



# Newsletter

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## Club Information

### Sharing Your Images by Jeff Balfus VP of Education

Taking pictures is a lot of fun, but sharing them is even better!

So let's begin with how to share. Flickr is probably the easiest way to start. You need to get a Yahoo account. Once that is done sign on to Flickr with your Yahoo name and password. Log into Flickr and click on upload button. I would recommend that you have a number of images set up on your hard drive to upload. Simply drag them to the upload page on Flickr and you now have a web presence! To make them public go to the settings and select public for the ones you want to share. You can organize your images into albums and collections just like Lightroom. To share a picture of album just click on the curved arrow; you will get choices to share with email, Facebook, Twitter and more.

The next thing to do is join Groups on Flickr. There are groups for every interest from camera make ( Nikon, Canon, Sony, Fuji...) to lens (50mm, 70-200mm, etc ) locale (Bay Area, San Jose, Northern Ca,...) Birds, Dogs, Travel, Monochrome, Bright Colors and the list is longer than you can imagine.

So what's the point of this. We have a club of 80 active photographers all eager to learn and improve our photography. The only way to learn is to see more images and share more images. Get exposure to the world and share! If we can get a number members going we can set up our own group and have monthly challenges with a wide range of subjects. So get signed up and get out shoot and share. In the meantime at least follow me on Flickr <https://www.flickr.com/gp/jeffrey-balfus/U1Jy8X>

### Photojournalism Definition per LG/S CC Website

**Los Altos Photography Exhibit:** If you have images in this exhibit please come to the library on Sunday April 30th at 10 AM to collect your pictures. If you cannot come please arrange with someone who will be there to pick up your stuff.

## *Coming Club Events*

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

### Saturday April 29, 2017

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

### Monday May 1, 2017

5pm Online Print Entry Deadline  
7:15pm Walk In Print Entry Deadline  
Color, Monochrome, Photojournalism  
Judge: TBD

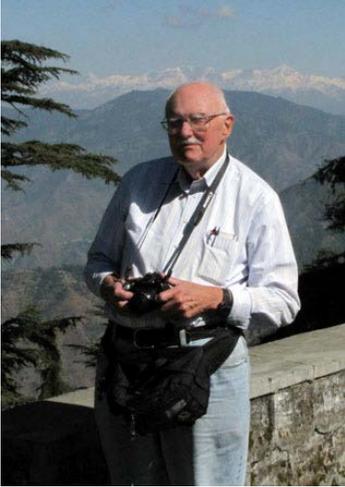
**Refreshments:** Jerry Held, Richard Ingles, James Lamb

### Monday May 15, 2017 Program:

Laurie Hatch: "Mountains I Have Known; A Photographic Journey Through Art, Astronomy, and Place." Laurie Hatch is the official photographer for the Lick Observatory.

# Passings

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**Dick Stuart** was born in Wisconsin and passed away in San Jose on March 31, 2017. Dick was a long time member (more than 10 years) of the Los Gatos/ Saratoga Camera Club. His contributions to the camera club were significant. Dick was instrumental in adding projected images to the clubs competition nights and also helped implement projected images at the 6C Council level. He worked tirelessly with Visual Pursuits (who manages the clubs website) to implement the Image Competition software which is used to organize, judge and project the clubs images on competition nights. This expertise helped Dick move into the role of Vice President of Digital Image Projection for our club which he held for 5 years. All of the clubs past VP's of Projection were trained by Dick. If Dick observed that something needed to be done to help the club he would do it. He took over the role of Treasurer and used Quicken to straighten out the club's finances. Dick loved photography and traveled the world to photograph people and places. His favorite travel photography trip was a trip he

took to India with his friend Nirmal Chand. Dick always had a camera with him and tried to shoot images at least one day per week. One of his favorite stopping spots in Los Gatos was the Lingerie Shop. He liked to photograph the newest displays and maybe purchase something for his wife Ann. We all will miss Dick and I am certain that he has his camera with him in heaven and is documenting all the neat places to go.

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**Barry Grivett** was originally from Illinois. He passed away at the VA Hospital in Palo Alto on April 24, 2017 after a long battle with prostate cancer. Barry and his wife of 37 years Sherry have been members of the Los Gatos/ Saratoga Camera Club since 2004. Originally Barry was known as the "Bug Guy" within the camera club because of his very unique macro images of insects. He used that platform to become one of the best nature photographers within the Los Gatos Camera Club winning numerous awards in the projected and print categories. To quote Barry: " My favorite photography is Nature and Wildlife.



Nothing excites me more than to capture and share the too-rarely-seen, especially the interactive behaviors of the earth's species." Barry also had an unsatisfied interest in food photography, photo essays and triptychs. Barry's favorite place to photograph is the Bay Area where he started photographing when he retired in 2003 from the avionics industry.

He says that his biggest photography influence and inspiration is my wife Sherry. She is my biggest fan and mentor. Barry says she put a camera in my hands and I started to see.

Sherry sent out a note announcing Barry's passing. In the note she said that she and Barry shared so many goals and values together and they often talked about how lucky they were that they could travel and see the world, and photograph so much of what they loved. Barry and Sherry have made a lot of friends at the camera club and they all will miss Barry very much.

## Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It

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The judge was Chris Cassells. We asked the makers of the 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 2017 First Place Pictorial/Color Digital Projected Image-Advanced

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*Mermaid Dreams*  
Craig Colvin

The model in this image is named Kitty Meow. Kitty runs an artist performance space in San Francisco. This past November they were producing a show called Queer as Merfolk, and Kitty wanted promotional images. So I heated up my pool to a nice 90 degrees. She borrowed a \$5K silicone mermaid tail made by Finfolk Productions and we started shooting. For this shot I covered the sides and bottom of my pool with black fabric. I was using natural light and had been shooting with the sun behind me for most of the shoot. I then suggested she swim away from me towards the sun and was surprised by the color burst caused by the sun.

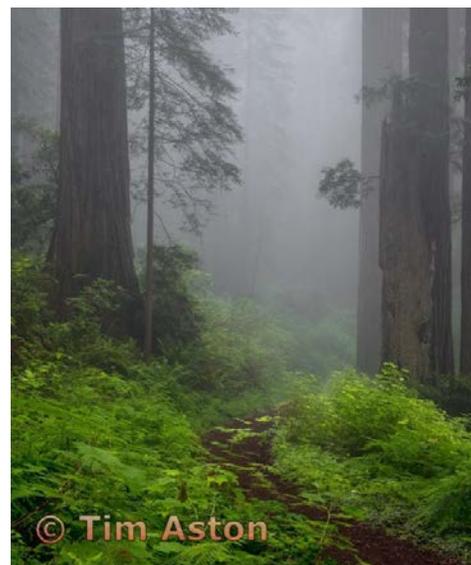
I have a BTS video from another mermaid shoot so you can see the setup I used. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7liJrYbV8I>  
Canon 5DmkII, 1/320 sec at f/9.0, ISO 800

Canon 17-40mm f/4L lens at 17mm  
Underwater Housing by Ikelite  
Post-processing in Photoshop and Nik Color Efx Pro

### May 2017 First Place Color Print

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I'd been looking for a redwood fog image for years. Old growth redwood forests around Eureka and Crescent City have a different feel to more southerly groves. My go to lens in dense forests is my 24-105mm lens because it gives huge flexibility to simplify a scene. This was my first morning in Del Norte Redwood State Park; the fog was thick and the air was still. The richness of the green leaves was brought out by a polarizer. The polarizer in the fog and no direct light in a forest full of giants made for a long shutter speed of 10 seconds. The stillness of the air was necessary for the leafy ground plants to not shake and blur. I composed the scene to limit tree overlap, but considered the overlap of the right trees a compromise. I found the young tree on the left to be key. I wanted its leftmost leaves to blend in with the trunk behind them, and its rightmost leaves to be bordered by the background tree in the fog. A crop off the bottom to reach 4x5 format removed the nearer plants that were slightly out of focus, and shaped the pathway through the scene. Sony A7RII with adapted Canon 24-105 10 sec at f/11 with circular polarizer.



*Verdant Pathway*  
TimAston

## May 2017 First Place Travel Projected - Basic

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*Monks Receiving Rice for Morning Meal at 5AM Alms Walk in Louang Prabang, Laos*  
**Bob Downs**

This photo was taken in Louang Prabang, Lao, along the upper reaches of the Mekong River. (Laos is from the French spelling and the s is silent.) We arrived at this spot alongside the road by 5 AM, before it was light and before the first monks arrived and we were given a bowl of rice to hand out. Once they started coming it seemed they kept coming forever. We joined many local people passing out small handfuls of rice to each monk as they passed by. This was their morning meal. The local culture of so many boys and men with their beautiful robes and the generosity of all the women who rose early to provide the food was striking to me. The vehicles belonged to high-ranking officials in the Communist Party and I heard some resentment of them from our guide. When my rice was gone I moved across the street to take the photo. Settings were ISO 1600, f4.0, 1/40 sec. focal length 78mm. It was hand-held so I took several photos to get one without too much shake.

## May 2017 First Place Travel Digital Projected Image-Advanced

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I was in Rwanda last week and saw many women carrying a wide variety of things on their heads. As I was waiting for my Gorilla trek to begin, I noticed women walking on the road and left the gorilla briefing to try to make an image of the women. I found a nice background and waited for women to walk by. In this particular image there was a cute child walking with the woman but I decided to crop the child as he detracted from the main story of Handbags becoming Headbags.

The gorilla trek was fantastic, but the next time I go back to Rwanda, I will spend hours on the side of the road photographing the very colorful women and their wide collection of head baggage.

Shot with Nikon D810, Nikkor 24-70mm at 70mm 1/250s at f/7.1 ISO 200



*In Rwanda Handbags Become Headbags*  
**Jerry Held**

## May 2017 FirstPlace Monochrome Projected

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*Abandoned Sugar Mill  
in Cuba*  
Jim Katzman

Outside of Havana we visited a sugar mill that at one time produced Cuba's largest export. Their market collapsed with the US embargo and the collapse of the Soviet Union, and sugar is no longer being grown in Cuba. This is one room of one of the larger sugar mills that are all now abandoned. The scene, to me, captured the melancholy of better days gone by. Monochrome treatment, I thought, enhanced this feeling.

It was shot on April 5, 2017 with my Sony A7Rii as a vertical pano. It consists of four images shot in landscape orientation and then stitched vertically in Lightroom. So, the image is quite large (7965x15053 pixels). It was processed in both Silver Efex Pro and Lightroom. Other specs: 1/60 sec at f/4.5 with a 24-70mm G Sony lens at 24mm, iso 4000

## May 2017 FirstPlace Monochrome Print

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This was taken at Little Wild Horse Canyon, Goblin Valley, UT. This was the last stop of a photo tour run by Utah Adventure (UTAdventure.com) where they take 6 photographers and 3 models to 8 locations around Utah over the course of 4 days to take fine art nude photos. It's a lot of travel and a lot of shooting, but some of the most beautiful scenery I've ever seen. The first trip I did was in May 2016 (when this photo was taken), I liked it so much I went back in Sept 2016, and I'm going again as an instructor on their upcoming June trip.

Little Wild Horse Canyon is a slot canyon that is 11 miles long. We hiked in about 3 miles, where I saw this depression in the floor of the canyon. I had the model (named Floofie) curl up in a fetal position in the depression. I then climbed up the walls of the canyon about 6 feet using one leg on one wall and the other on the opposite wall so I could shoot down on the model.

I have a behind-the-scenes video of the entire UTAdventure trip. You can see the depression used in this photo at 2:22 in the video. Note this video contains nudity and is NSFW [https://youtu.be/G4jgyAkKT\\_k](https://youtu.be/G4jgyAkKT_k)  
Canon 5DmkIII, 1/250sec at f/7.1, ISO 1600

Canon 24-70mm f/2.8L lens at 24mm.

Post-processing in Photoshop and Nik Silver Efx Pro.



*Mother Earth*  
Craig Colvin

## May 2017 First Place Pictorial/Color Digital Projected Image - Basic



*Boat Inside the Great  
Blue Hole, Belize*  
Airdrie Kincaid

In 2014 Belize and Guatemala were the closest foreign countries to California that I hadn't already visited. My cousins lived in Belize just south of Mexico's Yucatan peninsula when it was British Honduras. Richard and I visited three places on our trip: Ambergris Caye the largest island, Chan Chich Lodge built on a Mayan ruin in the jungle near the border with Guatemala, and Tikal National Park in Guatemala. In order to travel from Ambergris Caye to Chan Chich, the lodge arranged a charter flight in a small plane. Before heading west to the jungle, we asked the pilot to take us over Lighthouse Reef about 45 miles east to see the circular submarine sinkhole in the reef that is 984 feet across. The plane circled low over the area and we photographed out windows using wide-angle lenses. After the trip, I entered an image from another angle with the boat leaving the hole that did not place. Since we haven't traveled outside the US since 2014, I recently looked through older images for possible entries and found this one where the boat was still inside the hole and heading toward the viewer. In Camera Raw, I adjusted the temperature to be slightly warmer and increased contrast. In Photoshop, I cropped each side of the horizontal image to make it squarer and emphasize the diagonal reef formation.

Canon EOS 7D Lens EF-S17-85mm f/4-5.6 IS USM at 24.0 mm ISO 640, f/7.1, 1/2000 sec.

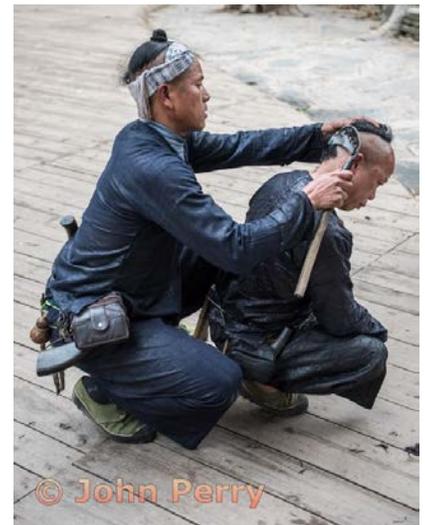
## May 2017 First Place Travel Print

This photograph was taken in Feb of 2016 on a trip I took to China with Oliver Klink. Our goal was to visit as many unique ancient Chinese villages as we could and document their New Years customs. The name of this village is Biasha and the tribe that lives in this village is the last Chinese minority that are allowed to have guns. All the villagers have old muskets. One of the unique traditions on New Years is to get their yearly haircut using a very sharp sickle. This image documents that process.

Image particulars:

Nikon D810 with a 24-70mm f/2.8 lens at 62mm f/2.8, ISO 1600, hand held, shutter speed 1/125 sec.

Processed in LightRoom to set black and white points and a slight crop.



*Biasha Tribal Haircut for  
Chinese New Years*  
John A Perry

## Key Contacts

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