



# Newsletter

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## *Reminders*

### **Creative Competition Definition**

Creative photography is producing an image through the use of imaginative skill or originality of thought including the altering of reality. No image should be eliminated from competition simply because it looks realistic, provided it shows originality of concept. Creative images may include modifications in the darkroom, on the computer, or in the camera, as well as unusual points of view, imaginative use of subject matter or lighting, or any other presentation that begins with the maker's photograph or a collection of photographs.

Images are judged both for their technical and pictorial merit. The image should have strong composition, pleasing quality, and color, texture, pattern, and/or tone impact. The appropriateness of the technique selected to create altered reality is considered in judging. The content is unrestricted.

## *Coming Club Events*

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

### **Through December 18, 2016**

Exhibit "Caught Celebrating - through the Photographer's Lens" exhibit at De Anza California History Center

### **Saturday October 1, 2016**

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

### **Monday October 3, 2016**

5pm Online Print Entry Deadline  
7:15pm Print Entry Deadline  
Color, Monochrome, Creative  
Judge: Brad Hinckley

Refreshments: Marty Weisberg,  
Rick Whitacre and Sue Anawalt

### **Monday October 17, 2016**

Program: Phoo Chan - [Birds in Flight](#)

### **Saturday November 5, 2016**

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

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

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The judge was John Goyer. 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 2016 First Place Monochrome Print**

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***Swiss Estate of Lucerne***  
**Serena Hartoog**

This image was shot in downtown Lucerne, Switzerland. The most beautiful city on my summer vacation.

Unfortunately when I was there three days, most of time it was raining and cloudy. This image was shot at 8 pm around sunset. Light from the sunset was picked up by the clouds and the reflection in the water made it all yellowish. There was a little golden light shining in the sky and reflect to the water, but clouds were dull. I decided to convert it to Black and White. I used Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop to do the post processing.

I used Canon 5D Mark III with Canon EF 24-105mm f/4L lens hand held like my other image. ISO 3200, Aperture F/8. 1/1600 sec. Focal length was 24mm. Processed with Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop.

### **September 2016 First Place Color Print**

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This summer I took vacation River cruise on Rhine River. This is one of the few French cities we visited during the river cruise, called Strasbourg. Most of the cities were German.

When I went with the tour guide walking around the town, I found the scenery was so beautiful along the river. I took this picture when we were walking. I stopped and held my breath to take 5 bracketed shots for HDR.

I did not use tripod and amazingly the HDR came out very sharp after using Adobe Light HDR new features for post processing.

I used Canon 5D Mark III with Canon EF 24-105mm f/4L lens hand held. ISO 2000, Aperture F/5.6. 5 brackets with speed of 1/3200, 1/1200, 1/800, 1/400, 1/200. Focal length was 40mm. Post processed with Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop.



***France on the River***  
**Serena Hartoog**

## September 2016 First Place Journalism Digital Projected Image - Advanced



*Crowded market - rural town in Uganda*  
Michael Schneider

As my wife and I were thinking of a trip to Africa, we were focused on familiar places that were recommended for first-time visitors. But, friends who had been to Africa twice previously were planning to visit Uganda to see endangered Mountain Gorillas (“Gorillas in the Mist”) and they persuaded us to join them.

Rural Uganda has very few paved roads and our drive across the country was dusty and very bumpy (“African Massage.”) The guide was very accommodating and did stop numerous times to take photos. But, I was reluctant to ask to stop too many times, so when I spotted this market I took it from our moving vehicle.

Markets are an important part of life in rural Uganda and I wanted to record what some of real life looks like in that part of the world.

I took this with my Nikon D7000 at 20 mm (cropped), iso 1600, f 6.3, 1/1000 sec.

## September 2016 First Place Journalism Print

I spent the month of Feb 2016 traveling in China with Oliver Klink. One of our goals was to visit several ancient Chinese villages to observe and photograph how the residents of these villages celebrate Chinese New Year.

Chinese New Year is one of the most important social and economic holidays in China. Originally tied to the lunar-solar Chinese calendar it is celebrated during the month of February. The holiday was a time to honor household and heavenly deities as well as ancestors. It was also a time to return to their home villages to celebrate with their family. There are grand activities planned around dancing, music, and food with everyone wearing traditional Maio minority costumes.

My photo was taken during a New Year’s celebration at the ancient Chinese village of Gaowu Miao on Feb 12, 2016 at 2pm. One local villager was very helpful. They invited me into their home and up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor balcony so that I could get clear photographs of the celebration. I was hand holding my Nikon D810 with a 24-70mm f/2.8 lens. The camera settings were: ISO 800, aperture of f/7.1 and a shutter speed of 1/800 of a sec. This image was processed in Photoshop Lightroom CC 2016. No special processing was required.



*Gaowu Miao an Ancient Chinese Village  
Celebrating New Years*  
John Perry

## September 2016 First Place Pictorial/Color Digital Projected Image - Basic



*Exhilaration*  
Larry Shapiro

Camera: Nikon D300 with 80-200mm f/2.8 (at 200mm) Nikon lens, Nikon SB 800 flash.

The pinwheel image was done in my studio (AKA garage). I placed the pinwheels in front of a black background and in floral foam (also called Oasis) to keep them upright and in the position I wanted them to be in. I lit the scene with natural light coming from the left and placed a strobe to the right of the camera. I metered the scene and found that an exposure without the flash was 1/3 sec at f/8. I then started to add in the flash. I would stand to the side of the pinwheels with a cable release in hand and blow on them to get them moving and then trip the shutter.

I ran a series of exposures increasing the shutter speed and changing the power of the flash till I got what I wanted. The initial exposure at 1/3 of a second plus flash gave too much motion blur but changing to 1/13 allowed the flash to stop the pinwheel and the slow shutter speed allow for the motion effect. The final exposure was 1/13 sec at f/11. How hard you blow on the pinwheels also is a variable. This technique is called dragging the shutter.

## September 2016 First Place Pictorial/Color Digital Projected Image - Advanced

*Famous Amei Tea House in Taiwan*  
Ling-Kuo Lee

This image was taken at a famous small town in Northern Taiwan named Jiufen Old Street. Jiufen was a quiet village until gold was discovered in the early 1900s. But it became a deserted town again when gold was depleted and the mining works stopped in the 1970s. It wasn't until the movie *A City Of Sadness* was filmed there in the 1990s that the town was revived once again. The film, having won an honorable award, charmed many around the world and almost instantly turned Jiufen into a must-see tourist attraction!

The Amei Tea House is located at the highest part of the mountain. Its strong Japanese architectural style makes it very eye-catching. It is rumored that the in-line windowsills, which enable light sources to dance within the teahouse, also inspired the acclaimed animated film "Spirited Away" by Hayao Mizazak.

I visited Jiufen when I returned to Taiwan in February 2016 for Chinese New Year. Unfortunately, there was heavy rain the day I visited Jiufen. However, this gave me a chance to photograph the famous Amei Tea House in a way that is very different from other photos. Since it was pouring and I didn't want my camera soaked in water, I used a point-and-shoot camera instead of using my regular DSLR camera. I was standing on a higher level of the steep staircase in front of the teahouse. There were people constantly passing by me on the stairs. When I saw a



person carrying an orange umbrella, I waited until that person was in front the teahouse before taking the shot. I felt the bright color of the umbrella would create more impact in the image, especially next to the big red Amei Tea House sign.

## September 2016 First Place Monochrome Digital Projected Image



*Gently Leaving*  
Susan Dinga

Have you ever had one of those days where you've thrown up your hands and said, "the heck with everything, I want to shoot something!?" Sitting on the kitchen table these lovely tulips were fading and petals falling and - viola! - there was the subject! While the color was lovely and I liked the original shot, it didn't satisfy my creative urge so I started to play with the image.

This was one of several iterations, all of which I like, all of which have a different feel to them and captured what I was envisioning for each. I played with filters in Photoshop and with the presets in Silver Effects Pro. In addition to this one, these were some of the other results.

The one in color is the original. The dramatic one is Solarized. The other one here has the "find edges filter" applied in PS. The winning image started with one of the Silver Effects pre-sets and I adjusted until I got what I wanted.

This was taken indoors: Canon 7D, Lens - 15-85 at 50mm, ISO 200, f-14, 2 sec. On a tripod, of course!



## September 2016 First Place Journalism Digital Projected Image - Basic

*Seattle Street Scene*  
Kent Bossange

This street scene is about a block from the entrance to the Pike Place Market, a well-known tourist spot in Seattle. I took two pictures, this one, and another showing more of the setting - a local Starbucks, the Pikes Peak sign and other "characters", but decided to use this one as it offers a better facial expression and a sense of movement.



## 2016 Member Programs

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Our club usually has a program night each year where members can put together a short show. This provides the opportunity to share a subject of interest to the photographer. Below are program title, an image, and a short paragraph on most of the shows that were presented on Monday September 19, 2015. Thanks to everyone who participated this year. Start thinking about the subject for your show next year!



### **Mercury Freedom - *California Wildlife from Monterey Bay to Mono Lake***

I will be sharing wildlife images – most from Monterey Bay, Moss Landing/Elkhorn Slough, Ano Nuevo & Lexington Reservoir – plus a few more.

### **Jeff Balfus - *Los Gatos Car Guys***

A brief slideshow of the cars shown at one of the monthly meeting of the car club. It's just like the camera club but with more expensive gear. It offers great photo opportunities. Meeting are held on the first Saturday of the month at Aldo's Restaurant parking lot Vasona Station. Located at Winchester and Pollard road intersection. On the technical side the images were shot with Sony A7m2 using a 18-240 mm zoom, Nikon 105 and Samyong 8 mm. The slide was made on Fotomagico. Posted to youtube as a video.



### **Ari Strod - *Pictures of Norway***

Pictures describing a trip to Copenhagen, Denmark and subsequent cruise north along the coast of Norway,

### **John Perry - *Photographing Cactus Flowers***

I will be talking about the technical camera and lens set ups for macro photos of cactus. How to compose the macro photos. I took a course at the "Tucson Desert Museum" from Professor John Schaefer president emeritus of University of Arizona to learn his technique. Finally I will talk about how my cactus photos ended up in the Tucson Medical Centers palliative care rooms.





### **Dick Stuart - *An Experiment in IR Photography***

Many years ago I took IR images with a dark filter (R72 I think) but the procedure was awkward and slow. So about 2 years ago when I spotted a point and shoot Canon G2 that had been converted for IR for sale on eBay, I bought it (\$150). I haven't done much shooting with it but recently I started taking it with me every time I go out shooting, just in case.

I am trying to find the scenes and conditions where IR photos can improve the results. A good example was a morning at Henry Cowell Redwood Park where the fog was at tree-top level and a good color shot turned out muddled and dull. The included image was taken at the Japanese Park in Hayward on a sunny day and I felt the rendering of the water and reflections was interesting.

### **Larry Rosier - *Denali National Park***

Denali National Park and Preserve is a national park and preserve located in Interior Alaska, centered on Denali, the highest mountain in North America. The park and contiguous preserve encompass more than six million acres. The summit elevation of Denali is 20,310 feet. At some 18,000 feet, the base-to-peak rise is the largest of any mountain situated entirely above sea level.



The images shown in this presentation were taken on a four day Lindblad/National Geographic expedition. They include landscape and wildlife shots along the 92 mile park road.



### **Larry Shapiro - *Seeing Wide, Printing Big***

The panoramic format offers some unique opportunities and challenges. I will be discussing methods of capture, post-processing and output on an inkjet printer.

### **Bob Downs - *Video of Hibiscus flowers***

My program is a collection of Hibiscus Flowers. I've taken a lot of these photos over several years and the flowers always look enticing to me when I have a camera.





**Serena Hartoog - *Pictures from Europe***

I went to Italy with GPPA in June, 2016 for 10 day photography trip. In July 2016 I went on a two-week River cruise to visit four different countries. This included the Netherlands, German, France, and Switzerland. I put the photos that I took during the tour.

**Tim Meadows - *Around The World in Five Minutes***

My presentation was a kaleidoscope compilation of images from some of my recent travels in Iceland, Antarctica, Norway, Spain, Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, Bhutan, Nepal and India. I threw a couple of shots of a not-so-international trip to the Smokey Mountains of North Carolina and Tennessee for balance.



**Jim Katzman - *Aurora Borealis***

My presentation started with a slide show of eight slides describing the reason we were up north to see the Aurora: we were on a Polar Bear safari north of Churchill Canada at Dymond Lake Lodge. The staff at the lodge had an “Aurora Watch” that would wake all interested parties if the Aurora appeared in the middle of the night. It did -- three times over the course of a week and I was prepared.

I had taken Rick Whitacre’s course in Star Photography and had the right lens, tripod, intervalometer, and batteries. I set up my camera and went back to sleep while my camera shot automatically for the next three and a half hours. I took the 800+ images and I put them into a time lapse movie lasting about three minutes and set it to music. That was the main part of my presentation.

My photos from this trip can be found here:

<https://goo.gl/photos/PD7XSnXes3T34jKN6>

The Time Lapse move can be found on YouTube here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6RxU9aNCUKI>

***Key Contacts***

<b>President</b> John Perry 408-370-7229	<b>Membership</b> Rachel Hunter 408-366-2944	<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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