

LGSCC Camera Club

losgatos-saratogacameraclub.org

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Next Competition - Nature July 1st

Our Judge will be Hal Geren - Nature images are restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict observations from all branches of natural history except anthropology and archeology in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject matter and certify as to its honest presentation. The story-telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality.

Human elements shall not be present, except on the rare occasion where those human elements enhance the nature story. The presence of scientific [MORE](#)

Upcoming Photography Exhibits

There are 2 exhibits this year, both with the same theme:

California Fresh

Creeks, Lakes and Rivers, Mother Nature's Precious Gift

Photos are to be representative of California's precious fresh water. The subject of Fresh Water in California is timely with the onset of global warming and the erratic weather we are experiencing: severe drought followed by floods. Fresh water, whatever the source, is key to California's future.

You may exhibit the same prints in both the De Anza and JCC exhibits, but the prints must be entered separately into each.



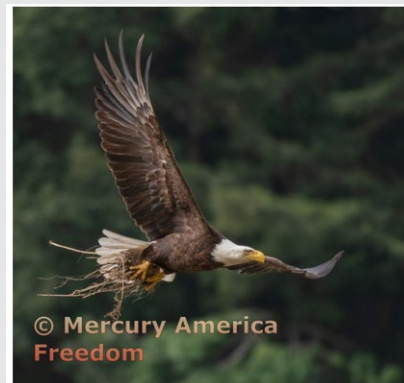
Notices and Coming Events

See the [Calendar](#) on our web site for updates or details.

Monday July 1, Competition - Nature

7:30 p.m. See deadlines and more info on the website

Monday August 5, Competition - Travel



Previous winning image - Nature

Upcoming Programs/Trips

Exhibit - California History Center, De Anza College

Our club will exhibit with Official Opening: Sept 28

Take down of photos: Dec 14. Details - [click here](#)

July 15th Program Night

Brown Bears in Alaska - presented by Joan Sparks

Join wild life photographer, Joan Sparks, on an adventure to see the

beauty of Cooks Inlet in Alaska and be prepared to be in awe of the brown bears inhabiting that locale. Learn of four active volcanoes in the "Ring of Fire", common brown bear behavior;

see adorable three month old cubs, salmon frenzies, puffin and glorious sun rises. You'll be astounded seeing the bears up close but in the safety and comfort of your chair. Joan will cover the equipment and logistics required for taking these stunning photos.



Member Biography - Glen Gould

I purchased my first SLR when I graduated from college. I was a Kodachrome slide guy and it broke my heart when they discontinued it and I had to switch to Ektachrome. I love to travel, so much of my photography has been just travel/nature photos and I could take 10 rolls of pictures on a week long trip.

“I remember agonizing over the \$200 cost of a memory card.”

My digital was a Canon 10D and I remember agonizing over the \$200 cost of a memory card but then realized I spent more than that on 10 rolls of film and processing, something I would never have to pay again! Over the years I have upgraded several times and now have a Canon 5D Mk III. I love low light photography and when the 7D came out I could finally get decent but not great handheld images. The 5D Mk III is fantastic and I hear the Mk IV is even better. Unfortunately too many years spent hunched over a computer has left my neck protesting when there is a giant camera and lens slung around it. I am completely sold on my iPhone XS Max for 26-52mm pictures in moderate to full light, leaving my SLR for low light and telephoto.



Glen Gould



Camel trekking on an overcast day (Thank goodness!) in Morocco



Selfridge & Co at Christmas. London

Taking camera raw pictures and “developing” them rather than accepting the in-camera JPEG can make the difference between a drug store snapshot and an Ansel Adams fine art print. Making sure my pictures don’t have any blowout, decent detail and contrast, accurate color, and are cropped appropriately is important to me.

My goal in joining the LGSCC is to learn and be inspired to take more creative prints rather than just documenting my travels.

March Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It

Spring is Waiting to Burst- Dori Myer Creative color projected

I was trying to take photos of teardrops using a macro lens and eye droppers but was failing miserably, so I gave up and decided to create a teardrop in Photoshop. To do that I searched the internet for methods of faking that shape and came across an interesting glass ball/bubble tutorial. Having copious images of one location in Yosemite (taken every season for a few years now), I considered the idea of a bubble being dreamy and applied it to the dreams of warmer days at the foot of Half Dome. This is a composite of two images taken in April, 2015 (17mm) and December, 2016 (24mm), and lots of tinkering with filters, masks, and transparency in Photoshop.



Better Days Have Been Seen- Alan Levenson Pictorial color projected

While vacationing in Point Reyes over Memorial Day 2019, I spotted this relic in the back of the Inverness store. Turns out I have not been the only person to notice it as each time I came to visit there were others taking photos. I can imagine how many photographers have visited it over the years. On May 27th I made a point of returning when sunset approached and shedding low angled light upon the subject. Fortunately, the light was filtered through a very thin layer of fog, (not clouds) which imparted some special quality. Perhaps magic light. Nikon Z7, Nikon 24-70 lens at 24mm, 1/100 sec @, f/9 ISO 64. Some minor enhancement in Lightroom and Nik.



◀ Falling Into a Rut, Tim Aston, Pictorial color print

There are treasures hidden in plain sight all over the Death Valley, but it has taken a fair amount of wandering around in what looks like completely barren land to locate some of them. I tried five different focal lengths for this composition to find a healthy balance between crack and mountain prominence. This was somewhere in the middle at 22mm. Sony A7R2 with Canon 16-35 f/4 at f/11, 100 ISO, focus stacked 2 images

March Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It (continued)

Second Floor, the MET - Eric Gray, Monochrome pictorial print ►

The massive ceiling arches on the second floor of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, repeat backwards supporting several galleries on each side. It was a rainy day in New York and the crowds were small. Shot as color and converted from camera RAW to black and white. June 2017, Nikon D750, 1/100 sec. F4.5, 24-120mm Nikkor lens at 24mm.



◄ **Suspended in Flight- Serena Hartoog, Creative print**

I created this image using the cyanotype process I learned when taking a fine art photography class in 2012. I used two chemicals, ferric ammonium citrate and potassium ferricyanide, to produce a cyan-blue print. The photo of the bird was scanned onto transparent film for contact printing. I used rice paper soaked in the chemicals and then brought it outside to expose under the sunlight. When outside, I picked wild grass and wild flowers to place them on the sheet to create the border.

Antique- Larry Shapiro, Monochrome projected ►

This image was made in mid May during a workshop given by Elizabeth Opalenik (<https://elizabethopalenik.com>) This was the third workshop I have taken with Elizabeth. All have been excellent but this one was the best. It was held in Marin in a photography studio with great natural light. This image was made using the light from a window to model's left. Camera: Nikon D850, 50mm f/1.4 lens at f/1.8 1/400 sec ISO 400. To create the final image I used both Topaz Studio (to enhance the background blur and reduce the contrast) and then into Silver Efex Pro to create the sepia B&W conversion and the positive vignette.



Selfie Day and Education

National Selfie Day - edited CNN article and research
Never underestimate the power of a selfie.

The term even fought its way into the Oxford Dictionary in 2013 and was named “word of the year.” And each June 21st, enthusiasts can celebrate the art form with National Selfie Day.

The honor of the first selfie belongs to Robert Cornelius, a photography enthusiast from Philadelphia, who in October 1839 took his own picture in the backyard of his family’s light fixture store. In the portrait, Cornelius stands slightly off-center with hair askew, in the backyard behind his family’s lamp and chandelier store, peering uncertainly into the camera. He wrote on the back of it: “The first light Picture ever taken. 1839.”



Eager to try out daguerrotypy, a photography method that had been invented just two months prior, Cornelius set up a large box camera with a lens fashioned from a pair of opera glasses, according to the Library of Congress. And then, he froze.

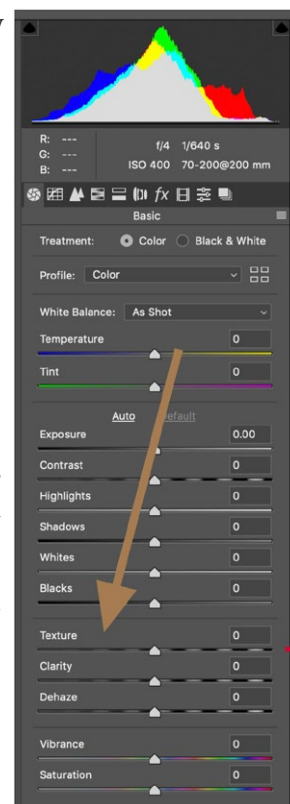
Light exposure then took between three to 15 minutes to adjust, so Cornelius likely had to remain still for quite a while to capture the photo.

By definition, the subject of a selfie takes the photo with a smartphone and later shares it on social media.

Cornelius didn’t hold the camera and he probably didn’t intend for it to be shared with the masses, but he took it himself-enough to earn him the [Guinness World Record](#) for the first selfie and a spot in the Library of Congress.

Using the New Lightroom Texture Slider -
by Larry Shapiro

Once again Adobe has added a new feature without much fanfare and little indication that this function is now available. If you have the subscription Photography Bundle which includes both Photoshop and Lightroom and you have updated in the past month, you now have this new tool. It is located in the Develop Module, in the Presence section, right above the clarity slider. This new slider is in response to many photographers who wanted an easy way to smooth skin in portraits. In the past using “negative” clarity did smooth skin but it was most often too strong of an effect. The new Texture slider has a more subtle and pleasant effect on skin, and avoids the plastic look. While the texture slider can reduce texture overall in an image, it is better used with a brush. Select the brush tool. Set the brush size, feathering and flow and then move the texture slider into the negative numbers. Brush over the areas of the skin you want to smooth. Move the slider till you get the effect you want. As with any Lightroom effect this is a non-destructive change, so you can always reverse the effect.



To further understand this new tool please check out my YouTube video on using the texture slider:
<https://youtu.be/XHG-9DoJIok>

Recommended Reading

Nature Photographer - <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/show-tell-with-wildlife-photographer-thomas-mangelsen-2019-06-30/>

Canon to Sony Switch - <https://petapixel.com/2019/06/28/i-switched-from-canon-to-sony>

Long Lens Photography Tips- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5piNqoEm1o>

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