



the Galleon



The Santa Maria Camera Club Newsletter May 2024

President's Message

Hey y'all –

Hope you got some nice photos of the Solar Eclipse on April 8!

My husband Ken and I joined Penni and Ed Powell in Bandera, Texas hoping to see a total eclipse of the sun. The sun kept peeking out from behind the clouds as the eclipse began, but when it reached totality – those darn clouds totally covered the sun! Dagnabit! We still had fun watching the sky go dark, the birds getting confused and enjoying each other's company. And we celebrated with our dogs Little Bit and Eclipse, who was found on the day of the solar eclipse in 2017. The animal shelter named him, and we decided the name fit, although sometimes we call him Houdini or Dancer, because those names describe him, too!

This month is an enjoyable time to prepare photos to enter in the Santa Barbara County Fair in Santa Maria. Entries must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on June 1. This year is the first time the Fair is requiring photos to be submitted digitally at the time of entry to make sure entries are in the correct categories. The physical entries must be submitted on June 26 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. in the Convention Center.

Everyone is required to create a new online account this year even if they had one before. The Fair did not have all the information online when I talked to them but expected to have it posted early in May. The Fair will be held from July 10 to 14. I have asked if we could put up a display featuring our club. We will see what they say.

Our next board meeting will be Wednesday, May 8 at 7 p.m. via Webex. Our Spring Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, July 20 at Lake Marie Valley Club. More details to come. Please mark your calendar! Hope to see you May 1 for our Program Meeting at Merrill Gardens!

Jeannie

Photo from Solar Eclipse (and not of ...)



Vp message

SMCC Program Meeting May 1, 2024, Drone photography with Chuck Jennings & Dave Pabinquit.

We are lucky enough this month to have two guest speakers who will share their knowledge and passion of drone photography. A fantastic opportunity to get any drone related questions you may have answered. Chuck Jennings has been flying drones for several years now. He will bring three of his drones and will talk about how he got started with Dave, his learning process, and what he most appreciates about drone photography. Dave will talk about the different drone functions, availability, prices, and regulations. He is a licensed drone instructor and commercial drone pilot. He also does a lot of drone work with the Morro Bay Police Department. He has several drones of varied sizes and capabilities and will show us a variety of examples. After our presentation we will have a show & tell for anyone who would like to share some images

Elaine

APRIL COMPETITION RESULT

Judge: Libby Shipley

Digital Monochrome

1ST PLACE	Sea swing	Penny Powell
2ND PLACE	Window shopping patterns	Cheryl Decker
3RD PLACE	The trumpeter	Heidi Gruetzmacher
HONORABLE MENTION	Arriving at Yosemite	Flavio Parigi

Digital color

1ST PLACE	Sierra Newt	Greg Doudna
2ND PLACE	Living in the air show life	Jeanine Bognuda
3RD PLACE	Folded coast	Greg Doudna
HONORABLE MENTION	Bee and thistle	Cheryl Decker
HONORABLE MENTION	Sunset Brandon beach	Ron Calvert

Congratulation to everyone



By Greg Doudna



By Penny Powell



By Jeanine Bognuda



By Cheryl Decker



By Greg Doudna



By Heidi Gruetzmacher



By Cheryl Decker



By Flavio Parigi



By Ron Calvert

SMCC Field Trips for May 2024 and Beyond by Penni Powell

Please note: Bad weather can cancel outdoor activities. Contact the leader if you are in doubt. Check your email for any updates.

May 25th (Sat 8am – 1:30pm?) Best of the West Antique Equipment Show in Santa Margarita

Meet at Starbucks in Nipomo (581 W Tefft St by Miner's Hardware) and proceed to the event at the Santa Margarita Ranch. The show is open at 8am and feel free to meet up there, if you wish, just let me know.

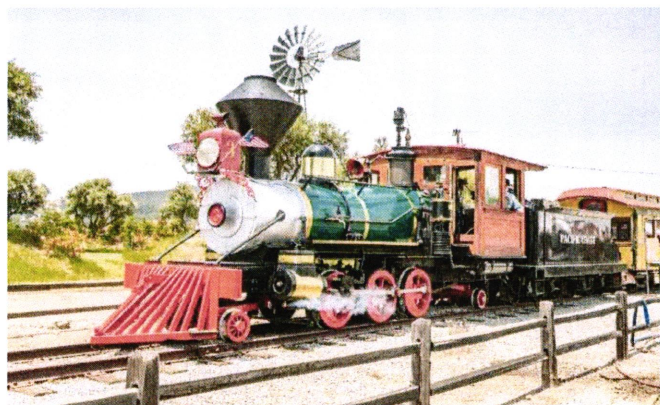


Photo By Rick Evans

Get an up-close and direct look at antique equipment, including tractors, engines, cars, steam trains, airplanes and much more. Hosted at the historic Santa Margarita Ranch, this unique event is fun for the whole family! Learn about manufacturing and operations of farm equipment; from modern-day tractors to 1800's steam engines. There is a tractor parade twice a day, and at 12 noon a salute to our armed forces with an airplane fly over. Do not forget to take a tour of the ranch aboard the authentic steam engine train, complete with passenger cars originally from Disneyland. Cost is \$15 per person to enter, and the train ride costs extra. Food is available and might be good for lunch! The tractor parade is at 10:30am and there are other activities going on until 5pm but I do not expect to stay after lunch... See more info at www.BestoftheWestShow.com

Why go? – Old stuff to photograph in a beautiful setting on a holiday weekend – YEP!

And Beyond...

June 15th (tentatively) – Hwy 166 Wandering – Condor Spotting and Wind Wolves Preserve

July 13th (pm) – Santa Rita Hills Lavender Festival (Lompoc)

August 11 (Sunday) Photography at the Preston Castle, Lone, CA. SEE FLYER FOR INFO

September – Volunteer to lead a field trip?

Got an idea? Contact Penni at penpowell2020@gmail.com

PRESTON CASTLE PHOTOGRAPHER'S DAY FIELD TRIP

August 10-12, 2024



Preston Castle in Lone, CA

Get ready to frame history through your lens and create images that will leave an impression. Calling all photographers and lovers of breathtaking landscapes! Join us for a captivating day of artistic exploration during our Photographers Day Event Tour at Preston Castle. This exclusive opportunity allows shutterbugs of all skill levels to capture the timeless beauty of this historic treasure. As the sun casts its gentle rays upon the castle's majestic façade, you will have unrestricted access to its unique architectural details, captivating textures, and picturesque surroundings. Whether you are drawn to the play of light and shadow or the hidden stories within each corner, this event is a photographer's dream come true. So, grab your camera, unleash your creativity, and join us for a day filled with inspired moments and unforgettable captures at Preston Castle.

Photo Day Times for August 11:

Session 1 2:30 – 4:30 PM

Session 2 4:45 – 6:45 PM

Session 3 7:00 – 9:00 PM (Sunset is at 8:03 on August 11)

Each session is limited to 40 participants. [Tickets available March 15](https://prestoncastle.org) prestoncastle.org

COST: A ticket is needed for each person participating including models, hair, make-up etc.

One session – \$40.00 Two consecutive sessions – \$70.00 All 3 sessions – \$100.00

Tripods and battery driven lighting are allowed. Preston Castle is a Drone-Free Zone. Please leave your drones at home. Nudity is prohibited. Photographers can roam the Preston Castle and grounds and have access to the non-restricted areas of the Castle on the first floor, second floor, basement, and grounds.

ABOUT THE FIELD TRIP Lone, CA is a little over 300 miles from Santa Maria in the Sierra foothills East of Stockton. We would stay overnight Aug 10 and 11 in Lone or Sutter Creek. Ed and I plan to book the last 2 sessions of the day (4:45-9pm), assuming the tickets are available when we try for them on **March 15th**. **We will have an organizational meeting in May to discuss lodging and transportation. Thanks, Penni**

USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLUB

Meetings

In May there will be a program meeting (May 1st) and the competition meeting (May 15)

Location

In May, the first meeting will be held at Merrill Garden Retirements Center at 1350 N. Suey Road, Santa Maria. The second meeting will be via Webex.

If you want to participate, *please send an email to* santamariacameraclub@gmail.com

Membership dues

\$ 35 per person; \$ 50 Family; \$ 30 to participate in the competition meeting. All the due are per year

2024 Club officers

President: Jeanne Sparks

Vice President: Elaine Calvert

Secretary: Frank Tromp

Treasurer: Alan Upshaw

At-large Board Members

Nyla James, Harold Litwiler, Jim McKinniss, Flavio Parigi, Penni Powell, Diane Thomsen

2024 Competition Rules

Each member may submit a maximum of 3 total image submissions in any category per competition.

Categories will be:

Digital Color, Digital Monochrome

Immediate Past president

Cheryl Decker

2024 Special Subjects

March – Patterns in nature

June – Abstractions

September – Weather

Submit your images for digital competition to:

All the digital images can only be submitted by email at this email address santamariacameraclub@gmail.com

All the digital images **MUST** be received no later than the Sunday prior to the Wednesday competition. Images not received in time, will not be entered in the competition

Galleon Director

Flavio Parigi fparigi@aol.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS & CLUB VOLUNTEERS

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

- "Image a word with no photography, one could only image"
— Berenice Abbott