



Newsletter for August 2011

Visit the Photography Forum Web Site
<http://www.photo-forum.info>

Mission

The Mission of the Photography Forum is to encourage photographers of all levels to continue to study the art of photography, practice and produce new work, and to share ideas and experiences. The Forum is open to all who have an interest in continuing to improve their photography skills. Both digital and film camera users are welcome. The Photography Forum is for the exclusive benefit of all members and is not to be used for any commercial purpose.

Our membership is **52 members!** Forty-two members have renewed for 2011-2012. We also have signed ten new members. Thank you all for your continued support.

Welcome to our latest members **Byron Campbell** from Alamo, and **Susan Silveria** from Walnut Creek. We look forward to seeing them at our meetings and on our field trips.

August 16, 2011, Meeting

Photography Forum Meeting

Share Photos Theme: Point Molate Winery

Program: Andy Pischnikoff: "Photography Joys and Challenges at the Burning Man Festival"

Camera Clinic: "Renaming and Organizing Your Files"

We meet in

**Walnut Creek Civic Arts,
Shadelands Facility
111 North Wiget Lane
Walnut Creek, California
Time: 7:00pm**

Program: **Andy Pischalnikoff** has been photographing the Burning Man Festival for 6 years, creating 5 photography shows. This year he will be part of the Burning Man photography “Doc” crew for his 2nd year this upcoming “Burn” in late August. His presentation will include photography smorgasbord that is the Burning Man Festival, challenges of photography in heavy dust storms, heat and cold, what equipment is necessary to cover an event of this magnitude, surviving in the desert and not being a burden to others (Radical self-reliance), and obtaining a photography contract to be allowed to photograph the event and to use the photos beyond personal use. [Here is a link to his latest show.](#)

Camera Clinic: lead by **Tom Crews** will discuss “**Renaming and organizing your files**”. Bring your questions and solutions.

Camera Clinics are held from 6:00 – 6:45 (more or less) before the regular meeting starts at 7:00. If anyone has suggestions for future Camera Clinics, please pass them to **Tom Crews**.

Members are encouraged to visit the web site often as it is updated quite frequently. You might wish to “book mark” it.

Forty-five Members and guests met in July to share our photographic experiences. **Michael Warwick** showed some of his photos taken on a recent trip to Yosemite and the American River. You can see the photos on the “Field Trips Page” of the web site.

A Workshop is planned for **September 24 – Photographing Landscape and Wildlife presented by Tamron Lenses.** [Click here for more information.](#) (**Note:**

You need to register for this workshop.) These Workshops are in lieu of those respective months' Field Trips (see the Plan Ahead section at the end of this Newsletter). Anyone having a suggestion for future workshops next year please contact **Tom Crews**.

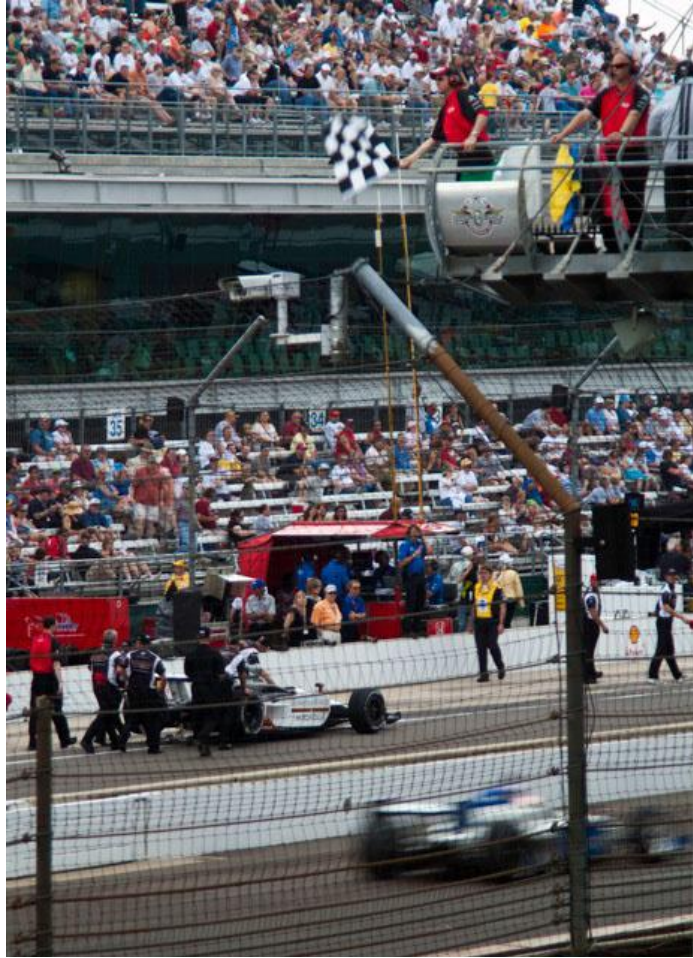
The July Program consisted to a critique of members photos. Again this proved to be one of our most popular events. Many thanks to **Tom Donahoe, Jeff Smith** and **Jerry Samelson** for providing their expertise in critique our photos.

The winners of the **May Photo Contest** ("Cars") are:



FIRST PLACE: Gary Rosenthal

Comments: An interesting mix of abandonment and sense of humor, highlighted by the choice of using black and white. Great car, but photo would have been better if it didn't have the guy making a self-conscious gesture. Even so, I like the car enough for First. Loved the subject. This is a wonderful whimsical image. Captures a survival mood and a happy attitude under dire conditions with black and white enhancing the effect.



SECOND PLACE: Robert Deutschman

Comments: No comments.



Third PLACE: Jeff Smith

Comments: Nice angle and good presentation of the subject. Good sharp detail, nice exposure. Nice affect between the gold wheels and color of the rest of the car. I like the colors and the angle; the full car in all its glory.

Gary's winning photo is on display at Action Photo Services in Concord. As Second Place Winner, Robert received a \$25 Gift Card from Camera West in Walnut Creek. As Third Place, Winner Jeff will select the theme for the January 2012 contest.

The subject for the **July Photo Contest** is "Joy". Nine entries have been submitted and may be viewed at <http://www.xphomestation.com/PhotoForum/contest.html>. Voting must be completed by August 15. Please take a few moments to provide your comments so that we all may learn and improve our photography. **REMINDER: YOUR VOTE WILL NOT COUNT IF YOU DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THE BALLOT.**

The subject for the **August Photo Contest** is "Night Photography". All August entries must be submitted by August 16; voting must be completed by September 19. All images should be in jpg format (no TIFF or PSD files). Entries may be submitted by email, cd, or flash drive.

PHOTOGRAPHY FORUM PHOTO CONTESTS

<u>Month</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Submittal Deadline</u>	<u>Voting Deadline</u>
August	"Night Photography"	August 16	September 19
September	"The Edge of the Bay"	September 20	October 17
October	"Gates"	October 18	November 14
November	"Reflections in Objects"*	November 15	December 19

All photos must have been taken within 6 months of the contest.

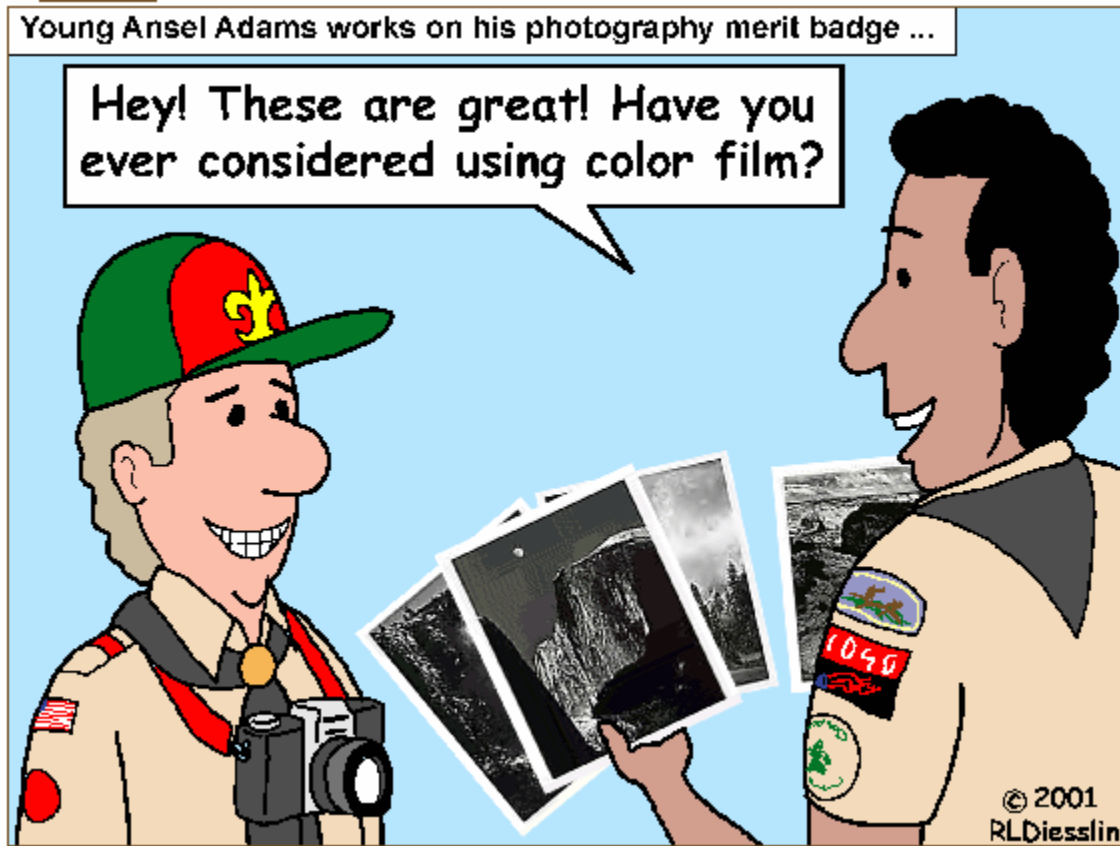
*** Reflections in objects as opposed to a body of water, something a little more creative.**



Last month **Tom Crews** gave a tip on processing jpeg images in Adobe Camera Raw. For quite a while jpeg images have been able to be processed in ACR while using Photoshop and Photoshop Elements. The benefit is twofold. Firstly all of the adjustments in ACR can be applied to the jpeg image. This gives much more adjustment capability than just processing the jpeg in Photoshop or Elements. Secondly (and maybe more importantly)

if the jpeg image is opened at a later date in ACR all of the previous adjustments are available to be modified. This cannot be done if the jpeg is processed directly in Photoshop or Elements unless the file is saved as a PSD file.

Charles McMullen provides [this article](#) on how to make pencil drawings from a photograph.



If you have 3 quarters, 4 dimes, and 4 pennies, you have \$1.19. You also have the largest amount of money in coins without being able to make change for a dollar.

August 20, 2011 Field Trip

Destination: Oakland Zoo

Time & Location: The Zoo is located at 9777 Golf Links Rd., Oakland off Highway 580. Plan to meet near the ticket booth at 10:00am. (**Note: There is a discount for groups of twelve or larger. It is therefore important that we meet all together before entering. Afterwards we can split up if desired.**)

Photos for Sharing: Submit six (6) digital images to share at the September 20 Meeting.

Additional Information: Nestled in the rolling hills of 525-acre Knowland Park, the zoo is home to more than 660 native and exotic animals. This will be a great

opportunity to make some outstanding wild animal photographs in a beautiful setting. [Click here for more information.](#)

**2011 Photo Scavenger Hunt
Contest Ends September 30
20 Subjects
Over \$2000 in Prizes**

[CLICK HERE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS](#)

Adobe is offering **CS Subscription Editions** for all of their CS products including Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Dreamweaver, Flash, and After Effects. [Click here for additional information.](#)



[WE ARE LOOKING FOR SPEAKERS](#)

We are always looking for new speakers on anything photographic: techniques, vocations, experiences, trips, and different types of photography, Photoshop, anything that would be of general interest. If you know of someone you would like to see, or if you want to make a presentation yourself, please contact Tom Crews.

[WHEN DO PHOTOS HAVE TO BE SUBMITTED ?](#)

Sharing Photos: Submit no more than 6 digital images on a cd or flash drive at the Photography Forum Meeting (or by email to Tom Crews, no later than Noon on the Monday before the Meeting). If you are not able to attend field trips, yet do shoot images at other events or locations, you may bring them to a meeting to share and receive comments or suggestions for improvement.

Monthly Photo Contests

The **purpose of the Photography Forum contests** is to provide an opportunity for members to work on techniques, to engage in creativity, to see in unaccustomed ways, and/or to capture a place or a setting. It is not the theme or the subject itself that is most important; it's how the photographer goes beyond the theme by incorporating it into an "image" or a "keeper".

Each contest is open to all Members of the Photography Forum. Images may be either in color or black & white. Each Member may submit one image per contest. Members are encouraged to submit the best image they can create using all tools at their disposal, be it in-camera techniques or image processing software.

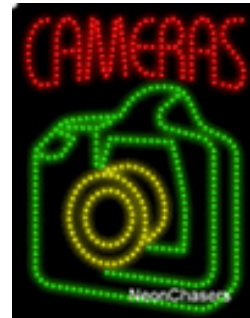
All images for each contest will be posted on the web site where members may vote for First, Second, and Third Place. Votes must be submitted by the deadline specified for each contest. Winners will be announced at the Membership Meeting. **Action Photo Services** will print and mount a 12x18 print of the winning image that will be displayed at their store in Concord. When the following month's winner is ready for display, the previous winner may pick up their print from Action.

All photos must have been taken within 6 months of the contest.

All images should be in jpg format. Entries may be submitted by email, cd, or flash drive.

FOR SALE

Anyone wishing to place an
Ad for Used Photographic Equipment
(or seeking used equipment)
please contact **Tom Crews**





The "Free Stuff" Table has proven to be a popular feature of our meetings. The Table is for members to bring items to give away to other members. We have had everything from filters to memory cards to books and even monitor calibration equipment. So if you have something you no longer need and would rather not just throw it away, bring it to the meeting.

Plan Ahead:

Anyone having a suggestion for interesting Field Trip destinations please contact Tom Crews. Please note that these schedules are as accurate as possible at the date of this Newsletter, however, they are subject to change.

- September 20:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Oakland Zoo
Program: **Jeff Smith:** “Kid Photography”
Camera Clinic: “Using Filters with a Digital Camera”
- September 24:** Photography Forum Workshop: **Photographing Landscape and Wildlife presented by Tamron Lenses**
- October 18:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: “Our Best People Photos”
Program: **Eric James Leffler:** “Travels About the Bay”
Camera Clinic: “Layers and Masks”
- October 22:** Field Trip to General Vallejo’s Home “Lachryma Montis” in Sonoma
- November 15:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Lachryma Montis
Program: **Tom Crews:** “Thailand Revisited”
Camera Clinic: “Blending Modes”
- November 19:** Field Trip to Castello di Amorosa Winery
- December:** **No Meeting or Field Trip Planned for December**
- December 2-4*:** Winter Art Show
- January 28*:** Field Trip to San Francisco - Fort Point
- February 25*:** Field Trip to Alameda – Hangar One
- April 21*:** Field Trip to the Mt View Sanitary District Marshes
- June 2*:** Field trip to Town of Locke – Chili Cook-off
- August 25*:** Field Trip to San Francisco AT&T Park
- September 22*:** Field Trip to Safari West

*** Tentative Schedule**

Other Photo Opportunities:

**If you know of any Other Photo Opportunities,
Please contact Tom Crews.**

If you attend one of these activities and have some good images that you would like to share, please bring them to a Meeting.

- Lake Merritt in Oakland
- Heather Farms Rose Garden
- Alcatraz
- San Francisco Zoo
- Marin Headlands (Point Bonita Lighthouse, Bunkers, Rodeo Beach)
- China Town at night
- Half Moon Bay Pumpkin Festival

Membership

To become a member of the Photography Forum, bring a completed [Application Form](#) along with a check (payable to City of Walnut Creek) to one of our monthly meetings. You may also mail a completed application form to the address shown on the form.

Visit the Photography Forum Web Site
<http://www.photo-forum.info>
Contact: Tom Crews (xptom@sbcglobal.net)