

Bits & Pixels



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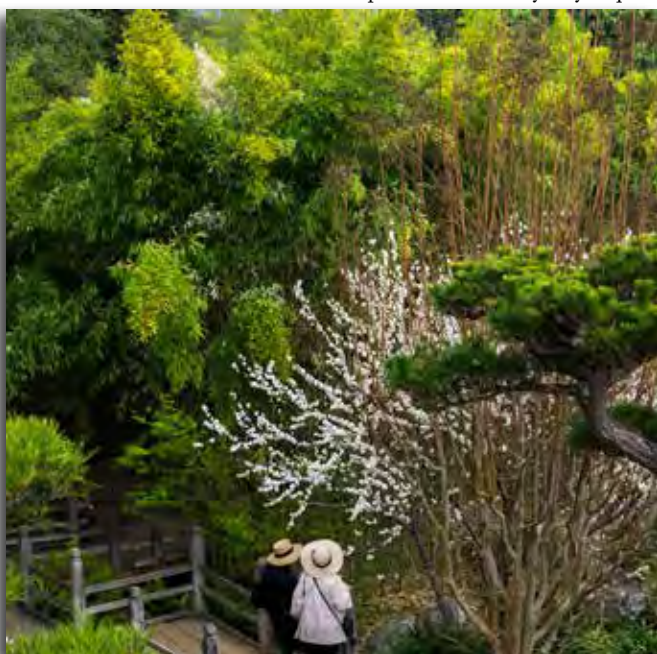
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Travel Competition Winning Images — Group Green



1st "A Trip to the Monterey Bay Aquarium" *Brian Spiegel*



2nd "Visitors Enjoy Spring Blossoms in Huntington Gardens, Pasadena, CA" *Joni Zabala*

The annual Travel competition is always an exciting time to view photographs shot all over the world, and close to home, too. So many questions arise, not only about how the photographer managed to be in the right place at the right time to get the shot, but also, what are the directions to get there, so we can go too.

This year's Travel competition was judged by Kathryn Mayo, a photography professor at Cosumnes River College, CA.

Kathryn shared with us, "As a teacher, I love helping people achieve their best and most creative potential. I don't always succeed, but I do try very hard, especially to meet people where they are. I tried to treat this as if every image were my own and thought about what kind of feedback I might like to get if it were me on the other end. It is so hard to put yourself out there for feedback. I know each image that the photographer submitted was an image that means a lot to them and to allow feedback is to make oneself extremely vulnerable. I appreciate being able to engage with them in that space." Learn more about Kathryn on Page 9.

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Travel Competition Winning Images

Group Green



3rd "Burr Trail" *Sean Crawford*



HM "Astoria Megler Bridge, Oregon" *Bill Brown*



HM "Bodie Island Lighthouse, North Carolina" *Bill Shewchuk*



HM "Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse, Maine" *Bill Shewchuk*



HM "Taking a Break Along the Seine" *Julie Chen*

Spots and Shots: Rick Verbanec Gives a Tour of a Coastal Strip

Photos by Rick Verbanec, Text by Judi Clayton



“Pescadero Point”

What is *Rick Verbanec's* favorite spot to take photos? He views Pebble Beach as the epicenter of his favorite spots to photograph. But, in reality, it's not so much a spot as a strip, that is, the coastal strip from Point Lobos State Natural Reserve to the city of Pacific Grove. He did after all, retire here deliberately.

A favorite spot of Rick's inside Pebble Beach is Pescadero Point in the afternoon when the setting sun is still lighting up the rocks and trees. This image of the windswept cypress trees on the rocky shoreline with lovely photographer-friendly clouds in the background is a fine example of what to see.

Another spot Rick likes is Cypress Point when the surf is big. Shooting looking south with the afternoon sun lighting up the back of the approaching waves makes for this mystical image of land, sea, and sky coming together.

Point Joe lies just a little bit farther north on the Pebble Beach coast. Point Joe juts out into the ocean just north of China Rock and west of the Links at Spanish Bay. This little lone cypress (not the famous Lone Cypress) makes for a stunning silhouette against the cloudy background with sand, greenery, and some pink ice plant in the foreground.



“Cypress Point”



“Point Joe”

Continued next page

Spots and Shots: Rick Verbanec Gives a Tour of a Coastal Strip

Photos by Rick Verbanec, Text by Judi Clayton

Continued from Page 3



"The Lone Cypress"

Other places Rick likes to photograph inside Pebble Beach include the famous Lone Cypress tree along 17-Mile Drive and Stillwater Cove.

Walking along the coast north-west of the Pebble Beach community will lead one to Asilomar State Beach. Well known for its conference center, Asilomar also enjoys dynamic views of a sand and rocky shore as you look across the wide Pacific Ocean. Often in the late afternoon, the sun shines on the water, rocks, and waves showing off their color and texture at Point Pinos. The color in the sky is a bonus.

There is a tranquil spot along the trail next to Sunset Drive in Pacific Grove that has a wooden walkway with a bridge and gazebo overlooking the sea. The easy walk and natural surroundings are a great place to take visitors.



"Stillwater Cove"

Rick summarized his fondness for Pebble Beach and adjacent areas accordingly, "The Monterey Peninsula juts out into the Pacific enough, compared to the general line of the California coast that, climate-wise, we may as well be on a ship at sea, which suits me just fine. One can literally spend days making photos of these areas and remake completely different ones from the same places at different times. I've been doing so for 20 years; it's a landscape photographer's dream."



"Asilomar State Beach along Sunset Drive"



"Point Pinos at Asilomar"

Travel Competition Winning Images

Group Blue



1st "Totem Pole Pillar and Milky Way in Monument Valley, Arizona"
Chris Johnson



2nd "Street in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico"
Carol Silveira



3rd "Silhouette of a Joshua Tree at Sunset"
Jeff Hobbs

Travel Competition Winning Images

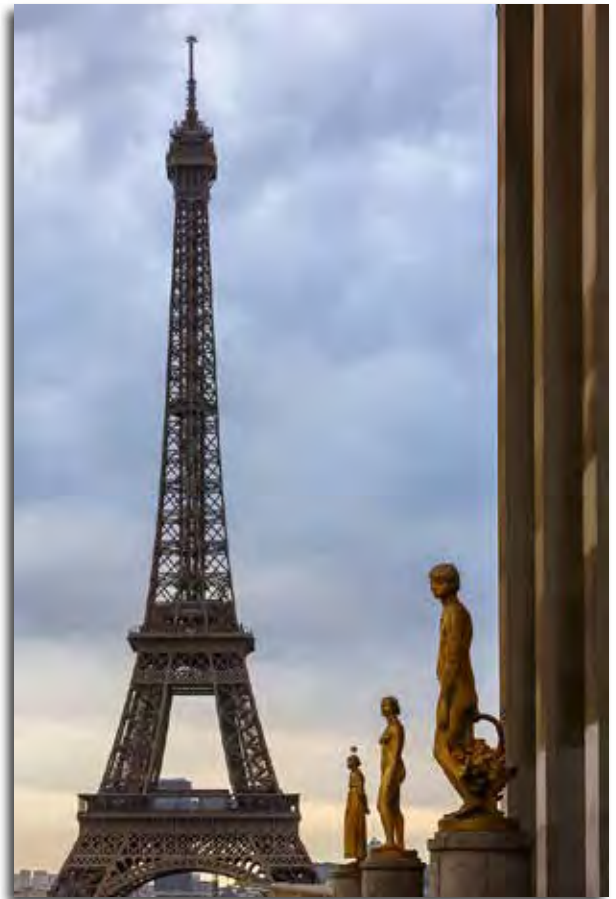
Group Blue



HM "Art in the Desert"
Nicole Asselborn



HM "Early Spring Morning in the Great Smoky Mountains of North Carolina"
Margret Cordts



HM "Eiffel Tower from Palais de Chaillot"
Denice Loria Woyski

Travel Competition Winning Images

Group Red



1st "Lincoln Memorial at Night" *Jared Ikeda*



2nd "Lonely Penguin" *Dick Light*



3rd "The Arch" *Jerry Loomis*



HM "Sharman, Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Santa Fe, NM" *Brooks Leffler*

Travel Competition Winning Images

Group Red



HM "Storm Clouds Over a Beaver Pond in Swanzey, New Hampshire" *Carol Fuessenich*



HM "MLK Memorial"
Jared Ikeda



HM "Seceda, Dolomiti, Italia"
Cath Tandler



HM "The Invasion of Haines, Alaska"
Ken Jones

Meet Kathryn Mayo, Judge for Travel Competition

Kathryn Mayo grew up in rural central Alabama. Influenced by her experience of living on a large soybean and cattle farm, her photography is often autobiographical in nature with an emphasis on storytelling, superstitions, and girlhood. Reaching beyond the realms of “straight” photography and venturing into installation, antique, and alternative processes, Kathryn’s work frequently explores the idea of identity and often incorporates sound, found materials, fabric, and objects.

Kathryn earned a BFA from the University of Alabama, and in 2001 earned an MFA from Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Kathryn has been teaching photography at the college level since 2001 and has been teaching at Cosumnes River College since 2007. She teaches a broad range of classes from photo history and alternative processes to studio lighting classes and everything in between! Kathryn is known for her innovative and passionate teaching style and sees the potential for creativity in every one of her students.

She is the 2017 recipient of the Alabama Artist Award from the Huntsville Museum of Art, a 2011 finalist and 2018 honorable mention award winner for the Julia Margaret Cameron Award, and a 2018 Photolucida Critical Mass Top 50 Artist. Her work has been selected as a portfolio of merit by RFotofolio and her body of work *We Are Selma: The Selma Portrait Project* was recognized as a portfolio of outstanding work by the jurors of the 2020 Denis Roussel Award. Kathryn’s work has been exhibited and published nationally and internationally and is in several international permanent collections.



Elkhorn Slough Foundation Picks Club Members' Photos for 2023 Calendar

Each year the Elkhorn Slough Foundation (ESF) solicits photos to be featured in their annual calendar. Club members *Margret Cordts* and *Rick Verbanec* submitted winning photos for the 2023 calendar.

Margret’s photo was taken on a Club group shoot several years ago. Maybe you’ll have a winning image for 2024 if you participate in the group shoot planned for October 6th touring the slough in an electric catamaran. Check your email for the sign-up sheet sent September 7th.



“Brandt’s Cormorant” *Margret Cordts*

ESF and Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, along with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, partner to conserve, protect, and restore Elkhorn Slough. The slough includes salt marshes, mudflats, and tidal creeks.



“Agree to Disagree” (two sea lions) *Rick Verbanec*

My Two Bits *Time in a Bottle*

by Ken Jones

A nne and I are putting together a photo album for our grandson chronicling for him the trip the three of us took to Alaska in July. Part of the process involves diving into Lightroom to select images. For me, browsing through my list of keywords in Lightroom is akin to time travel. I use keywords extensively to organize images by year, place, and subject, and I can't look at that list without selecting one collection or the other, and reliving the experience of being there and doing that. I often forget why I opened Lightroom in the first place, such is the depth of my immersion into past happenings.



This, I believe, is one of the amazing benefits of photography. Photographic images take us places. Some that we've traveled to and captured ourselves, others we arrive at through our imagination which is triggered by the images of others. Think of the range of experiences from a tack-sharp macro of the eyes of the tiniest insect to a jaw-dropping panorama of a galaxy far, far away.

Photography also feeds our need to create at multiple levels. Fine art photographers seek excellence and the unique expression of their vision. Documentarians and photojournalists are driven by different forces, as are the rest of us who take our cameras with us when we go out into the neighborhood, or the world. The point is that there's as broad a range of motivation for photographers as there is in the insect vs. galaxy analogy above. The beauty is: Those motivations are all valid, satisfying, and meaningful to us.

I'm probably preaching to the choir here, since this is a camera club newsletter, but I believe it's important to remind ourselves every now and then of the things we gain from our love of photography. Our photography puts time in a bottle, and it's one that we should open often to spark memories, rekindle inspiration, bring laughter, and sometimes tears, all of which helps us appreciate the gifts photography gives us.

Take your lens cap off...

Ken



Upcoming Submission Dates

All competition submissions are due by midnight.

- Sunday, October 30th: Nature
- Monday, December 26th: Creative

Meeting Recap & Preview *September & October*

S eptember marked the end of the 2022 Club year, and I did so in fine fashion. Our September 7th meeting featured a visit by Barbara Bullock-Wilson who gave us a delightful look into the art and life of her parents, Wynn and Edna Bullock. Barbara shared a small treasure trove of Wynn's and Edna's work, and provided us with an intimate look into their shared philosophy of the importance of photography. The journey rekindled our appreciation of the unique nature of Bullocks' worldviews and artistic interpretation.

Our second September meeting on the 21st began with a brief introduction to the B&H OPTIC West (Outdoor Photography-Video, Travel Imaging) conference coming to Monterey for the first time in November. David Brommer of B&H joined us to provide details about the event. The meeting concluded with the returns of the last competition of the 2022 year: Travel. The images were reviewed and judged by Kathryn Mayo. Kathryn's in-depth comments on each submission provided a master class for composition and technical refinements. Our judges provide valuable information to help us all improve, and Kathryn is one of the best.

We'll kick off the new Club year with our October 5th meeting featuring award winning fine art photographer, Jane Olin. Jane has lived and worked as a photographer in the Monterey Bay area for over thirty years and her work has been extensively exhibited across the country and around the world. Enjoy a glimpse of Jane's imagery at <https://janeolin.com/>.

On October 6th, Club members will embark on the first group shoot of the year with an electric flatboat excursion into Elkhorn Slough. The Club last visited the slough on a group shoot in 2016 and the experience is always thrilling. With restrictions on gathering in person beginning to ease, the Club plans several outings throughout 2023 to enjoy being in the field with friends.

On October 19th, we will see the returns of the first competition of the 2023 Club year, which is the Club's seventy-fifty birthday! The images submitted to this Open Pictorial will be judged by Meredith Mullins, a renowned international photographer who shares residency between Pacific Grove and Ile Saint-Louis in Paris. (Editor's comment: Two of the most beautiful places on earth.) Meredith is a long-time friend of Padre Trails, and has most recently exhibited her images of India at the Pacific Grove Art Center.



Snapshot

Classes Offered for PSA Members

by Carol Fuessenich



The list of competition topics for this coming year has been given to our Padre Trails members. If you have thought about approaching the competitions with a different mind set, you might consider joining Photographic Society of America (PSA). They offer a number of free courses for members. Here is a list of them with a brief explanation for most.

Creating Images for Competition & Exhibition (Advanced)

To assist intermediate and advanced level photographers in capturing and processing images to a standard suitable for entering club competitions and international exhibitions.

Creating Portfolios for Assessment

A short course consisting of three lessons toward the creation of a portfolio for consideration of a PSA Portfolio distinction.

History of Photography

Discover the founders and early workers in photography. Explore the history of photography. (The course does not address the emergence of digital technology.)

Image Evaluation

Introduction to Photoshop

Learn the basics of Photoshop. The course is based around the Photoshop CC program, desktop edition. Most features will work on earlier versions, but it would be an advantage to use the Adobe Creative Cloud photography bundle.

Light Painting the Still Life (Advanced)

Portrait Photography

Designed to help members understand the power of lighting, composition, simplicity, and details in available light photography.

Still Life Photography

Through guidance of each lesson and completing its accompanying assignments, this course will help you in creating a pleasing still life photograph.

Club Events Calendar

Elkhorn Slough Eco Tour Club Group Shoot

Thursday, October 6th from 12:00 – 6:00PM

Deadline to Sign-up is October 1st

Please contact Ken at kjones.pg@gmail.com to sign-up.



Preparing Your Images for Your Own Photo Calendar Workshop with Nic Stover

October 6th at 4PM PST / 7PM EST

Free, but you do need to register.

<https://www.naturephotographyclasses.com/live-class-calendar>



Seaside Artists Association's 2022 Studio Tour

October 8th and 9th

Visit PTCC member *Jim Lambert's* display at the Oldemeyer Center, 986 Hilby Ave, Seaside, CA



Zombie Run

Seeking Photography Volunteers

Sunday, October 29th starting at 8:00AM

Please contact Rick at rdverb@sbcglobal.net for more information.



Club Membership Renewal

Time to renew your PTCC membership. Renewing will ensure you remain eligible for competitions and other member activities in the new year, and that you continue to receive Club information via email. Renewal is easy!

From our website's menu, go to Membership, find the PayPal section and select "Full Year - 10/1-9/30"
Remember, you don't need a PayPal account. Simply pay with any credit or debit card. Renew today!



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@padretrailsccl.org

Membership information can be found here:

www.padretrailsccl.org/ptcc/ptccmembership.html



Member Club Since 1948

