



# Newsletter

Volume 36 Issue 6

June 2014

## In this Edition

---

<a href="#">2014 Field Trips</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">May Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It</a>	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">Meet Rachel Hunter</a>	<a href="#">7</a>
<a href="#">Competition Definitions</a>	<a href="#">8</a>
<a href="#">Key Contacts</a>	<a href="#">8</a>

## Annual Summer Picnic/Potluck

---

### What to Bring

- Your own Main dish (a gas BBQ is available for use)
- Your place settings
- A dish for 8-10 people to share, with appropriate serving utensils
- Alcoholic beverages if you want them (no glass allowed by the pool)

**When** Monday June 16, 6pm (instead of Program Night)

**Where** La Rinconada Country Club Pool Area, 14595 Clearview Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032. Big thanks to Jeff Balfus.

**Who** Club members and their families are welcome

**How Much** \$10 per person (goes to the venue)

### More Details

- Sign Up in advance for Appetizers/ Salads/"Grains": Pasta, Potatoes, Rice, etc./Drinks (non-alcoholic)/Dessert
- Sign up at a camera club meeting, or contact Glenda Smith at 408-867-0598 or by email at [glendakimball@gmail.com](mailto:glendakimball@gmail.com)
- Payments can be made at the June 2, 2014 competition meeting to Glenda Smith or on the night of the event to John Perry
- The pool is available for swimming but there is no lifeguard on duty
- Questions? Contact Glenda Smith

## Coming Club Events

---

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

### Saturday May 31, 2014

11:30pm Projected  
Image Entry Deadline  
Color, Monochrome,  
Creative

### Monday June 2, 2014

5pm Online Print Entry  
Deadline  
7:15pm Print Entry  
Deadline  
Competition: Color,  
Monochrome, Creative

Judge: [George Ziegler](#)

Refreshments:  
Dick Stuart, Betty  
Toepfer, Fred Vogel

### Monday June 16, 2014

6 - 8:00 PM Pot Luck /  
Picnic at La Rinconada  
Country Club Pool  
Area

### Saturday July 5, 2014

11:30pm Projected  
Image Entry Deadline  
Color, Monochrome,  
Nature

## 2014 Fields Trips

---

LGSCC has had several fantastic field-trips in 2014. These trips included:

### Private Airplane Tour of the Bay Area

Jim Lafferty recently led a field-trip to take aerial photographs of the Bay Area. This photo of San Francisco was taken from an altitude of 2,000 feet. The group enjoyed taking different pictures of San Francisco and its surroundings, and all enjoyed a new and different shooting experience.



### San Francisco at Night



Michael Lieberman led a field-trip to photograph several scenes of San Francisco at night, beginning with twilight photos from Pier 7 with the San Francisco skyline in the background. The group then strolled several blocks down the Embarcadero to a series of pilings near the base of the Bay Bridge and ended at the Golden Gate Bridge.

### Big Sur

Doug Steakley showed our group some of his favorite locations in Big Sur, including Garrapata Beach, Bixby Bridge, and McWay Falls. A fun time was had by all.



### San Francisco Bay by Boat



Club members enjoyed a photographic boat tour of the San Francisco Bay led by Jim Lafferty.

### Upcoming Field-Trips

May 31 - Elkhorn Slough Private Pontoon Boat Tour (Full)

October 4 - Kelby Photo Walk (More information will be forthcoming)

### Volunteer Trip Leaders Needed

Volunteer field-trip leaders are needed in order to have more club field-trips this year. If you are willing to lead a field-trip, contact the Field-Trip VP to set the location/date and to have an e-mail sent to club members announcing the field-trip.

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

---

The May judge was Dan Katzman. We asked the makers of the May first place images to send stories about what their subject was, when and where the image was taken, how it was created (photographed and/or processed), and why they created it.

### **May 2013 First Place Monochrome Digital Projected Image**

---



***Morning at Whaler's Cove***  
Rennis Kauffman

This picture was taken in January, 2014, at Point Lobos State Preserve. It was early morning and there was still a light fog hanging over the area. After driving down to the actual Whaler's Cove and trying a few shots, I came upon this on the drive back up to the main road. I was struck by the light coming through the trees, highlighting the fog, so I had to pull over and see whether I could capture what I was seeing.

The color version was ho-hum, so after some minor contrast edits in Lightroom 5, I switched it to monochrome using NIK Silver Efex Pro 2 and finished it off with some cropping in Lightroom.

This was taken with a Canon 5D Mark II, using a Canon 17-40mm f/4L lens set at 24mm, f/8.0 and ISO 400.

### **May 2013 First Place Color Print**

---

***Between Market and Mission***  
Howard Larsen

I was walking down 2nd Street in San Francisco in December when I saw this alley with the glowing orange building at the end. I did some photographs from the far end then I walked closer to the other end. As the judge correctly surmised I spent about a half hour standing there with the camera up waiting for people to walk by on the street at the end. Only rarely do people use that narrow street. I had several subjects but this guy was the most interesting looking. He was in a good spot with good leg, arm and head positions and a cigarette in his hand. The title although just a literal description of where it is has a somewhat metaphoric significance given that he looks like he might be homeless and given the associations people have with the those two streets.

I used a Nikon D800, a zoom at 135mm, f/9 at 1/100s ISO 800. I went back to the alley a few weeks later and they have painted the orange building a dull shade of red. So the scene no longer exists.



## May 2013 First Place Photojournalism Print

---



### *Mavericks 2014* Larry Rosier

In the fourth week of January Uwe Schmalenbach gave me a heads up call to tell me that the Mavericks surfing competition out of Half Moon Bay would probably take place in a couple of days, and Uwe gave me the boat rental information. I booked a spot on a boat named Riptide for the afternoon (1 to 4pm) of Friday, January 24th. They also had morning space available, but Uwe felt the light would be better in the afternoon.

The cost of the boat rental was \$260.00. Uwe had a reservation on the Queen of Hearts. Uwe and I met before boarding the boats, and we felt that the bow of the ship would be the best spot for photography. I was one of the first to board the boat, and I was able to get a spot on the bow. This turned out to be not so good. It was a fairly rough ride out to the Mavericks surfing area, and I got soaked before I concluded that I needed to move from the bow. There were at least half a dozen boats carrying Mavericks viewers. The boats made a little racetrack course that they covered in five or ten minutes, so one was in a position to take photographs for a couple of minutes per circulation. Frequently there were boats in front that blocked a clean shot, but from time to time one could get a good shot.

I used my Nikon D800E, and I tried my Nikon 300mm f/4 and my Nikon 70-200 f/2.8 lenses. I used a 1.4 TC with both lenses. The image that won 1st place was taken with the 300mm f/4 and 1.4TC. If I had it to do over I would have used just my 300mm f/4 without the 1.4TC. I wanted to get shots that showed a large wave with the surfer on one side or the other. I felt it was best to use less lens and do some cropping so that one could focus on the surfer in the middle of the field of view. I used shutter speed priority at 1/1,000 sec which is my go to shutter speed for action shooting. Other settings were ISO 400, f/8, 1/3eV exposure bias, and center-weighted average metering mode. The image was printed on Epson Hot Press Bright paper.

## May 2013 First Place Photojournalism Digital Projected Image - Basic

---

### *Local East Egg Hunt get off to spirited start* Jeffrey Balfus

The seven and eight year olds were staged for the Easter Egg Hunt at La Rinconada Country Club. The kids waited alongside the 5th green. I was positioned slightly above the kids and used a Sony NEX-6 with 18-200mm lens. Fired off several shots as the whistle blew and the kids dashed for the golden egg.

Cropped the original down a bit, to focus on the boys in the middle. Just luck that they all wore shades of purple and violet.



## May 2013 First Place Photojournalism Digital Projected Image - Advanced

---



Went to my granddaughter's basketball game. She is the girl in the middle. It was a tough game and obviously not going well.

I was trying to get action shots of her and when she was relieved I saw this scene on the bench and thought this says it all. Not much processing - a little clarity and sharpening.

Canon 7D  
Lens 15-85mm  
F 5.6  
3200  
1/25

*On the Bench - game not going well*  
Susan Dinga

## May 2013 First Place Monochrome Print

---

Took this picture on our field trip with Doug Steakley. Not much was right for photographing that day - lots of wind and sun. Unfortunately, the fog lifted early. On days like that I look for what could be good monochrome images or blurred images.

I loved the shape of this river meandering to the sea along with the sea gulls and thought it could be an interesting image. I had to clean up a lot of the black dots on the beach to get the effect and mood I wanted.

Canon 7D  
Lens 15-85mm  
ISO 200  
61 mm  
f18  
1/320



*To the Sea - Little Sur River*  
Susan Dinga

## May 2013 First Place Pictorial/Color Digital Projected Image - Advanced



**Sultry Look**  
*Serena Hartoog*

This image was taken in a hotel suite at the Texas Photography School. The model is a volunteer that does part time modeling.

I took this image using only window light and a table lamp. Since the lighting was not strong, I needed to use higher ISO.

She lay on the couch with the window light on the left and the table lamp on the right.

I used a Canon Mark 5D III with ISO 800, F/4, 1/30 sec.

I photographed her 3/4 length and cropped the image.

There was very little post processing. She has beautiful skin that looks very soft in this natural lighting.

## May 2013 First Place Pictorial/Color Digital Projected Image - Basic

A bit of background for those not familiar with Cosplay, its short for Costume Play. Kids dress up as favorite characters from Comics (think Batman or Batgirl) or Anime (Japanese Animation); many of the costumes are handmade. It's a very popular activity at large conventions like ComicCon in Los Angeles and numerous small local events.

The photo was taken at the [FanimeCon Convention](#) at the San Jose Convention Center, May 25 2013. The costumes are amazing; they really put an incredible effort into them. Soviet Red is not actually a Comic or Anime character, it was this young woman's creation, putting it together with just her imagination.



The image was shot with a Nikon D600, 24-85mm Nikon kit zoom lens, ISO 500, 78mm, f6.3 @ 1/80 sec. I processed the image with a combination of Lightroom, PhotoShop and Nik Color efex.

The RAW image I started with helps show how I worked it to the final image.

Top editing challenges were to burn in several metallic surfaces in the costume that were too bright and defocused the background which is a concrete wall of the convention center. The lighting was indirect natural light just outside the main entrance.



**Soviet Red (Cosplay)**  
*Paul Streit*

## Meet Rachel Hunter

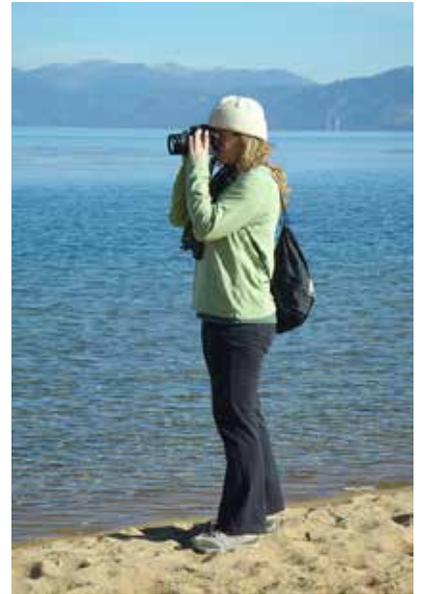
---

Last holiday season, I was standing in a slow checkout queue and wanting to take my mind off it, I took a look around and behind me in line was a beautiful woman with an armful of sparkling twisty things. I asked her what she planned to do with them and she told me she was making table centerpieces for her camera club's holiday dinner. That's how I met Sandra and learned about LGSCC.

The basics of my life, pre-real-camera-photography, are that I was born in Bedford, England. My parents, brother and I moved to California in 1980, when I was eleven, following the silicon chip industry (dad) and tennis tournaments (mum.) I graduated from Prospect High School, where I took and immediately forgot the photography class - pinhole camera, darkroom work and all. And I played tennis for CSU Hayward, while I earned a degree in Liberal Studies and a Minor in Anthropology.

Even though I always had a camera and enjoyed trying for quality and attractive photos, I did not feel strongly about photography until I inherited my father's equipment when I was thirty. His camera had traveled the world and taken shots in places he visited for business - Asia and Europe mostly - and for pleasure - the mountains of the Sierra and Himalayas. He died in Lhasa, Tibet, and weeks later, his equipment arrived home, along with several rolls of film which when developed gave us the comfort of knowing he was doing what he loved during his last days.

Because the camera and lenses belonged to my father and because they had aimed at such amazing subjects, I felt I better work to justify ownership. I started to study to become a knowledgeable photographer. I was in the perfect setting as at that time I was living in San Francisco, working for a corporate interior design firm in downtown and living near the Pacific and Golden Gate Park. But bad luck struck; my spine was injured and I spent almost a year in bed. Photography played a role in my recovery as I used the urge to take good photos to get me out and walking even though the pain was bad.



Then in a crazy turn of events, I met an Arapaho man, and went to live with him on the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming. My scenery changed from urban parks, beaches, and crowded city streets to wild mountains and animals and Native American culture. It only lasted a year, but it was amazing and I wish I could go back with my digital camera.

I returned to California and finished rehabilitating my back and my life. As soon as I could, I started looking for work and was hired to do office work by a man who had his own IT and web site development business. We got along well, and after taking an HTML class, I started working on his clients' web sites and e-mail campaigns. When a client asked if we could do magazine ads, we said, "yes" and quickly learned how to do print work. Soon we were a full-service online and print marketing partnership.

We started doing photography in the same way we fell into graphic design - a client asked if we could, and my partner handed me his Canon 10D and told them, "yes, Rachel's an excellent photographer."

Because we have such a varied client list, I have had some unusual photo shoot opportunities: in an OR shooting surgery for ENT doctors, in a “cage” photographing a mixed martial arts fight, and recently a flash dance mob in a Whole Foods store

Personally, I also enjoy varied subjects. I like beat up, rusty, old things. I like contrasts, especially man-made and natural things off-setting one another. And I love shooting into the sun, which is usually disastrous and useless except as something I like to see.

Concurrent with joining LGSCC, I signed up for the basic photography class at West Valley College. (As I finish this and get it to Airdrie, I'll be working on the final project – 26 photos of “things” which look like letters of the alphabet.) It's been a good class and now, at least, when the pros in the club talk exposure or lens mm, I should understand.

You can link to more at <http://rachelhunter.us> – or just say hello!



## Competition Definitions

---

### Monochrome Definition

Entries into the monochrome category shall be of one color. This color may extend across the full spectrum from darkest (black) to lightest (white) but may not contain any other color to qualify as a monochrome image.

### Creative Definition

Creative photography is producing an image through the use of imaginative skill or originality of thought including the altering of reality. No image should be eliminated from competition simply because it looks realistic, provided it shows originality of concept. Creative images may include modifications in the darkroom, on the computer, or in the camera, as well as unusual points of view, imaginative use of subject matter or lighting, or any other presentation that begins with the maker's photograph or a collection of photographs.

Images are judged both for their technical and pictorial merit. The image should have strong composition, pleasing quality, and color, texture, pattern, and/or tone impact. The appropriateness of the technique selected to create altered reality is considered in judging. The content is unrestricted.



## Key Contracts

---

<b>President</b> John Perry 408-370-7229	<b>Membership</b> Gary Marcos 408-741-5712	<b>Webmaster</b> <a href="#">Jim Katzman</a> 408-867-6810	<b>Newsletter</b> Airdrie Kincaid 408-247-3743	Official publication of the <a href="#">Los Gatos-Saratoga Camera Club</a> , a club member of the Photographic Society of America	
--	--	---	--	---	---

Copyrights of all photos in this publication are retained by the photographers credited.