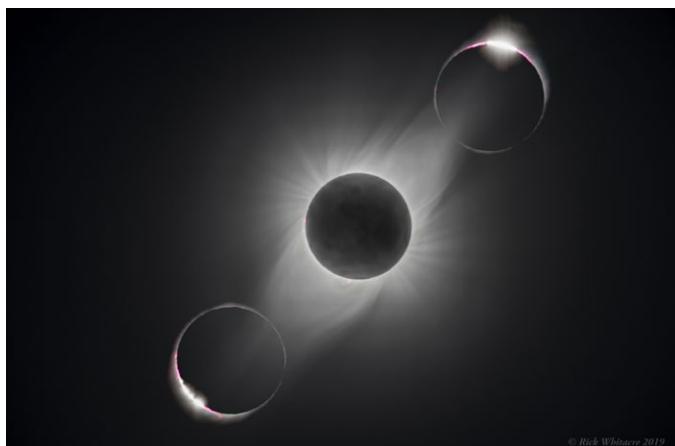


Member Biography - Rick Whitacre

Unlike many of our other members who grew up with film, slides, and darkrooms, I came to photography rather late in life. When I retired in 2008, my wife and I started to travel more and a friend talked me into getting a better camera to record the experiences. He also loaned me a couple of books on composition. During a trip to New Zealand in 2009, I became “hooked” as I explored the camera and worked on composition.

“The club has been instrumental in helping me become a better photographer”

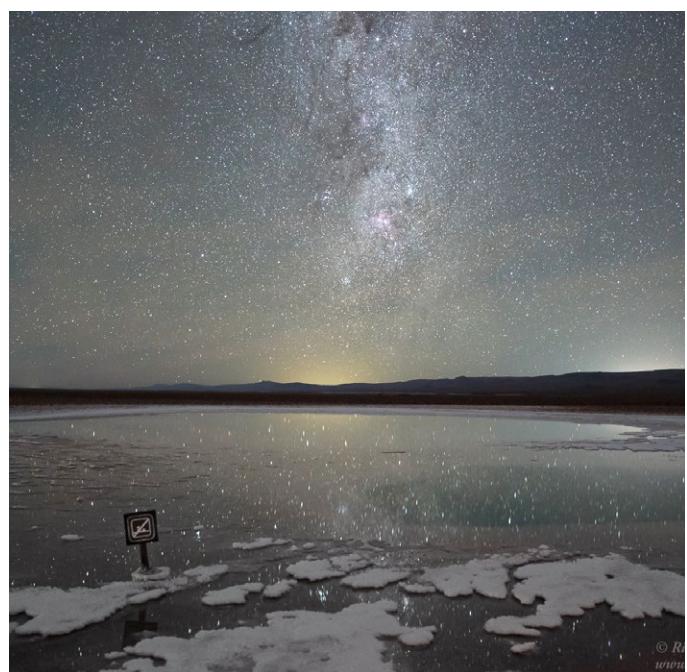
By taking classes at West Valley Community College and a few workshops, I was exposed to most types of photography, but gravitated toward landscapes. Landscape photography had the added advantage of getting me outdoors and out of my wife’s hair. She was very supportive! More recently, I have gravitated to Astro-landscape photography that mixes elements of the night sky with a compelling foreground element. I am also known to chase solar and lunar eclipses, meteors showers, and auroras. I’ve just recently returned from South America where I got to experience my second total solar eclipse; this one in Chile on July 2. We also got to visit the Atacama Desert and shot the night sky there. It was amazing!



Composite with three phases of the eclipse - Chile



Rick getting ready for an eclipse



No swimming- from a recent trip to Chile

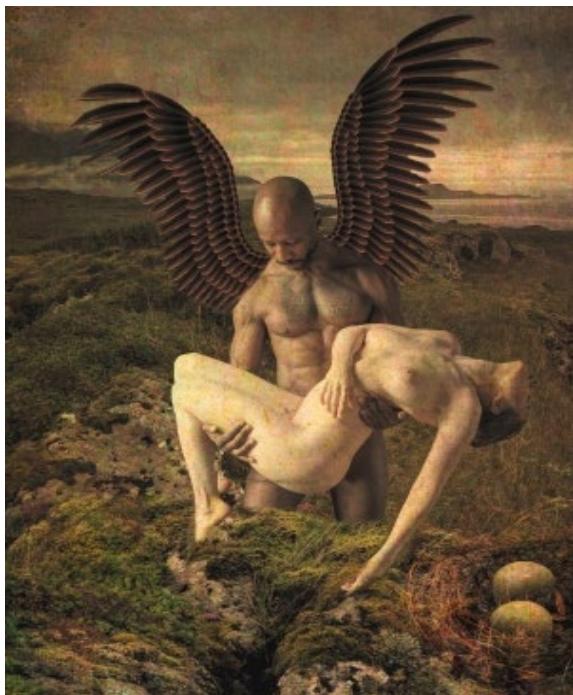
I’ve been an active member of LGSCC for a number of years serving as President for over 2 years and other various chair and support roles. The club has been instrumental in helping me become a better photographer.

I started off shooting Canon gear but have moved slowly and surely to Sony mirrorless. I have a Sony A7S for night work and a Sony A7R2 for daytime work. Some of the new Sony lenses are truly amazing. I’ve never looked back.

March Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It

Roseate spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) on nest with chick Airdrie Kincaid, Nature color projected

When Richard and I were in Florida for the 2017 NANPA (North American Nature Photography Association) conference in Jacksonville, we also went to the Wading Bird Rookery at the St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park. With alligators swimming below, the wild birds know their young are safe from tree-climbing predators. See https://www.alligatorfarm.com/wading_bird/ for more information. This nest was high in a tree. I photographed it from the boardwalk at 400 mm and cropped it quite a bit for impact. Canon EOS 7D EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS USM, f/8.0, 1/2000, ISO 400.



The Meeting of Earth and Ice, next to Merced River, Yosemite - Chris Cassell, Pictorial print

I took this on 2/23/2019 while with a workshop by Aperture Academy. We started the day with a disappointing sunrise at the (Tunnel) Valley View due to partial overcast. But that overcast may have helped flatten the light and bring out texture at our next stop, along the south bank of the Merced River. I enjoy finding scenes like this, exploring the boundary between two regimes. Uncropped from capture by Nikon D810 on tripod; 24-120mm f/4 Nikkor lens at 66mm, 1 sec at f/16, Aperture-priority with +0.7 stop bias, ISO 100. Processed with Capture One Pro 11. Printed with Epson 3800 on Epson Premium Luster.



◀ Leda and the Swan, Larry Shapiro, Pictorial color projected

When I first saw these two models I immediately thought of the Greek myth of Leda and the Swan. Zeus in the form of a swan seduces the beautiful Leda and has two children by her. The basic image of the man holding the woman was done in a studio against a gray wall with natural light from a window to the model's left. In Photoshop I selected out the figures and then tried various backgrounds. I ended up using three images of Icelandic landscapes, added the nest and the eggs. The wings were from a bird exhibit at a museum. Multiple textures were also added. The final image was what I envisioned when I first saw the models.

March Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It (continued)

Alone on History's Doorstep - Tim Meadows, Monochrome pictorial print

This image was made in Honfleur, France. Honfleur is a small village in Normandy with a much-photographed harbor and I happened upon this scene. The lighting was superb and the bonus was having someone sitting on the steps. I positioned my tripod and took the shot. Unfortunately, my camera was still set on ISO 100 at f16 (setting from my harbor shots) so the result was a 20 sec exposure. Fortunately for me, the guy didn't move! Nikon Z 7, 24-70 (at 44mm) f4 Nikkor lens. Contrast and selective exposure adjustments in Lightroom, conversion to black and white in Silver EfexPro.



Forster's Tern- Robert Fox, Nature color print

While walking at Shoreline-the N.W. corner of the lake-I saw these 2 terns facing each other and squawking loudly. I started taking pictures and the next thing they began mating-and still squawking. Photo was taken with a Nikon D300, 80-400mm 4.5-5.6VR lens at 400mm (600mm in 35mm) at 1/2500 sec., f/7.1, ISO 800. Cropped with minimal adjustments.



◀ Point Arena Lighthouse, Mendocino County, CA Chris Cassell, Monochrome projected

I took this on 5/25/2019 while on the coastal drive back to San Jose after several days exploring the Ft Bragg/Mendocino area with my wife. Thankfully I was able to fully charge my EV at our campground, else we would have taken an inland return route (more charging prospects) and missed this. Only closeup shot I took of the lighthouse; when I saw the cloud nearby I moved to frame. Slight crop at top from capture by Nikon D810 on monopod; 24-120mm f/4 Nikkor lens at 40mm, 1/500 sec at f/8, Shutter-priority with +0.3 stop bias, ISO 200 with circular polarizer to darken sky. Very windy, so went with high-ish shutter speed. Processed with Capture One Pro 11.

Women in the World of Photojournalism

Margaret Bourke-White, June 14, 1904 – August 27, 1971 - was an American photographer and documentary photographer. She is best known as the first foreign photographer permitted to take pictures of Soviet factories under the Soviet's five-year plan. In 1929, Bourke-White accepted a job as associate editor and staff photographer of Fortune magazine, a position she held until 1935. In 1930, at the age of 26, she became the first Western photographer allowed to take photographs of forbidden places in the Soviet Union.

Her photographs of the construction of the Fort Peck Dam were featured in Life's first issue in 1936.

She was hired by Henry Luce as the first female photojournalist for Life magazine in 1936. She held



Churchill by Margaret Bourke-White

were featured in Life's first issue, dated November 23, 1936, including the cover. This cover photograph became such a favorite that it was the 1930s' representative in the United States Postal Service's Celebrate the Century series of commemorative postage stamps. "Although Bourke-White titled the photo, New Deal, Montana: Fort Peck Dam, it is actually a photo of the spillway located three miles east of the dam," according to a United States Army Corps of Engineers web page.

the title of staff photographer until 1940, but returned from 1941 to 1942, and again in 1945, after which she stayed through her semi-retirement in 1957 (which ended her photography for the magazine) and her full retirement in 1969. Her photographs of the construction of the Fort Peck Dam



Margaret Bourke-White

During the mid-1930s, Bourke-White, like Dorothea Lange, photographed drought victims of the Dust Bowl. In the February 15, 1937 issue of Life magazine, her famous photograph of black flood victims standing in front of a sign which declared, "World's Highest Standard of Living", showing a white family, was published. The photograph later would become the basis for the artwork of Curtis Mayfield's 1975 album, *There's No Place Like America Today*. Bourke-White and novelist Erskine Caldwell were married from 1939 to their divorce in 1942, and collaborated on *You Have Seen Their Faces* (1937), a book about conditions in the South during the Great Depression.

She also traveled to Europe to record how Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia were faring under Nazism and how Russia was faring under Communism. While in Russia, she photographed a rare occurrence, Joseph Stalin with a smile, as well as portraits of Stalin's mother and great-aunt when visiting Georgia.

(Source - Wikipedia) read more https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Margaret_Bourke-White

Program Night and Education

Brown Bears in Alaska - presented by Joan Sparks

In August of 2010, Joan Sparks traveled to photograph the great brown bears of Alaska. On July 15th she shared more than 300 projected images and a dozen wonderful prints from that photo excursion.

She left the Bay Area, flew to Anchorage and made her way to a single engine plane that took the group of six to Silver Salmon Creek Lodge, 100 miles Southwest of Anchorage. Each morning at four o'clock they went down to capture images of brown bears hunting for fish at low tide. Because of the long days she said they often stayed to shoot till 9:30 or 10 in the evening.

When asked if she felt nervous around the bears, she said of course. But because the bears were singularly interested in eating nearly 100 lbs of fish per day they paid little or no attention to the humans nearby. Bears averaged about 1700 lbs. and they often strolled or ran by her with only six or eight feet between them. Many of her shots where bears filled the frame, were captured at 120mm or less.



Recommended Reading

Nikon Z6 and Z7 Eye Autofocus Test - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OtRTCMr7rK0>

Avoid Losing Your Gear - <https://petapixel.com/2019/07/11/how-to-avoid-losing-your-photography-gear-here-are-10-tips/>

The Art of Photo Mistakes - <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/new-exhibit-sfmoma-highlights-art-mistake>

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