

JUNE 2008  
VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3



Natural  
Landscapes

is  
the theme for  
the  
June  
flickr  
project

Upload photos  
by June 25th

Executive  
Board Meeting

The complete  
minutes of the  
June 12<sup>th</sup>  
Executive  
Board meeting  
are posted in  
the Yahoo  
Group

## 4 June 2008 Meeting Notes

### Membership

Our young club had another successful meeting, this one chock full of conversation, sharing, learning, questions & answers; and we also got some business done. Twenty-nine people attended this meeting, seven for the first time. Our club is growing. We now have forty-four names on our mailing roster, and forty-six people have attended at least one meeting.

### Photo Sharing

The meeting started with a slide show of the photos that were taken at the May 18<sup>th</sup> Shoot-out at Morgan Hill House. **Susan Brazelton** then explained the format for sharing prints: a round-robin in which members met with two or three others for five minutes of sharing. At the five-minute signal everyone moved to another table and met with different members for another five minute round of sharing. By the end of the fourth round, we each had met and talked with eight to twelve other members. Even though no one got to see all the prints in the room, most liked the opportunity to get to know other members, and we agreed to try it again next month.

### Club Business

- Susan introduced the Executive Board and reviewed the minutes of the first board meeting, which were printed in the May newsletter.
- It was moved, seconded and passed to charge \$5 in dues to be a club member. This should be enough to finance the club through December, at which time the amount will be re-evaluated.
- Treasurer **Donna Weisblatt** will look into opening a club checking account.
- MSP that the following will be for members only (those who have paid their dues).
  - Participation in the monthly flickr theme project
  - Gallery Shows
  - Discounted fee for paid workshops, critiques & competitions.
  - Merchant discounts when we secure them.

General meetings, shoot-outs, workshops, the Newsletter, and the Yahoo Group forum will be open to all who are interested.

### • flickr Theme Projects

Thirty-one people have joined the club's flickr group. Thirteen people participated in the April theme project (Spring), and seventeen posted photos for the May project (Circles). The circle photos are just amazing. Check them out. You'll see eyeballs, water, food, hats, wheels, buckets, flowers, holes, lights and more. We are a very creative group of photographers.

### • June flickr Theme

The theme for June is "[Natural Landscapes](#)". Although human-made objects or buildings may certainly be included, the dominate subject of the photo should be natural. The deadline for posting your five photos is Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>.

If you haven't participated in a flickr theme project, June is the perfect month to start.

The purpose of the monthly projects is to create a common focus for our shooting, and provide a forum for sharing photos. *Shoot & Share* is an excellent way to improve your photographic skills.

Everyone appreciates positive and supportive comments, so please post comments for as many photos as you have time to do. The photo upload deadline is one week before the next general meeting so everyone has a full week to look at the photos and post their comments.

To join the Yahoo Discussion Group go to [www.yahogroups.com](http://www.yahogroups.com) and enter MHphotoclub in the search box.

## • Future flickr Themes

**July: Red, White & Blue** – Photos may be of any subject, and all three colors do not have to be in one photo: one color or a combination of two or all three will do just fine.

**August: Abstracts** – These photos are non-pictorial. They emphasize color, texture, pattern, shape, design, or tonal values. When someone looks at your photo, he/she will ask, "What is that anyway?"

**September: Architecture & Cityscapes** - Think urban: whole buildings or some interesting details; skylines or single streets.

**October: *Action*** – Movement is the emphasis this month; people, animals or objects.

**November: Shadows** – The low sun this time of year should cast some long, interesting shadows, or use artificial light to create your own.

**December: Around Town** – "Town" refers to Morgan Hill, Gilroy and San Martin: places, people or events. Our plan is to display thirty of these photos on the walls of the Senior Center.

**Note:** You'll know you're in sync with the theme if a person looking at your 5 photos is able to figure out what the theme is.

## Tutorials

Members indicated that they wanted some sort of instruction at every meeting and since flickr and the Yahoo Group Forum are important components of our club, we ended this meeting with a tutorial on each.

### flickr

**Eric Rice** started with some background information on the flickr website, and how it can be used for more than just storing and sharing photos. Then he showed us how to navigate through the site, demonstrating how to upload photos, attach tags, and transfer them to the club's pool. Anyone can view the club's theme photos by going to [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com) and entering "Morgan Hill Photography Club" in the search box. For more help with flickr, you may email Eric at [ericrice@gmail.com](mailto:ericrice@gmail.com) or post your questions on our Yahoo Group page.

### Yahoo Groups

**George Ziegler** led the club through the Yahoo Groups website, showing us how to join the group and post a question or comment. George keeps the site up-to-date by posting copies of the newsletter, upcoming events, and helpful resources. Anyone can read the postings, but only members may post a message. The address is [www.yahogroups.com](http://www.yahogroups.com) then type in "MH Photo Club" in the search box. If you have any trouble with Yahoo, email George at: [Photomaestro@verizon.com](mailto:Photomaestro@verizon.com)

**July 4<sup>th</sup>**

## **Fireworks Shoot-out**

Meet by the entrance to the Dog Park at 8:00PM

From there we can find an advantageous spot to shoot.

Bring a blanket or chair and a tripod if you have one.

Anyone may plan a shoot-out. If there is someplace you would like to photograph, maybe others would also. Just send the time and place details to Susan  
[brzltn@garlic.com](mailto:brzltn@garlic.com)

## **Display your photographs in downtown retail spaces**

The Morgan Hill Downtown Association (MHDA) is soliciting works from local artists to be displayed in empty downtown retail spaces as part of the City's beautification program. This is a perfect opportunity for local artists and photographers to display their work. If you desire, you can also make your work available for sale.

Submit and contract with the MHDA to display your work for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days - subject to the continued availability of the space or your work being sold. You would need to provide your work either framed or mounted along with a stand for display. There is some limited space where your work could be hung. The MHDA would provide a name card with the title of the work and the artist's contact information. There is no cost to the artist for this opportunity.

The MHDA is also looking for art works to place in their new offices (to which they will move to shortly) in the downtown mall.

Further information can be obtained from:

Morgan Hill Downtown Association  
17500 Depot Street, Ste. 200  
Morgan Hill, CA 95037  
(408) 779-3190

<http://www.morganhilldowntown.org>

## **Morgan Hill Street Fairs: July 19th & August 16th**

The Downtown Association is sponsoring two street fairs this summer. Second Street will be closed to thru traffic with booths on both sides of the street. There will be live music, local artists, jewelers, and retailers. Our photography club was invited to rent a booth and the board decided to accept. The cost for a non-profit group is \$35 per booth. Although this is a chunk out of our small treasury, the board thought it was an excellent opportunity to promote the club. **George Ziegler** has agreed to organize our participation in the event. We're sure many of you will be happy to volunteer your time in staffing the booth. Fun Fun Fun

## **Newsletter**

Thank you to **Marty Cheek** for naming our newsletter.

Members may, and are encouraged to submit items for the newsletter by the Monday following the monthly meeting. Items might include:

- Photo Tips
- Upcoming events, workshops, classes and exhibits (especially if a member is involved)
- Helpful websites
- Technical Information
- Recommended Resources
- Unique Uses of Photography
- Descriptions of photo adventures
- Recognition of members

Send items to Susan at [brzltn@garlic.com](mailto:brzltn@garlic.com)

The May issue of *Outdoor Photographer* includes several “How To” articles on landscape and scenic photography.

On our Yahoo! Group Page “MHPPhotoClub” you’ll find a message from **Noella Vigeant** with a link to an article, “**Twelve Ways to Improve Your Landscapes**”

Check it out.

## How to Find Your Landscape

Excerpt from an article by Jay Goodrich in the May issue of *Outdoor Photographer*

1. **Take those shots where everyone else is standing** in those popular places, but then look around, even opposite of what everyone else is doing, and see what the possibilities are.
2. **Hike to locations to which others are unwilling to venture.** Sometimes even short distances will yield something few have ever seen.
3. **Get low to the ground and focus more on the foreground.**
4. **Shoot in rain, snow, fog and wildfire smoke.** Clearing storms are a great potential for powerful colors, rainbows, and shade and shadow elements.
5. **Focus on the intimate landscape,** the lines within your closest surroundings.
6. **Research your locations.** Look up on the web and see what amazing photographers have captured there. Use those as the basis for what’s available in the area. Take similar shots and then expand upon those.
7. **Shoot in your local region.** Shoot the same area with different lenses and stand in different spots.
8. **Use a telephoto lens where others have used a wide-angle, and vice versa.**
9. **Study other creative disciplines:** painting, architecture, graphic design, web design, music, movies, and more to find your creative soul.
10. **Enjoy what you photograph and the surroundings you’re in.** Cherish every minute of your time there and never forget all those amazing experiences. The emotion you feel will transfer to your photographs.

**- Next Meeting -  
Wednesday, 2 July 2008  
Centennial Recreation Center  
7:00pm**

On the agenda:

- Round-Robin Sharing of photo prints – **Bring a print, any size and any subject, that you would like to share.**
- Camera Controls & Functions Workshop  
Choose the “Point & Shoot” session or “DSLR” and learn about control symbols, file size, ISO, white balance, color controls, light meter/focus controls, and camera ports.

**Bring your camera and owner’s manual.**

During the last twenty minutes of the workshop you’ll have an opportunity to ask questions about your specific camera.

Be there or be