

Bits & Pixels

February 2022

Volume 7, Number 4



P.O. Box 51154, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

www.padretrailscc.org

Pictorial #2 Reflections Winning Images — Group Blue



1st "Good Morning, Lockheed L12A Jr." *John Avera*

Throughout the year, a few of our competitions are directed toward a particular subject, technique, or effect. This direction often takes our members out of their comfort zones, and allows them to explore new ways of seeing. Our second Pictorial competition this year challenged members to capture the visually ambiguous magic of reflections within the general guidelines of our Pictorial submissions. No other restrictions were imposed and, as the winning images presented here and on pages 3 through 7 demonstrate, there are many ways to interpret the reflections that are all around us — something to reflect on.

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My Two Bits

February Is a Lovely Month

by Ken Jones

I think February is a lovely month. It slips in quietly after the noisy weeks of the holidays and the shock of learning to write a new year on checks and letters. December and January are busy months, full, even in these times, with rushing, anticipating, and sometimes worrying about all the things that need doing at the end of one year and the beginning of another. Thankfully, February provides a time for us to slow down and breathe normally again. It's fitting, then, that February contains a day set aside to recognize and celebrate the loves of our lives, Valentine's Day.

Forget for a moment that the celebration may have originated as a pagan festival. Let's focus on the meaning expressed about Valentine's Day by the English poet, *Geoffrey Chaucer*, in his 1375 poem, "Parliament of Fowles." Along the lines of the current thinking about Valentine's Day as a romantic celebration, Chaucer wrote: "For this was sent on Seynt Valentyne's day/ When every foul cometh there to choose his mate."

So this month, turn off the news, find the ones you love, and celebrate them. Happy Valentine's Day!

Take your lens cap off...

Ken



PTCC Is Getting Out More

by Charlie Gibson & Ken Jones

Good progress is being made on a calendar of exciting field activities for the Club this year. The dates and details of these group shoots are still being developed but here's what's coming up:

- A return visit to Wilder Ranch, north of Santa Cruz, organized by *Carol Silveira*. Rustic buildings, a variety of animals, old equipment, and a stunning stretch of coastline will make this a special photo day.
- In the spring, we'll visit Point Lobos, organized by *John Drum*. Nothing more need be said about this amazing place.
- Another return visit to Elkhorn Slough, organized by *Margret Cordts*. A flatboat tour will provide extraordinary photo opportunities.
- An excursion into beautiful Big Sur and the Village area, organized by *Karen Schofield*.
- The beautiful UCSC Arboretum, organized by *Charlie Gibson*.
- Photo coverage for the 2022 Pacific Grove Rotary Concours, coordinated by *Charlie Gibson*.

Congratulations and thank you to Charlie and the members listed here for their efforts in helping to make 2022 the year the group shoot comes back to life for PTCC.

Craig Mohr, Judge for Pictorial #2 Reflections Competition

Craig Mohr is an educator and photographer with over 30 years' experience shooting advertising, annual reports, catalogs, and portraits. His company, Catfish Farms Studio, has created imagery for Farmers Insurance Group, Fox Broadcasting, Allergan, City National Bank, The Walt Disney Company, K-Swiss, Vans, Sony Electronics, and Kenwood USA. His Annual Report Photography has been honored by AR 100, the Mead Paper Show, and Communication Arts magazine.

Craig has been teaching photography since 1985. Starting at UCLA Extension he taught studio lighting, photo art direction, composition, and digital photography. He currently teaches basic photography, studio lighting, portfolio development, and B&W printing at Santa Monica College where he's been an Associate Faculty member since 2001. Craig also teaches at the Julia Dean Photo Workshops. His current classes are Intro to Studio Lighting and Advanced Metering.



Pictorial #2 Reflections Winning Images *(Continued from page 1)*

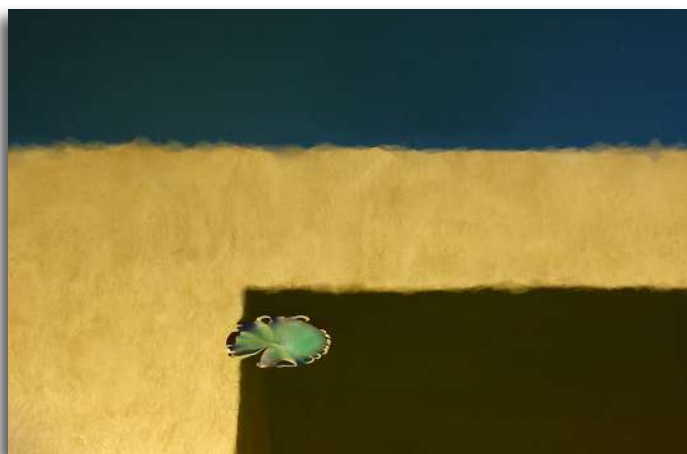
Group Blue



2nd "Morning Reflections on the Water" *Margret Cordts*



3rd (Tie) "Pink Lotus and Its Reflection on Water" *Margret Cordts*



3rd (Tie) "Lily Pond" *Jerry Heisel*

Pictorial #2 Reflections Winning Images

Group Blue



HM "Sunset at Asilomar State Beach"
Carol Silveira



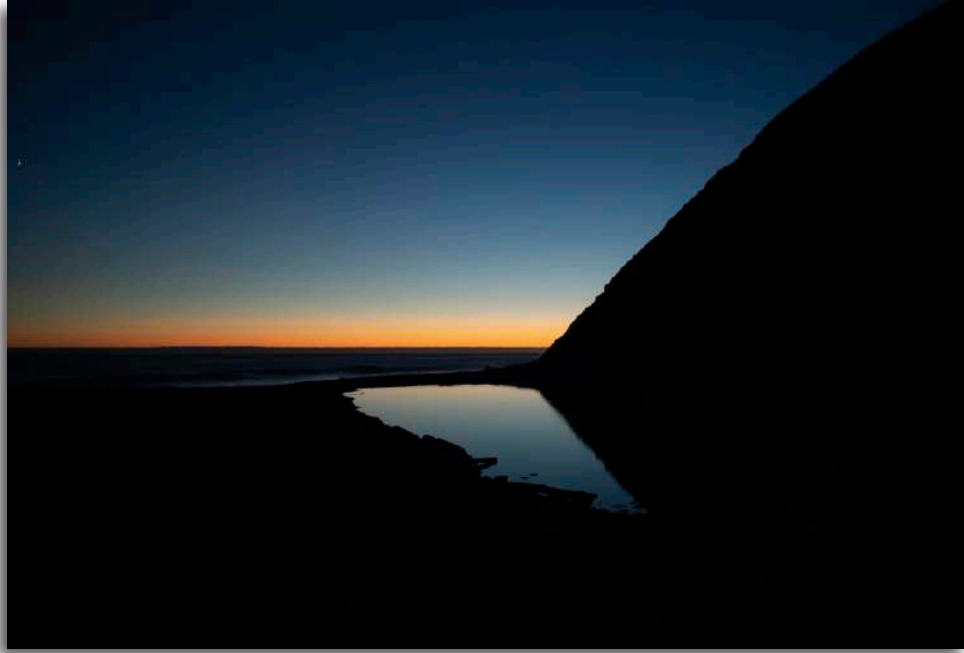
HM "Half Dome and Reflection in Winter's Grasp"
Jeff Hobbs



HM "Lesser Yellowlegs with Reflection, Kirby Park"
Kent Van Vudren

Pictorial #2 Reflections Winning Images

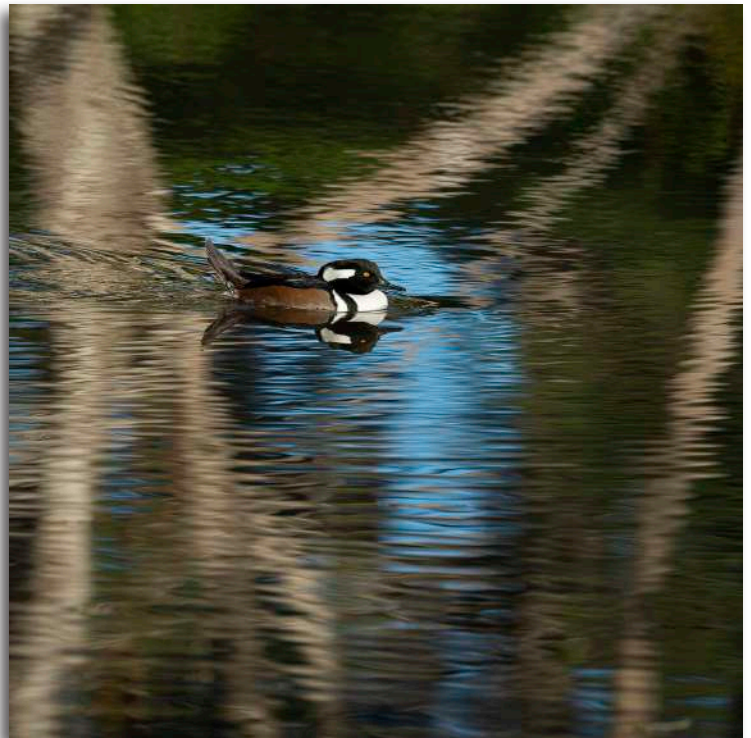
Group Green



1st "Quiet - Lost Coast, CA"
Sean Crawford



2nd "Mirror, Mirror on the Wall"
Bill Shewchuk



3rd "Hooded Merganser with Reflections in Lagunita Mirada"
Bill Brown

Pictorial #2 Reflections Winning Images

Group Green



HM "Snowy Egret Reflected in Laguna Grande"
Bill Brown



HM "Wishing"
Janet Azevedo



HM "Dew Drops on a Wild Onion"
Patricia McKean



HM "Cat & Mouse"
Andrea Madsen

Pictorial #2 Reflections Winning Images

Group Red



1st "Creatures Hiding in the Mirror Ball"
Brooks Leffler



2nd "Houseboat Reflections, Amsterdam" *Ken Jones*



3rd "Ready for the Taste-Testers"
Brooks Leffler



HM "Seeing Spheres —
Olafur Eliasson Sculptures"
Jared Ikeda



HM "Reflection in the Window"
Jared Ikeda



HM "Ballet Class"
Frank Penner

Meeting Recap & Preview

January & February

Our first January meeting featured a candid conversation with Monterey fine art photographer, *Tracy Valleau*. The subject was compelling as evidenced by the lively interchange among the almost 40 members present. Tracy openly discussed his approach to his art, and shared many of his most impactful images. There were many valuable take-aways from the evening. The universal connection between the art that expresses or invokes a common human experience and the viewer was high on the list. Thank you, Tracy, for your generosity, and for giving us a stimulating evening.

On January 19th, members and guests enjoyed the returns of our second Pictorial competition, one directed to capturing reflections. Our returning judge, *Craig Mohr*, once again provided in-depth and constructive comments and recommendations for improvement. Preceding the returns, we looked back to the Christmas spirit through a presentation of images from Monterey's Christmas in the Adobes, a casual shoot conceived by *Amy Sibiga*. See the opposing column for a small sample of the beauty of this event.

We'll begin February with a visit from award-winning fine art photographer, and former PTCC member, *Eduardo Fujii*. Eduardo's unique interpretations of the reality surrounding him sets his art apart. We're very excited to have Eduardo with us on February 2nd to share his work and artistic worldview. Read more about Eduardo at: <https://eduardofujii.photography/pages/about-us>.

On February 16th, we'll see the returns of our own fine art competition, judged by Tracy Valleau. It will be interesting to see how many of Tracy's insights find their way into the images submitted. This competition, as in years past, allows members to exercise their creative artistic expression.



Christmas in the Adobes

On December 10th and 11th, several PTCC members arranged to meet to experience and photograph this event. The idea was presented by PTCC member, *Amy Sibiga*. Here are three of the striking images taken during their visit.



"Flamenco Dancer Portrait" *Amy Sibiga*



"Pen and Paper" *Carol Fuesennich*



"House of Four Winds Dancers" *Karen Schofield*

Reflections and Projections

by Carol Fuessenich

As a new year begins I tend to reminisce about the past and all the things I did, didn't do, or didn't do well, and then project into the future — my chance to do better.



As I think about my photographic journey to this point, I realize that two things have helped bring me from a true novice (What's an f-stop? speed? exposure?) to an intermediate novice. I now know what an f-stop is as well as speed and exposure, but I am still learning how to use them to make the best pictures.

So, what has helped me? Padre Trails has been a big influence. I have never been hesitant about asking questions because the answers were always helpful. I've learned much from the judges' evaluations. I was made aware of places to photograph by going on group outings and by going out with individual members. Guest speakers have presented a wonderful variety of topics.

The other great influence has been my membership in PSA. Reading the journal each month is a pleasure. The topics are always interesting and current, and the pictures are awesome, great examples of what I might aspire to. I peruse the PSA website each month also to look at the monthly entries of many of the study groups and read the evaluations offered by other group members. What a great way to learn! I also enjoy checking out the activities of other clubs from around the world. I have attended PSA-sponsored conferences, national and regional, as well as speaker programs and workshops. I have also taken a class offered free of charge.

I now look ahead to 2022 and realize there is so much more to learn about processing a photograph. I will continue to be active in PTCC, and I would love to take advantage of more perks of being a PSA member. Hopefully, I'll have the time to join a study group or take another course.



Upcoming 2022 Submission Dates

All competition submissions are due by midnight.

- Sunday, January 30th: Fine Art (Open)
- Sunday, February 27th: Human Hand in Nature



Padre Trails Camera Club

Meetings: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 7:00PM - 9:00PM
via Zoom

All Officers and Activity Chairs can be reached via
email at: info@padretrailscc.org

Membership information can be found here:
www.padretrailscc.org/ptcc/ptccmembership.html

2021 - 2022 Officers

President - *Ken Jones*
Vice President - *Charlie Gibson*
Secretary - *Dick Light*
Treasurer - *Judi Clayton*

Activity Chairs

Awards & Hospitality - *Chris Johnson*
Competitions - *John Drum and Bill Brown*
Judge Coordination - *Joni Zabala*
Greeter - *Nicole Asselborn*
Media Relations - *Bill Brown*
Membership - *Chris Johnson*
Newsletter - *Amy Sibiga and Ken Jones*
Points Accounting - *Carol Fuessenich*
Star-rating Accounting - *Rick Verbanec*
Submission Review - *Bill Brown,*
Jared Ikeda, and Brooks Leffler
Website - *Jared Ikeda*



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