



The Galleon

the Santa Maria Camera Club Newsletter July 2015



Affiliated since 1938

Meetings
1st & 3rd Wednesday
of the month
at 7:00 pm
(3rd Wednesday only
July & August)

Location:
Merrill Gardens
Retirement Center
1350 N. Suey Rd.
Santa Maria, CA

Membership Dues
\$25 Individual *or*
\$35 Family
\$15 year Competitions

2015 Club Officers

President

Nyla James

Vice President

Dave Clary

Secretary

Janice Darby

Treasurer

Bill Hood

At-Large

Board Members

Elaine Calvert

Penni Powell

Ramona Cashmore

Flavio Parigi

Lynda Snodgrass

Alan Upshaw

Galleon Editor

Alan Upshaw

abupshaw53@yahoo.com

Upcoming Events...

No Program Meeting in July or August...No Saturday Chat in July

July 15...Competition Open Category

July 16...Field Trip, *SB County Fair*, details page 3

July 29...SMCC Board Meeting, 6:30 pm

July 31...Field Trip - *Santa Maria by Moonlight*, details page 3

August 1...1st Saturday Chat Group, Francisco's, Santa Maria, 8:00 am

August 5...Pizza Party & Swap Meet, regular time & place

August 19...Competition Special Category, *Barns*

August 22, 23...Field Trip - *Thunder Over the Valley*, SM airport, details page 3

Pizza Party & Photography Gear Swap Meet Wednesday, August 5, 2015

As y'all know, we normally don't have program meetings in July and August. This time we have decided to be abnormal. There will be no program meeting in July, but on the first Wednesday in August, the fifth, we will have a PIZZA PARTY in lieu of any program. In addition, please bring anything photography related that you would like to sell, trade or give away ... cameras, flash, magazines, books, timers ... any of the oddball photography-related stuff you have hanging around and taking up space.

The club will provide the pizzas (2 of each of Costco's 3 kinds, one of which is vegetarian). Soft drinks will be provided. Nyla said she will bake and bring cookies. We don't want to organize a whole potluck, but if you want to bring something to share, feel free to do so.

We will meet at 7:00 pm at the regular room at Merrill Gardens. So have a snack beforehand if you wish, but save your appetite for pizza.

Our Prez suggested this, and the VP thought it was a great idea. It is entirely different from our normal routine and should be fun.

Dave Clary

Committee Chairs

Webmaster
Greg Doudna

Digital Projectionist
Glenn Bolivar

Slide Projectionist
Ed E. Powell

SMCC Directory
Rosie Brancacio

Saturday Morning Chat
Bob Ginn

Historian & Name-tags
Nyla James

Judge Recruitment
Ramona Cashmore

Point Tabulator
Bob Ginn

Print Coordinator
Flavio Parigi

Slide Coordinator
Elaine Calvert

Program Recruitment
Dave Clary

Publicity
Bob Ginn

Refreshments
Joyce Bolivar

P.S.A. Representative
Nyla James

Library Coordinator
Ramona Cashmore

Meeting Room Setup
Dalton Pittman

Sunshine Lady
Bonnie Adams

Field Trips
Penni Powell, Bob Mihelic,
Bob Ginn, Alan Upshaw
Bonnie Adams
Rosie Brancacio

Book Review

There are a lot of books out there dealing with all aspects of photography. Some are good, some are not worth the price, and some are truly useful. "How to Improve Your Photography" is one I have found to be very useful. It is written by Rob Sheppard, former editor of Outdoor Photography, and David D. Busch, a professional photographer and very productive author about photography. The two of them review photos submitted by members of a photo club, and then critique them and show how they might be improved, and print their concept of the improved photos along with the original ones. The originals are quite good, but they are made better. Somehow, this system really works well in demonstrating how you can improve your photography. I have almost finished reading the book now, and intend to read it again. It is a relatively recent publication and up-to-date on digital photography and post-processing.

By the way, I lied. The title is not, "How to Improve your Photography," but "Your Photos Stink ..." I ripped the front cover off (It is a paperback) and wrote the new name inside. As I am quite aware of my own limitations, I didn't feel comfortable with "Your Photos Stink..." hitting me in the face every time I picked up the book.

Dave Clary



Best Wishes for a safe & happy Independence Day...

SMCC Field Trips July 2015 and Beyond

Please note: Rain or bad weather can cancel outdoor activities. Contact the leader if you are in doubt. Check your email for any updates as the date of the event draws near.

Cancellations for July:

July 4th First Saturday Chat - This event will reconvene on August 1st.

July 24-25 Santa Paula Balloon Festival - Sorry, no festival this year.

July 16th (Thurs 6 pm-??) SB County Fair and Photography Competition Viewing- Meet at 6pm El Palenque Mexican Restaurant (715 S Broadway, SM) for dinner then scoot over to the fair to see the photo exhibit. Just in case of photo ops, have your camera ready! The main stage music is Martina McBride for those interested. Call Penni for info, 929-2420 or 363-1931 cell.

Fees: Parking \$5, Admission \$10 or \$1 for 62 yr+ (Senior Day), music is free.

Why go? - See what the local talent is up to and, if you entered, see your ribbons!

July 31th (Friday 7:30 pm-??) Santa Maria by Moonlight- Meet at 7:30pm at SM Towncenter West (by Falla's) at the foot of the pedestrian bridge by the trolley/bus stop. Sunset is at 8:05 and moonrise is at 8:17pm. We'll explore this area and perhaps check out the transit center off Miller Street. It will depend on the group's interests. If you'd like to meet for dinner beforehand, call me. Penni for info, 929-2420/363-1931 cell.

Be sure to have camera power, flashlight and a tripod for night photography.

Why go? - Experiment with street photography on a Summer's night.

Other July Ideas - Rosie B will have her July calendar out soon. I know of these:

July 18th - Bent Axles Car Show in Old Orcutt

July 18-19th - Central Coast Renaissance Festival, Laguna Lake, SLO. Ed and Penni Powell will be there both days so look us up (363-1931). www.ccrenfaire.com

July 25 - Arroyo Grande Car Sho

And Field Trips Beyond...

Aug 1st (Sat 8 am) First Saturday Chat Group - Meet at 8 am @ Francisco's Country Kitchen on North Broadway and Williams Street in Santa Maria, which is next to the Best Western Motel.

Aug 22-23rd (Sat-Sun) - Thunder Over the Valley Airshow, SM Airport



If you have an idea for a field trip, please let anyone in the field trip committee know about it:
Penni Powell, Bob Mihelic, Bob Ginn, Alan Upshaw, Rosie Brancacio, and Bonnie Adams
at your service!

Competition Special Assignments

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August 2015...
Barns

October 2015...
Fall Color

*

*Stay tuned for the
2016 Special Assignments !*

Competition Rules

3 entries per competition.

Categories of your choice not to
exceed (2) in any
combination of categories.

Categories will be:

Small Prints (9x13 max)

Monochrome Prints
(Large Back)

Color Prints (Large Back)

Slides

Digital

Submit your images for
digital competitions to
Glenn Bolivar...

glennabolivar@gmail.com

Images can also be submitted
on a flash drive, or other media.
Digital images MUST be received
no later than midnight on the
Sunday before the Competition.
Images not received in time will not
be entered into the competition.

June Competition Results

Judge: Daniel Dreifuss

Small Prints

1st Place *San Diego Skyscraper* **Janine Bognuda**

2nd Place *Lited Ball Reflected* **Ron Calvert**

3rd Place *Light Keepers Lens* **Elaine Calvert**

Monochrome Prints

1st Place *Power Lines* **Janice Darby**

2nd Place *Vancouver Bridge* **Ted Maddox**

3rd Place *Geometrics* **Richard Russ**

Large Prints

1st Place *Cuban Architecture* **Dave Clary**

2nd Place *Wasp Nest* **Janice Darby**

3rd Place *Rooms with a View* **Scott Clark**

HM *Bricks* **Richard Russ**

Digital

1st Place *Windows to Los Angeles* **Bob Ginn**

2nd Place *Inside Air Force Chapel* **Nyla James**

3rd Place *Sun and Medal* **Bob Ginn**

Slides

1st Place *Peephole, Sundial Bridge* **Penni Powell**

2nd Place *Pedestrian Bridge* **Alan Upshaw**

3rd Place *Crooked Staircase* **Penni Powell**

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

CARL ADAMS

Treasury Report

- The Club has a balance of \$1810.56
- There are currently 46 paid members.

About Clichés by Penni Powell

At the June competition meeting, our judge was heard to say, more than once, that the photograph he was critiquing was a cliché, and so he gave a lowered score. I recently read a series of postings about clichés in photography to a blog that I follow called "The Online Photographer." From the comments, I pulled this out YouTube link that you might find interesting.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ftDjebw8aA

"Vemödalen: The Fear That Everything Has Already Been Done" is the title of the video.

From **The Dictionary of Obscure Sorrows**:

vemödalen - n. the frustration of photographing something amazing when thousands of identical photos already exist—the same sunset, the same waterfall, the same curve of a hip, the same close-up of an eye—which can turn a unique subject into something hollow and pulpy and cheap, like a mass-produced piece of furniture you happen to have assembled yourself.

On a brighter note, is this comment, also from the blog: "I think that trying to avoid clichés is a waste of time and energy. Good pictures are good pictures regardless of technique, presentation or subject matter. It is better to try to be true and honest with oneself and the way we like our images without concern of what others might think of our work. Easier said than done."

Spicy Lentil & Rice Salad

1 (14 oz) pkg. of lentils
6 cups cooked brown rice
2 bell peppers (I used red and yellow)
5-7 Tblsp chopped pickled jalapeños (I used mild)
2 cups cilantro chopped
6 Tblsp salsa
8 cloves of garlic (minced)
2/3 cup oil (I used olive)
2/3 cup vinegar (apple or rice)
6 Tblsp sugar
3/4 cups low sodium soy sauce



Cook lentils until tender, but still firm. (Bring to boil in saucepan, turn off heat and let stand for 30 min. covered, drain)

Combine lentils, rice, peppers, jalapeños and cilantro.

Combine remaining ingredients into a dressing, and pour over lentil/rice mixture. Toss to coat, then chill. Best if made at least 8 hours in advance.

Enjoy!

Elaine Calvert

Points North and East For July 2015 by Jim Ogg

The summer started with the smallest snowpack ever measured but May was the wettest ever - five times normal!! Mammoth Lakes dealt with draught and flooding at the same time. If the wetter weather pattern continues, the summer wildflowers and fall color may be closer to normal.

July is the last of the High Sierra magic time and usually is the first month with full High Country access. Also July is usually the best month for Wildflowers. Although usually peaking in late June, the Upper Steppe Wildflowers may continue into early July. McGee Gardens probably will be passed its peak.

July is the month for the (Mixed Conifer) Forest Wildflowers. Look for them in the Emerald Lake, Heart Lake, TJ Lake, Arrowhead Lake, Coldwater Creek, Crystal Lake in the Mammoth Lakes area; DAFF Tarns area, Polly Dome Lake, Dana Meadows, Dog Lake, Elizabeth Lake, Tioga Tarns Loop, and other Tuolumne Meadows areas; and Horse Creek, Tamarack Bench, East Fork Rock Creek, Eastern Brook Lakes, Hilton Creek Lakes, Mine Creek, Lundy Canyon, and other Eastern Sierra locations. The Sealth image "Heart Lake Garden" (SR242) shows the southwest facing garden along the trail to Heart Lake. It is in a spectacular setting with the Mammoth Crest, Minarets and Mammoth Mountain. Certainly a midsummer rest seems appropriate. The "Heart Lake Garden" image is part of the Sealth body of work which are digital images of landscapes, scenics, and the human form and are based on locations in the Heart Lake, Mammoth Lakes Basin, Mammoth Lakes, Eastern Sierra, High Sierra and Central Coast of California.

The treeline Forest and Alpine Wildflowers appear to benefit more from normal snow pack than a deeper, later melting snow pack. The later melting snow pack gives a later start to the wildflowers in what is a very short growing season. Deer Tongue and Corn Lilies suffer in years of deep snow packs.

The Alpine Wildflowers usually peak in July or early August. Because the Alpine Wildflowers are usually well above 10,000 feet and the treeline, hiking is needed. Alpine Wildflowers can be found at Hidden Lakes, Secret Lakes, Treasure Lakes, Morgan Pass, Gem Lakes, Treasure Meadows, Ruby Lake, and other lakes and trails in Little Lakes Valley. Its trailhead, Mosquito Flat, is the highest in the Sierra.

Other Alpine Wildflower areas include Green Treble Lake, Chocolate Peak Loop, Mammoth Crest, Gardisky Lake, Great Sierra Mine, Gaylor- Granite Lakes Loop, Sky Meadows, and Virginia Lakes from trailheads at Tioga Pass, South Lake, North Lake, Coldwater Creek, Lake George, and Upper Virginia Lake.

Carson Pass Garden and Dana Hanging Garden, classic High Sierra Gardens, usually peak in July. Dana Hanging Garden is accessible on an unmarked trail starting at the Tioga Pass Entrance Station and leading to the top of Mount Dana. You don't have to go to the top. The Gardens are about one to one and a half miles from the trailhead and 300 to 600 feet above the trailhead.

Please provide additions, corrections and comments via e-mail, jimogg@tcsn.net, and visit the website, www.tcsn.net/ogg.



Film Shooters' Corner...

Do you scan film??? www.scantips.com

wanna Leica???... www.tamarkin.com

Some of the greats... www.masters-of-photography.com

**Heart Lake Garden
(SR242)**

The southwest facing garden along the trail to Heart Lake is in a spectacular setting with the Mammoth Crest, Minarets and Mammoth Mountain. Certainly a midsummer rest seems appropriate.

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*Nyla James'
2nd Place Digital Image
Inside Air Force Chapel...
from the
June 2015 Competition,
Special Subject...
Geometric Shapes*



Santa Maria Camera Club
P.O. Box 1605
Santa Maria, CA. 93456
santamariacameraclub.org
(click on the above link)



Have a Great Summer !

