



# Placer Color



Volume 46 Number 6 **Newsletter of the Placer Camera Club** June 2008 **est. 1952**

<http://www.placercameraclub.org>

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**Placer Camera Club** meets the third Tuesday of each month, except July and August, at 7:00PM in the Beecher Room of the Auburn Placer County Library, 350 Nevada Street, Auburn, Ca. **Visitors Welcome!**

This months meeting will be Tuesday **June 17, 2008**. Informal gathering at **6:30** with the meeting starting **promptly at 7 PM.**

**This month** we will give out the **annual awards**. The photos have been judged by Sam Clemens and we'll have awards for projected images and prints.

In addition we will have **elections** for club officers.

I'm looking for someone to take over the **newsletter**. After 3 years of doing it I've reached my creative bottom. In the interest of keeping the newsletter interesting we need somebody to put their creative touch on it. If you are interested email or see me at the meeting.



Don & Marylyn Crout's 1956 Buick at Auburn Cruise Night last Friday

Photo by Mike Schumacher

## Last Call for Snow Photography

Text & Photos by Jim white

If you like mountain scenic photography like I do, you know that nothing makes the high mountains look better than some snow in the picture.

The passes are now open but where is the snow? Not much this year for sure but what there is in on the eastern and northern aspects of the mountain.

That's where the snow is always deeper and stays the longest. The wind usually transports the snow over the mountain ranges from the southwest to the northeast in our area, where the snow falls to the ground and keeps getting deeper all the long winter. Not only is the snow deeper there, that aspect of the mountain gets less sun when the sun is in the southern latitudes like it is in the winter , and so the snow melts much slower in the spring. So, to take your mountain scenic in the early spring you need to be on the northern or eastern side of the mountains. That being said, where is the snow to be found in our area this spring?



A drive over Ebbets Pass (Highway 4) on June 2 found a little snow on the mountains to the south, but almost too far away. On the east side of the pass we did find a small lake with that last remnant of ice on the water and snow on the small peak in the background. (see below) Don't pass up lakes with ice on them. A little open water on them helps by adding some blue to the stark white of the snow and this situation is worth looking for. Closer to home, the Gold Lakes area of Sierra and Plumas counties are one of the best for late season snow. Drive into Salmon Lakes, Sand Pond, Gold Lake or any other lake that is accessible, get our of the car, a go for a hike along the edge of the lake. Do not go on the ice of the lakes! It is just too dangerous with the melting ice this time of year. Find a log, a rock or other object in the foreground, use a very small f stop and shoot away.



For late spring snow shooting, nothing beats Mt. Lassen National Park. Check to see when the park has been plowed and drive in from the south going north to the upper parking lot at the base of Mt. Lassen. If you are a skier or snowshoer, the whole park is a winter wonderland, waiting for your lens. The lakes in this park melt slowly, but if you are lucky and get there when there is floating ice, the photography is great. In many of the past years my family and I would ski up the mountain following the ridge of the summer trail and shoot many rolls of film. My picture of Kathy sitting on the summit of Mt. Lassen many springs ago, expresses our joy of spring travel over the snow in this wonderful park.

Head out this late spring and find some snow on the mountain to add some spice to your mountain photography.

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## Notes from the Field

Text & Photos by Ardath Winterood



chatting with your subjects until you've gotten the most delightful photo possible. Don't worry if the baby is squirming around...he's a baby! It makes the posed photo even more inte

The best advice I ever got for composing a photograph...especially people in a posed composition...is, "the closer the better". Find all the meaningful elements that will tell the story and then keep snapping and





## Malakoff Diggins SHP Overnighter

Text by Sue Barthelow

Photo by Mike Schumacher

In September, join us on an overnight photo shoot at nearby Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park. The park, 26 miles from Nevada City, includes California's largest hydraulic mine site and the old mining town of North Bloomfield. Check out their web site at [www.parks.ca.gov/DEFAULT.ASP?page\\_id=494](http://www.parks.ca.gov/DEFAULT.ASP?page_id=494) for more information about the park and to view some of their 104 pictures. I bet we can take better photos than many of those I looked at.



The highly colored cliffs and deposits left from the mine's water-blasting operations photograph best in the evening and morning under that oh so perfect light. An overnighter will place us there when we need to be. Plan to spend some time in North Bloomfield if you enjoy seeing and shooting old buildings and furnishings.

I reserved the group campground for the last day of the year that it can be reserved – September 13 – so we're assured of having our place in the woods. The group campsite is a primitive tent-only site that holds up to 50 people and up to 20 vehicles. Water and latrines are available. Bring your family and friends along. We'll have a blast, pun intended.

Don't want to camp out? Join us for the day on Saturday. You can catch the evening light with us and go home to your own bed.

Contact Sue Barthelow at [sue\\_barthelow@yahoo.com](mailto:sue_barthelow@yahoo.com) or (530) 305-4546 if you're interested. Sign up early enough to reserve your camping spot since there is a maximum of 50 campers.

## Panning for Action

Text and Photos by Sue Barthelow

Summer brings with it plenty of sports action. It's a good season to learn and practice the art of panning with your camera. Panning works well for certain types of predictable action. This technique lets you show your subject clearly in front of a background that indicates movement. Consider panning when taking pictures of runners, bicyclists, soccer players, cars, moving birds or animals and more.

How do you get that movement in your image? You use a long shutter speed and pan, or



follow, as your subject moves by. One key to a successful image is the constant speed of your subject, letting you follow the action smoothly.

What does that mean? Use your camera's shutter priority mode to keep the shutter open for a moment, maybe for 1/30 a second, for whatever works for your light conditions. Pick a spot at which you'd like

to start your image. Then, frame your subject, press the shutter release button half way down to focus and start following it in your view finder until it reaches your predetermined spot. At that moment, fully press the shutter release button and continue to smoothly follow the subject with your camera. Keep the subject in the same position within the image. Continue to pan briefly after the shutter closes to make sure you don't leave your subject too early and smear the image.

To ensure that you capture at least one successful image, use continuous action and pan through several pictures at a time. Consider setting your camera to continuously auto-focus so each image stays sharp. Check your camera's manual to see how to set its continuous action mode. This works just like the single shot approach except that you hold the shutter release button down. The camera will take multiple pictures for as long as you hold the shutter release button down. Continue to smoothly follow your subject with your camera, keeping it in the same position within the image. Take your finger off

the shutter release button as or after the subject passes you and continue to pan briefly to make sure you don't ruin the last shot.

I learned how to pan recently by shooting Auburn International Triathlon bike racers as they traveled along a road near my home. It was oodles of fun and much easier than it sounded. If you haven't used panning, why not give it a try?



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## Swap Shop

### FOR SALE

Matt Cutter \$20

Tripod \$5

Contact Judy Hooper 530-888-8308

*If you want to sell or are looking for photography related items members can list them in the newsletter or on the club website. Email or call me. Listings are free for members.* Mike 530-367-4505 [radioman@ftcnet.net](mailto:radioman@ftcnet.net)

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### Huey Monitor Calibration

The club has a Huey monitor calibration system for use by club members. Contact Judy Hooper to 'check out' Huey. 530-888-8308.

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### Calendar of Events

June

17<sup>th</sup> – Camera Club Meeting –

## Placer Camera Club Webpage

Check out the Placer Camera Club webpage. Webmaster Sue Barthelow has been doing a fantastic job! Thanks Sue!

<http://www.placercameraclub.org>

→ *Please feel free to contact me with items for the newsletter!*

Mike Schumacher (Newsletter) 530-367-4505 [radioman@ftcnet.net](mailto:radioman@ftcnet.net)

*See you at the meeting June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM!!*