



placer color



Volume 44 Number 5 **Newsletter of the Placer Camera Club** May 2006

Member Delta Council, Gold Rush Chapter, Photographic Society of America (PSA)

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, **May 16, 2006** at 7:00 PM.



This month is our May competition. The judge will be Truman Holtzclaw. Truman will give a short 20 minute presentation that will be followed by the competition. Truman is bringing a digital projector for his presentation so we will have access to that for the competition.

This month we will have 2 entries per category instead of 4. That is in all categories including prints. Projected media entries are combined so you can have a total of 2 entries in each category, for instance one slide and one digital entry in each category, Nature, Pictorial, P.J. , Travel and Artistically Enhanced. The 3 print categories of Color, Monochrome and Artistically Enhanced you can have 2 entries in each.

For this competition we will be trying a different format. **We will no longer read the name of the artist.** Names of artists who received a score of 12 will be read at the end of the competition.

If you are new to the club and haven't entered a competition now is the time! Having a photo judged can be a good way to learn what is good and what can be improved in a photo.

Important! For the competition rules and categories see the end of this newsletter.

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PHOTO OPS

Mike Schumacher

Jim White is on vacation as I write this so I will try and fill in as best as possible.



Pink Bush by Mike Schumacher

So far wildflower season has not been anything like last year. Last year we saw a bumper crop of color all over the foothills. This year just patches of color here and there. There is a bush in a meadow on Foresthill Road that normally turns pink in Mid April. So far, no change. There is some color to be had though.

Jim wrote about the bitterroots near Georgetown last month and as of a week ago they were in full bloom. If you decide to go (see last months newsletter for directions) please be careful where you step as they are very small flowers and their numbers are limited in that area.



Bitterroots by Mike Schumacher

There are lots of poppies around. Jim sent this heads up about a poppy field.... 'You may recall me talking about all the great poppies below my house on the way toward Lincoln. Well now is the hour. We were there today at noon (really bad light, overcast) but we had to shoot some. Go down Wise Rd.

to Mt. Pleasant Rd. turn right and go to Crosby-Harold. Turn left on Crosby - Harold and watch on your left. It is private land but you can shoot over the fence. You will pass one good field on Mt. Pleasant on your left across from the horse farm'.

Jim also sent this.....

'The Swanson hawks have returned from Mexico. We saw a pair breeding today on the Audubon Refuge "Bob-O-Link". Go thru Nicolaus to highway 99. Turn right and go to Laurel Rd. which is 2nd road after crossing Feather River. Turn right and go to the end of road and park at picnic tables along levee. Map of trails is on visitor board. All trails are flooded so you can only walk along road on back side of levee. Miles of trails when the water goes down'.



*Poppy Field
By Mike Schumacher*

Shooting Wildflowers

Mike Schumacher

This time of year many of us are out shooting wildflowers. The first few times I shot wildflowers in bright sunlight I was disappointed with what my camera captured. That's not what I saw! The human eye has a much bigger dynamic range than a camera weather film or digital. Cameras can capture 5 to 6 stops of light whereas the human eye can process 12 plus. This is where diffused light comes in. Many of us have found out that bright overcast days are great for shooting wildflowers. The cloud cover creates diffused light rather than direct light. On cloudless sunlit days this is where a diffuser comes in. Diffusers come in various sizes. Typically 12 – 36 inches or even bigger. A diffuser is a porous piece of cloth that diffuses the light to spread it evenly eliminating shadows and softening highlights. It reduces the difference in stops of light between the highlights and the shadows to a value your camera can capture. What can be used in addition to a diffuser is a reflector. Both are lightweight and usually fold to a small package to fit in your bag. To use a diffuser position so it the sunlight filters through it onto the subject. Hold it close to the subject. Holding it too far away will cast a shadow. At this point if needed you can use a reflector to redirect some soft light onto the subject. Reflectors come in various colors, typically shades of gold or silver but can be made of any color you wish. Each will cast a different color or temperature of light. A reflector can also be made of any reflective material. Crumple it up and place it over a surface such as cardboard. For best results use a tripod and a remote shutter release.

The two Iris photos here are an example of what a diffuser will do. Notice the harsh light on the Iris without the diffuser and the even light on the Iris with the diffuser.



No Diffuser



Diffuser

Both were taken on a tripod and the only difference is the use of a diffuser.

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Results of the February Competition – Judge – Bill Papke

Color Prints

Howard Godfrey	44
Karen Wyatt	21
Mike Schumacher	11
Shirley White	10

Monochrome Prints

Judy Hooper	44
Howard Godfrey	42
Shirley White	12
Mike Schumacher	11

A.E Prints

Karen Wyatt	22
Mike Schumacher	21
Judy Hooper	10

Slides or Digital

Artistically Enhanced

Mike Schumacher	10
Cherry Dulany	9

Nature

Bruce Gregory	42
Judy Hooper	41
Shirley White	35

Travel

Shirley White	39
Bruce Gregory	39
Judy Hooper	42
Mike Schumacher	21
Cherry Dulany	11

Color

Richard Myren	44
Bruce Gregory	39
Judy Hooper	42
Shirley White	39
Mike Schumacher	30
Cherry Dulany	11

Photo Journalism

Judy Hooper	39
Shirley White	39
Bruce Gregory	35
Mike Schumacher	21
Cherry Dulany	11

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Swap Shop – Photographic Items for Sale or Trade

Epson Stylus Photo 2200 Printer Up to 13” wide prints \$300
Media Street Continues ink system \$100
Contact Bob Schneider at 530-389-8766

Nikkor-H Auto 300mm f4.5 lens with lens collar and UV filter \$300.00
Nikkor 105mm f2.5 Modified to auto indexing. UV filter. Make offer.
Nikkor 200mm f4 Modified to auto indexing. UV filter. Make offer.
Contact Jim L White 530-885-8511

Nikon Speedlight SB-80DX new condition
Nikon 70-300 AF 4-5.6 zoom lens excellent condition
Contact Howard Godfrey at 530-885-2143

Velbon Video Tripod - Heavy duty - max load 15 lbs
2 way fluid pan head
Height - closed 26.5 in. - open 64.2 in. - Weight 4.5 lbs
Comes with case and quick release bracket - \$30
Slik ez-pod jr monopod supports 8.5 lbs
folded length 20.3in. - extended 63in. - weight 11lb
with quick release and carry strap - \$20
Tek padded triangular padded carry case with front pocket
belt loop and sholder strap for slr - \$10
Nikon carry case for point and shoot with
belt loop and front pocket - \$5
Contact Mike Schumacher at 530-367-4505

If you want to sell or are looking for photography related items you can list them in the newsletter. Email or call me. Listings are free for members. Mike 530-367-4505 radioman@ftcnet.net

2006 Placer Camera Club Officers

President – Mike Schumacher	530-367-4505	radioman@ftcnet.net
Vice President – Richard Myren	530-268-3475	rgjk@earthlink.net
Treasurer – Shirley White	530-885-8511	padhorski@infostations.net
Secretary – Jane Flickinger	530-885-0714	jfk@infostations.net
Judges – Karen Wyatt	530-878-0556	kwyatt@cwnet.com
Newsletter – Mike Schumacher		

Internet Web Sites of Interest

<http://www.jumbogiant.com>

<http://www.imaging-resource.com/>

<http://www.dcresource.com/>

Palco - Large Prints - Local here in Auburn
Digital Camera Reviews & Photography Info
Digital Camera Reviews & Photography Info

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

Mike Schumacher (Newsletter) 530-367-4505 radioman@ftcnet.net

See you at the meeting May 16th at 7:00 PM!

See the next page for the competition rules and categories.

Here is the way Our Competitions Work

Basically we have two divisions, projected media and prints. Projected media is divided into digital and slides. For projected media we have five categories, Nature, Travel, Photo Journalism, Pictorial and Artistically Enhanced. For prints we have Color, Monochrome and Artistically Enhanced. You can enter all of the categories but you can only enter two entries in each. For projected media this means a total of two in slides and digital. So if you have one Nature slide and one Nature digital entry that would be two. For prints it's two in each category. Please see Judy Hooper before the competition to register your print or slide. This needs to be done because we are no longer reading the name of the artist. For prints the only mounting requirement is that it be able to stand up in our vertical light box.

For digital entries burn them to a cd and give them to me before the meeting so I can pre-load them on my laptop. For digital specific information see the very end of the newsletter.

Only members may enter the competition but visitors are always welcome to attend.

If all this is confusing please send me an email at radioman@ftcnet.net

or call 530-367-4505 - Mike Schumacher

Placer Camera Club Definitions of Photo Competition Categories

Projected Media

Nature

This category is the story of nature and the hand of man should not be seen. Nature photography is restricted to all branches of natural history except anthropology and archeology. The subject should be presented in a fashion that is identifiable and able to certify to its honest presentation. The story telling value of the subject will be weighed more than the pictorial quality. The human element shall not be present. Photos of artificially produced hybrid plants or animals, mounted specimens, or obviously set arrangements are ineligible, as is any form of manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement.

Travel

A travel photograph must express the feeling of a time and place, portray a land, its people or culture in its natural state, and has no geographical limitations. Ultra close-ups

which lose their identity, studio type model shots or photographic manipulations which misrepresent the true situation or alter the content of the image are unacceptable.

Photo Journalism

Photojournalism shall consist of pictures with informative content and emotional impact, including human interest, documentary and spot news. The journalistic value of the photograph shall be considered over pictorial quality. In the interest of credibility, photographs which misrepresent the truth, such as manipulation to alter the subject matter or situations which are set up for the purpose of photography are unacceptable.

Pictorial

The pictorial category has no limitation on subject matter. This is a catch all category. If your photo does not fit the other categories this is where it goes. Strong emphasis is placed on composition, lighting and impact. Any form of manipulation which alters the truth of the photographic statement is unacceptable.

Artistically Enhanced

The artistically enhanced category is for photos that have been manipulated beyond the basic tenants of brightness, contrast, levels, sharpening and basic color adjustment. In this category anything goes as far as manipulation. Photos will be judged on impact, composition and quality of the manipulation.

Prints

Color Print

The color print category has no limit on subject matter but any form of manipulation which alters the truth of the photographic statement is unacceptable. Mounting or matting of prints is recommended.

Monochrome Print

Both sepia and black & white prints belong in this category. Emphasis is placed on composition and lighting. Any form of manipulation which alters the truth of the photographic statement is unacceptable. Mounting or matting of prints is recommended.

Artistically Enhanced Print

The artistically enhanced category is for photos that have been manipulated beyond the basic tenants of brightness, contrast, levels, sharpening and basic color adjustment. In this

category anything goes as far as manipulation. Photos will be judged on impact, composition and quality of the manipulation.

Competition Guidelines

In all categories each image will stand on its own merit for judging purposes. Titles will be read for all photographs in all categories.

In all categories except the three print categories slides and digital media are acceptable. Slides will be projected and digital media will be shown on a notebook computer or digital projector if available.

In all categories except the two Artistically Enhanced categories only basic adjustments are allowed. This includes cropping, brightness, contrast, levels, basic color adjustment and sharpening. Advanced manipulation such as addition or removal of individual objects is not allowed.

For the **Print** categories place a **label** on the back of your print with your name, category, and title of the work. We are working to standardize the labeling format with other clubs so more on this later.

The **digital** entries should be in **jpeg** (jpg) format. **Name** each entry with the initials of the category being entered followed by a dash then the name of the entry followed by a dash then your first and last name initials. For example if I was entering a picture named house in P.J. it would be named as follows **pj-house-ms.jpg** Entries should be sized to 1024 x 768 for landscape and 768 x 1024 for vertical or as close as aspect ratio will allow. This will help me a great deal when I present them for the judge. During competition I won't have time to sort through your files for you. We are working on standardizing digital image entry format with other clubs so we are all on the same page. More on this later as details emerge. If you have questions or need help with this contact me via email or telephone.

Mike Schumacher 530-367-4505 radioman@ftcnet.net