



Newsletter for June 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-four** members!

Welcome to new members **Linda Wilcox** of San Leandro and **Robert Deutschman** of Clayton. We look forward to seeing them at our next meeting and on the field trips.

June 15, 2010, Meeting

Photography Forum Meeting

Share Photos Theme: Niles Canyon Railway

Program: Members' Photos Critiqued

We meet in

Walnut Creek Civic Arts,

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

The June Program will be **Critiquing of Members' Photos**. This was one of the most popular programs of the past. Each member who wishes to have their photo critiqued should submit no more than four photos.

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

Forty + members and guests attended our May meeting to share our photos and experiences. **John Ballou**, President, Oakland Camera Club returned to give an encore presentation on "Glorious Stereo Photography." He talked about the history of stereo photography and how to create stereo photos. He showed some of the camera equipment that he uses. The stereo images that he showed were absolutely stunning. Here are some of the links he mentioned:

Stereo Photo Maker: A freeware tool to assist in aligning and viewing stereo photographs. <http://stereo.jpn.org/eng/stphmkr/>

Oakland Camera Club: The website for the only Bay Area photography club that specializes in Stereo photography. <http://www.3dculture.com/occ/>

Stereo Data Maker: Instructions and programs to make your own highly synchronized stereo camera pair. <http://stereo.jpn.org/eng/sdm/index.htm>

The winners of the **April Photo Contest** ("Fog") are:



FIRST PLACE: Wayne Lawson

Comments: Very tranquil scene, nice composition. I like the trees poking through the fog and the mountain in the distance. Another effective use of black and white; very good use of diagonal line in foreground. Nice composition and doesn't lose contrast with B/W. This is fantastic. I really like the contrast of black and white in this photo that instantly creates a pattern. Nice vista of Diablo. Good use of the fog theme.



TIED FOR SECOND PLACE: Mike King

Comments: Love the color and the silhouetted bridge--very moody. However, the bridge slices right through the center of the frame. Lovely image; peaceful. Effective use of fog as background to subject. Might want to try to lighten bushes on right and left to reveal more detail. I like that there is a lot to look at, with the birds, the reflection, and especially the golden hue.



TIED FOR SECOND PLACE: Kathleen Brennan

Comments: Beautiful, how the fog rests in the valley--nice composition. Would have liked to see the hills lightened just a tad to bring out more of their texture. There is mystery in that band of fog. Nice shot. Almost ethereal. Intriguing sky.

Wayne's winning photo is on display at Action Photo Services in Concord.

The subject for the **May Photo Contest** is "Mt. Diablo." Six entries have been submitted and may be viewed at <http://www.xphomestation.com/PhotoForum/contest.html>. Voting must be completed by June 14. Please take a few moments to provide your comments so that we all may learn and improve our photography.

The subject for the **June Photo Contest** is "Horns." All June entries must be submitted by June 15; voting must be completed by July 19. All images should be in jpg format (no TIFF or PSD files). Entries may be submitted by email, cd, or flash drive.

At the May Meeting there was some continuing discussion on the need for contest photos to be current. It was decided that for now contest images should be taken within 6 months of the contest. We will see how well this works and revisit this subject at the beginning of next year. To this end **Wayne Lawson** selected “Wild Birds” to be the contest subject for November; **Kathleen Brennan** selected “Clouds” for September; and **Mike King** selected “Toys” for October.

PHOTOGRAPHY FORUM PHOTO CONTESTS

<u>Month</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Submittal Deadline</u>	<u>Voting Deadline</u>
June	“Horns”	June 15	July 19
July	“Self Portrait”	July 20	August 16
August	“Insects”	August 17	September 20
September	“Clouds”	September 21	October 18
October	“Toys”	October 19	November 15
November	“Wild Birds”	November 16	January 17

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

We shared and critiqued photos from our **Field Trip to Filoli House and Gardens** at the May Meeting. You can see these photos on the Web Page. **Michael Warwick’s** photo was judged “Best of the Best,” and he was presented with a Gift Card from Camera West.



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.

Tom Crews mentioned that there is an update to **Adobe Camera Raw 6.1** that adds, among other things, new lens correction functionality that can apply profile-based corrections to accommodate geometric distortions, chromatic aberration and lens vignette effects. Manual corrections for geometric distortion as well as vertical and horizontal perspective transforms are also available. A handful of lens profiles are included for automatic correction. [Here is a link to Adobe Labs.](#)

Photography Forum Membership is up for renewal in June. The fee for the 2010-2011 year is \$60. Please use the **Application Form** and either bring the form to a meeting or mail to the address on the form.

If your photo album is thin and has only one photo and of a mediocre quality it is... a passport.

Susan Helms provides the following information: The Walnut Creek Arts Commission (with the Bedford Gallery) is coordinating local artist group shows to be hung in the new Walnut Creek Library. They're calling this display space the "**Community Art Gallery**". The library opens July 17 and they'll schedule local artist shows starting then. Sounds like they'll let most local group of artists sign up (i.e., it's not a juried process and they aren't planning to otherwise make it difficult to get a show there from what I hear) and they don't have many applicants so far. [For more information.](#) If anyone is interested in coordinating an exhibit for the Photography Forum please contact **Tom Crews**.

June Field Trip

Destination: Ruth Bancroft Garden

Location: 1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek.

Photos for Sharing: Submit no more than six (6) digital images to share at the July Meeting one of which will be judged as Best of the Best.

Additional Information: The Ruth Bancroft Garden's 16th Annual "Sculpture in the Garden" Exhibit is The Garden's largest fundraiser. It is a unique mix of professional sculptures and crafts created by outstanding local artisans. This is an excellent opportunity to explore and photograph the beauty of The Ruth Bancroft Garden while viewing some exceptional outdoor sculpture in a setting that allows you to visualize how their work might enhance your own garden. This event runs from June 18 through July 18.

The date for the Field Trip originally posted in the Newsletter was June 20 which turns out to be Father's Day. This might not be the best day to go because of the expected crowds. Therefore, for the purposes of our June Field Trip let's just plan to go on our own sometime during the exhibit.

For more information go to: <http://www.ruthbancroftgarden.org/index.html>

Can we all just agree to ignore whatever comes after DVDs? I don't want to have to restart my collection.

July 10 Field Trip

Destination: Scottish Games are not being held this year.

Destination: Pier 24 Photo Gallery

Location: Pier 24, San Francisco

Meeting Location: We will meet at the entrance at a time TBA. We are making a reservation for the visit.

Additional Information: Located below the Bay Bridge, Pier 24 offers 28,000 square feet of display space one of the largest dedicated photography spaces at any museum in the United States. The current exhibit is a collection of 20th century American documentary photography. This will be a unique opportunity to view this extraordinary collection. The cost is just right: ITS FREE!!!

Thanks to **Tom Donahoe** for suggesting this destination.

[For more information go to.](#)

Special Workshop on Matting and Framing

Description: This Workshop will be conducted by **Gene Farley**. Gene teaches a similar workshop for Walnut CAE. We will provide all of the materials and instruction necessary for creating a 16X20 gallery framed image including archival mounting and matting.

Meeting Location: The Workshop will be at the Shadelands Facility in Walnut Creek (room TBA) on Saturday, August 14, 10:00am – 1:00pm.

Cost: The material cost for this workshop would be about \$50. The exact amount TBA must be paid by the July 4.

Additional Information: Each participant should bring:

- A finished 10x12 image suitable for framing
- A utility knife with 2 or 3 new blades
- A medium sized flat blade screwdriver
- A sharpened #2 pencil
- A plastic eraser

Registration: Any member interested in this Workshop should email **Tom Crews** as soon as possible. This special Workshop will be for Photography Forum members only and is limited to twelve participants, plus three observers (there is no cost for observers).

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

Photo Summer Camps, 2 Sessions +4 Field Trips
Start June 12, July 12, and August 9

Inside Canon DSLR, 1 session
Saturday, June 26, 10:00am

Inside Nikon DSLR, 1 session
Saturday, June 26, 1:00pm

Take Control of Your Digital SLR, 6 sessions + Field Trip
Tuesday, June 30 – August 4, 6:30pm
Field Trip, Saturday, July 31

Exploring Close-Up Photography, 2 sessions + Field Trip
Saturday, July 17 and 24, 10:00am
Field Trip, Saturday, July 17, 1:00pm

Lisa Franklin provides the following information on "Dramatic Light Landscapes" Photography Class (June 26 & July 10), taught by **Bill Helsel**. "I've

taken three courses from Bill and am a much better photographer because of it. He's a very talented local photographer and a great teacher. This class is a wonderful opportunity to learn from him in the field. Information about Bill and his work can be seen at www.billhiesel.com.

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

Adobe has just released Photoshop CS5. There is a lot of buzz about this latest



version. Two good sources that discuss many of the new features are [Bryan O'Neil Hughes on Photoshop CS5](#) and [Your Photoshop CS5 Questions Answered](#). Photography Forum members may order Photoshop CS5 from **Melissa Ridenour at Ridenour@arts-ed.org** for \$330.79 (includes tax and shipping). Upgrades are not available for student versions, only for full priced versions, which are way more expensive. [Upgrades are \\$199 from Adobe](#). NAPP Members receive 15% discount.

NAPP/Kelby Training Seminars

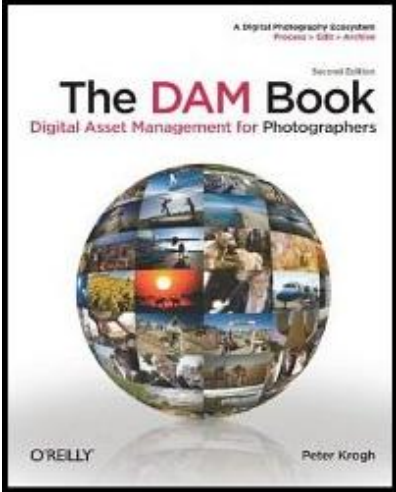
Photoshop Down & Dirty Tricks Tour: San Jose, August 23.

This tour consists of five amazing classes in Photoshop special effects, photographic effects, and design tricks. These tips & tricks are nothing but today's real world techniques – the same ones you see used by leading Photoshop photographers, designers, and special effect masters, and its all here in the only live workshop of its kind. [Click here for more info.](#)

Photoshop Lightroom Live Tour: South San Francisco, July 23

From start to finish, from image capture to final print - you'll see it unfold right in front of you as you learn step-by-step how to take control of your digital photography workflow. This seminar will teach you how to take your photography

to a whole new level of productivity, efficiency, and fun with real world insider techniques that will make your life easier, and free your time so you can do what you really want with your photography, rather than boring, repetitive production tasks. [Click here for more info.](#)



Hal Schmidt recommended this book at his HDR Seminar. One of the main concerns for digital photographers today is how to file, find, protect, and re-use their photos. This book addresses all of these issues. Here are just some of the chapters: Non-destructive Image Editing, Metadata, Organizing and Naming Files and Folders, Choosing Hardware for Image Storage, Backing Up and Validating Data, Lightroom Workflow, Bridge/ACR Workflow, Cataloging Strategies, and more. You can purchase this book from amazon.com for \$31.49.



[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). 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.

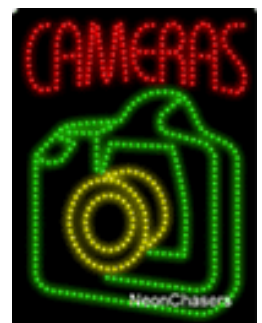
All images for each contest will be posted on the web site where members may vote for First, Second, and Third Place. Votes must be submitted by the deadline specified for each contest. Winners will be announced at the Membership Meeting. **Action Photo Services** will print and mount a 12x18 print of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

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****



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.

- June 15:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Niles Canyon Railway
Program: **Members' Photos Critiqued**
- June:** Field Trip to Ruth Bancroft Garden's "Sculpture in the Garden Exhibit."
- July 10:** Field Trip to Pier 24 Photo Gallery
- July 20:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Ruth Bancroft Garden
Program: **Tom and Nancy Donahoe:** "Yellowstone in Winter"
- August 14:** Photography Forum Workshop: Framing and Matting
- August 17:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: Six of Your Best Photos
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: **Jerry and Nancy Samelson:**
"Fall Colors of New Hampshire"
- October 16:** Field Trip to SS Jeremiah O'Brien
- October 19:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: SS Jeremiah O'Brien
Program: **Robert Mandell:**
"Light and Color in the Eye and Camera"
- November 16:** Photography Forum Meeting
Share Photos Theme: "Six More of Your Best"
Program: Critique **Member Photos**
- November 21:** Field Trip Fremont Thai Buddhist Temple
- December:** No Meeting or Field Trip Planned for December
- December 11:** Photography Forum Workshop: TBA

*** 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.

September 16-19: Rolex Big Boat Series

The following list of Photo Fun Events provided by **Lynn Oakleaf:**

June:

- Livermore Rodeo
- Sand Castle / Sculpture Contest – Crab Cove
- Pirates Festival – Vallejo
- Gay Pride Parade – San Francisco
- Danville Fine Arts Fair
- Alameda County Fair – Pleasanton
- Solano County Fair – Vallejo
- Crawdad Festival – Isleton
- Pista Sa Nasyon Independence Day Festival – Filipino Festival – Vallejo
- Sonoma Historic MotorSports Festival – Infineon Raceway
- Nascar – Infineon Raceway
- Contra Costa County Fair – Antioch

July:

- NHRA Drag Races – Infineon
- Dunsmuir Scottish Games – Oakland
- Vallejo Pow Wow
- Benicia Jazz & Fine Arts Festival
- Anything 4th of July
- Berkeley Kite Festival
- Crucible’s Fine Art Fire Festival - Oakland
- Gilroy Garlic Festival
- California State Fair – Cal Expo

August:

- Japanese Festival – Concord

Indy Car Races – Infineon
Air Show – Santa Rosa
Martinez Car, Truck, Bike Show
Oakland Chinatown Street Fest
Art in the Park - Martinez
Cajun/Zydeco Festival – Ardenwood Farms –Fremont
Body Art Expo – Cow Palace – San Francisco
Art & Soul Festival – Oakland

September:

Walnut Festival – Walnut Creek
Balloon Races – Reno
Folsom Street Leather & Fetish & Fetish Fair – San Francisco
Mutt Strut – Martinez
Delta Blues Festival – Antioch
Pittsburg Seafood Festival
Dragon Boat Races – Treasure Island
Italian Chalk Festival – Martinez
Oktoberfest – Clayton
Scottish Games – Pleasanton

October:

Pumpkin Festival – Half Moon Bay
Pleasant Hill Art, Wine, & Jazz Fest
Fall Crafts Festival – Danville
Gathering of the Ohlone Peoples – Coyote Hills Park
Dixon Lambtown Fair
Grand National Rodeo – San Francisco
Fleet Week – San Francisco
Oktober Fest – Concord

November:

Hawaiian Festival – Pleasanton
Cat Show – Pleasanton

December:

Holiday Frolic – Martinez
Ice Skating – Walnut Creek, San Francisco
Benicia Glass Artists' Open House
Dickens Fair – Cow Palace – San Francisco

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)
