



# Newsletter

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## *Reminders*

### **End-of-Year Awards and Pot Luck Dinner**

Camera Club meeting on December 21st has been cancelled. The End-of-Year Awards dinner has been moved to January 26th, 2016, a Tuesday evening.

New sign-up sheets will be offered at the meetings preceding this event. You may also email Betty Toepfer your choice for the potluck dinner. (If you previously signed-up for this event, those sheets have been lost and you will need to sign up again.)

Please sign up for what you will provide for the potluck dinner:  
APPETIZER, SALAD, GRAIN/STARCH, VEGETABLE, MAIN DISH,  
DESSERT, BREAD/ROLLS & BUTTER, BEVERAGES & ICE.

Please also sign-up for set-up, take-down, clean-up.

Please note that each attendee must supply their own place setting.

### **Dues are Due**

It's that time of year... Membership dues are \$50.00 per calendar year and are due by January 1, 2016. These fees can be paid in person to the Membership team at any club meeting or to the Treasurer, Dick Stuart.

## *Coming Club Events*

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

**Saturday, December 5, 2015**  
11:30pm Projected Image Entry  
Deadline: Color, Monochrome,  
Travel

**Monday, December 7, 2015**  
5pm Online Print Entry Deadline  
7:15pm Print Entry Deadline  
including returning winning  
prints for the End of Year  
competition

Competition: Color,  
Monochrome, Travel  
Judge: John Goyer

Refreshments:  
Tim Meadows, George Mednick,  
Tamar Mednick

**Wednesday, December 9, 2015**  
Judging for End of Year.  
Judge: Duane Pepper

**Monday, December 21, 2015**  
No meeting

**Saturday, January 2, 2015**  
11:30pm Projected Image Entry  
Deadline: Color, Monochrome,  
Photojournalism

## ***Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It***

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The judge was Hal Geren. 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.

### **November 2015 First Place Nature Print**

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Endemic to Australia, these Silver Gulls were photographed on the south coast of Victoria state.

The gulls were found nesting along the edge of a cliff. I used my Canon EOS 3, 100-400 lens and slide film. It was printed without post-processing other than a crop for composition.

***Silver Gull (Larus novaehollandiae)***  
***Regurgitates to Feed Hungry Chicks***  
Sherry Grivett

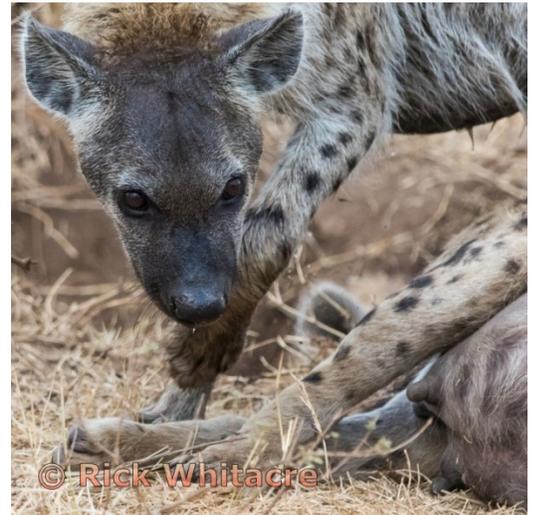
### **November 2015 First Place Nature Digital Projected Image - Advanced**

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***Spotted Hyena Cub Moving in for a Meal from his Mother***  
***(Crocuta crocuta)***  
Rick Whitacre

While on safari in the Ngorongoro Crater of Tanzania in August, we came across a pack of spotted Hyenas lazing about in the brush. They had feasted on a zebra a little earlier and were very relaxed and playful. They allowed us to stay and photograph them for over a half hour. I captured this pup zeroing in on his mom and liked the story it conveyed.

Canon 7DM2, Canon 200-400mm f/4 w/1.4TC, 1/500s, f/5.6, 560mm, ISO3200



## November 2015 First Place Nature Digital Projected Image - Basic

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The photo was taken from a zodiac in Hercules Bay, off the coast of South Georgia Island. This was during a 28 day trip to the Falklands, South Georgia, and Antarctica that I took Dec. 2014 - Jan. 2015. The trip was with [Cheesemans' Ecology Safaris](#), which is based in Saratoga. The main focus of that morning's zodiac cruise was viewing the Macaroni penguins, which we saw in abundance. While we were watching them on the rock ledge, two fur seals jumped out of the water into the crowd of penguins, causing quite a lot of chaos. One of the seals returned to the water quickly, leaving the large gap between the penguins and the remaining seal. Of all the photos I took during the interaction, this one was my favorite.

*Macaroni Penguins (*Eudyptes chrysolophus*) avoiding Fur Seal (*Arctocephalus australis*)*  
Virginia Robbins

The trip was not specifically a photography tour but several of the guides as well as some of the clients were professional photographers. I learned so much on that trip from seeing the photos of others that it led me to seek out and join the Camera Club!

The photo was taken with a Nikon D5300 and a Sigma 50-500mm lens. The focal length was 78mm, ISO 360, f10, 1/500 sec.

## November 2015 First Place Color Print

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This photograph was taken on a [NatureScapes](#) "Ultimate Iceland Arctic Adventure" Photography Workshop, May 27 - June 9, 2015, led by E.J. Peiker and Johann Oli Hilmarsson. A description of the 2016 version of this workshop may be found at: [http://www.naturescapes.net/workshops/iceland\\_adventure\\_arctic\\_2016](http://www.naturescapes.net/workshops/iceland_adventure_arctic_2016). The GPS coordinates of the site of the photograph are 64°55'34" N 23°18'39" W.

The equipment used was a tripod supported Nikon D800 with a Nikon 24-70mm f/2.8 lens at 38mm. A 4-stop ND filter was used to allow a slow shutter speed to blur the water. A polarizing filter was also used. The exposure conditions were 1/8 sec, f/8 and ISO 100. The ND filter could have been eliminated and the lens stopped down to f/22, but I was concerned with diffraction effects.

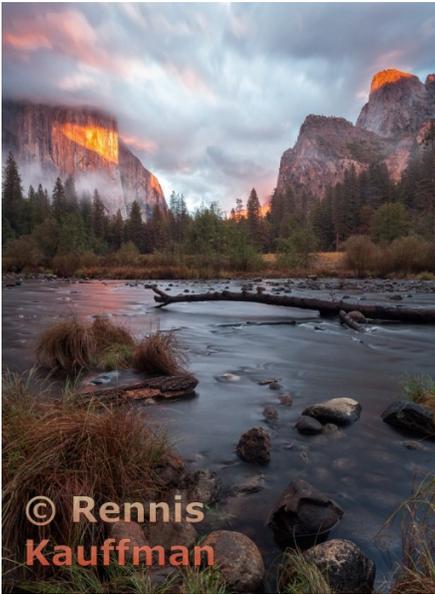
A lot of waterfalls were photographed on this workshop, and I found the combination of the 4-stop Tiffen ND filter and the polarizing filter worked well. I have a Sing-Ray Vari-ND filter, but I prefer the fixed ND filters. The image was processed in Lightroom and other photographers in the image were cloned out with Photoshop.



*Kirkjufellsfoss Waterfall, Iceland*  
Larry Rosier

## November 2015 First Place Pictorial/Color Digital Projected Image - Advanced

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*Valley View Sunset*  
Rennis Kauffman

This was taken at the iconic "Valley View" location in Yosemite National Park in mid-October during a workshop with the [Aperture Academy](#). It had rained heavily off and on the entire weekend which was good news/bad news: Good news - we got amazing clouds and substantially more water in the falls and river. Bad news - it tested our resolve to withstand the elements for the sake of photography. But the reward was this amazing sunset that kept getting better and better.

This was taken with a Canon 5D Mark II equipped with a Canon 17-40 f/4L lens with a B+W polarizer attached as well as a soft GND filter. The exposure was f/16, ISO 500, Shutter speed 10.0 seconds. Post-processing included Lightroom 6.1, Photoshop CS5, NIK Color Efex Pro 4.

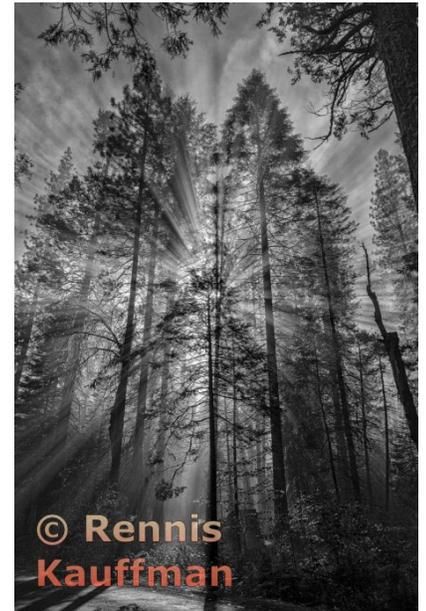
## November 2015 First Place Monochrome Digital Projected Image

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*Shine On*  
Rennis Kauffman

This was taken in Yosemite National Park in mid-October after spending a long wet weekend there for a workshop with the Aperture Academy. There were controlled burns in the valley floor and on my last drive through the park, the morning sun was shining through the evergreens to create the most amazing composition I've seen in person. I pulled off and took about 10 pictures from different vantage points but thought this was the best one.

This was taken with a Canon 5D Mark II equipped with a Canon 24-105 f/4L lens sporting a B+W Polarizer. The exposure was f/9.0, ISO 200, Shutter-speed 1/125 of a second. Post-processing involved Lightroom 6.1, Photoshop CS5, NIK ColorEfex Pro 4, and NIK Silver Efex for the monochrome conversion.



## November 2015 First Place Monochrome Print

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*Fear Eats the Soul*  
Howard Larsen

This image, the title of which is the translation of a German art film from 1974 by Fassbinder, was done at Point Lobos in September. Another image I showed that night was the exposed roots from the same tree. The tree which is hanging out of an eroded hillside is unusual enough but it looks even stranger when photographed at 12mm on a full frame camera, a very wide angle. Very few vendors even make 12mm lenses for full frame cameras, but, when the Sony full frames first came out and had so few lenses available (unlike today) people discovered that a Sony 10-18 crop sensor zoom actually covered the full frame from 12-16mm. So with a small, light lens one can get ultra wide with lovely lens distortion and purple fringing at the corners and curved horizons. I've become very interested in looking at the world at 12mm, a perspective far removed from human vision.

Equipment: Sony A7Rii, Sony 10-18 zoom at 12mm, 1/100s, f16, ISO 160

## November 2015 First Place Pictorial/Color Digital Projected Image - Basic

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This is my first star circle photo! It was taken from [Fremont Peak](#), next to the observatory, on Aug. 15, 2015. The city below is San Juan Bautista, which lit the bottom of the passing clouds. Usually this light pollution would ruin star photography, but I liked the unusual “swoosh” of color on the clouds. Also, the bright clouds highlighted the silhouette of the foreground trees.

I used a CamRanger to control the camera, and took 12, 10 minute photos in sequence, for a total of 2 hours. I stacked them in Photoshop, and was very surprised when the star circles all lined up! The camera was in a public area during the exposures, and could have easily been bumped. The .psd file is 2.3GB. I also did some final adjustments in Lightroom.

Nikon D800, 24-70mm f/2.8 lens at 26mm, f/8, ISO 200



*The Spins - Two Hour Star Circle from Fremont Peak*  
Timothy Halloran

## Meet Frank Stotts

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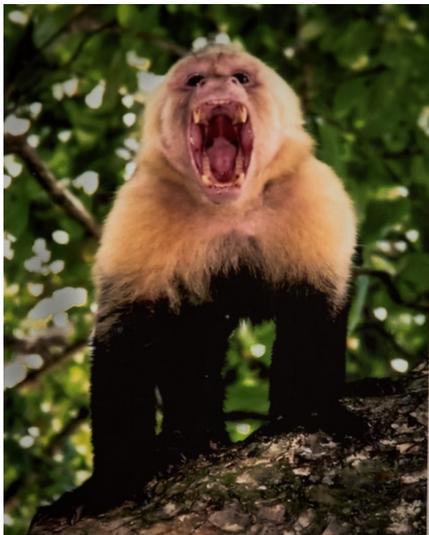
I was born in Albuquerque and grew up in Southern New Mexico at Hatch. Hatch has a chili festival every fall and calls itself the chili capitol of the world. You can find Hatch chili salsa at Trader Joe's. I graduated from New Mexico State in Las Cruces where I met Marjorie, my then future wife. We were taking a class in government together and I noticed that she was making notes and sharing them with the class. I asked her if I could have a copy. In those days copies were made by carbon paper. She said she would make a copy for me but that she was already making several and it might be a little faint. By the end of the class year I was getting the original. She knows the way to a man's heart. We have two daughters and three granddaughters. I went into the Air Force after college.



After that I worked at Nevada Power Company in Las Vegas as the Director of Internal Audit. After retiring we moved to San Jose to be near our daughter, Cindy, who lives in Palo Alto.

My parents had a Kodak camera when I was a kid. It was a model that produced large post card sized prints. My mother usually took the pictures of my childhood. I can remember so clearly her taking a picture. She would press the shutter release with her right arm rather than her finger. It seemed her whole body would tilt as she pressed the shutter. As a result the entire camera would move rather than just the shutter release. Consequently, many of my childhood photos are blurred. But this is not about my mother's photography is it?

While in the Air Force I was stationed in Japan as the Japanese were coming out with their great single lens reflex cameras. I got one and also a standard lens, a wide angle lens and a telephoto lens. We had the opportunity to travel a lot including the Philippines, India, Thailand and Hong Kong and of course I took a lot of pictures. I had little training and the pictures were just travel pictures recording the places we travelled. After leaving Japan I got caught up with my career and photography took a back seat except for occasional family trips and holidays.



After retiring I joined a camera club. We took a trip to Costa Rica. We were on a tour around the country and were at a beach resort. Beyond the beach was a forest and the group we were with was going to take a hike looking for animals and reptiles. We had brought lunches along and I was designated to stay at the beach and protect the lunches from the monkeys. There was an uprooted tree. A monkey was up in the tree and started down the trunk. I walked over to the base of the tree to intercept him. As he got closer he gave me the most threatening look with his teeth bared. While in that pose I took his picture.

I entered the photo into a competition and won second place. I was hooked. I thought that this was going to be great. But after a while I realized that the monkey photo was a lucky shot as I wasn't really doing so well. So I began taking courses and attending seminars. One course I took at the Rocky Mountain School of Photography was called Summer Intensive. I learned a lot and since the course was in Missoula, Montana, I got an opportunity to get in a lot of great photography in a beautiful part of the country.

We like to travel and the trips give me a chance to use my photography. One of my favorite trips was to Africa. We flew into Nairobi, Kenya, and took a tour to Tanzania and into the Serengeti plain. The many animals we saw and the landscape and the native people were a rich source of material. We made one stop on a bluff overlooking a river. There was a large herd of elephants in the river bed. The young elephants were playing together. It was such a great experience to watch the adult elephants and see what good parents they were. After a while the herd started to leave the river. One mother was watching her baby play in the river as the herd moved out of the river bed. She waited and let her baby play until the herd was nearly out of the river bottom and then she started following the herd. The baby had not realized what was happening. Finally he looked up and saw his mother walking away. It was so funny to watch him get up out of the river and race after his mother at top speed. I got a lot of great photos which I cherish and share in the competitions.



My photography is evolving. Some of the course material is soaking in and I am getting better at focusing my compositions. One of the things that has helped my photography the most is participating in the competitions. The judge's comments are nearly always helpful even when I don't agree with them and seeing how my images stand up to other images gives me an insight for improvement. It is a quest.

### ***Travel Competition Definition***

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.

The title should give the location and complement the travel story.

### ***Key Contacts***

<b>President</b> John Perry 408-370-7229	<b>Membership</b> Gary Marcos 408-741-5712	<b>Webmaster</b> <a href="#">Jim Katzman</a> 408-867-6810	<b>Newsletter</b> Airdrie Kincaid 408-247-3743	Official publication of the <a href="#">Los Gatos-Saratoga Camera Club</a> , a club member of the Photographic Society of America	
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