



# the Galleon



## The Santa Maria Camera Club Newsletter April 2020

### President's Message

I hope you are all well and using some of your free time and home quarantine for photography or photo editing. I expect to see some amazing images when we can meet again.

I will just re-iterate the warning to keep 6 feet from others and wear a mask if you must go out of your home. The next 2 weeks are critical for stemming the increase of cases. It is quite chaotic in the emergency department because people are still having heart attacks and strokes and now we have added respiratory isolation for anyone with cough and fever. To care for these respiratory isolation patients, we must dress in mask, hat, gown, goggles, gloves. We are short many of these items and have been re-using N95 masks by covering them with a cheaper mask and discarding the cheap one and saving the N95 for another visit.

I am hopeful that we will finally have the 2-hour test, beginning this week, and can identify true Covid 19 cases early in-patient care. It is hard for me to believe that we have only had the tests which take 5 days to get a result. This means that the number of cases reported is 5 days behind and we cannot know when we see a respiratory isolation patient whether they really have the Covid 19 virus.

I am praying that by the time we publish the next Galleon, cases have peaked, and we can plan for our next meeting together.

Stay healthy,

**Cheryl**







## Editor's Message

What strange times we're living in. Sports, that normally unite and entertain us, have now become one venue that can destroy us. How often have we watched a movie and at the end we say, "It's only a movie". Most of you know that I'm from Italy and, during these difficult days, one of my closest friends said: "It's like being in a horror movie". The last time I spoke with my father he chillingly noted "It's like when I was a child during the middle of WWII and the only noises you heard were ambulances, police, and nothing else". What is happening around the world is starting to also affect us as a club - we can no longer hold meetings, are unsure of when we can restart, and the knowledge of this is completely out of our control. So why are we still putting out the Galleon? Because it's a way that every person in this club can feel connected to our special community and to not feel alone. What we can do in this moment is continue to support each other as friends and perhaps think of this as an opportunity to come up with new photo projects, develop ideas for trips and modifications to improve and streamline our club's function, while looking towards the time we can meet again. This moment needs to be a "real" moment where we better understand how lucky we are and how we need to protect and watch out for each other. Enjoy your time at home, consider this time a "pause" to appreciate our passion for photography, and so soon, we hope we can come together and share our experiences. Keep checking your email and I hope so soon you'll see a beautiful email that will say "Our club meeting will be held at ...".

**Flavio**

## No Program Meeting or Competition in April!

The Santa Maria Camera Club will not be meeting in April, due to the Covid-19 virus, the need for social distancing, and to shelter in place. Possibly things will improve by May, but we will err on the side of caution. Meanwhile, we have the Galleon and the club website [www.santamariacameraclub.org](http://www.santamariacameraclub.org).

In lieu of a program meeting, I considered coming up with some kind of online activity, such as watching a YouTube video and then commenting by email. I decided it would be better to just encourage members to find something on their own, as there are thousands of photo videos on the web, with great and useful information. Additionally, there are many paid online courses offered by learning websites such as [lynda.com](http://lynda.com), [skillshare.com](http://skillshare.com), and a new one I just joined called [macprovideo.com](http://macprovideo.com). This could be a time to do some "woodshedding", hone up on some skills, try something new, and keep busy learning the craft.

Also, please write a small paragraph or two for the Galleon or send some photos to Flavio so we can hear from each other, especially if our current circumstances extend into May. Our club and friendship is stronger than the Corona Virus, so let's keep together and meet as best we can. This is a challenging time, and we will get through it.

When we do meet together in person, let's have a Show & Tell about what we worked on during these unusual days. Stay healthy,

**Alan**

## Cloud Based Virtual Meetings -

With the current guidelines for Social Distancing with an unknown duration, we have been forced to cancel our meetings. Large numbers of businesses are operating using remote tools available for the internet. I have reviewed several of them and tested Zoom. Using Zoom you can video chat, text chat, display screen shots, upload files to attendees. The application is Browser based, no software required to join an organized chat. There are also more feature rich applications for Windows, Apple, Android, iPhone, Unix platforms. Their basic service is free and support up to 50 simultaneous connections, each session limited to 40 minutes (this can be easily circumvented by simply reconnecting to the meeting.) Whoever starts the chat session must have an account and install the app on their host computer. The host invites via email attendees with a date, time, and a session internet link. Clicking the link opens your browser and connects you to the session. No login required. During the sessions you can mute your microphone and turn off your camera as you see fit. Your computer will require a camera and microphone to fully participate. Tablet's and cellphones usually already have these built in. However, you will be using cellular data without a Wi-Fi connection. The phone apps are more feature limited. I visualize using Zoom to conduct Program Meetings. We can talk, make presentations, show videos, photos, etc. We can share files.

I also believe this is an excellent educational tool, where a topic expert can show all interested parties how to accomplish tasks, use tools and features in Photoshop, Bridge, Lightroom, etc. Regarding competitions, we could use this for remote judging. All images would have to be submitted digitally, I would recommend only 2 categories Color/Monochrome and limit participation to 2 images each competition. Whether we can recruit judges to do this I don't know. We could alternately have 3 anonymous members judge and average their scores. Food for thought as our options for continuing club operations are currently limited--

## Greg



Ed Powell





Elaine Calvert



Dian Thomsen



Greg Doudna



Jim McKinniss

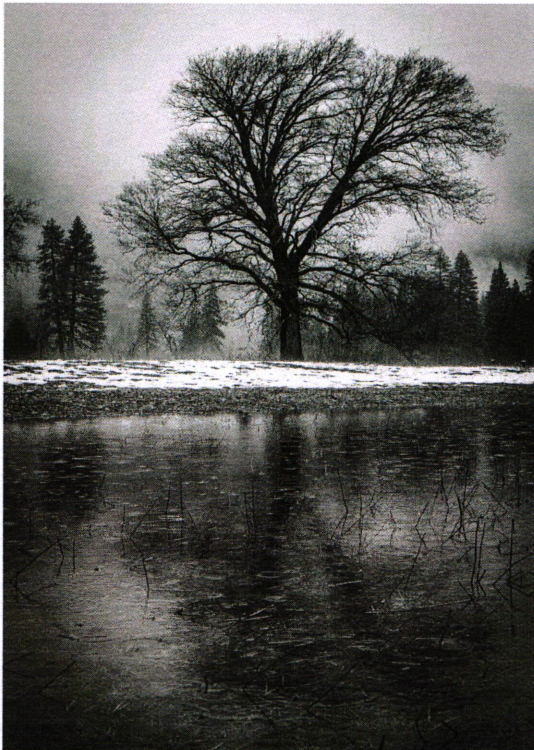




Ron Calvert



Jeannie Sparks



Penny Powell



## Points North and East for April 2020

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The super bloom of 2019 may not happen this year. But as of late March, a March Miracle might,

By mid-March, the wildflowers appearing at Shell Creek usually peak with extensive coverage and about a dozen colors and two dozen varieties. Usually the Baby Blue Eyes are mixed in the bouquet of Persian Carpet however in 2008 they got the opportunity to star as fields of blue. The Central Coast wildflower locations, Big Sur wildflowers locations, and vernal pools usually peak in March but sometimes do not peak until early April. Also, April is a good time to checkout Big Sur, The Stealth image. "Point Lobos Shoreline (SR167)", shows a special **Big Bur location**.

April use to take me to Mammoth Lakes via Kern River Canyon, Walker Pass, Upper Mojave, and Owens Valley. I will be looking for wildflowers in these areas. The wildflowers of the Mojave Desert often peak during April. This includes Alabama Hills, Haiwee Creek, Aberdeen, Fossil Falls and Red Hill. Also, this is a good time to check out the arches in the Alabama Hills area.

Depending on the snowpack at Mammoth, April is the best opportunity for "last snow" images. And through mid-June "last snow" and "ice breakup" may occur at June Lake Loop Lakes, Convict Lake, Mono Lake, Parker and Walker Lakes. Tioga Pass should open Memorial Day - Nature and the Park Service willing. The Park Service appears reluctant to open earlier but tries maybe too hard to open as soon as possible after Memorial Day weekend.

April is the best time to check out the many waterfalls and swimming holes at the lower elevations of the western sierra. This includes Bass Lake, Lewis Creek, Diana Pools, Rainbow Pools, and Foresta Falls.

Please provide additions, corrections and comments via e-mail, [jimogg@tcsn.net](mailto:jimogg@tcsn.net), and visit the website, [www.tcsn.net/ogg](http://www.tcsn.net/ogg). Text and Images are copyrighted by Jim Ogg. All rights reserved. Please see website for details.





**SMCC Field Trips for Spring 2020** by Penni Powell 805.363.1931  
penpowell2020@gmail.com

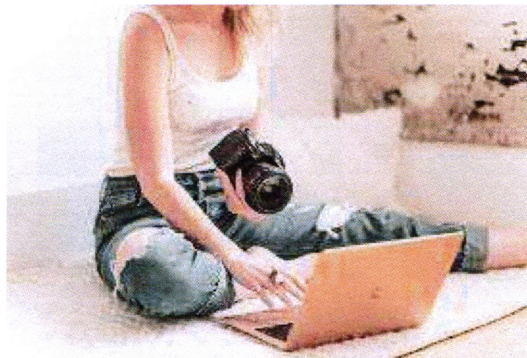
Please note: Rain or bad weather can cancel outdoor activities. Contact the leader if you are in doubt.

***Check your email for any updates.***

**April 1<sup>st</sup> (Wed 8am – 5pm) Virtual Field Trip, Your Choice!** If you have some time on your hands, take a solo journey via the internet to a far away destination. Imagine that you have your camera at the ready to capture the most fantastic photo ever!

**April 2<sup>nd</sup> (Thurs 8am – 5pm) Online Photo Challenge, Your Choice!** If you have some time on your hands, combine social distancing and photography by participating in an online photo challenge.

**All you need is a search engine and time. HAVE FUN!**



**Why Go? Because we can't go anywhere else right now because we are sheltering in place or risking our lives as first responders...**

**Other monthly events:** Rosie is taking a break for a couple of months. *Thanks, Rosie!*

**and Beyond...**

**June 26th – Port San Luis Sunset Lighthouse Tour?**  
**July – Enjoy your summer**



## FOCUS ON CLUB MEMBERS

### Ed Powell

#### ***Why did you start, and why do you continue, to take pictures?***

I was twelve, traveling to Nebraska with my father. I had not been out of California before. I made photographs to “preserve the moments”: they were bad (the photographs not the moments). I like to think that my results have improved since then, I continue to enjoy the activity of photography and, sometimes, I enjoy the results.

#### ***Do you shoot color or BW?***

Both

#### ***The perfect subject for me is .....***

I look for the opportunities with strong graphic structure or situations that might evoke emotional or intellectual considerations. I am not particularly interested in making “McPhotos”. I make them often enough, but many of these “pretty pictures” are ultimately very boring. Such pictures, after the initial impact of big color or beautiful scenery, have nothing more to offer. I prefer something with substance and lasting.

#### ***The best photo I took was .....***

My favorites are the photographs that elicit the response that motivated me to make them. Many of my ideas don't get realized in the image. Some photos deliver the good by chance, my favorites, though, are the photographs that realize my deliberate intent. I like making photographs that reveal, inquire, or explain.

#### ***My next project (or idea or photo) is ....***

Two videos: Considerations of a photographer and one about my father.

#### ***One artist that inspires me is and why?***

I enjoy the work of some of the big names in photography. I am also impressed and enjoy the photographs of SMCC members. We have a good variety of photographic styles and treatment.

#### ***What do you like most about this club?***

Friendship and diversity of photography. Occasionally, someone will bring chocolate to the meeting.

### Alan Upshaw

#### ***Why did you start, and why do you continue, to take pictures?***

When I was a kid, I had a number of cheap Kodak Brownies. I mainly photographed trains and ships. When I was much older, my friend Bonnie Adams sold me a Pentax K1000, and I was hooked! My first digital camera was a Canon G2. I love photography because it helps me see more than immediately meets the eye. An added bonus, old photos bring back memories of people, places, and things.

#### ***Do you shoot Color or B&W?***

When I shot film, I mainly took color slides and shot B&W stills. With digital, I mainly shoot RAW, frequently converting to B&W. I have a slight red/green color deficiency with my eyesight, and slightly far-sighted.



**The perfect subject for me is:**

Something with lines and deep shadows. I like detail in shadows only when it is very pronounced. I'm a fan of chiaroscuro art.

**The best photo I took was:**

Don't know. I don't look at photography that way.

**My next project is:**

Probably another video, either by a slideshow of stills, or by shooting video. I recently started a YouTube site. It can be found by searching for **abugrfx** in the search box in YouTube. I like to create my own original soundtracks. I use digital audio programs and hardware synthesizers to create a score for my digital wallpaper.

**If I want to out for my best photo, I will go out alone, or with someone else because:**

Either works, as many opportunities occur in different situations.

**One artist that inspires me is, and why:**

I'm inspired by lots of different artists including the Florentine Masters, Andy Warhol, Salvador Dali, Rene Magritte, Cartier-Bresson, Robert Frank, Weegee, Man Ray, and many more. Two of my favorite photos are Paul Strand's "Wall Street" and Brassai's photo of Grand Central Station (which wasn't that original, since earlier people took a similar shot). I love historical photography, including Matthew Brady and O.Winston Link. It's all good!

**What do you like about this club?**

Lots. What a great group, and well worth the drive down from SLO.

### Quote of the month

What I love about photography is that once in a while, it allows me to be a child again

Uriel Valle





## USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLUB

<b>Meetings</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month at 7:00 pm
<b>Location</b>	Merrill Gardens Retirement Center 1350 N. Suey Rd Santa Maria, Ca Code at the gate # 8888
<b>Membership dues</b>	\$ 30 per person; \$ 45 Family; \$ 20 to participate in the competition meeting. All the due are per year
<b>2020 Club officers</b>	President: Cheryl Decker Vice President: Allan Upshaw Secretary Rosie Brancacio Treasurer: Bill Hood
<b>At-large Board Members</b>	Patty Blyte, Elaine Calvert, Nyla James, Tony Martindale, Flavio Parigi, Penni Powell
<b>2020 Competition Rules</b>	Each member may submit a maximum of 3 entries per competition in any combination of categories
<b>Categories will be:</b>	Small prints (9 x 13 max ) Monochrome Prints (Large Back) Color Prints (Large Back) Slide Digital
<b>2020 Special Subjects</b>	March – Night shots June – Intentional blur September - Reflections
<b>Submit your images for digital competition to:</b>	Greg Doudna gndoudna@gmail.com  Digital images can also be submitted on a flash drive or other media. All the digital images <u>MUST</u> be received no later than Wednesday at 6:45 pm the day of the competition. Images not received in time, will not be entered in the competition
<b>Galleon Director</b>	Flavio Parigi <a href="mailto:fparigi@aol.com">fparigi@aol.com</a>



## COMMITTEE CHAIRS & CLUB VOLUNTEERS

<b>Webmaster</b>	Greg Doudna
<b>Digital Projectionist</b>	Greg Doudna & Chuck Uebele
<b>Slide Projectionist</b>	Ed E. Powel
<b>SMCC Directory &amp; Calendar</b>	Rosie Brancacio
<b>Historian</b>	Nyla James
<b>Judge Recruitment</b>	Cheryl Decker
<b>Saturday Chat</b>	Jim McKinniss
<b>Point Tabulator</b>	Richard Russ
<b>Print Coordinators</b>	Flavio Parigi & Jim Snodgrass
<b>Slide Coordinator</b>	Elaine Calvert
<b>Image scoring</b>	Elaine Calvert, Ramona Cashmore, Penni Powell
<b>Program Recruitment</b>	Alan Upshaw
<b>Refreshment</b>	Joyce Bolivar
<b>PSA Representative</b>	Nyla Janes
<b>Library Coordinator</b>	Larry Decker
<b>Meeting room setup</b>	Everyone !!
<b>Membership recruitment</b>	Richard Russ
	Penni Powell, Bob Mihelic, Rosie Brancacio, Bonnie Adams, Alan Upshaw, Gred Doudna
<b>Field trips</b>	
<b>Name Tags</b>	Nyla James & Amaya Rangel

### Treasury Report

We have 44 members in our club

Our bank balance is \$ 2,209.18