Bits & Pixels

August 2022

Volume 7, Number 10



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

www.padretrailscc.org

Pictorial (B&W Abandoned Places) Winning Images — Group Red



1st "A Paneless Past" Sandie McCafferty



2nd "From Inside" Jared Ikeda

What becomes of a building when all of its people are gone? Club members offered images that captured scenes that could be described as portentous, spooky, beautiful, or serene. As you view the photos submitted to this B&W Pictorial, what words come to mind for you when seeing abandoned places?

See more winning photos inside for Groups Blue, Green, and Red.

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3rd "Ruins of a Taos Mud Hut" Brooks G. Leffler



HM "Not Much Left" Carol Fuessenich



HM "Stump BW" David Eisen



HM "Slowly the Forest Takes Back its Land" Carol Fuessenich

In the Spotlight: Kent Van Vuren

Photos by Kent Van Vuren, Text by Judi Clayton

adre Trails member Kent Van Vuren spent his professional career as an eighth grade teacher at Fairview Middle School in Gonzales. He came to the Monterey Peninsula because of the amazing variety of wildlife and photo opportunities. He met and married the beautiful "Yada," who is not only an art painter from Thailand but also "the best wife ever."



Kent Van Vuren

Kent first got interested in photography when he

was a student at Napa High School. He needed to select an elective class and thought that photography sounded fun. His instructor sent the class out on assignments (much like our monthly competitions). There he learned the basics of taking a good photo and how to process and print film images. After high school he abandoned photography until the era of digital photography. He now tends to shoot with a Canon 7D with a 100-400mm lens.

Kent specializes in birding and taking bird images. In fact, he was able to capture the first image of a nesting pyrrhuloxia in California. He is listed as having the third most separately identified species of birds (446) in Monterey County. Besides birds, Kent also likes to explore the interesting and abstract patterns found in macro photography, taking images from the air and capturing the many different species of wildlife here on the

Monterey Peninsula. One day, while photographing along a trail at *Point Lobos State Natural Reserve*, he came upon a bobcat walking toward him. Both were surprised and fortunately he had his camera ready to shoot.

Kent joined Padre Trails around 2018 after doing an internet search for camera clubs in the area.



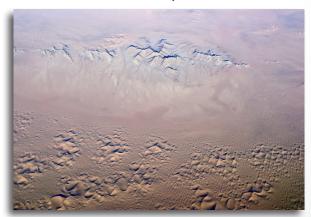
"Chestnut-sided Warbler"



"Kissing Sea Lions"



"Detail Railroad Tie at Kirby Park, Watsonville, CA"

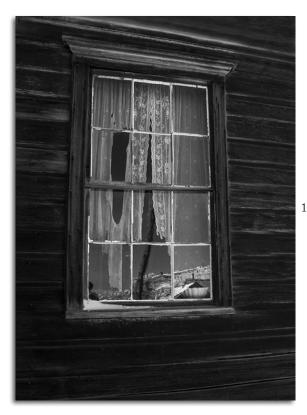


"Mountain Range and Sand Dunes Shot Flying Over Mexico"



"Detail Air Bubbles Under Plastic Window Covering"





1st "She Did What She Could" Jerry Heisel



2nd "Abandoned Farm" Carol Silveira



3rd "Hallway" Chris Johnson

Pictorial (B&W Abandoned Places) Winning Images



HM "Fallen Roof Ruin, Road Canyon, Utah" *Mary Ann Avera*



HM "Fort Ord Classroom" Chris Johnson



HM "Discarded" Carol Silveira



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1st "You May Seek Answers" Sean Crawford



2nd "Looking Through and at the Past" *Joni Zabala*



3rd "Tilting Outhouse" Don Eastman



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Pictorial (B&W Abandoned Places) Winning Images

Group Green



HM "Fallen on Hard Times, That 395 House" Patricia McKean



HM "Abandoned House near Lee Vining" Patricia McKean



HM "Daggett Cemetery" *Joni Zabala*



Meet Bob Sadler, Judge for Pictorial (B&W Abandoned Places) Competition

Bob Sadler has been creating art through photography for over 50 years. Recently, his fine art portraits of homeless men have been shown at the Weston Gallery in Carmel, CA and Art Intersection's Gallery 4 in Gilbert, AZ. Another exhibit, Transcendent



Landscapes, is hanging in the sanctuary of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula in Carmel, CA. In January 2014, he delivered a lecture at the Monterey Museum of Art in Monterey, CA.

He began shooting photographs in 1965 while serving in the U.S. Army in Vietnam. On R&R from Vietnam, he stayed with the Hubble family in the Philippines. *William Hubble* was a photojournalist who taught Bob the basics before he returned to Vietnam.

Through the '80s, Bob traveled a great deal to the Caribbean, Europe, and Asia as a management consultant. He worked with his camera to capture the essence of each place. On a trip to Shandong Province, China, he stayed in a village for a week and photographed village life. His photo essay was shown in many corporate lobbies.

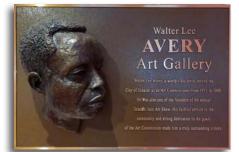
Bob relocated to Pacific Grove, CA, in 2007 and joined *ImageMakers* and the *Center for Photographic Arts*. During the past decade, he has attended workshops with *Eddie Soloway*, *Cole Weston* and *Kim Weston*, *Dan Westergren*, and *Richard Newman*. He's also studied studio lighting with *Barbara Moon and Fernando Batista*.

He also studied with *George DeWolfe* and adopted his digital workflow for producing fine prints.

Padre Trails Camera Club "The Way We See It" Exhibit Avery Gallery, Seaside City Hall

Here are a few of the many images captured at the Club's opening reception at the Avery Gallery on July

22nd. The exhibit is in place through September 9th. Almost 100 photos from the Club are on display.







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My Two Bits

On the Walls Again

by Ken Jones

n Saturday, July 16th, I watched as the aisles of the *Walter Lee Avery Art Gallery* in Seaside's City Hall slowly filled with almost 100 prints delivered by PTCC members for our long-awaited print exhibit, *Padre Trails Camera Club: The Way We See It.* I have



to say that seeing all that fine work, nicely framed and lined up on the floor, ready for the gallery's hangers to transform into a major exhibition, gave me a pretty good rush of emotion. The Club had worked hard toward a large-scale print exhibit scheduled for September 2020 with the theme *Look at Seaside!* But like so many plans made for that awful year, the exhibit fell victim to the lockdown. In September of last year, however, when the City of Seaside let us know that the Avery Gallery was back in business, and that they had kept a two-month run open for us, we restarted our exhibit engine, expanded the show's concept, and changed its name to reflect a broader, more eclectic reach. I'm proud of the way PTCC members answered the call.

Beyond the range of subject matter, this collection also demonstrates the expanding printing and display options now open to photographers. Several brilliant metal prints and innovative hanging techniques in the show add to the excitement generated by this exhibit. Also contributing to its power is the artful way it has been hung by expert gallery personnel. The materials, subject matter, presentation, and execution have all come together to form *The Way We See It*.

The exhibit is up now, and will run through September 9th. The Artists' Reception held on Friday, July 22nd was subdued in comparison to previous such events, due again to the lingering specter of the pandemic. Nevertheless, those present made it fun, and enjoyed safely getting together to celebrate the breadth of our members' imaginative vision, and their skills as photographers. I invite everyone reading these words to make the short trip to Seaside and see it for themselves.

Take your lens cap off...

Ken

Upcoming 2022 Submission Dates

All competition submissions are due by midnight.

- Sunday, August 28th: Travel
- Sunday, September 25th: 2023 Pictorial #1

Meeting Recap & Preview July & August

On July 6th, we welcomed fine art photographer, designer, and multimedia artist *Robin Ward*. Robin shared selections of her body of work and related the progression of her art. Her images and videos are intricate blends of the real and the unreal, and they create a unique mind-space within the viewer. Robin's video work is probably the most impressive, drawing as it does from her skill as a drone pilot and digital craftswoman. Not surprisingly, it takes up to 40 hours for her to create a single 20-second video. Those present agreed that the results of that work are stunning.

At our second July meeting on the 20th, we conducted our election of officers for the next Club year. The incumbents ran unopposed and the slate was accepted by acclimation. Ken Jones will continue as President (his 17th year!), Charlie Gibson will continue as Vice President, Judi Clayton will remain our Treasurer, and Dick Light stays on as our Secretary. Chris Parsons presented the Group Shoot Committee's report of their survey results, and we spun the wheel to award a \$25 Amazon gift card to lucky survey participant, and newest member, Fernando Ibanez. Charlie presented a promo for the upcoming Concours and encouraged members to contact him to take part in the photo coverage. To end the meeting, we enjoyed the returns of our black and white Pictorial, Abandoned Places, judged by local fine art photographer, Bob Sadler.

Our August 3rd meeting will be another Open Projector night, and may include some surprises currently on the drafting board. Ken will be traveling to Alaska with his grandson, so Charlie will preside in Ken's absence.

On August 17th, the returns of our last Nature competition of the year will be presented by *John Drum*. The directed subject for this contest is Shorebirds and Wading Birds. The definition used for this competition has been approved by the Club's Nature Competition Chair, John Drum. See https://www.birds-of-north-america.net/shorebirds.html and https://www.birds-of-north-america.net/wading-birds.html for the lists of acceptable birds. Professional nature photographer, https://www.birds-of-north-america.net/wading-birds.html for the lists of acceptable birds. Professional nature photographer, https://www.birds-of-north-america.net/wading-birds.html for the lists of acceptable birds. Professional nature photographer, https://www.birds-of-north-america.net/wading-birds.html for the lists of acceptable birds. Professional nature photographer, https://www.birds-of-north-america.net/wading-birds.html for us again, and we look forward to her critiques and comments.





Daytime Speaker Programs

Planning for the 2022 *Photographic*Society of America Festival is almost finished and the time to hold the conference is getting close. The dates for the festival are Wednesday, September 21nd to Saturday, September 24th in



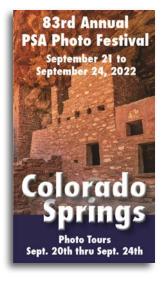
Colorado Springs, CO. Photo tours begin September 20th.

There is a great variety of presenters speaking on topics all photographers will enjoy. Harold Davis will speak on "Photographing Flowers for Transparency." His light box technique produces beautiful floral photos. For those who like wildlife photograph, John Gerlach will teach "New Wildlife Photo Strategies" for achieving excellent, sharp wildlife images with your own equipment. Mike Pach will talk about "Night Sky Photography." He covers planning, equipment needed, and techniques to use.

Also speaking will be *Deborah Sandidge*, a Nikon Ambassador. Her topic is the "Art of Photography – Capturing Your World." She talks about working with a scene to bring the photo to life. If you have ever wanted to photograph in Iceland then you will want to hear the presentation by Sigurdur "Siggi" Williams. The title of his talk is "Shooting Iceland." Being from there he knows when to go and where to get the best pictures — especially of the Northern Lights. Aaron Priest will teach a popular app called PhotoPills. His program, "An In-Depth Tutorial on PhotoPills," will guide you on the functions and calculators in the app.

"From flowers, to animals, to the stars above and everything in between, the speaker line-up at the PSA Photo Festival in Colorado Springs will offer so many opportunities for photographers of all skill levels to expand their knowledge and passion of photography." – *PSA Journal*, May 2022.

It's not too late to register for the conference or for the photography workshops. Check it out online at https://psa-photo.org.



Club Events Calendar

Pacific Grove Concours Auto Rally Photography Shoot

The rally occurs on Friday, August 19th from 12:00 – 6:00PM. The theme is celebrating the Year of the Mini Cooper. Please contact Charlie at *charloose1@gmail.com* for more information.

4th Quarter Board Meeting

Sunday, August 14th starting at 10:00AM Please contact Ken at *kjones.pg@gmail.com* for code to Zoom meeting.

Salinas Valley Art Gallery

Please drop by and enjoy the work of Club member *Nicole Asselborn*, and all the other gallery members. The gallery is located at 218 Main Street, Salinas, CA. Visit https://www.salinasvalleyartgallery.com.

Welcome New Members

Please welcome PTCC's newest members:

Harvey Shank

Fernando Ibanez

We're glad you chose to be part of PTCC. If you have any questions at all about how the Club operates, please don't hesitate to contact any member for answers or go to the "Contact Us" link on our website. It's great to have you with us.

Padre Trails Camera Club

Meetings: 1^{st} & 3^{rd} Wednesdays, 7:00рм - 9:00рм via Zoom

All Officers and Activity Chairs can be reached via email at:

<u>info@padretrailscc.org</u>
Membership information can be found here:
<u>www.padretrailscc.org/ptcc/ptccmembership.html</u>



Member Club Since 1948



