



the Galleon

the Santa Maria Camera Club Newsletter June 2017



Affiliated since 1938

Meetings

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

Location

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

Membership Dues

\$25 Person; \$35 Family
\$15 year Competitions

2017 Club Officers

President

Dave Clary

Vice President

Alan Upshaw

Secretary

Rosie Brancacio

Treasurer

Bill Hood

At-Large

Board Members

Ramona Cashmore

Flavio Parigi

Ed E. Powell

Penni Powell

Richard Russ

Lynda Snodgrass

Immediate Past Pres.

Nyla James

Galleon Editor

Ramona Cashmore

mamacash85@gmail.com

Upcoming Events...

June 3... Saturday Morning Chat at Francisco's (see pg. 3)

June 3... Annual SMCC BBQ at Richard Russ' home, starting at 11:00 am

June 7... Program Meeting (see pg. 2 for more info)

June 17... Field Trip to San Juan Batista Mission (see pg. 6 for more info)

June 21... Competition Meeting - theme is "Patterns in Nature"

President's Message:

There are lots of activities that go on in our area this time of year, as the Central Coast is a popular escape from the major metropolitan areas and the hot interior valleys. Lots of car shows and other events. So there are many opportunities for photography ... and don't forget to take advantage of opportunities for street scene photo(s) (you can enter two) for the end-of-the year special competition.

Your prez has actually gone out and taken some photos recently. First with Tom Wahweotten, photographing yellow Mariposa Lilies (most likely *Calochortus clavatus*) in the wilds of my backyard. Then off to a local mini-rodeo-like event in New Cuyama, photographing sorting and team roping cattle. Then with Richard Russ and Greg Doudna, scouting out the Huasna Valley for Greg's Star photography workshop.

Of course, the big event was photographing one of my toes. I won't go into the details as to why, etc. Suffice it to say, it qualifies as a high-end photo experience (OK, maybe not). I used my MeFoto Q2 tripod reversing the center pole so I could attach the camera under the tripod, then the great (but pricey) Really Right Stuff macro focusing rail, and my Sony A7rII camera (42 good megapixels) with a Metabones adapter and the Canon Macro MP-E 65mm 1x to 5x macro lens. The latter can magnify an object so that the image on the chip is from one to five times it's actual size. 1.5x seemed to work best. The hardest part was getting the subject to hold still. I finally propped it up on a standard pink pearl eraser so I could get most of the toenail. The photos were better than my previous experiments with my iPhone 7s and then my 100 mm Canon Macro. Next time I'm going to see if I can do some focus stacking, if the darn toe will hold still.

Exciting photography is what we in the Santa Maria Camera Club offer to all members. My toe is exclusively mine, however. No poaching.

Hope to see you at the BBQ this Saturday June 3, 2017 at the Russ home.

Prez Dave

Program Meeting for June:

For June the whole Program Meeting will be Show & Tell. Spend 5 or 10 minutes showing the group something that you have, or are working on. Bring prints or digital images, matting supplies, cameras, photo books, macro lights, etc. Lead a discussion about a style of photography or a problem that you have encountered in a photo program. The idea is to share what we all know. Bring your toys. Anything goes! Don't be shy. Any questions, please contact me at abupshaw53@yahoo.com.

There will be no Program Meeting in July. For August 2 however, our normal Program Meeting night will be a Pizza Party/Swap Meet at our regular meeting place in Merrill Gardens, at 7pm. The next meeting where we have a program scheduled will be in September. Nyla will present a program that she will be presenting to PSA the following month.

Alan Upshaw

“Photography for me is not looking, it’s feeling. If you can’t feel what you’re looking at, then you’re never going to get others to feel anything when they look at your pictures.”

~ Don McCullin

Judge for June Competition Meeting:

This month our competition night has the theme of “Patterns in Nature.” Our judge, who last judged for us four years ago is Jenn Lawrence, who is a member of the San Luis Obispo Camera Club. She has served as a former past president to their club and will be next year’s upcoming president as well. Jenn is extremely busy and often not available but I’m very excited that she can judge for us again this month. She is self-taught in photography but has had a camera in her hands since she was a little girl. She has a wide range of shooting interests and because she has a love for design, she enjoys not only a beautiful photograph, but one that reveals an artistic quality as well, such as the techniques used and the editing processes done to create that image.

To see some of Jenn’s work and interests in photography, you can find her on Flickr at the following link: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/aikiuser/>. Oh, and when I asked her what “aiki” meant in her user name, she said it’s a Japanese form of martial arts (Aikido), which means “the way of peace.” This is another of her interests and either she teaches, competes, or simply participates in it (I can’t remember which one).

So get your images ready for Patterns in Nature, and we’ll see you on June 21st!

Ramona Cashmore

Committee Chairs & Club Volunteers

Webmaster

Greg Doudna

Digital Projectionist

Richard Russ

Slide Projectionist

Ed E. Powell

SMCC Directory & Calendar

Rosie Brancacio

Historian

Nyla James

Judge Recruitment

Ramona Cashmore

Saturday Chat

Jim McKinniss

Points Tabulator

Richard Russ

Print Coordinators

Flavio Parigi & Jim Snodgrass

Slide Coordinator

Elaine Calvert

Image Scoring

Elaine Calvert

Lynda Snodgrass

Program Recruitment

Alan Upshaw

Refreshments

Joyce Bolivar

PSA Representative

Nyla James

Library Coordinator

Ramona Cashmore

Meeting Room Setup

Dalton Pittman

Sunshine Lady

Bonnie Adams

Field Trips

Penni Powell, Bob Mihelic

Rosie Brancacio, Bonnie Adams

Alan Upshaw

Name Tags

TBA

1st Saturday Chat

This Saturday, June 3, 2017 is our next breakfast chat, and even though we also have our Club BBQ that day, come on out for an early start to photography conversations!

Francisco's Country Kitchen

1701 N. Broadway, Santa Maria

Meeting time is 8:00 AM

The usual length is approximately 2 hours.

For a friendly critique of your work, bring no more than 4-5 small prints (8"x11") and a Sharpie for marking up your work.

If you have any questions or ideas for discussion, contact Jim McKinniss, the coordinator of this monthly get-together.

Clearing Up a Little Confusion:

Recently it was brought to my attention that there was some confusion as to how many images could be submitted for competition. One the years, various rules have been in place but the last one the editor recalled, was that a total of 3 images could be submitted with no more than 2 images per category. Apparently that rule was changed back in 2014 but never updated in the Galleon and as your editor, I was unaware of the change.

The new rule allows that each member may submit up to **3 images** per competition night, **in any combination of categories**. So the Galleon has now been updated to reflect that change and hopefully that clears things up a bit.

Ramona Cashmore



Treasury Report



The Club balance is \$2130.94. There are currently 49 paid members.

Competition Special Subjects



March 2017

Wildlife

June 2017

Patterns in Nature

September 2017

Bokeh or Blur



Competition Rules

Each member may submit a maximum of 3 entries per competition 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:

Richard Russ

rruss12@gmail.com

Images can also be submitted on a flash drive, or other media. Digital images **MUST** be received no later than Wednesday at **6:45pm** the day of Competition. Images not received in time will not be entered into the competition.

May Competition Results

Judge: Christine Lester-Deats

Monochrome Prints

1st	<i>My Cactus Garden</i>	Elaine Calvert
2nd	<i>Boat House</i>	Nyla James
3rd	<i>The Nude</i>	Robert Ginn

Small Prints

1st	<i>Brown Sugar</i>	Scott Clark
2nd	<i>The Little Red Fox</i>	Robert Ginn
3rd	<i>Inquisitive Warbler</i>	Elaine Calvert

Large Color Prints

1st	<i>Cormorant on Wood Plank</i>	Nyla James
2nd	<i>And Then There Was Light</i>	Janine Bognuda
3rd	<i>Performer in Black Feathered Mask</i>	Jim McKinniss
HM	<i>Avila Patterns</i>	Scott Clark

Digital

1st	<i>No Stopping the Peloton</i>	Scott Clark
2nd	<i>Zebras Along Hwy. 1</i>	Tom Wahweotten
3rd	<i>Tree Shadows</i>	Alan Upshaw
HM	<i>Sunset Shell Beach</i>	Tom Wahweotten

Slides

1st	<i>Ready to Hunt</i>	Flavio Parigi
2nd	<i>A Moment of Prayer</i>	Flavio Parigi
3rd	<i>Winter Stream</i>	Penni Powell

Check out page 5 for some of May's winning images. To see winning images from other competitions, check out the Club's website at:

santamariacameraclub.org



"Zebras Along Hwy. 1" ~ Tom Wahweotten



"Sunset Shell Beach" ~ Tom Wahweotten

"Tree Shadows" ~ Alan Upshaw



"No Stopping the Peloton" ~ Scott Clark



SMCC Field Trips June 2017 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.

June 17th (Sat 6:30 am) Annual Early Days in San Juan Bautista - This is a full-day trip to the San Juan Bautista Mission (N on 101 near Gilroy) for **Early Days** (see box below) and morning hours at the Mission. The drive takes about 3 hours. We'll take a break mid-way at the Gonzalez Mexican Bakery. Meet at Carl's Jr. in **Arroyo Grande @ 6:30 am**, by Kmart, Oak Park exit off 101(Northbound).

As usual, bring travel snacks, water, sunscreen, \$3 for entrance fee and lunch at a great Mexican Restaurant by the Mission. We will aim to leave San Juan Bautista by 3 pm to get you home in time for dinner!

Your leader is Penni Powell (929-2420 or 363-1931 cell out in the field) and Bob Mihelic. Bob will have an info sheet and sign-ups at the program meeting in June.

June 17 & 18 ~

Annual Early Days in San Juan!



11 am - 4 pm

Bring the family and enjoy a look at yesterday as costumed docents bring the past into the present. Meet the people of early California including cattle drivers, miners, mountain men, Civil War soldiers, pioneers, and Victorian ladies. See craft and cooking demonstrations. Drink an old-fashioned soda in the saloon.

Adults \$3.00, kids under 16 are free. Wagon rides and sodas are additional. For more information call (831) 623-4881.

Why go? - Photograph old mission architecture, then walk into the Wild West out in the Plaza!

Other June ideas: Check your email for Rosie B's June Calendar.

And Field Trips Beyond...

July 22 (Save the Date!) Astrophotography with Greg Doudna (location is a secret...)

The Field Trip committee welcomes any ideas or suggestions you may have for future outings.

Contact either:

Penni Powell, Bob Mihelic, Bonnie Adams, Alan Upshaw, or Rosie Brancacio

Points North and East for June 2017 ~ by Jim Ogg

2017 continues as a spectacular year for substantial rainfall. The Sierras are very concerned about avalanches and flooding. Mammoth Lakes Basin, Sonora Pass and Tioga Pass usually are open by Memorial Day weekend but not this year. Mammoth Lakes is still planning skiing until at least July 4th. Bodie did open late May. Also by late May breakup is usually finished, nearly all trailheads accessible, the upper Steppe wildflowers are blooming and Forest wildflowers are starting. The Irises in the Bishop area and the Desert Peach in the upper Steppe bloom late May or early June. Lower Steppe, Owens Valley and Mojave wildflowers are usually past their peak.

Mammoth can still have snow storms in June. These I call "last snow". Last snow is often much more photogenic than mid-winter snow. And with last snow, access is often better. Depending on access and snow level, McGee Canyon, Convict Lake, Little Lakes Valley, and Mammoth Lakes Basin are places to check for last snow.

With the opening of Tioga Pass, maybe late June or early July, access to Tuolumne Meadows is available from Mammoth. The initial interest is "High Water" at Cathedral Cascade, Upper Tuolumne River, Dana Fork, and Lyell Fork in the Tuolumne area. Also of interest are Minaret Falls and Rainbow Falls in the San Joaquin River Basin and Lundy Canyon Falls and Cascades.

Snow Plants provide bright red color in the drab ground following snow melt. I look for Snow Plants at Glacier Point, Yosemite Creek, and Devils Postpile. And Snow Plants can be found in the Sierra Forest, northeast of Oakhurst. In the El Portal area, the Matilija Poppies usually peak. These 4-7 inch white flowers on 4-8 foot stems are California's largest natives and among the most photogenic.

The Irises may fill meadows with masses of intense deep blue. The meadows of Mono Lake, Bridgeport and Bodie should happen in June and early July. Also the upper Steppe wildflowers should peak in June or early July. In some locations "gardens" can be found. These may have up to two dozen varieties and a dozen different colors. The gardens of McGee Canyon, Walker Creek-Parker Creek, Heart Lake, and Mono Lake Marina could be well worth visiting. Also Lee Vining Creek, Tioga Pass roadside, Parker Lake, Walker Lake, and Lundy Canyon, are places to checkout for Upper Steppe wildflowers although some hiking may be necessary. Those who went on the club's Eastern Sierra trip in 2005 should have fond memories of McGee Gardens and Lundy Canyon.

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

Sabrina Ice Cocoon (SR231)

In spring, ice breakup on Lake Sabrina sometimes form interesting shapes. And like the spring season, they appear to contain harbingers of dramatic metamorphoses.

The "Sabrina Ice Cocoon" 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 Lake Sabrina, Bishop Creek, Owens Valley, Eastern Sierra, High Sierra and Central Coast of California.



BOKEH AND/ OR BLUR

by Dave Clary

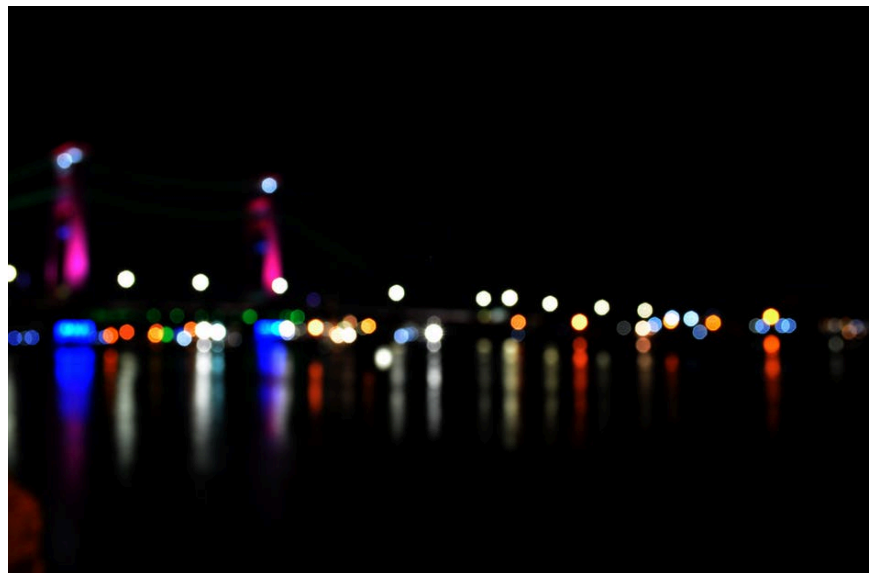
Our special topic for the September competition is “Bokeh or Blur.” Some members of the club have brought to my attention that there may be some confusion as to the difference between the two. There is some confusion as well as to whether the topic listed as voted on included the word, “bokeh” when we voted.

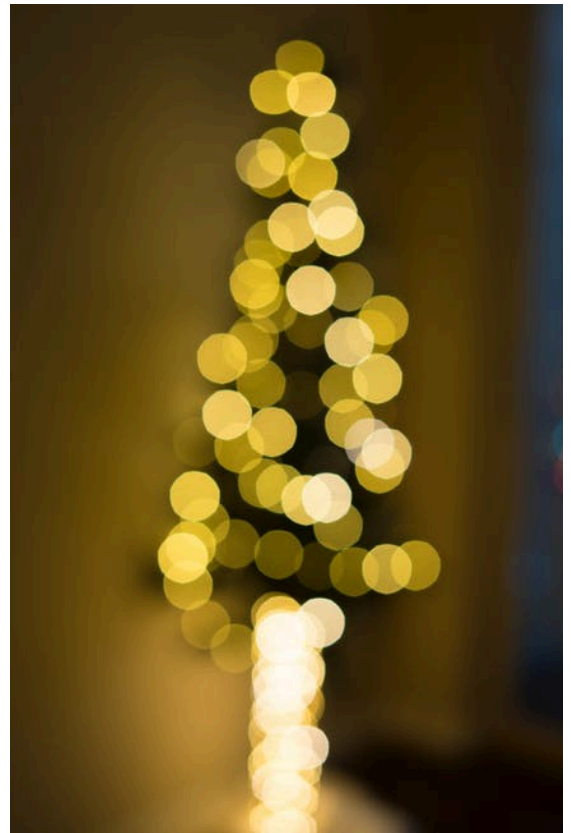
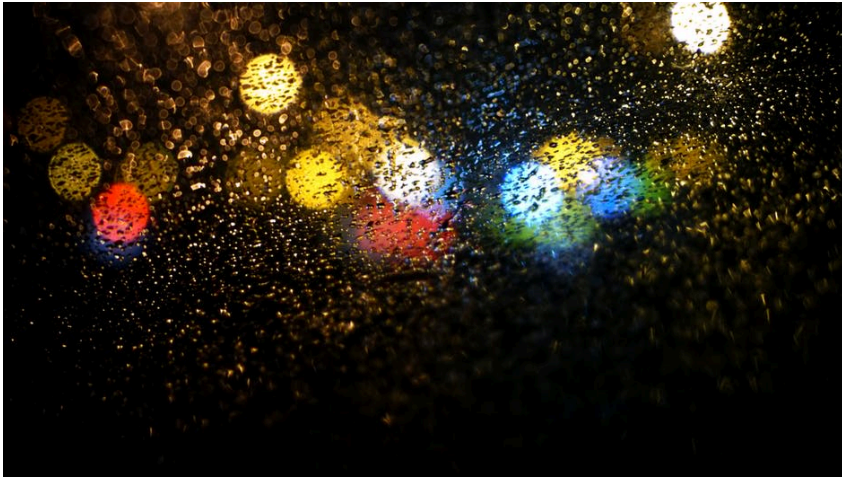
At least one person clearly recalls the phrase “Bokeh or Blur” being listed on the sheet of paper placed on the wall for us to put star markers on our choices when we voted. And it has been listed as a topic in each Galleon since then.

Since I am proposing a vote as to whether we want both terms or just blur as our topic in September, I think that will resolve that particular issue.

The distinction between the two is another issue though. Bokeh (pronounced, as I understand it either like “Bok uh” or “Bo kay,” the “o” being long as in “go.”), is a Japanese word that essentially means “blur” but that has come to mean a particular quality of blur which emphasizes a repetition of patterns often octagonal, but also possibly round in a blurry background. These are caused by certain lenses. Some, like my Sony Zeiss lenses are designed with entirely round irises at any f/stop to always produce round Bokeh elements. Some lenses do not produce this effect. This effect is easily illustrated with the following copyright-free photos. Also, you can see how we as photographers or our judge might not interpret this as a true blur, unless so informed in advance. I am sure that some of our members who are more experienced and expert than I am can help clarify this issue before our vote.

I hope to have a vote on this issue at our program meeting on June 7, 2017. Anyway, here are the examples of Bokeh:





Don't Forget our Annual BBQ

this Saturday, June 3rd from 11:00 am - ??
at Richard & Dawn Russ' home.

This is always a fun and relaxing event where we eat good food, enjoy one another's company, play games, and shoot the breeze!

Look for an email with directions to their home.
GOOGLE maps is incorrect.

SANTA MARIA CAMERA CLUB EXHIBIT AT THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FAIR

The club is going to have a display at the Santa Barbara County Fair again this year. Our board feels that this is good for us in many ways. It lets those in the photographic community of our area know that we exist, and it stimulates interest in joining our club.

Our thanks go to Jim and Lynda Snodgrass who will be working with prez Dave to put it together. We will need assistance here and there from other members as well.

The Fair opens Wednesday, July 12, and continues through Sunday, July 16, 2017. Our long-term friend of the club, Richard Giachetto, will be heading up the photo display at the Fair again this year. Richard is a lot of fun to work with, and handles the chaos of organizing the photo competition for the Fair with calm and humor.

We will need photos for the event. Last year we were able to display 11 photos. I would like that number again for this year, hopefully one per person (more if we are short). We find that the best size is basically a standard entry for Color large back or Monochrome large back ... a good sized photo firmly mounted on a 16 x 20 inch mat board. We are calling for volunteers to bring photos in their collections that they particularly like and want to show the general public. **Please bring your photos, or send them with another member to the competition meeting on June 21, 2017.** We won't be having a program meeting in July, so this will be the only chance to submit a photo. If you have a protective sleeve to put it/them in, that would be great (please write your name on the sleeve). We will retrieve them after the Fair and bring them to the next meeting for you to pick up. That would be the Wednesday after the Fair closes, July 19, 2017. Thanks, in advance, for helping out with this project.

Prez Dave

Tha, tha, that's all folks!