

IN FOCUS



Newsletter of the
Morgan Hill Photography Club

<http://www.morganhillphotographyclub.org/>

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October General Meeting

Fifty-five people attended the October meeting, which started with a thirty minute print sharing session. Print sharing is one of the unique practices of our club. Early on members made it clear they didn't want to just look at photos, they wanted opportunities to talk with other photographers. Thus, an informal print sharing session, designed to include guests as well as members, is the first thing on the agenda at every meeting. This is what it looks like.



Holly, Steve, Harold & Noël
look at Bob's photo



Holly, Mary & Don study
Steve's photo



Annie shows her photo to Mike, Dan,
Stella & Laura



Walt shares his photo with
Annie & Barbi



It's fun to share.
Everyone
is encouraged
to bring
one photo print
(any size, any subject)
to each meeting.
After four rounds of
sharing, maybe you'll
be smiling like these
guys to the right.



Jim, George, Duane & David,
what's so funny?

Club Business

Donations to the Senior Center

Thanks to the generosity of the members, we have so far collected \$92 for the Senior Center. Much of the success of this photography club is due to the support and assistance of the Senior Center at the CRC. We have use of great room at no cost, and publicity in a city wide publication. It was **Susan Fent**, Senior Center Director, who first suggested that we display our photos in a Senior Center Gallery Show. With the downturn in the economy, many services at the senior center are in jeopardy, and the center depends more and more on donations to keep these services to seniors available. Our club has made a commitment to help. We are asking the members to support the senior center by donating \$1 at every meeting.

CRC Gallery Show

Twenty-two members have photographs on display on the walls of the Senior Center at the CRC. This is the club's third gallery show and it will continue until 2 December 2009. If you haven't seen the thirty-three photos in the show yet, be sure to stop by. Thank you to **JJohnny Lance Trott, Noella Vigeant, Bob Bennett** and **Anita Mason** for putting such a wonderful show together.

These members have photographs in the show:

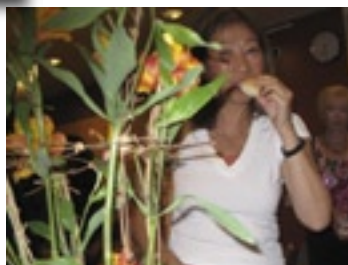
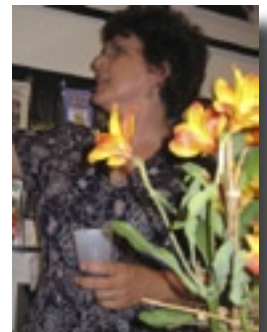
**Annie Bennett Susan Brazelton Christy Brown Marty Cheek
Charlotte Fernandes David Fritts Scott Giannini Roy Hovey
JJohnny Barbi Kutilek Carol Noble Curtis Palm
Lennie Randall Brenda Renzulli Scott Schilling Eric Stetson
Bill Strange Kathina Szeto John Tarvin Lance Trott
Noella Vigeant George Ziegler**

"Much of the success of this photography club is due to the support and assistance of the Senior Center"

The next Gallery Show "Images of Nature" will be at the CCC in April 2010



Scenes from the Gallery Show Reception
16 October 2009

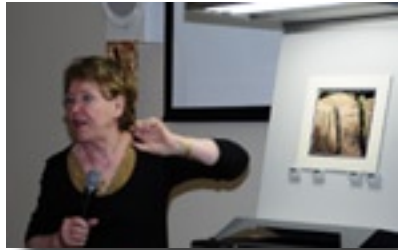


Print Critique

Claudia Peterson returned for one of the club's most popular programs. This was the third time she attended one of our meetings to comment on member photos. She is an experienced photographer who has been involved in competitions and has won several awards. She analyzed thirty photos submitted by members, and her practiced eye caught many things less experienced photographers might have missed.

The critique program was simultaneously videotaped so the prints could be projected on the big screen.

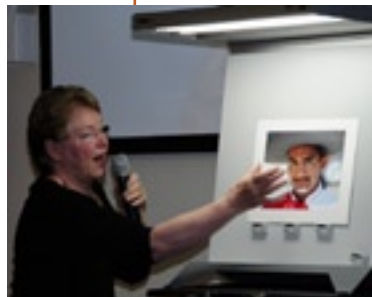
Thanks go to **George and Lance** for setting this up.



“Photos must be sharp, sharp, sharp!”

“Try turning your photo up-side-down to see the design elements.”

- People read left to right, so use elements that will lead the eye to the most important subject.
- Don't block the left side of the composition with some thing big or dark.
- With landscapes, include an interesting object in the foreground.
- Avoid bright lights around the edges.
- Avoid bright spots that detract from the main subject.
- Weight the bottom of the photo with darker tones.
- Diagonal lines add interest.
- Simple images have the most impact; move in close or crop.
- Colors that are opposites on the color wheel are most effective: blue & Orange, red & green, purple & yellow.
- Red is the most dramatic color.



- Use the whitest mat possible. (Crescent #918)
- If using a colored mat, choose a color that is in the photograph.
- Odd is more interesting than even.
- When using foliage to frame the subject, use more than just a few twigs.





Shoot-outs



Shoot-outs are a great way to meet other members of the club and photograph locations you might not visit on your own. **Any member may organize a shoot-out.** Just pick a place you'd like to photograph and invite others to join you by posting the time & place information on the Yahoo Forum, or announcing it at a meeting.

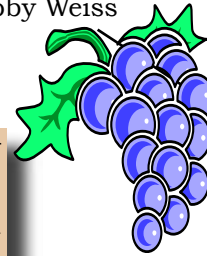
Holly Phillips timed a shoot-out at Solis Winery so members could photograph the harvest.



Photo by David Rosas



Photos by Toby Weiss



San Juan Bautista was the setting for the October monthly shoot-out. Ten people photographed around the mission, wandered through town, greeted the roosters, and some stayed for lunch for lunch.



Group Photo by Lance Trott

Flickr Shoot-out Site

You can see many more shoot-out photos on our Flickr shoot-out site. This Flickr site is different from the one we use for the monthly theme projects. This one is dedicated to **club-sponsored shoot-outs**.

The site is open to the public, but only members may post photos. There is no imposed limit to the number of photos you may post, but thirty seems a reasonable limit. Pick out the photos that best represent your experience at the shoot-out and post away.

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/mhphotoclubshoot-outs/>

Important!

**On every photo you post,
please include the name of the shoot-out, the month and year.
Example: Solis Winery, October 2009**

Two shoot-outs are scheduled for November

November 7th

Monarch Grove Butterfly Sanctuary

on Ridge Road in Pacific Grove
(between Lighthouse Ave & Short Street)

If you want to carpool, meet at the CRC by 8:30am
or meet at the sanctuary at 9:30am



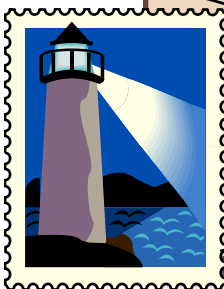
November 14th

Pigeon Point Lighthouse State Historic Park

10am - 8pm

festivities culminating in the lighting of the lighthouse lens.
See the Yahoo Calendar for more details.

Cancelled



Welcome to the newest member of our club

Dan Kacir.

Our membership now
numbers 115



The Opt-Out Option

Roy Hovey and **Susan Brazelton** often pull member photos off Flickr for use on the website or in the newsletter.

(Photo credit is always included.) If you do NOT want your Flickr photos used on the website or newsletter, please contact Roy: chessnjava@mac.com or Susan: brzlt@garlic.com



Flickr Theme Projects

For those of you who are new to the club, Flickr is a photo sharing website on which our club has a group pool. We have a different theme each month and each member may post up to five photographs based on that month's theme. The purpose of the monthly theme projects is threefold:

1. To encourage members to get out and photograph;
2. To extend our comfort zone by photographing subjects we might not have otherwise chosen, or by trying out a new technique or style;
3. to provide a common arena for sharing and commenting on members' photographs.

The photos posted to this Flickr site are not necessarily our best ever photos, but they are the ones that best reflect that month's theme. Anyone may look at the photos, but only club members may post photos.

<http://www.morganhillphotographyclub.org/>

When you post your photos to the Flickr pool, take a few extra minutes to post comments on other members' photos. Everybody likes to read the comments on their photos.

If you want to have a say in the 2010 Flickr themes, come to the November meeting.

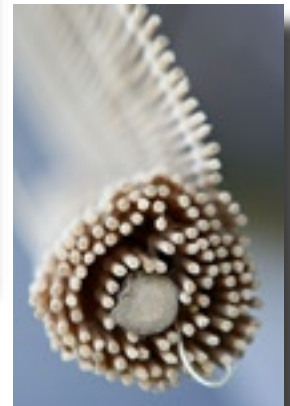
**Remaining
2009 Flickr Themes**
October - Three of Anything
November - Night
December - A Different Perspective



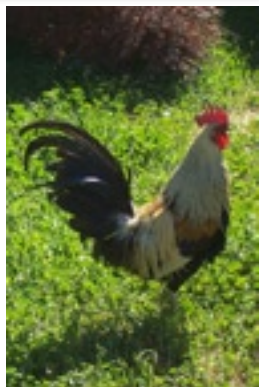
Marty Cheek
3 of Anything

Voting for the 2010 themes will take place at the November meeting.

The ballot will include: Black & White, Abandoned Buildings, Barns, Structures (not buildings), Fences, Water, Flowers, Trees, Beach Scenes, Clouds, People, Around Town, California Missions, Yosemite, What Is It?, Action, Humor, Patterns & Lines, Reflections, Shadows, & Signs.



Tracey Morris
Macro



Diane Rocha
Animals



Mary E Phillips
Sunrise/Sunset



Kathina Szeto
Trees



Bob Thompson
Water



Howard Hall
People

Next Meeting
Wednesday
4 November 2009
7pm

Centennial Recreation Center
Multi-purpose Room

Macro Photography
Presented by Barbi Kutilek

Everything you've always wanted to know about taking macro photographs, including:
The difference between Macro & Close-up
Getting Optimum Depth of Field
Creating Strong Compositions
Choosing a Lens
Using Extension Tubes & Tele-extendors

You're Invited

December Social

Wednesday
2 December 2009
Centennial Recreation Center
Multi-purpose Room
7-9pm



This is our fabulous end-of-the-year celebration



Please volunteer to help set up or clean up,
and everyone is asked to bring a non-messy, easy-to-eat appetizer.

Choose from one of the following categories:

- Salty
- Sweet
- Fruit
- Vegetable
- Meat/Cheese/Seafood

Sign-up at the November meeting, or send an email to Susan (brzltn@garlic.com)

This will be a great party with lots of tasty food, music, valuable raffle prizes,
member recognition & awards, a Flickr Slide Show, and more.

Don't bring just one print to share, bring your whole portfolio, or samples of all the
creative ways you use your photographs, like books, calendars, note cards, and mugs.
Here's a chance to show your creative spirit and maybe get some holiday gift ideas.

Family & Friends are welcome.

Club Logo

Seven designs will be on display at the December social for members to view,
along with a ballot for selecting your favorite.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 7th - December 2nd
CRC Gallery Show

Wednesday, November 4th
General Meeting
Program - Macro Photography
7 - 9pm
CRC Multi-purpose Room



Saturday, November 7th
Shoot-out
Pacific Grove Butterfly Migration
(See page 5 for details)

~~Saturday, November 14th
Shoot-out~~

~~Pigeon Point Lighthouse~~

~~Leader - George Ziegler
(See page 5 for details)~~

Cancelled



Wednesday, December 2nd
Club Social



CRC Multi-purpose Room
7pm - 9pm
(See page 7 for details)

Saturday, December 10th
Shoot-out

Uvas Canyon County Park

Check Yahoo Forum for time and carpool information
Leader - Lance Trott

Wednesday, January 6th
General Meeting

CRC Multi-purpose Room
7 - 9pm

**Check the Yahoo Group Forum
for last minute changes and additions to the calendar**

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/MHPhotoclub/>