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*Featured Cover by Tim Halloran
(see makers description on page 5)*

Notices and Coming Events

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

Next Competition -May 6th - zoom only

Submission Rules – Members may enter a maximum of two projected images. On months with prints a total of three images can be entered into a competition with a maximum of two images in any one category and a maximum of three printed images and a maximum of two projected images.

Our meeting judge for May will be Stephen Busch. He says “I was inspired by Eugene Atget, Robert Doisneau, Edward Weston, Imogen Cunningham, Ansel Adams, Yousuf Karsh, and Helmut Newton. I still love a good black and white image with rich tones and strong contrast” Website: <https://stephenbuschphotography.zenfolio.com/about>

Categories for May- Besides the monthly categories of monochrome and color – the two challenge categories will be Journalism and Nature projected

Journalism -

- Images with informative content and emotional impact
- Reflecting the human presence in our world.
- The journalistic (story-telling) value of the image should receive priority over pictorial quality.
- Images that misrepresent the truth, such as those from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography, are not eligible.
- The title should give the location and complement the story and is restricted to 200 characters including spaces in this category. . . . [MORE](#)

Nature entries

Nature photography records all branches of natural history except anthropology and archaeology. This includes all aspects of the physical world, both animate and inanimate, that have not been made or modified by humans.

- Nature images must convey the truth of the scene that was photographed. A well-informed person should be able to identify the subject of the image and be satisfied that it has been presented honestly and that no unethical practices have been used to control the subject or capture the image. Images that directly or indirectly show any human activity that threatens the life or welfare of a living organism are not allowed.
- The most important part of a Nature image is the nature story it tells. High technical standards are expected and the image must look natural.
- Objects created by humans, and evidence of human activity, are allowed in Nature images only when . . . [MORE](#)

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Print Competitions Schedule

Prints will be judged every other month along with projected. For 2024 prints will be judged in:

June - Journalism, Travel, Monochrome, Color

August - Nature, Creative, Color, Monochrome

October - Travel, Creative, Color, Monochrome

December - Journalism, Nature, Color, Monochrome

Special Interest Group Links below

(Click on any SIG title for detailed information)

[Special Interest Group - Seeing in Sixes](#)

[Special Interest Group in Monochrome Photography](#)

[Special Interest Group in Photoshop](#)

[Special Interest Group - Novice Only](#)

[Special Interest Group - Bird Photography](#)

Program night May 20 at 7:30pm, zoom virtual only

Becky Jaffe - Seeing Beyond “What Kind of Camera Did You Use”



Have you ever created a moving photograph only to have a fellow photographer ask what kind of gear you used? This talk shines a light on wonder as the primary instrument for art making and proposes that the practice of photography can wipe the dust spots from the most priceless lens we have: our innate capacity for awe.

You must register in advance in order to receive the zoom login for this program. You cannot view the program without registering. Please register soon: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/>

Hands-on Photo Editing Session with Debbie Sy - register to attend Tuesday, May 21st, 4-6 pm at the Saratoga Library. **How to Register:** - Log into the club website, Click on the event under “calendar” Questions, email [here](#)

April Competition Winners Tell Us How They Made It



◀ Located on Maine's Southern Coast, Pemaquid Point Lighthouse Is Featured on Maine's Official Quarter, Richard Ingles, Travel Projected

Located on Maine's Southern Coast, at 3115 Bristol Road, near New Harbor, ME, Pemaquid Point Lighthouse is a very attractive location for historians, travel junkies, and... oh yes, photographers. Our plan was to stop by this location when a full moon would be in the ideal position to be included in a photograph of the lighthouse, in a tidal pool reflection. The tide behaved, the moon did not. We had arrived in late afternoon, there was not much light left in that day, and the tide was coming in.

Pemaquid Point Light is the first lighthouse

in the nation that holds the distinction of its likeness depicted on American Currency (the Maine State quarter).

Recent storms have severely damaged the two red buildings. Larger building on left is fuel/storage building, the right hand building is for the fog bell. Image captured on October 13, 2019, at 6:04 pm. Using my Samsung Galaxy Active 8, lens at 35 mm equivalent of 26mm, 1/30 of a second, f/1.7, ISO 160

Comet 12P/Pons-Brooks over Owens Valley Radio Observatory's 40 Meter Dish, Rick Whitacre, Color Projected ▶

This photo was taken in October. This is a deepscape image of comet 12P collected while on a tracker and combined with an image of the radio dish during the blue hour. The position and relative size of the comet and dish are accurate. The dish was in constant motion so I was lucky to get a shot of it in the right position. None of the images of the dish later in the night were in the right direction.

The comet image was taken the following night at 500mm on a tracker

from Death Valley. I shrank it down to match the comet size and position from the previous night to give more detail in the comet while still preserving the relative size and position of the comet to the dish.

Sony A7IV on ZWO AM3 EQ tracker. Sony 200-600mm f/6.3 G at 100mm and 500mm at f/8. Lights and darks at ISO3200, 60s. Astro stack of comet composited with blue-hour image of the 40m dish in Photoshop. Shot planned with PlanIt Pro



April Competition Winners Tell Us How They Made It



◀ Two Blue Herons Begin Building a Nest, Sue Anawalt, Nature Projected

This photo was taken at the Seattle Lockes in Ballard. While I have seen many Blue Herons nesting in California, this was the first time I have ever seen over 60 nests, some being restored and others being newly made. Luckily the buds were not yet open on the trees and many nests are near the top. I, therefore, had a good shot on these two birds working so close together on their brand new nest.

My camera settings: ISO 1100 MM400 f13, 1/1600

Overthrow New York, Tim Meadows, Color Print ▶

Overthrow New York is a boxing club in lower Manhattan. We were wandering around NYU and ran across this intriguing street scene. Full of color and neon hues in the fading light of the early evening, this storefront and the two guys outside made for a great composition. The image was made from across the street from the club, bracing my camera against some scaffolding to steady it in the low light. Nikon z7, 24-200mm zoom lens. Considerable dodging and burning (to bring out details) was done and noise reduction was applied to achieve the final result. Did I mention the neon lights are hard to get to print correctly?



April Competition Winners Tell Us How They Made It



◀ After a successful hunt a pack of African Wild Dogs devour their kill, an impala, David Kirsh, Nature Print

On safari in Botswana we came across a pack of African Wild Dogs hunting an Impala. Our vehicle joined the chase and we followed as best we could, bouncing on the rough “roads” for at least a couple of miles. Our driver thought we had lost the chase, but using his skills he found the end of the chase. While we did not see the actual take-down, we were able to see the pack of Wild Dogs devour its prey. Kind of gruesome, but it’s nature.

Canon EOS 1D Mk IV, EF 70-200mm f2.8 IS II USM at 200mm, 1/60 f2.8 ISO 100

Winter Moonrise, Yosemite National Park, Tim Halloran, Monochrome Print ▶

This image was taken from Tunnel view in Yosemite. I was in Yosemite for the Out of Yosemite conference, just at the start of the pandemic. After much experimentation, I found I had to blend two images in Photo Shop to get details in both the moon and the dark areas. Trying to edit a single exposure left me with either muddy blacks or poor detail in the moon. Trying to blend with HDR in Lightroom seemed to give undesirable artifacts around the trees on the horizon. The camera was a Nikon D850 with a Nikon 70–200 mm, F/4 lens at f/8, 185 mm focal length, ISO 200, tripod. The image I used for the moon was 1/160 second and the image for everything else was 1/20 second.



Granite Companion, Tim Aston, Monochrome Projected ▶

The Sierra was hit with a series of small storms, so I stopped by the Yosemite Valley in the hopes of clouds swirling around the granite. I do my best to find trees up on the cliffs that could work as subjects with a long lens, but this one doesn’t work with clear conditions. When looking at it later on a clear day the tree doesn’t stand out. A billowing cloud coming off of the granite this evening simplified the background perfectly. Sony A7R4 with Sony 200-600 at 600mm. 1/400sec, f/8, 200 ISO single image



April Second Place Competition Winners



Western romance. Gold Canyon, Arizona, Irina Nekrasova, Color Projected



Weed Ceremony. Western Grebes perform after the courtship dance to show commitment in San Jose, Kelly Zhang, Nature Projected.



Saratoga Synagogue - drone view, Chris Cassell, Monochrome Print



Elderly Lady Carries on Sri Lanka Family Laundry Business, Alan Levenson, Travel Projected



Mary Ave. Bridge, Jeff Balfus, Monochrome Projected



The introduction, David Kirsh, Color Print



Nesting Bald Eagle just south of Hwy 152 Near Hollister, Mercury Freedom, Nature Print

[All results and images from a competition can be seen on the website or by clicking here.](http://losgatos-saratogacameraclub.org)

Photographing People in their Environments

I hope to make this space a monthly feature offering insight to how a member thinks about their photography style and the sharing of tips. — Eric from member Pam Perkins

As an adventure traveler, my ability to step out of my comfort zone has been a guiding principle of my photography. Once I began using a camera, my view of the world shifted. My vision went beyond just seeing a beautiful landscape. I saw a world that is much more about the human condition in its myriad complexities. That's when I knew I wanted to take photographs of people in their environments.

I am not afraid to step into other peoples' worlds. Communicating with a friendly greeting and a warm smile puts people at ease and helps to establish a connection. I am also honest about wanting to take their photograph, and I'm seldom denied.

Expressing sincere interest in the people I meet and their culture is my way to show respect, which is essential to establishing trust. Respect and trust are necessary elements for my photographs to show people's humanity and give them a voice to tell their stories.

My tools have been my Sony full frame cameras until last year when I took a Leica camera for a test drive and never looked back. I almost never use a tripod because it conflicts with spontaneity. My favorite lens has always been a 24-70mm so I can be up close and personal.



I met this holy man, called a Sadhu, on the bank of the Ganges River. He obliged me when I asked to photograph him but his English was limited so our conversation was brief. "Photo? OK?" Haridwar, India.



I talked to this fruit seller at his stand located on the street. He was surprised but honored that as an American, I was visiting his country. Shiraz, Iran 2017



Above - These two men were amused when I asked if I could photograph their low overhead barber shop, Varanasi, India 2022



At left - When I saw these women in a wagon that was pulled by a tractor, I knew it was a fun photograph. They were very surprised when I jumped up and balanced myself on the wagon hitch to take the shot. They liked it even better when I showed them the picture. Gujarat, India, 2024

The Biggest Digital Camera on Earth

from ndtv.com/science by Nikhil Pandey

Scientists are about to peer into the universe's greatest mysteries with a powerful new tool: the Legacy Survey of Space and Time (LSST) camera. This behemoth boasts a record-breaking **3,200 megapixels** (Rick Whitacre has one on order), designed to capture unprecedented detail of the cosmos and shed light on elusive dark matter and dark energy.

Funded by the US Department of Energy's Office of Science, the LSST camera represents a significant leap in astronomical technology. Dark matter, despite influencing galaxies' rotations and comprising most of the universe's mass, remains invisible to current instruments. Dark energy, another theoretical entity, is believed to be accelerating the universe's expansion.

The LSST camera will be housed in the Vera C Rubin Observatory, currently under construction in a remote region of Chile. This prime location offers an unobstructed view of the southern sky.

This heavyweight champion of astronomy weighs a whopping 3 tonnes and boasts the highest resolution ever achieved for a space camera. Its three colossal lenses, the largest exceeding 5 feet in diameter, can capture razor-sharp images. With exposure times of 15 seconds and rapid lens switching, the LSST will efficiently survey vast swathes of the night sky.

Scientists can customize the camera's view by utilizing six specialized filters, allowing them to analyze various light spectrums, including near-infrared, ultraviolet, and visible light. This versatility will provide a comprehensive dataset for astronomers.

The camera's exceptional resolution is mind-boggling. It could capture a golf ball from a distance of 15 miles! Each image will encompass a celestial area seven times wider than the full moon.

This ambitious project is the culmination of two decades of dedicated effort. The LSST camera is expected to photograph billions of galaxies and celestial objects, generating the most extensive astronomical image database ever assembled.

Spearheaded by scientists at the Department of Energy's SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, the LSST camera is poised to revolutionize our understanding of the universe. With its unmatched capabilities, this scientific marvel promises to unveil the secrets lurking in the darkness of space.



Jacqueline Ramseyer Orrell/SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory

Iconic Photo Back Story



Image from Smithsonian <https://americanindian.si.edu/>

The Indian Congress occurred from August 4 to October 31, 1898 in Omaha, Nebraska, in conjunction with the Trans-Mississippi International Exposition. Occurring within a decade of the end of the Indian Wars, the Indian Congress was the largest gathering of American Indian tribes of its kind to that date. Over 500 members of 35 different tribes attended, including the Apache chief Geronimo, who was being held at Fort Sill as a United States prisoner of war.

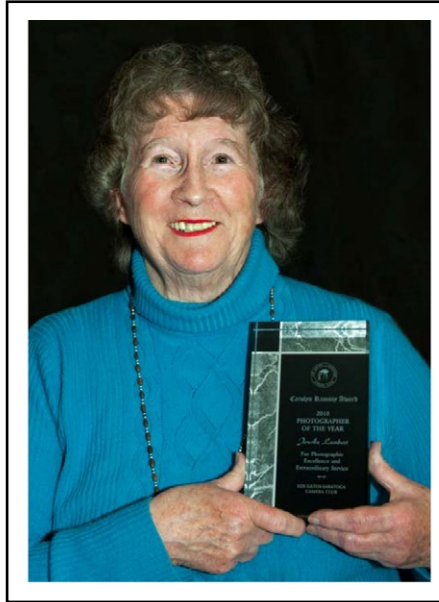
Story source - <https://www.pixstory.com/story/there-s-a-saga-in-her-eyes/36869>

Image above by - Rinehart, F. A. (Frank A.), 1898. Photographic portrait of Chiricahua Apache delegate Hattie Tom in traditional clothing. Photographed at the U.S. Indian Congress of the Trans-Mississippi/International Exposition in Omaha, Nebraska, 1898.

Frank A. Rinehart's photographs of the Indian Congress participants are regarded as one of the best photographic documentations of American Indian leaders around the start of the 20th century.

Hattie Tom - Real name Hettie Tom (Eneh), Chiricahua Apache, Daughter of Chiricahua Tom and his first wife, Coshey (Kose') born 1886, died 1901 of smallpox, along with husband Clement Nahgodleda, a student of Carlisle Indian School. Hettie pictured here at 13 years old.

In Memoriam



From member Airdrie Kincaid,

I am sad to announce that JoAn Lambert passed away last week at 93. She had a nice last day and was in the house with her kids, which is what she really wanted to happen.

JoAn was a world traveler and a member of the Los Gatos-Saratoga Camera Club for 36 years. In 2010 she won the Carolyn Ramsay Award at LGSCC (picture above).

She was active in a number of organizations including AAUW where the Armchair Adventure Travelers program was her inspiration and her passion. Several of our members have presented travel programs for that group.

Great Photography Articles

Fabulous Architectural Photographer- <https://gallery.1x.com/herbertafranke>

AI Editor Software - <https://www.photoroom.com/>

Minimalist Photography -<https://121clicks.com/inspirations/minimalist-photography-niko-lator>

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