

Still Life Competition Winning Images — Group Green



1st "Arranging Floral Display" John Drum

Still Life photo entries by PTCC members impressed competition judge, Richard Cannon. As you browse the returns, ponder the creativity, perspectives, and skills of each photographer. Enjoy the emotions and stories that emerge from the originality in composition and lighting.

Overall, these winning entries demonstrate each Club member's ability to transform everyday objects into works of art.

You can also see all of the winning images on our website at <https://www.padretrailsccl.org/returns/2023-slife-returns.html>.

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Editor's Corner

by Amy Sibiga

It was wonderful to see the crowd at the reception for our current print exhibit. A couple of individuals asked me about the paper I used for my photos, so I've provided the information here.

Keep sending me news about your photography adventures to be included in *Bits & Pixels* at info@padretrailscc.org.



Sergei Panchenko leads a student in the paso doble in a NDCA dance competition. Printed on Moab Somerset Museum Rag 300gsm, 100% Cotton, a beautiful fine art paper.



Top Peninsula Dance Studio instructors demonstrate the rumba. Printed on metal: the material adds depth and enhances the sparkle of the crystals on the dress.



For more information about the PSA Photo Festival, visit <https://psa-photo.org/page/photo-festival>.



Padre Trails Camera Club

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

2022 - 2023 Officers

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



Activity Chairs

Awards & Membership - Chris Johnson
Group Shoots - Chris Johnson and Carol Silveira
Judge Coordination - Joni Zabala
Newsletter & Publicity - Amy Sibiga
Points Accounting & PSA Liaison - Carol Fuessenich
Skills Night Development - Margret Cordts
Star-rating Accounting - Rick Verbanec
Submission Review - Bill Brown, Jared Ikeda,
and Brooks Leffler
Website - Jared Ikeda



Member Club Since 1948



The Spirit of Pacific Grove Print Exhibit at the Nancy and Steve Hauk Gallery

Contributed photos



Christine Crozier, Library Curator (middle), hangs the exhibit with help from a Club member and Ken's friend, Steve Sharon.

Padre Trails Camera Club (PTCC) proudly presented *The Spirit of Pacific Grove* print exhibit at a reception on April 14th in downtown Pacific Grove, CA.

Those fortunate enough to call Pacific Grove home, who come here on vacation, or simply discover the town almost by accident realize immediately that this is a special place. The beauty of its coastline, the uniqueness of its varied architecture, and the welcoming nature of its residents and merchants combine to create a relaxing and enriching environment. The collection of images in the exhibit, captured by members of PTCC, reflect some of that feeling.



Lu Zabala, Anne and Ken Jones, and Lillie Grossman



Club Member Sandie McCafferty

Participating Artists

Nicole Asselborn, Chris Axe, William Brown, John Drum, Don Eastman, Carol Fuessenich, Carole Gan, Charles Gibson, David Gubernick, Fernando Ibanez, Jared Ikeda, Jim Lambert, Ken Jones, Dick Light, Brooks Leffler, Sandie McCafferty, Christina Parsons, William Shewchuk, Amy Sibiga, Carol Silveira, David Thon, and Rick Verbanec.

About Padre Trails Camera Club

PTCC is a member of the Photographic Society of America and has been active on the Monterey Peninsula since 1948. Our meetings are free and open to the public and involve image and technique sharing, informational programs, and friendly monthly competitions. Beginner or experienced, if your goal is to create more compelling images, Padre Trails can help. The technology used to create striking photographic images has changed massively since 1948 but sharing as a community has remained constant. PTCC strives to nurture that community through a relaxed meeting atmosphere, image sharing and discussion, professional critiques, and group outings.



Curious Wanderer: Pick the One You Like

Text and photos by Meade Fischer

This is one of a series of articles by Meade Fischer about his love for, and exploration of, the California coast.



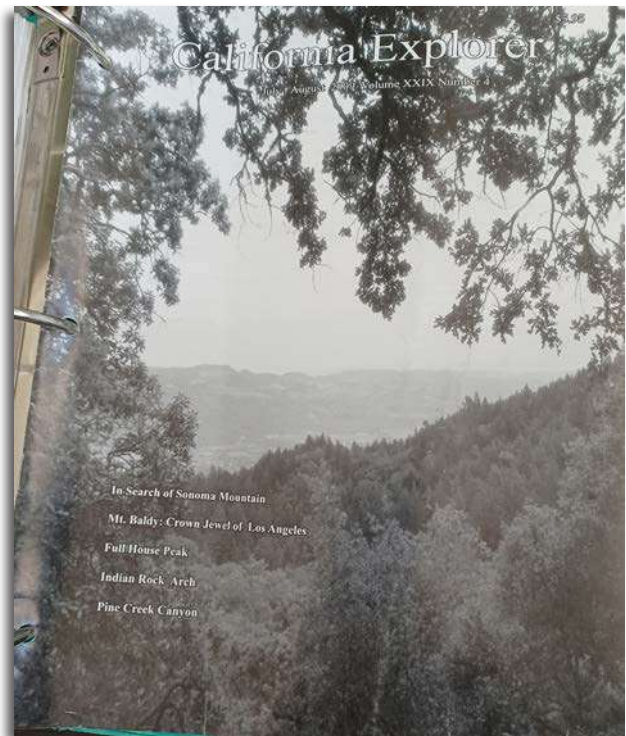
From 2009 through 2022, I wrote for a small publication called *California Explorer*. These stories, between 1,000 and 1,200 words were accompanied by several photos. The editor could only use two or three per issue, but not knowing what would catch her eye, I always sent at least a dozen, and quite frequently the ones I thought she would love, didn't make the cut, while others, added just to cover the topic, would often be used as a cover shot, earning me an additional \$50.

For the first few years I wrote for them, the magazine was not in color, so I had to convert my color shots to black and white. Using Photoshop, I had to go to "Images," then to "Mode" and change to "Grayscale." Then I often needed to do some adjustments to make the photo look better in grayscale. On my first article about the purchase of the mountain top to be added to Jack London State Park, I hoped to get that promised view, all the way to the ocean, from the top, but even though it was early June, that day provided rain, ruining the view, which eventually became a downpour. Using the camera I had at the time, primitive compared to newer digital cameras, I did the best I could, some photos marred by drops of rain on the lens. While that camera is long gone, best I recall it was probably a Nikon with an adjustable zoom, probably no more than 5 megapixels.

Here is the photo they used for the cover and the original color shot, and I've included a couple of pictures I thought would make a better cover. It is humbling to realize that one's opinion of one's work is not always shared by editors, and there is no point complaining about it.



This wasn't the first time I submitted pictures I considered sure winners, only to have the editor



pick one I felt was not as good. There were a few times that the editor agreed with my choices, very few.

I guess the takeaway from this is that a good photo is sometimes subjective, depending on how and where it will be used. When submitting to a magazine, it's best to leave your ego at home, as sometimes the shot you love not only won't make the cover, but it won't make the magazine at all.

Another time, an article for another magazine about the Point Arena area, I took a good, in my opinion, shot of the lighthouse, along with the rocky shoreline. When the magazine came out, there was essentially the same picture, but one taken by another person. I would have complained, but they were paying me well, so I licked my wounds and kept quiet. Perhaps this was a photographer that the editor trusted and had worked with in the past, or maybe the choice was arbitrary, but buy editors don't like being questioned, and my job was primarily to write.

There are times an editor will turn a color photo into grayscale, crop it, put text over it, or anything else the magazine requires. Contributors best say thank you and cash the check.

I've learned to take a wide variety of shots, even those I consider rather boring. Now I just say, "Here's twenty shots. Pick the one you like."

Still Life Competition Winning Images

Group Green



2nd "Orange Juice" *John Drum*



HM "Nighttime at the Candy Store" *Carol Fuessenich*



3rd "Tulips in the Bathroom Window" *Patricia McKean*



HM "Sushi and Lemons" *Jared Ikeda*

Still Life Competition Winning Images

Group Green



HM "Italian Salad"
Joel Gambord



HM "Coffee, A Simple Pleasure"
Denice Loria Woyski



HM "Fruit by the Pound"
Carol Fuessenich

Still Life Competition Winning Images

Group Blue



1st "Grapes"
Joni Zabala



2nd "Cool Subjects Sake Lemon Grapes Cheese Telescope
Globe Candles and Chips Salsa Still Life"
Brian Spiegel



3rd "Left Behind"
Carol Silveira

Still Life Competition Winning Images

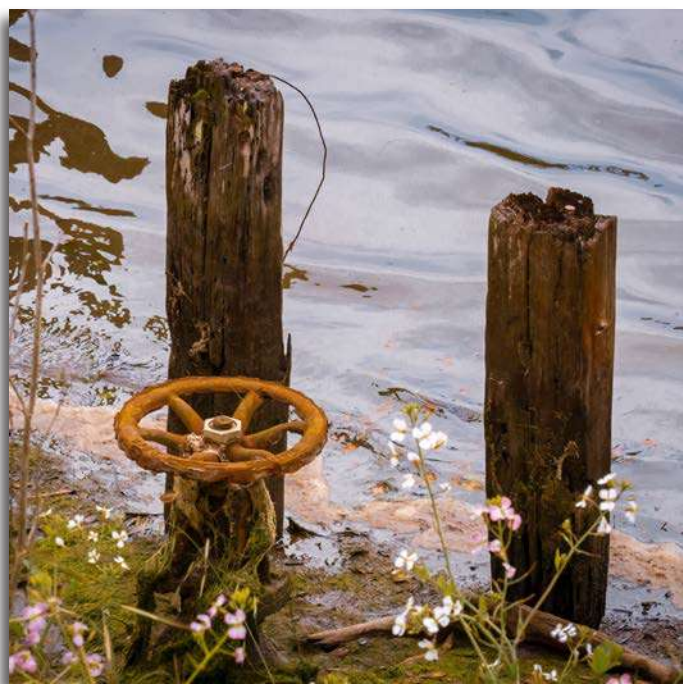
Group Blue



HM "Kitchen Windowsill" *Julie Chen*



HM "Silent Spring" *Julie Chen*



HM "Slough Valve" *Rick Verbanec*

Still Life Competition Winning Images

Group Red



1st "Carmel Garden Still Life" *Karen Schofield*



2nd "Objects de Art II" *Charlie Gibson*



3rd "Yesterday's Bloom" *Carole Gan*

Still Life Competition Winning Images

Group Red



HM "Purple Calla Lily Centerpiece from Castroville" *Dick Light*



HM "Gerbera and Friends" *Dick Light*

Meet Richard Cannon, Judge for the Still Life Competition

Richard Cannon is a native of San Jose, California, and has been creating fine art photography since 2005. Working primarily with digital media, his artistic goal is to achieve visual, intellectual, and emotional connectivity with his images. Richard's photographs have been in numerous exhibits on the Monterey Peninsula and in Santa Clara, California. Several of his works are in the permanent collections of the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula and Santa Clara's Triton Museum, as well as private collections in Carmel, La Jolla, and Monterey.

Following thirty-five years of executive human resources management, Richard retired and moved to the Monterey Peninsula where he now lives with his wife, Bette. He is a member of The Image Makers of Monterey Peninsula and the Independent Photographers group, and is active in the photography scene in Carmel.

My Two Bits *To the Peninsula and Beyond!*

by Ken Jones

As an amateur photographer working on developing my skills and mastering the tools needed to create images that please me, I sometimes lose track of the impact those images have on others. That impact demonstrated itself in the success of the Club's current exhibit at the Pacific Grove Public Library, and the record attendance at its reception last month. Exhibits aren't the only way we introduce our work to others, however. This newsletter is an indispensable instrument that delivers our members' fine images into the community every month. It's important to remember that community extends far beyond the Peninsula.



A very good friend, who lives in Florida, sent a recent email that expresses the degree to which our individual passion for photography impacts all those who see it.

"As a long time (50 years) friend of Ken Jones and his wife Anne, I must say how much I enjoy the newsletters and photographs from the Padre Trails Camera Club. I have visited the Pacific Grove area several times, and I always say that this is certainly a piece of paradise. I am a resident of a rural area of North Florida near the Gulf coast. I am certainly not a photographer, but I truly enjoy the photographs I see from your club members and from their competitions. Of course, Ken's photos are always my favorite. I look forward to your future newsletters and photos. Please know that your photos reach far beyond your immediate area and are always a bright spot in my day."

— Anne Hendry, Perry, Florida

Bits & Pixels goes out to all our members and to over 60 others each month. If you have friends, business associates, or family members who you believe may also see it as a bright spot in their day, please let me know. I'll gladly add their email addresses to the list.

Take your lens cap off...

Ken

Meeting Recap & Preview *April & May*

April 5th welcomed our special guest for the evening, Carmel artist Robin Winfield. Robin's paintings border on the surreal with unexpected lines, shadows, and light. Their structure begins with a photograph. In her extensive world travels, Robin is drawn to photographing architecture and the effects of time, abuse, and the elements on its ordered symmetry. In her studio off Ocean Avenue in Carmel, she builds on the images she captures and takes the piece in directions of color and texture that define her unique art.

On April 19th, members and guests enjoyed the returns of the Club's Still Life competition, judged by local fine art photographer, Richard Cannon.

On May 3rd, our first meeting of the month will be an in-person visit by Arizona wildlife, landscape, nature, and aerial photographer, Ted Grussing. Ted was introduced to PTCC by member *Carol Gan*, and he's flying in from the Sedona area to be with us and share his incredible photographic achievements. We'll be meeting in our Pebble Beach location and via Zoom, but members are encouraged to attend in person if possible. Directions are on our website <https://padretrailsc.org/ptcc/ptccmeetings.html>.

Our May 17th meeting will be via Zoom, but our Human Hand in Nature competition will be judged in person, in real time, via Zoom.

Our judge, Becky Jaffe, was introduced to PTCC by Club VP *Charlie Gibson*. Charlie also belongs to the Los Gatos/Saratoga Camera Club, and Becky has judged for that group as well as for a number of other camera clubs in the Bay Area. Becky is a photographer, naturalist, and educator and is very active in the Bay Area photography community.

Our images will be judged on the spot with Becky's extemporaneous comments. When all groups' images have been viewed and commented upon, Becky will conduct a breakout room in which she and Charlie will review her selections. When that's done, they will rejoin the general meeting and Becky will announce her results. She will review the images later in the week to assign each image's star-rating, and provide that information back to us. It's a new wrinkle, but we're happy to have Becky with us and thank her for sharing her talent with us. To learn more about Becky, visit <https://www.beckyjaffephotography.com/contact>.



Snapshot

PSA Member Benefit: Webinars

PSA has numerous benefits, especially in providing educational opportunities for its members. There are mentors and consultants, study groups, online courses, and access to webinars.

This week I watched a webinar entitled, "Making Competitive Nature Images" presented by Rick Cloran. The presentation was informative and entertaining. Eventually it will be put on the PSA website so all members can access it at any time.

Below are just a few of the webinars that current members can watch:

Software

- Lightroom & the Ultimate Workflow
- Luminar 3
- Topaz: AI Revolution
- Topaz Studio 2: Infrared Processing Workflow, Color, for Printing

Travel

- Antarctica
- Landscapes, Global, with Olympus Visionary
- Land to Sea
- Tanzania
- Travel & Nature Photography

Techniques

- Artistic Expression Through Smartphone
- Black and White Photography
- Infrared Photography
- iPhone Photography
- Light Painting and Drawing at Night
- Macro Photography
- Neon at Night
- Night Photography

Street & Urban

- Cityscapes
- Street Photography
- Urban Exploration Fine Art

Misc.

- Astrophotography at National Parks
- Bird Photography
- Dance with the Clouds
- Evaluating Photographic Images
- Floral Photography
- Stones and Crystals

by Carol Fuessenich



These are just some of the webinars available to PSA members. If you have thought about joining it's easy to do on their website at <https://psa-photo.org>. If you have questions you can email me at any time and I'd be glad to answer them. I have been a member for ten years and was recently acknowledged with a PSA certificate.



Club Events Calendar

Apple Photo Skills: Photography on iPhone

Wednesday, May 3rd, 3PM - 4PM

240 Del Monte Center, Monterey, CA



Martha Casanave Exhibit

May 20th - July 9th at Center for Photographic Art

San Carlos at 9th Ave., Carmel-By-The-Sea, CA



A Warm Welcome to New Club Member

Patti Gilbert



The Club's *The Spirit of Pacific Grove* print exhibit

Nancy & Steve Hauk Gallery, 550 Central Avenue

PG Public Library hours are Monday, 2PM - 6PM

Tuesday - Thursday, 10AM - 6PM

Friday & Saturday, 10AM - 5PM



The Pacific Grove Art Center is seeking donations

for the Tiny Treasures 2023 Miniatures Show

568 Lighthouse Avenue, PG, 831-375-2208

Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 12PM - 5PM



Upcoming Submission Dates

All competition submissions are due by midnight.

- Sunday, May 28th: Pictorial (Marine Landscapes)
- Sunday, June 25th: Creative (Open)