

Bits & Pixels

June 2022

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

www.padretrailsccl.org

Nature (Macro) Winning Images – Group Blue



1st "Pine Cone Bonnet Mushrooms" *John Avera*



2nd "Salted Yellow Dorid, Carmel Point" *Kent VanVuren*



3rd "Portrait of a Variegated Rose" *Carol Silveira*

There are many technical definitions of what makes a macro image, the simplest being it is the art of making tiny things look big. A more proper macro photography definition describes an image whose subject is reproduced to at least a 1:1 ratio, meaning that the image on the camera sensor is the same size, or larger, than the real-life subject. Macro photos can be of pretty much anything, but there are some classic genres that show off the art best: insects, mushrooms, and tiny flowers among them. The images presented in this newsletter represent the judge's determination of the best of the best from our members.

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Nature (Macro) Winning Images

Group Blue



HM "Ladybug in Pink" *Karen Schofield*



HM "New Zealand Tea Bush" *Dennis Giuffre*



HM "Fern Unfurling" *Margret Cordts*

My Two Bits On the Road Again

by Ken Jones

In June, Anne and I will be on the road again. Since I put myself on the no-fly list forty-two years ago, we'll be driving across country to be with our daughter and her family outside Philadelphia. Even though they've been to visit us once since the pandemic began, we've not ventured east to be with them. Our visit promises to be one big celebration featuring our oldest grandson's graduation from high school and our daughter's wedding. June is also an anniversary month for Anne and me, and a birthday month for our daughter. Sorry, we're out of cake.

In pre-pandemic days, we'd make the trip east almost every year, and if you've never driven from coast to coast, personally I think you've missed a great adventure. The gradual changes in landscape, food, people, weather, and general vibe encountered as you move from state to state helps you understand and appreciate your own specific situation more deeply, and to realize that each different location is "home" to all those who live there. I often hope that they're as happy in their homes as we are in ours.

The trip generally takes five or six days, depending on weather, route, and side trips. It also takes a strong marriage. That much time together, sealed in a confined space, is a test for sure, but it's one Anne and I have passed with flying colors, since our college days. When we were both at Northern Arizona University, we often drove together from Flagstaff to Orange County and back for holidays. We became accustomed to spending comfortable silent hours together across the desert in the car. These days, audiobooks and McDonald's cheap senior coffee make the hours pass smoothly.

On our way there and back, we'll be making stops at some National Parks we've not yet visited, and in some cases didn't even know about, such as Colorado's *Black Canyon of the Gunnison*, established as a National Park in 1999, and located near the junction of the Gunnison and Colorado rivers. Other stops, having more familiar names, are *Mesa Verde National Park*, also in Colorado, and *Great Basin National Park* in Nevada. I just may take a few pictures.

Take your lens cap off...

Ken



PTCC Member Is People's Choice at the Carmel Valley Garden Club Show

After a two-year, pandemic-driven hiatus, the Carmel Valley Garden Club (CVGC) held its 51st Annual Garden Show on April 30th - May 1st. A nature photography contest is a major part of the festivities, and this year, PTCC member and Nature Competition Chair, *John Drum*, took high honors. John's image, *Ospreys Sparring*, won first place, and was one of the prints sold during the show. His honeybee image received the coveted People's Choice award, and took 2nd place overall. Congratulations, John!



CVGC was founded in 1958 as a way for gardeners to share information and have a good time. The Club's primary fundraiser is its annual Garden Show, held in May. In addition to their competitive plant exhibits and silent auctions, the show includes a photo contest open to everyone. Entry is very reasonable, \$5 each for up

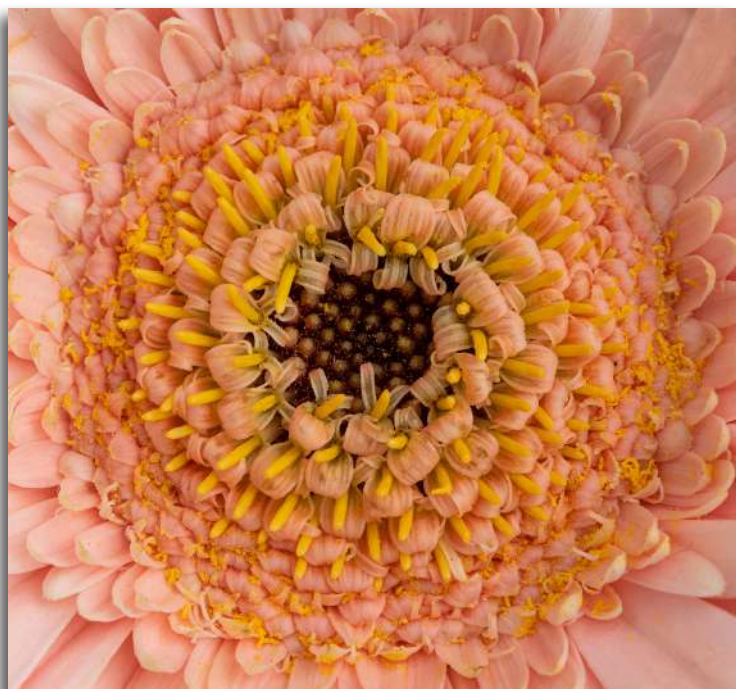
to four entries, all of which must have been taken in Monterey County. Even though it may be a small venue, coming home with the People's Choice award has to be satisfying. John has promised to let us know when this event comes around again.

Nature (Macro) Winning Images

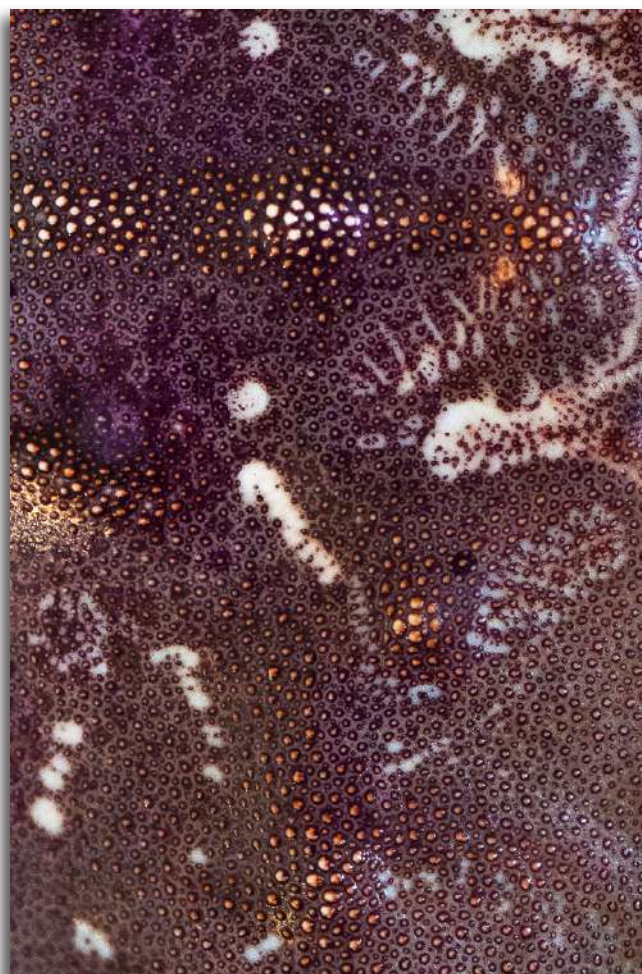
Group Green



1st "Fittonia verschaffeltii" Sean Crawford



2nd "Eye of the Daisy" Lillie Grossman



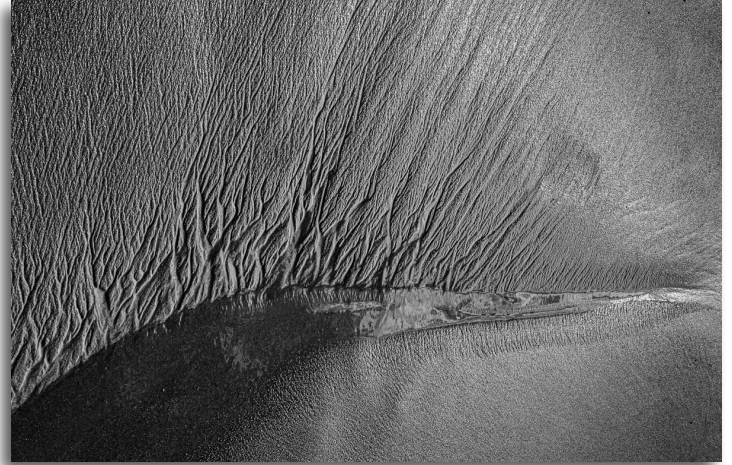
3rd "Beneath the Waves" Sean Crawford

Nature (Macro) Winning Images

Group Green



HM "California Poppy" *Lillie Grossman*



HM "Artwork by H₂O" *Janet Azevedo*



HM "Orb Weaver Spider" *Patricia McKean*

Meet A. Bender, Judge for Nature (Macro) Competition



Often the solo adventuress, Bender roams the globe exploring Earth's natural beauty. Published by leading names such as *Tamron* and *Outdoor Photographer*, her images have been featured in galleries from New York to Las Vegas, while her work as an international artist has been recognized from Japan to the U.K.

Bender is happiest in the field and passionate about sharing unique animals and environments from around the world in hopes of connecting people to the planet through imagery. She believes that connection is key to promoting environmental awareness and protecting vulnerable species and their habitats.

When she isn't leading tours or teaching classes, she publishes location guides and writes articles about her adventures which can be found on her website: <https://www.abenderphotography.com/>.

Meeting Recap & Preview

May & June

At our meeting on May 4th, members and guests enjoyed a presentation of images from the March 23rd UC Santa Cruz Arboretum & Botanic Garden group shoot. The shoot was organized by Club Vice President, *Charlie Gibson*. Participating members submitted their top ten captures from the day, and the show comprised over one hundred stunning images of hummingbirds, flowers, and other wildlife. Also on the 4th, we saw the beautifully produced video, again engineered by Charlie, of images taken by members at the *Rotary Club of Pacific Grove's* annual high school track meet. The wide range of subjects, expertly captured, aptly display the versatile talents of PTCC photographers.

On May 7th, fourteen members met at Point Lobos State Natural Reserve for a group shoot organized by Club Nature Competition Chair, *John Drum*. The participant's top ten images from that event are being compiled and will be presented at our first meeting in June.

The results of the Club's Nature (Macro) competition were presented at our meeting on May 18th. The winning images, selected by our judge, PTCC Pro Member *A. Bender*, are presented in this issue. Macro photography has been described as work producing an image whose very small subject is life-sized or larger in the camera. Simply stated, it's photographing something very small, and making it look big.

We'll have an Open Projector at our meeting on June 1st that will feature images from our recent group shoot at *Point Lobos State Natural Reserve*, as well as other offerings from members.

On June 15th, we'll see the returns of our Creative (Triptych) competition, judged by professional fine art photographer, *Eduardo Fujii*.



Upcoming 2022 Submission Dates

All competition submissions are due by midnight.

- Sunday, June 26th: Pictorial (Abandoned Places)
- Sunday, July 31st: Nature (Shorebirds)
- Sunday, August 28th: Travel

The Way We See It Avery Gallery Print Exhibit Approaches

July 16th to September 9th, 2022

Artists' Reception: July 22nd, 7:00PM - 8:00PM

Padre Trails has a history of successful print exhibitions. The Club mounted its first major print presentation in January of 2008 at the *Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History*. The show, *Monterey County, Naturally*, filled the large gallery at the museum and featured prints by members celebrating the natural beauty of Monterey County's wildlife and coastline. The exhibition was very successful and its timing coincided with the Club's sometimes painful transition to digital photography. It generated growth of membership, energy, and diversity of talent that continues today.

In April of 2014, the Club presented a portfolio exhibition entitled, *Photographic Perspectives: Individual Visions* at the *Pacific Grove Art Center*. It included the work of fifteen members who had developed portfolios exploring the essence of their chosen subject and the range of their own creativity.

The most recent large exhibition at the *Walter Lee Avery Art Gallery* in Seaside came with *Central Coast Style: The Constructed Environment* in May of 2017. The sixty-three-piece exhibit from twenty-eight members captured the way human-made structures have shaped the Central Coast's unique personality.

This July, Padre Trails will return to the Avery Gallery with, *Padre Trails Camera Club: The Way We See It*. This exhibit will be open themed to allow participating members to bring their unique voice, eye, and subject appreciation to the project. At present, sixty-seven images have been identified from seventeen members. More are expected as members refine their selections and commit to the show.

The wide-open range of subject, location, style, and size promises to create a vibrant and exciting photographic journey for gallery visitors.



A Section of Avery Gallery
(from their website)

Nature (Macro) Winning Images

Group Red



1st "Solitary Mushroom" Carol Fuessenich



2nd "Spring Tulip" Carol Fuessenich



3rd "Leucospermum" Dick Light



HM "Magenta Iris Bloom" Jared Ikeda



HM "Flesh Fly Sarcophoga" Christina Parsons



HM "Blue Iris" Jared Ikeda



Snapshot

Armchair Traveler Canadian Camera Clubs

by Carol Fuessenich

Among its wealth of information, the PSA website can also be a portal to camera clubs all over the world. I recently discovered three Canadian clubs that I thought you'd be interested in. The *Images Alberta Camera Club* (IACC) in Alberta, Canada, a province between British Columbia on the west coast and Saskatchewan, is a very active club. As we do, they meet twice a month and it seems they may have sent spies into Monterey, as their first meeting usually involves a guest speaker and the second is a competition night.



The IACC also offers a number of Special Interest Groups (SIG) for their members. These groups meet separately from the regular meetings and comprise a wide range of topics from abstracts to wildlife. The Club offers a new member showcase that they call the Up and Coming category. At the end of the year all new members can submit two images (one is open and the other is themed) that are incorporated into the year-end show.

The club's website, <https://www.imagesalberta.ca/>, includes club members' photographs, as well as their upcoming activities and events. The Images Alberta site may also be accessed through the official PSA site: <https://psa-photo.org/>. Go to Clubs/Councils and highlight Clubs Canada.

If you would like to peruse two other Canadian clubs first, try *Chinese Canadian Photographic Society* of Toronto at <https://ccpst.com/en/home-e/>. Even if you don't read Mandarin—the web site is written entirely in Chinese—you can still access all the photographs. Also visit the *Chung Ai Photographic Society* in the Greater Vancouver area. Visit their site at <http://www.chungai.ca/>. This site is presented in both English and Chinese.

Need an idea or just like to see what others are doing? On a day when you might not want to go out and take photos, grab your computer, take a seat, and travel the world on the PSA website.



Save the Date: Year-End Party

PTCC's FY 2022 Year-End party has been scheduled for Saturday, October 29th, 5:00PM - 9:00PM at the Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula, Carmel Valley Road.

Fine Art Photographer Robin Ward Our Special Guest on July 6th

Our special guest on July 6th will be fine art photographer, *Robin Ward*. Robin's art has been recognized by *International Color Awards* and *International Photography Awards*, and exhibited in numerous galleries and museums including *Art Intersection*, *Center for Photographic Art*, *Monterey Museum of Art*, and *Triton Museum of Art*. See Robin's work at: www.robinward.photography.



Padre Trails Camera Club

Meetings: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 7:00PM - 9:00PM
Currently 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 (Temp) - *Ken Jones*

Points Accounting - *Carol Fuessenich*

Star-rating Accounting - *Rick Verbanec*

Submission Review - *Bill Brown*,

Jared Ikeda, and *Brooks Leffler*

Website - *Jared Ikeda*



Member Club Since 1948

