



Newsletter for January 2010

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 **Sixty** members and continues to grow!

**WELCOME TO A NEW YEAR
FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCELLENCE**

January 19, 2010, Meeting

Photography Forum Meeting

Share Photos Theme: Playland Not at the Beach

Program: Jackie Golding: The Amazing Holga Camera

**We meet in
Walnut Creek Civic Arts,
Shadelands Facility**

**111 North Wiget Lane
Walnut Creek, California
Time: 7:00pm**

Jacki Golding has been a photographer by avocation for as long as she can remember. After dreaming about trying a Holga for a long time, she began using one about two years ago, and she never seems to want to put it down. A collection of 165 of her [Holga photos can be seen on Flickr](#). Two of her Holga photos were just accepted for a Low Fidelity exhibition (Dec. 2-23) in Canada! She will talk about the Holga's origins, quirks, and joys, the esthetic that's associated with the Holga and other plastic cameras, and Holga how-to's.

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

The subject for the **November Photo Contest** is “Out of Focus.” Fourteen entries have been submitted and may be viewed at

<http://www.xphomestation.com/PhotoForum/contest.html>.

Voting must be completed by January 18. Please take a few moments to provide your comments so that we all may learn and improve our photography.

The subject for the **January Photo Contest** is “What is it?” All January entries must be submitted by January 19; voting must be completed by February 15. The idea for this contest is to show a close up of an interesting part of an item found around the household. A second photo is to be submitted as a reveal shot that shows what it is. All images should be in jpg format. Entries may be submitted by email, cd, or flash drive.

We will share and critique photos from our **Field Trip to Playland Not at the Beach** at the January Meeting. **If anyone got some good photos of the snow in the Bay Area, please bring those to share at the January meeting.**

When submitting your photos to share, select the one that you consider the “Best.” Each of these **“Best” photos will then be judged** by the Members attending the meeting and the “Best of the Best” will be selected. The winner will be presented with a Gift Card from Camera West.

A new **Message Board** has been added to the Web Site to replace the Information Page. Members are encouraged to use this Message Board to share information on

other web sites of interest, new contests, questions and answers on issues of interest, etc.

The January 30 Field Trip

Destination: Fort Point National Historical Site

Location: Fort Point is located beneath the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco (about 30 miles, 40 minutes from Walnut Creek).

Meeting Location: Let's plan on meeting at the Front Gate at 11:00am.

Photos for Sharing: Submit no more than five (5) digital images to share at the February Meeting one of which will be judged as Best of the Best.

Assignment: This will be a Black & White photo shoot. All images submitted should be B&W or tinted.

Additional Information: Fort Point will be open from 10:00am until 5:00pm Friday through Sunday. This is your chance to see Civil War reenactment groups and organizations perform living history demonstrations as well as talk about their organizations and research. There will be infantry and artillery drills as well as civilian, musician and medical demonstrations. There are a number of such reenactments throughout the year in many locations in California; however, this is one of the only ones situated in an actual historic site. For more information go to:

http://users.lmi.net/mcm20me/20th_Maine/CompG/events/fortpoint.htm

Tom Crews gave a demonstration at the November Meeting “**Combining Multiple Images into One Photo**.” You can view his demonstration on the “Hints & Tips” page of the web site.



Twenty members attended the **December Flash Workshop** lead by **Jeff Smith** and **Gene Farley**. This was one of the best workshops we have ever had. In sharing their knowledge we learned so much that will help us all improve our flash photography. If nothing else we learned to carry spare batteries and not to loan our equipment to anyone. Thank you Gene and Jeff for a job well done.



For those who attended the Flash Workshop and those interested in improving their flash photography there is a new book out ***Speedlights & Speedlites: Creative Flash Photography at the Speed of Light***. The flash systems offered by Nikon and Canon, which allow an amazing degree of automated control over illumination (with an increase in a certain type of complexity) offer amazing opportunities for photographers to capture images. Lou Jones and his fellow authors address those opportunities in this book. [Amazon.com has this book for \\$23.07.](#)

The December Workshop was such a success we will plan on at least two more next year. If anyone has a suggestion, please communicate your ideas to **Tom Crews**.

Tom Crews will be teaching the following classes in Walnut Creek:

Inside Your Canon EOD 40D, 1 Session
Saturday, 10:00am – 12:30pm, January 23

Inside Your Nikon D90 SLR, 1 Session
Saturday, 1:00pm – 3:30pm, January 23

Getting the Most from Canon's Digital Photo Professional, 1 Session
Saturday, 10:00am – 4:00pm, March 6

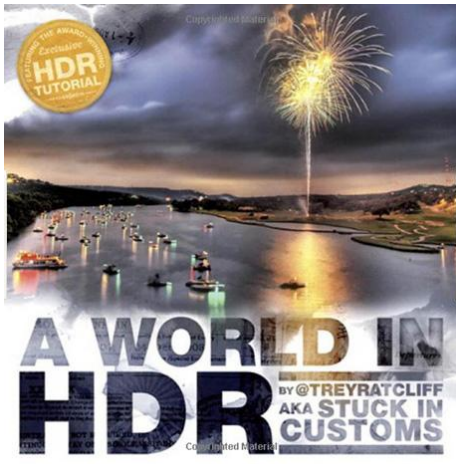
Shooting and Processing RAW Files, 1 Session
Saturday, 10:00am – 12:00pm, February 27

Introduction to Photoshop Elements, 5 Sessions
Monday – Friday, 10:00am – 12:00pm, March 8-12

Take Control of Your Digital Camera, 6 Sessions + Field Trip
Tuesday, 6:30pm – 8:30pm, January 29 – March 9 (no class February 16)

For more information on these and other classes offered by Walnut Creek CAE see the **2010 Winter Catalog**.

The Photography Forum has an exhibit at Shadelands through February 16, 2010. Please stop by to see some great work of your fellow members.



High dynamic range (HDR) photography lets you capture the myriad colors and levels of light that you can see in the real world, and the results are amazing photographs that run the gamut from super real to surreal. Explore this fantastic realm of photography through the unique vision of renowned travel photographer Trey Ratcliff. A unique blend of practical and inspirational, this book features a breathtaking collection of HDR photographs, engaging explanations of how the author achieved the image, expert tips for achieving stunning results (and avoiding common mistakes) and a foolproof HDR tutorial and software

recommendations. Amazon.com has this book for \$29.69.

PHOTOGRAPHY FORUM PHOTO CONTESTS

<u>Month</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Submittal Deadline</u>	<u>Voting Deadline</u>
January	“What is it?”	January 19	February 15
February	“Sunrise/Sunset”	February 16	March 15
March	“Fire”	March 16	April 19



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 5 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). Everyone wants to make this a learning session. 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. When submitted your photos to share select the one that you consider the “Best.” Each of these “Best” photos will then be judged by the Members attending the meeting and the “Best of the Best” will receive a Gift Certificate from Camera West.

Monthly Photo Contests

The **purpose of the Photo 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.

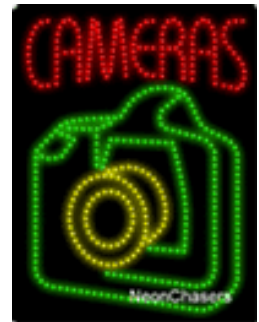
All images for each contest will be posted on the web site where members may vote for First, Second, and Third Place. Votes must be submitted by the deadline specified for each contest. Winners will be announced at the Membership Meeting. **Action Photo Services** will print and mount a 12x18 print of 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.

Although many of us have great photos in our archives, in keeping with the Photography Forum Mission to “practice and produce new work” contest images should be current.

All images should be in jpg format. Entries may be submitted by email, cd, or flash drive. When submitting them on a CD, they should be in “data” form, NOT “photo file” form.

FOR SALE

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



Logitech V20 Notebook Speakers.



Enjoy great sound with a simple setup from your laptop! The Logitech V20 Notebook Speakers offer a convenient, high-quality speaker system for your laptop with rich, full sound and deep bass--all in a lightweight, portable design. The USB port provides power and digital quality audio--no other cables are necessary! Convenient multimedia controls provide easy access to track forward/back, play, stop, mute, and volume buttons that work with many software applications. Includes V20 notebook speakers, Integrated USB cable,

Protective travel case, Quick start guide.

Only \$30.00. See Tom Crews.

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.

January 19: Photography Forum Meeting

Share Photos Theme: Playland Not at the Beach
Program: **Jackie Golding**: The Amazing Holga Camera

January 30: Field Trip to Fort Point with Civil War Re-enactors

February 16: Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Fort Point
Program: **John Ricca & David Lipton**: Dueling Photographers
in Merced Canyon and Yosemite Valley

February 20: Field Trip San Francisco China Town

March 16: Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: China Town
Program: **Kathleen Brennan**: The Grand Tetons

March 20: Field Trip to Briones Regional Park

April 15: Field Trip to Filoli Gardens

April 20: Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Briones Regional Park
Program: **Jim Mammon**:
"Mysteries of Infrared Photography Revealed"

May 15: Photography Forum Workshop: TBA

May 18: Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Filoli Gardens
Program: **TBA**

May 23: Field Trip to Niles Canyon Railway

June 15: Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Niles Canyon Railway
Program: Program: **Members' Photos Critiqued**

June 20: Field Trip to Ruth Bancroft Garden's "Sculpture in the
Garden Exhibit."

July 10: Field Trip to Scottish Games at the Dunsmuir House in
Oakland

- July 20:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Ruth Bancroft Garden
Program: **TBA**

- August 17:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Scottish Games
Program: **Brian Haux:** Aerial Photography

- September 4:** Field Trip to Watsonville Fly-In Air Show

- September 21:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Watsonville Fly-In Air Show
Program: **TBA**

- September:** Photography Forum Workshop: TBA

- October 19:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: TBA
Program: **TBA**

- October 23:** Field Trip TBA

- November 16:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: TBA
Program: **TBA**

- November:** **Field Trip TBA**

- December:** No Meeting or Field Trip Planned for December

*** 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 on a CD.

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.

After you have paid your membership and submitted a Membership Application you will be provided with a UserID and Password to give you access to all areas of our web site.

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