# Los Gatos/Saratoga Camera Club Newsletter

www.losgatos-saratogacameraclub.org

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## *Reminders*

### A & B Competition Categories

Please plan to attend the June 4th meeting if you want to vote A/B Proposal, as you must be present to vote.

### June 18th Picnic

Please mark your calendars for the Annual Potluck Picnic on Monday, June 18th at 6 PM. Members and family members are welcome!!! There is a swimming pool and bocce ball court for our enjoyment. It will be held (thanks to Jeff Balfus) at La Rinconada Country Club.

Potluck sign-up is based on member last name.
Appetizers - H through P, Salads & Side Dishes - Q through Z, and Desserts - A through G

Each member is also responsible for bringing his/her main dish item (such as hot dogs/hamburgers) and drinks. Alcohol is allowed but will be decanted into plastic decanters/glasses for the picnic area. A room adjacent to the area will hold the coolers (if you bring one) and the glass items.

See Sandy and Molly to sign up and pay the $10.00 per person charge.

## *Coming Club Events*

See the Events page or Event Calendar on our web site for updates or further details.

**Saturday, May 05, 2012**
5 pm Deadline for Entering Projected Images for May Club Competition

**Monday, May 07, 2012**
5 pm Online Print Entry
7:15 pm Prints turned in
Competition: PJ, Color, Monochrome
Judge - Lescher Dowling
Refreshments - Craig Colvin, Susan Dinga, Nirmal Chand

**Saturday, May 19, 2012**
Field Trip: Calaveras County Fair

**Monday, May 21, 2012**
Program - Charlie Cramer - Landscapes - teaches fine art printing.
Refreshments: Mark Emanuel, Gene Faucher, Wanda Foss

**Wednesday, May 23, 2012**
An Evening with Lewis Kemper: Light, Composition and Color
7:30 - 9:30pm Palo Alto Children's Theater. 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto
Free and open to the public!

## *April Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It*

We asked the makers of the April first place images to send stories about what the subject was, when and where the image was taken, why they created it, and how it was created (photographed and/or processed). Clicking a winning image should take you to a larger version on our club's web site.

## April 2012 First Place Travel Digital Projected Image

***Admiring Work at the Artist Market in Montmartre, Paris***
**Joseph Grapa**

While visiting Paris, we took our granddaughters to visit the Montmartre area. At the Artist Market we were watching all the different artists and activities. One artist had a painting of the cafe just in front of the Artist Market. My granddaughter, Pauline, was very impressed with the rendition and watched the painting intensely.

The photo was taken on a cloudy day with a Nikon D200 f/5.6 and 1/125 s and a focal length of 18 mm.

## April 2012 First Place Travel Print

***Monument Valley #3***
**Bernard Weinzimmer**

This image was taken at Monument Valley on May 6, 2007. Stan Litwin and I were on a 3000 mile endurance photo trip that included King's Canyon, Death Valley, Monument Valley, Antelope Canyon, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Park. For Monument Valley we hired a Navajo guide and he took us into areas of the park where you can only go with a Native American guide.

This photo was taken on our first day in the park before we joined our guide. We happened upon this location and right after we got there, a bus with tourists pulled up and they hired the horse and rider to go out onto the point overlooking the valley. Needless to say we began clicking our shutters as fast as we could and I captured this image.

It was taken with my Nikon D2X and Nikkor 17-35mm lens at 35mm, f16.0, ISO 100, and 1/25th of a second.

## April 2012 First Place Monochrome Digital Projected Image

*Monochrome Windows*
**Martin Roberts**

"Monochrome Windows" was taken at 4pm in Cambridge, England on 18th March '12. I was walking around Cambridge showing the sights to, and entertaining, two businessmen / friends visiting from America when the dome and windows of Clare College caught my eye. I liked the different shapes and angles and tonal range of the shot.

Clare College founded in 1326 is the second oldest of the 31 colleges that make up Cambridge University. Equipment was my trusty Canon 40D with a Canon EF 24-105mm L Series Lens (ISO-200, 1/200sec, f/8, 45mm). The image was shot with the camera set to Monochrome mode.

## April 2012 First Place Monochrome Print

*Clouds and Dunes*
**Bob Leipsic**

The day was cloudy, and a storm was brewing. On a trek to Hwy 395, we included a trip to Eureka Dunes on the North end of Death Valley. Three cars drove to the back of the dunes, through sand that caused a little concern about getting stuck. As luck would have it, the van in front of our caravan could not make it through without letting out air from their tires, but we all made it.

We hiked up to the top of the lower Eureka Dunes to arrive in time for the light that emphasizes the ripples in the sand, and the shadows across the dunes. Of course, working our way up was no easy task for this old grey top, but with a few hilarious moments (sinking knee deep into the sand) we managed to arrive at this spot, where as I gazed across the dunes, and knew this was an image I needed to capture. The light was right, the wind mildly blowing, giving the sand an almost ethereal feel, and the clouds hanging above the dunes as if they knew they were intregral part of the scene. I positioned myself so I could clearly see the sharp shadows on the sand, the leading lines that dramatically led your eye to the peaks in the background and the sky beyond that.

## April 2012 First Place Pictorial/Color Digital Projected Image - Advanced

*Mexican Bird of Paradise*
John Perry

The Mexican Bird of Paradise is a shrub that is indigenous to Northern Mexico and Southern Arizona. It likes a desert climate and can survive from temperatures below freezing to above 100 degrees F which makes it a perfect shrub for the Tucson, AZ climate. The species in the photograph has yellow petals with long red stamen. There is also a Red Mexican Bird of Paradise that has red petals with red stamen.

I have included a photograph of the part of the shrub so you get some idea of what the flowers look like in its natural environment. What first attracted me to the flower were the long red stamen which I had never seen in a flower before. I have taken several photos of the flower early in the morning but I was never able to get an image I was happy with.

In order to get the photographic winner I had to take a snipping and take a portrait photo of it iinside the house. The Mexican Bird of Paradise is easy to grow but be careful if you have pets because the seeds are poisonous.

## April 2012 First Place Color Print - Advanced

My favorite pictures are of flowers. My wife and I visit Filoli gardens in the spring time when the flowers are in bloom. I look for flowers that create a story.

The flower and butterfly photo started with a picture of five flowers in a circle and no butterfly. I began creating my picture by removing two of the flowers leaving three flowers in a curved position. I felt this was a good start but it needed something else in the Picture. I visualized a butterfly looking at the flowers. I chose a butterfly picture from a previous photo shoot and added the butterfly to the flower picture so that the flowers in their curved position ended pointing at the butterfly. I finished the picture by darkening the background of the green leaves so that they would not distract from the flowers and the butterfly.

Camera Information
Camera Canon EOS 40D

| | Flowers | Butterfly |
|---|---|---|
| ISO | 640 | 800 |
| Shutter Speed | 1/250 | 1/180 |
| f-stop | 13 | 4.5 |
| Lens | 135 mm | 190 mm |

*Flowers and butterfly at Filoli Gardens*
Mark Emanuel

## April 2012 First Place Pictorial/Color Digital Projected Image - Basic

*Mysterious steps going to nowhere on the island of Santorini*
Gene Faucher

We made a trip to Greece in 1996 and part of the tour was to the island of Santorini, which is a perfect place for walking through narrow winding paths & alleys looking at shops and quaint houses, up and down steep steps…great territory for exploring… so the mysterious steps appeared just around a secret corner which I'm sure I would not be able to find again…

This was made in June of 1996 using a state of the art ( at that time ), a point&shoot camera ( Olympus iZOOM75 )…Pre-digital format was APS Kodak 35mm canisters which then seemed really snazzy, and after processing it included a neat little proof sheet of all the pictures on the roll.I used Kodak or Fuji 35mm print with 400 speed ASA,with camera set for automatic speed & exposure…

After commercial processing back in Los Gatos, I scanned this photo on my Canoscan 8400F at 1200 dpi and saved as Photoshop files for additional corrections & cropping and for printing or projection.

## April 2012 First Place Color Print - Basic

I love water and clouds. I like to shoot sunsets at the beach. This picture was taken November 19, 2011 at Natural Bridges State Park in Santa Cruz. That day my husband and I were North of Santa Cruz along Highway 1. The day had been partly cloudy, but as evening approached heavier clouds seem to be moving in to the North. We decided to go South to Santa Cruz to try to escape the heavy clouds.

We got to Natural Brides just before sunset. As the sun set, the clouds began to move in from the North and created this dramatic scene. I used an UWA lens and shot an exposure bracketed 3 frame sequence to process using HDR. I used HDR Efex Pro from Nik Software to merge the images.

*Cloud Quilt*
Serena Hartoog

## *Meet Alex Goldberger*

My journey to California was a long one.

I was born in Turin, Italy. My parents were not Italian, but Hungarian-Czech Jews. My father, who had grown up as a fairly observant Jew, had moved to Italy to work as a dental technician for his brother, who had obtained a dental degree there. He didn't find a suitable bride from the locals, so he turned to the predecessor of match.com and J-Date - an ad in a fashion magazine that he knew circulated 'back home'. My mother, who was very interested in fashion and thought that living in Italy, then the fashion center of the world, would be great, responded. They met and, after a brief engagement, they married. I was born almost exactly nine months later.

The start of WW2 and growing anti-Semitism in Italy let to my parents' departure from that country before my first birthday. They really had no place to go, just tourist visas to a number of countries in South and Central America. They made their way to Marseilles, France and boarded a freighter going to the West that also accommodated a small number of passengers. Fortunately for me, they did not leave me behind with my grandparents in Czechoslovakia until my parents found a new home, as they never saw my grandparents again.

My parents ultimately got permission to stay in Ecuador. We lived in the port city of Guayaquil for about a year and then moved to the capital, Quito. My father taught mechanical dentistry at the Central University ran a small dental import/export business and did some unlicensed dentistry for the immigrant community. I remember my days in Ecuador fondly. We had a huge apartment, three maids (a cook, a laundress and a cleaning maid), and basically lived 'La Dolce Vita'. After the end of the war, we got permission to immigrate to the USA, and did so in late 1946.

After a brief sojourn in Atlantic City, we settled in Brooklyn and I lived there (but no longer La Dolce Vita) until I married Sondra in 1960. Along the way, I got my Bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from CCNY and began my design engineering career. I later got a Master's degree and started designing with some new-fangled things called 'semiconductors'. Eventually, I got a job with a semiconductor company (AMI) and was sent to the west coast for training before opening an AMI design center on Long Island. Business conditions changed, the design center never opened, and I remained in Silicon Valley. I eventually switched to applications and then to marketing. I worked for several companies in the IC industry for about 35 years before retiring in 2007.

The first camera that I remember having was an old Kodak Brownie box camera that my Dad had brought with him from Europe and gave to me when he got a new camera. It used 126 roll film and I used it to take B&W pictures of friends and classmates. I also learned how to develop and make the prints myself. When I had some money (from my Bar Mitzvah, I think), I graduated to an Ansco folding bellows camera, the Speedex B2 Jr., that used 120 roll film, and later to a Voigtlander Vitessa L, a 35mm rangefinder camera that took great pictures and served me well for many years. I took many color slides and prints with it and actually entered a photo I had taken with it into one of our club's competitions, where it won an HM.

Shortly before our first child was born, I acquired my first SLR, a Miranda Sensorex with normal and telephoto lenses that I still have, although I haven't used it in about 10 years. I also played with some more portable formats, including a Minolta 16EE, which used 16mm film, a Minolta 110 Zoom SLR and several APS film cameras. My interest in photography then waned for a few years until re-kindling in the late 1990's, when I purchased one of the first retail digital cameras, the Konica Q-Mini (aka Canon PowerShot 350). It was interesting, but it didn't take great pictures. So, I continued shooting film with my existing equipment.

In the early 2000's, I bought a Sony digital movie camera that also had a 1.5 Mpixel still camera mode and that was my photo rig for several years. 'Pro-sumer' digital SLRs came on the market soon after and, after much Nikon-Canon deliberation, I got a Nikon D70s with a telephoto lens and an external flash. I loved it, and now could shoot tons of photos during our family trips and vacations around the world. When I retired, I enrolled at West Valley College and took a number of courses in the Digital Media curriculum, including three in Photoshop, two in Illustrator and several on internet-related subjects. My capabilities were now complete! Not only could I shoot photos, but I could also post-process them. With that, I took on the job of digitizing my photo and slide collection. I bought a Nikon scanner and over a period of about 18 months I digitized about 3,000 slides and numerous photos in negative and hard copy form.

Friends Marty Weisberg and Harvey Gold told me about LGSCC and I joined in 2009. I began entering some of my images in both print and projected competitions, and was a winner with some of them. I volunteered to be a member of the digital committee in 2010 and became its VP for the current year. My current interests are primarily color, travel and photo-journalism, but I plan to do some work in monochrome and creative this year. Some of my winning entries are attached.

## *Fanchon "Fan" Winer*

Fan Winer, a long-time member and former president of the Los Gatos-Saratoga Camera Club, passed away last month. Those of us who knew her discovered that the little old lady in tennis shoes was an adventurous world traveler, great photographer, and generous teacher. When I first joined the club and was planning a trip to the Galapagos, she invited me over to her house, showed slides of her trip there, and gave me helpful information about what to pack. Below is from the obituary in the San Jose Mercury News.

Fan Winer
05/21/1924 - 04/25/2012
Resident of San Jose

Predeceased by her husband, Sherry Winer, she is survived by her 3 children, Rick, Lynn and Susan, their spouses, Denee, Paul and Carol, 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. As a teacher for 21 years in the Moreland School District, she gave her many students the ability to read and a love of learning. As an art photographer, she leaves us with her sense of beauty and an eye for the rich detail of everyday objects. She will be remembered for her hearty laugh, her sense of humor and a strong love of family. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Alzheimer's Association are encouraged.

## *An Outing with the Istanbul Photography Club*

By Gary Marcos

Something to consider for your next travel adventure.

In March of this year, I traveled to Turkey for 3 weeks. The last week I purposely did not schedule any tours and I was on my own. Prior to leaving for Turkey, I set up a meeting between myself and some of the members of the Istanbul Photography Club (IPC). It took a little organizing, co-ordination and initiative, but the outcome was that I met some kindred-spirits in photography who were interesting and fun; saw parts of Istanbul I would not have seen normally and which were photographically interesting. Simply put, it was a great experience and something you might want to consider on one of your own travel trips whether near or far.

If you have the time and the inclination, it's easy to research any photo clubs for your upcoming destination and send them an email. I would encourage you to be safe and have someone else join you or at least be with you when you meet the other members for the first time.

I'll let the pictures tell the stories. Here is a grab shot on the Galata Bridge during an energy filled discussion on portrait photography and where the focal point should be. It was interesting that of the four women that showed up for the photo walk, they were all ex-pats (not native Turkish). They are (left to right), Jennifer (who is the President of IPC and with whom I coordinated my visit), Elizabeth (animated photographer), Farnaza and Ivea. In the background is the Blue Mosque.

After about 30 minutes of shooting from the bridge, the subject of food came up and we promptly left for what is considered the best baklava in all of Istanbul, Karakoy Gulluoglu. Prior to going into the store, we got into a conversation with the head waiter, who asked us to wait outside until he could show us something special. Off he went and when he returned, he showed us the one and only 'Obama Baklava'. It was truly unique and as you can see, nothing goes un-photographed with the IPC!

Enjoying baklava at the store with the IPC.

Our waiter at Karakoy Gulluoglu.

A few things we saw.

We visited several small churches. We found dogs, well kept (they have their own chair!) and of course had to take many pictures. The dog is apparently used to the paparazzi. The city provides free vaccines for all animals including strays, hence the blue tag in his ear.

We found a street with lots of graffiti.  And Ivea was talked into modeling for a bit of street photography. And, on that picture, I will leave you to think about your next adventure and what options might be available to you to represent the LGSCC.

All pictures are on my Flickr account at: http://flic.kr/s/aHsjzsoa9t. I also created a video photo show at http://youtu.be/OPFNE--BBzc. Watch it full screen and with sound up.

## *“Exposures” Los Gatos Poets Respond to the Art of Photography*

By Mary Ellen Kaschub

In celebration of April 2012 National Poetry Month, on Thursday night, April 5, 14 members of Poetry Los Gatos under the leadership of Los Gatos Poet Laureate, Parthenia M. Hicks, recited individual poems that had been inspired by photographs of the Club’s current exhibit, Exposures, Photographic Moments of People and Places, now hanging in the Los Gatos Town Chambers.

Close to 20 poems were read that included one created last year at the Club exhibit by our own Gene Faucher and is published below. Eleven Camera Club members attended the event to hear their works and of other Club members celebrated in prose. This entertaining, interesting event may lead to further explorations in the future by both groups of matching the art of photography with the art of prose.

### This is what I see…

By Gene Faucher

I'm always looking for that elusive,
once in-a-lifetime image,
that tells the story of a particular moment,
whether a wild landscape or an urban scene
or an action happening in that instant…

these images are everywhere and only appear
to our eyes once and will never be repeated…
they are the record of our individual connections
with the universe…

that is my reason
for picking up the camera
and going on the hunt for the photos
I think will tell the story
of my lifetime
here on
earth

## *Key Contacts*

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