



Newsletter for January 2012

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 **59 members!** Thank you for your continued support.

Welcome to new member **Frank Fribley** from Clayton. We look forward to seeing him at future meetings and field trips.

Happy New Year:
A New Year in which to excel and
improve our photography!

Photography Forum Meeting
January 17, 2012

Share Photos Theme: Castello di Amorosa Winery

Program: Members' Photos Critiqued

We meet in

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

Program: Members' Photos Critiqued. Anyone wishing to have their photos critiqued, please bring no more the five (5) photos to the meeting (or email them to **Tom Crews**). Anyone wishing to be a critic for this, one of our most popular programs, please contact **Tom Crews** as soon as possible.

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 **January 2012 Photo Contest** is "Texture". All January entries must be submitted by January 17; voting must be completed by February 20. 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>
January	"Texture"	January 17	February 20
February	"Everyday Life" *	February 21	March 19
March	"Curves"	March 20	April 16
April	" B&W Urban Landscapes"	April 17	May 14
May	"Old Wooden Structures"	May 15	June 18

**All photos must have been taken within 6 months of the contest.
* Capture ordinary scenes and events in daily life that often remain unrecorded.**

For discussion and comment: Our recent Field Trips have shown an increase in interest and attendance. Also participation in our monthly contests has increased with submittals of some really fantastic photography. Part of our **Mission Statement** "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 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 proposed to combine these two activities to take advantage of our photographic experiences by not only sharing those experiences but to add the challenge and rewards of our efforts by making the Field Trip destination the subject for that month’s photographic contest. Photos taken on the Field Trip would continue to be the subject of the Photo Sharing portion of our monthly meetings. Since some people may have conflicting obligations that make it difficult to attend the Field Trips some of the contest subjects will continue to be “non-trip” related. (Details will be promulgated in future Newsletters.)

This is your Photography Forum. Your thoughts and desires are very important to making your participation meaningful and fulfilling. Please send your comments to **Tom Crews**.

To date we have received only three comments: 1 pro, 2 con.

Question of the Month (December)*: Does anyone do stock photography? How does it work? Does anyone know of good online sites? How would one get started?

Answer: Lynn Watson sells on six different stock photography sites. Here is a link to her photos on Shutterstock <http://www.shutterstock.com/g/luckydog> . Lynn will be a featured presenter at the February Photography Forum Workshop (see below).

Question of the Month (January): A member is considering an upgrade to Photoshop CS5 or Photoshop Lightroom. Do you have any preference between the two? Please email your comments to **Tom Crews** for inclusion in the next Newsletter.

* Question of the Month is a new feature in the Newsletter. We are always impressed with the knowledge base of our Membership. Anyone may submit a question that will be presented here for consideration. The response(s) will be posted in subsequent Newsletters and will be posted on the Lessons Learned page of the web site.

Tom Crews will be teaching the following classes:

Adding Snap to Your Photos (4 sessions plus field trip)
Starts Wednesday, January 11

Inside Your Canon Digital SLR (1 session)
Saturday, February 4

Inside Your Nikon Digital SLR (1 session)
Saturday, February 4

Introduction to Photoshop Elements (6 sessions)
Starts Thursday, February 9

Jeff Smith will be teaching:

5 Steps to Stunning Portraits (5 sessions)
Starts Monday, January 23

See the Walnut Creek CAE Winter Catalog for complete details.



"Well, yes, we could fix it in Photoshop, but
your arm would still be broken."

"You only get one sunrise and one sunset a day, and you only get so many days on the planet. A good photographer does the math and doesn't waste either." – Galen Rowell

January 28, 2012 Field Trip:

Destination: San Francisco - Fort Point

Time & Location: Meet at the Parking Lot at 11:00am.

Special Assignment/ Photos for Sharing: This venue lends itself very well to Black & White images. To that end submit six (6) digital images (at least 3 of which are B&W) to share at the February 21 Meeting.

Additional Information: Every year at the end of January the [20th Maine, Company G](#) conducts a Civil War reenactment at Fort Point which really adds to the experience of visiting this historic site.

For more information on Fort Point, [click here](#).

**Photography Forum Workshop February 25:
“A Little of This and a Little of That”**

When and Where:

Saturday, February 25, 10:30am – 1:00pm.

Location: **TBA**

Lynn Watson sells on six different stock photography sites. She will give a presentation on how to make money from your photography.

We will also cover previously planned Camera Clinic subjects:

“Blending Modes”

“Renaming and organizing your files”

“Using Filters with a Digital Camera”

Additional Information: These Workshops are in lieu of those respective months’ Field Trips (see the Plan Ahead section at the end of this Newsletter) and are for Photography Forum Members only. While there is no charge to attend this Workshop, please register with **Tom Crews** if you wish to attend. Anyone having a suggestion for future workshops please contact **Tom Crews**.

FUNDRAISING

The Friends of Civic Arts Education Foundation provided \$50,000 in support last year primarily in scholarships for low income students and in meeting program needs for equipment. Every dollar raised ensures that classes continue and quality is maintained. In this difficult economy connections to high quality items for our annual action are particularly welcome. Particularly welcome are time in a hotel or vacation property,

dinners at a high-end restaurant, air miles, opportunities to meet “celebrities” or tours of insider locations like Pixar or Google! Save the Date – Friday, February 3 is the annual VIVA ARTS! silent and live auction at Shadelands! It is our major fundraiser and a lot of fun with entertainment by students including scholarship recipients, great food and wine included in the \$65 ticket price. Our emcee will be new city manager Ken Nordhoff! Volunteers working 4 hours or more will be comped. Silent auction items will be available for online bidding in January. Please help promote ticket sales for the event and pass the word along!

Kathy Nelson
Arts Education Program Manager
City of Walnut Creek Civic Arts Education
Nelson@walnut-creek.org

Tom Donahoe has an exhibit of 24 photographs of the ghost town of Bodie on display at the downtown Walnut Creek library. They will be there until January 30. For more information click here: <http://walnutcreek.patch.com/events/walnut-creek-library-photography-exhibit-ghost-town-bodie-ca>.



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 more. 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.

- January 17:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Castello di Amorosa Winery
Program: **Members' Photos Critiqued**
- January 28*:** Field Trip to San Francisco - Fort Point
- February 3 :** Annual VIVA ARTS!
- February 21:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Fort Point
Program: **Tom Crews:** "Thailand Revisited"
- February 25:** Photography Forum Workshop:
"A Little of This and a Little of That"
- March 20:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: "My Eight Favorite Photos"
Program: **Robert Mandell:**
"Twenty tips on photographing wildlife"
- March 22:** Pittsburg - Mt. Diablo Recycling Facility
- April 17:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Mt. Diablo Recycling Facility
Program: **Tom Donahoe:** Photographing in New Mexico
- April 21*:** Field Trip to the Mt View Sanitary District Marshes
- May 15:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Mt View Sanitary District Marshes
Program: **Steve Hobbs**
- May 26*:** Field Trip to San Francisco AT&T Park
- June 19:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: San Francisco AT&T Park
Program: **Robert Cohen**
- June 23:** Field Trip to Preston Castle in Ione

- July 17:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Preston Castle
Program: **TBA**
- July 21*:** Field Trip to Alameda – Hangar One
- August 21:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Hangar One
Program: **Jerry and Nancy Samelson: “Italy Remembered”**
- August 25*:** Field Trip to Hayward Japanese Gardens
- September 8*:** Field Trip to The Crucible in Oakland
- September 18:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Hayward Japanese Gardens
Program: **TBA**
- October 16:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: The Crucible
Program: **TBA**
- October 20:** Photography Forum Workshop: **TBA**
- November 20:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: **TBA**
Program: **TBA**
- November 24*:** Field Trip to San Francisco Embarcadero Center
- 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.

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.xphomestation.com/PhotoForum/photoforum.html>

Contact: Tom Crews (xptom@sbcglobal.net)