



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

Newsletter

Volume 39 Issue 4

April 2017

In this Edition

[Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It](#) [2](#)

[Key Contacts](#) [5](#)

Reminders

The Los Gatos/Saratoga Camera Club Presents -



EXPOSED: Photographers' View of Their World

April 1-30, 2017

Los Altos Library
13 South San Antonio Road
Los Altos, California

Join us!

Opening Reception:
Sunday April 2nd, 2-4 pm

Coming Club Events

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

Saturday April 1, 2017

11:30pm Projected Image Entry
Deadline: Color, Monochrome, Travel

Monday April 3, 2017

5pm Online Print Entry Deadline
7:15pm Walk In Print Entry Deadline
Color, Monochrome, Travel
Judge: Chris Cassells

Refreshments: Harvey Gold, Rennis
Kaufman, Serena Hartoog

Monday April 17, 2017 Program: [Jodi Frediani](#): Swimming With
Humpback Whales.

[Travel Competition Definition](#) per LG/S CC Website

LG/SCC Competition Meeting on Monday, April 3, 2017
will be at the [Congregation Shir Hadash](#) in Los Gatos

Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It

The judge was Roger W Kumpf. 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.

March 2017 First Place Pictorial/Color Digital Projected Image-Advanced



Angle City
Larry Shapiro

This image was captured in January 2015 but not processed until November 2016. My nephew works at the Angel City Brewery in downtown Los Angeles and was going to give us a tour of the facilities. We got caught in a huge LA traffic jam because of a sudden rainstorm and arrived much later than we had anticipated. It turned out to be fortunate since the wet streets, the darkening sky; lights coming on made for a great combination. The picture was made on an Olympus E-P3 with a 12mm fixed lens. The image was made at an ISO of 1250, f/4.0 at a 1/10 of a second exposure. While this lens' maximum aperture is f/2.0, I did not want to open up all the way because I knew I needed some depth of field to capture both foreground and background in focus. The Olympus has a very good image stabilization system and I felt I could hand hold even at 1/10 of a second. The image was post processed in Photoshop. Because of the wide dynamic range, four different layer masks were needed to control the exposure/contrast.

March 2017 First Place Color Print

This image is from one of my favorite spots on the south side of the Merced River across from El Capitan Meadow. The black oak sitting in front of El Cap can be situated very nicely in a niche on the rock where the tree line dips. I decided to stay an extra day, into Christmas, because the storm I'd been wandering around in for three days was promising to clear. I was preparing to head up to Tunnel View and a huge billowing cloud was coming off of El Cap. I made a compromise and headed to El Capitan Drive, and made a quick march west to get to the fresh snow. I chose a 17mm tilt shift and used the shift to capture the entirety of El Capitan without the usual wide angle distortion. Depth of field wasn't a big deal so I chose f/8, but tilted a small amount to get the nearby snow and El Capitan in focus. The cloud was moving rapidly so I took about 10 frames over a few minutes. This photo was the clear leader of the group because it was the only one that showed the full shape of the nose of El Capitan. I did almost all editing for this image in Lightroom and used Photoshop only to remove a small bit of distracting grass pushing into the lower right snow that I couldn't eliminate without severely compromising my composition. I adjusted the white balance slightly warmer while maintaining a faint blue tone in the snow. I adjusted the shadows to be believable while being careful to maintain the natural contrast that already existed within the frame. Very little contrast was added since there was already so much between the granite being lit up directly and the shadows in the river.



Golden Shroud
Tim Aston

March 2017 First Place Nature Projected -Basic



Hippos Fighting
Uwe Schmalenbach

This image was taken in Tanzania in February of 2014 with my Canon 5D MkIII at 1/1000, f/5.6, ISO 200 with a Canon 100-400mm lens at 380mm. The objective was to get action with hippos fighting with open mouths to get some excitement. I was glad to be able to apply some of the lessons I learned at the Camera Club as to how to enhance an image. The original image was somewhat flat because the water surrounding the hippos was light. So I had to darken it and lighten the area of the hippos mouths and apply some dehazing in Lightroom to get more contrast.

March 2017 First Place Nature Digital Projected Image-Advanced

Juvenile King Penguin Squawking at Adult
Tim Meadows

My image was taken in November 2015 on an 18 day voyage to the Falkland Islands, South Georgia Island and the Antarctic Peninsula. South Georgia is one of the most remote places on the earth, 1500 mile from South America and 800 miles from Antarctica. It is also home to an amazing, undisturbed assortment of wildlife. A prominent species is the King Penguin. At the time of year we visited, eggs were being incubated and the year-old juveniles were molting out of their brown fur coats. Many of the juveniles look pretty motley, which probably accounted for their crankiness. The interaction between adolescents and their parents was not unlike some humans. I shot this image with a Nikon D800, 24-70 f2.8 lens at 36mm, ISO 320, f9, 1/320 sec. The natural light was good so not much enhancing was required.



March 2017 First Place Monochrome Projected

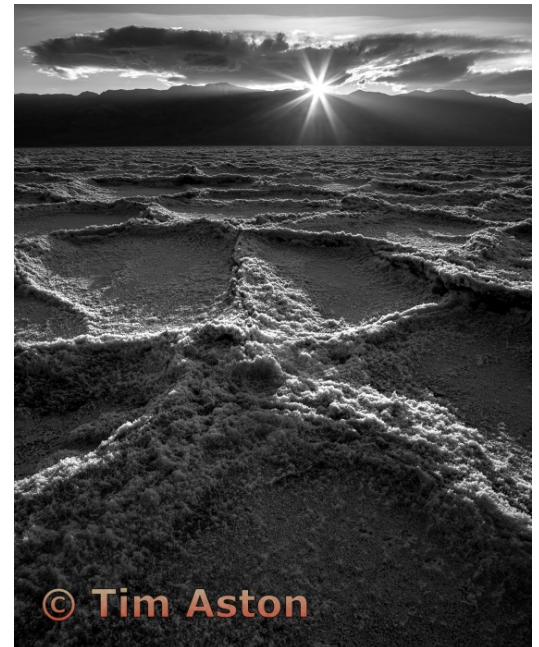


Weather Watcher
Larry Shapiro

This image was taken in July, 2016 in Isafjordur in the Westfjords of Iceland. This gentleman was the docent at the Osvor Museum and was dressed in the traditional fishermen's clothes that would allow them to row far out into the North Atlantic to the fishing grounds near Greenland. He was incredible cooperative especially with many photographers wanting to take his picture. I hung back and let everyone else take their pictures so I could have a few minutes alone with him. Besides this portrait, I took many other images of his unique clothes and his equipment. Image capture was with an Olympus OMD-EM5 ii with the 40-150 zoom. This picture was taken at 150mm at f5.6 to throw the background out of focus. An ISO of 400 and a shutter speed of 1/400 were used for the capture. I always try to use at least 1/400 of a second shutter speed with this zoom telephoto lens to avoid camera shake even though this camera has great image stabilization. Fortunately the day was overcast so there were no harsh shadows. The image was post processed in Photoshop. Several unnecessary elements were removed with content aware fill and the conversion to BW was done with Nik's Silver Efex Pro. The tonality of the eyes was controlled with selective use of a curves adjustment and a layer mask.

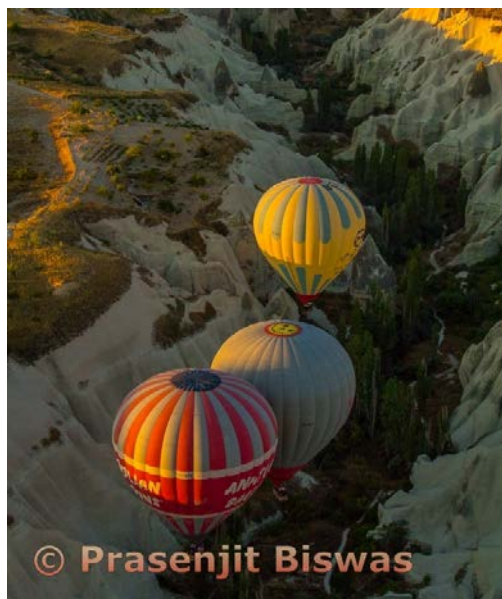
March 2017 First Place Monochrome Print

This image was taken in the Badwater salt flats in Death Valley National Park during early spring. Looking for structured polygons in the salt crusts can take a significant amount of time, so my wife and I wandered around for quite a while before settling on a spot. I'd been to Death Valley before and wasn't happy with a wide shot showing a large number of polygons because I don't think it made for a cohesive image. I decided to stay low and focus on a large vertex to keep the composition simple. As the sun was sinking behind the mountains the light told a clear story with the star shape in the polygon and the sun breaking through. I chose f/16 as a compromise aperture since the light on the salt crusts only lasted about two minutes when the sun was between the clouds and the mountain. The small aperture allowed for a clean starburst and limited diffraction softening. The 24mm tilt shift lens I was using allowed me to tilt the focal plane enough to get the distant mountains and near salt both in focus. All adjustments were made in anticipation of the sun breaking through. The photo is also a 3 image stitch, and using the shift feature of the lens allowed me to work around my lack of an ultrawide lens while getting even more pixels to work with in the file. I used Photoshop to stitch photos together and cleaned up some lens flare. After that I pulled it back into Lightroom, converted to black and white (using a pretty intense orange filter to bring out the highlights along the star shape), and did minor controlling of highlights using the brush tool and a radial filter. I brought the blacks down to make sure I had some small patches of localized black in the cracks of the salt crust.



Starman
Tim Aston

March 2017 First Place Pictorial/Color Digital Projected Image - Basic



Sunrise From A Balloon In Cappadocia, Turkey
Prasenjit Biswas

"This photo was taken during sunrise in Cappadocia, Turkey in October 2016. This unique landscape of Cappadocia was mesmerizing in the soft light of the rising sun. I was in a hot air balloon with 15 other people when I took this shot. It was quite difficult to get a steady and clear view of other balloons, the limestone fairy chimneys and the canyon from our crowded balloon."


March 2017 First Place Nature Print

American Bittern Catches A Crayfish
Robert Fox

It was a great day ---the Bittern was not the only successful fisherman. Also, a Great Egret caught one. Have also seen a Belted Kingfisher successful at the same spot. The location is Shoreline area---the creek at the S.E. end of Terminal rd. off San Antonio. Photo was taken with Nikon D300, 80-400 mm lens (at 400-600 crop factor), 1/1250 sec., f7.1, aperture priority, jpeg fine, minimal editing. Taken Feb.2015 (and has been seen this year as well).



Key Contacts

President	Membership	Webmaster	Newsletter	Official publication of the Los Gatos-Saratoga Camera Club , a club member of the Photographic Society of America
Airdrie Kincaid 408-247-3743	Rachel Hunter 408-366-2944	Jerry Held 408-997-3322	John Perry 408-370-7229	

Copyrights of all photos in this publication are retained by the photographers credited.