

January 2009



★ Important Notice

★ The ★
February 4th meeting will be held in the El Toro Room at the Community Center on Monterey and Dunne.

(Not at the CRC)

2009 Dues are due.

★ \$10.00

January General Meeting

Wow! 2009 is off to a great start. Forty-three people attended the first meeting of the new year, seventeen of them for the first time. Word of our club is spreading and obviously, there is high interest in photography in Morgan Hill and its surrounding areas.

The main purpose of this meeting was to determine what members want from the club in 2009. To that end, we held two brainstorming sessions. The first session focused on what **aspects of photography** members would like to learn more about. Each table of eight to ten people brainstormed for ten minutes or so, generating as many workshop topics as possible. They then copied their ideas onto easel paper which was then taped up on the wall.

The second session focused on ideas for **activities and projects** members would like to see the club sponsor or organize. These ideas were also copied onto easel paper and posted on the wall.

The next step was "Stick Your Dots." Everyone received ten sticky dots for each set of ideas. After perusing all the posters, they stuck their dots next to the ideas that most interested them.



Susan, Noël & Noella became a little confused about where to stick their dots.

(Photo by Toby Weiss)



Ron contemplate his choices
(Photo by Kathina Szeto)

Brainstorming Results

Workshops: There are more ideas than we can possibly incorporate into our monthly meetings. With two critiques nights and an end-of-the-year social, just seven meetings (excluding January and February) are left for workshops. **Noella Vigeant** is working on creating a calendar that best reflects the various interests of the members. We may have two or three workshops at one meeting, with members either choosing one or rotating through all. We will also take a look at holding some workshops at times other than our general meetings. The main factor that will determine which workshops are held, will be finding someone with expertise in that area who is willing to present a workshop.

The top ideas for workshops include

- Composition
- Critiques
- Portraits
- Night Photography
- HDR/Filters
- Macro
- Matting & Framing
- Flash

The complete list of ideas and the number of dots each received is included in the Executive Board Minutes which can be found under "Files" in the Yahoo Group.

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

Activities & Projects

Overall, the many ideas for activities and projects fell into five categories:

- Shoot-outs (by far the most popular)
- Field Trips/Tours
- Mentoring
- Public Service
- Photo Display.

So many great ideas. How can we possibly implement them all? The answer to that depends on the members of the club. Here's what you can do.

1. Do you have expertise that you would be willing to share with the members? Do you know of someone outside the club who is available to teach a workshop?

If so, please contact **Noella Vigeant** at 848-1144 or nvigeant@gmail.com

2. Would you be willing to help organize one or more activities from the categories listed above? If so, please contact **Susan Brazelton** at brzlttn@garlic.com or 778-3862

A **Shoot-Out** is when several people get together at one location to photograph.

Locations can be local, like downtown Morgan Hill or Uvas Canyon Park, or farther afield, like

Monterey or San Francisco.

Any member may plan a shoot-out.



Kathina Szeto will chair the **Shoot-out Committee** and she is looking for others who are interested in getting some shoot-outs on the calendar. If you would like to help create a schedule of photographic outings, you are invited to attend the first ever

Shoot-Out Planning Meeting

Saturday

31 January 2009

10 am

Peet's Coffee in Morgan Hill

(755 Cochrane Road #100)

If you would like to see more club activities, please step forward to help organize one or more of them. This is a great way to meet other members, and help the club become exactly what you want it to be.

Executive Board

Susan Brazelton
President

Noella Vigeant
Vice President

Ken Brown
Secretary

Kathina Szeto
Treasurer &
Community
Partners Chair

Noël Calvi
Membership Chair

George Ziegler
Competition/
Critique Chair

Noella Vigeant
Program Chair

**Michael Sue
Brown-Korbel**
Photo Diva

Toby Weiss
Member-at-Large

Executive Board Expands

Two new positions have been added to the Executive Board: **Toby Weiss** was the first to volunteer for the new member-at-large position on the board. This position has no designated duties except attendance at the monthly board meetings. **Roy Hovey** will be joining the board as WebMaster. The original board felt that additional members on the board would broaden the leadership potential, add new perspectives to discussions, and better reflect the membership as a whole.

More Opportunities

Please don't feel left out. There are still plenty of opportunities to contribute to the success of our club.

- **Program/Workshop Assistant:** Noella Vigeant is the current Program Chair, but she could use some help in setting up the programs and workshops that members indicated they wanted.
- **Activities and Projects Sub-Committee Chairs :** Facilitate, create, organize, lead, and/or set-up activities that fall under the categories listed below, and add them to the master calendar. Lead the activities yourself, or recruit someone else. You could plan dozens of activities or just one or two.
 - **Shoot-outs** - Kathina Szeto has agreed to chair this one.
 - **Field Trips/Tours:** Visit places that would be of interests to photographers, such as galleries, Adobe HQs or the Apple Store
 - **Mentors:** Find out who would like to be a mentor and who would like to have a mentor and match the two together
 - **Public Service:** Organize projects that would use our photographic skills and be of service to the community
 - **Display:** Schedule Gallery shows, arrange for photo displays in local restaurants, and other businesses.

Activities & Projects Coordinator: Is there a person out there who would like to take on a bigger job (with lots of help, of course). We need someone who will create and organize a master calendar of activities and projects for the club. You would be working closely with the Executive Board and the chairs of each of the five sub-committees listed above to create a balance of activities, and make sure there are no conflicts with dates and times. You would also become a member of the Executive Board which meets the second Wednesday of the month from 7pm to 10pm.

(Executive Board meetings are always fun. We laugh a lot.)

Activities and workshops don't just happen.

They take planning and organizing.
They need people to facilitate, organize or lead.
No job is too big if enough people offer to help.
Let's create a full calendar of events
that will match the interests of our members,
and expand our photographic skills.

If you'd be willing to assist in planning, organizing, co-ordinating, or leading one or more activities or projects, please contact Susan at

brzlttn@garlic.com

Executive Board Meeting

The complete minutes of the January 14th Executive Board meeting are posted on our Yahoo Group

Yahoo Group

George Ziegler keeps the club's Yahoo discussion site up-to-date by posting copies of the newsletter, board minutes, upcoming events, and helpful resources. Have a question? Ask it on Yahoo. Know of an event that might interest other members? Post it on Yahoo. Anyone may read the postings, but only members may post a message and read the files. The address is <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/MHPhotoclub/> If you have any questions about the Yahoo Group page, e-mail George at: George@gwzphotography.com

**See new
photographs
by**

Craig Lore

Pam Porter

John Tarvin

**Holly Phillips
&**

Scott Schilling

**MichaelSue will
be at the next
meeting
twenty minutes
early with her
laptop to help
members sign
up on Flickr.**

**George will also
be there early
to help
members
sign up on our
Yahoo Group.**

Senior Center

Gallery Show

**has been extended to 21 February 2009.
New photos will be added on Saturday 23 January.
This was an unexpected opportunity to showcase
additional photographs by club members.
The theme was expanded to
“California 2008”
Stroll through the halls of the Senior Center
to see this new evidence of
club members' creative talent.**

Flickr Pool

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 photos based on that month's theme. (The themes were chosen by the members in 2008.) The purpose of the monthly Flickr theme projects is threefold:

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

The photos posted to Flickr are not necessarily your best ever photos. They should be the ones that best reflect the theme. All members are encouraged to look at and comment on the photos. It is very interesting to see how different photographers interpret the various themes.

Any one may look at the photos on Flickr, but only members (dues paid) may post photos. Each new member is sent an invitation to join the group pool, or you may go to the site and ask to join.

www.flickr.com/groups/MHPhotoclub

Every meeting starts with a **print sharing** session.

Everyone is encouraged to bring one photo print (any size, any subject) to share with others.

This is a very informal way to meet new members, connect with friendly people, and talk photography.

Morgan Hill Community Adult School
Is offering the following classes:

- Intro to Digital Photography
- Photoshop Elements
- Digital Darkroom

Register online at www.cas.mhu.k12.ca.us
or call
408-201-6520

Hint: Flickr

2009 Flickr Themes

January - Black & White

February - Still Life

March - Reflections

April - Water

May - Trees

June - Animals

July - People

August - Macro

September - Sunrise/Sunset

October - Three of Anything

November - Night

December - A Different Perspective

2009 Dues

If you want to continue (or start) your membership in our wonderful club, **the 2009 dues of \$10 are now due.** Some of the benefits of membership include:

- Participation in the monthly Flickr Projects
- Participation in gallery shows
- Photo Critiques
- Discounts at local retail stores
- Discounted fee for paid events

And, of course, there are the intangible assests of membership:

- Prestige (We are the best photography club in town.)
- Making connections with other, local photographers
- Friendship, camaraderie, esprit de corp, conviviality & bonhomie.

You may pay at the February meeting or send a check (made out to Morgan Hill Photography Club) to: 17145 Munro Way, MH, CA 95037

The CRC is not available on February 4th.

**The February Meeting
will be held
at the Community Center
(Corner of Monterey & Dunne)**

February Workshop

“Parallels in Bird, People & Wildlife Photography”

Presented by professional photographer

Oliver Klink

(See details on next page.)

JAGO Frames

is the first merchant in town to offer our club members a discount. Owner **Javier Gonzales** will meet all your framing and matting needs at very reasonable prices. Several members of the club have used his services and highly recommend him. His shop is located at
195 San Pedro Avenue, MH, Building E #11.
His new phone number is 408-665-5441

From Member **Sam Shueh**

"I am looking for a slide/film (35,120,620) SCANNER to digitize old negatives for a history project"
If you can help him out...
shueh@charter.net



Oliver Klink is a professional photographer who travels to many countries to photograph animals in the wild and teach workshops. He was born and raised in the Swiss Alps and has enjoyed outdoor photography for twenty-five years. His work has been exhibited in international galleries, in his home country of Switzerland and in the United States. His most recent exhibit was at ModernBook Gallery in Palo Alto. "Giving nature the ability to speak through my camera is what inspires me."

"Why photograph birds? Birds are beautiful, interesting creatures that lead fascinating lives. However, they don't stay still for long and can be challenging to photograph. After seeing bird images, we can find parallels between people and wildlife photography. You'll be amazed at the many photographic concepts that can be applied to what is perceived as two different types of photography. You'll learn how various techniques can be applied to both people and animals." The workshop will include information on exposure, speed and focus: exposure compensation; and composition. More information on Oliver Klink and his workshops can be found at:
www.incredibletravelphotos.com

Smile Box

(www.smilebox.com)

Smilebox is a photo & video sharing service that lets you assemble photos, videos & music into multimedia presentations, slide shows, or e-cards. You can create anything from a one photo e-card to a multipage album complete with soundtrack of your choice, and then share it via your blog, website, social network page, or e-mail. Basic service is free or you can subscribe for premium options. Editor's note: After downloading the Smilebox software, I easily created a three-photo e-card. The most difficult part is choosing from their multitude of templates. Personalizing them with my own photos and text was a breeze. Have fun.

Family Portraits

John Tarvin is looking for a few volunteers to photograph families who might not be able to afford to buy professional family portraits. The photographer would cover the cost of printing and framing a photo and presenting it to the family. Total cost would likely be less than \$10. John has posted a message about this project on Yahoo. You can contact him at:
john@buzzardbait.org

Senior Center

The YMCA is looking at cutting funds to the Senior Center where we hold our meetings and have our gallery show. **Susan Fent**, Senior Center Director and avid supporter of our club, has asked if we might come up with some ideas to raise money to keep the senior programs in place. If you have an idea about how we can use our photographic talents to help the senior center, please email Susan Brazelton at
brzltn@garlic.com

Our club is joining Central Coast Counties Camera Club Council (6Cs)

MHPC will be listed as a link on their website and our members may then submit photos in Camera Club competitions. Camera Clubs in San Jose and Santa Clara hold monthly competitions.

Can you discover who the six photographers are who took these photos?

Match each photo with the correct photographer, bring a written list of names to the February meeting, and if your list is correct, you win a prize. (Winning name will be drawn from all correct lists.)

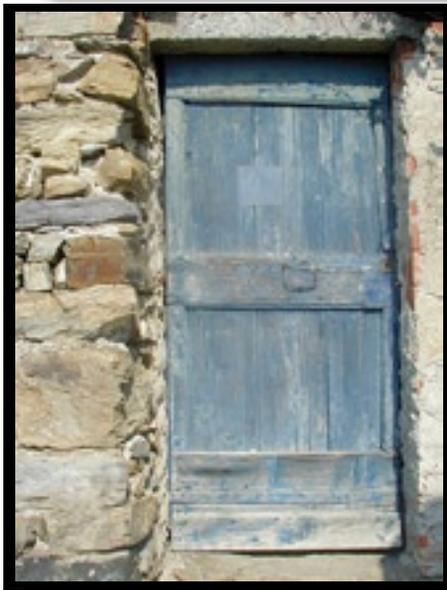
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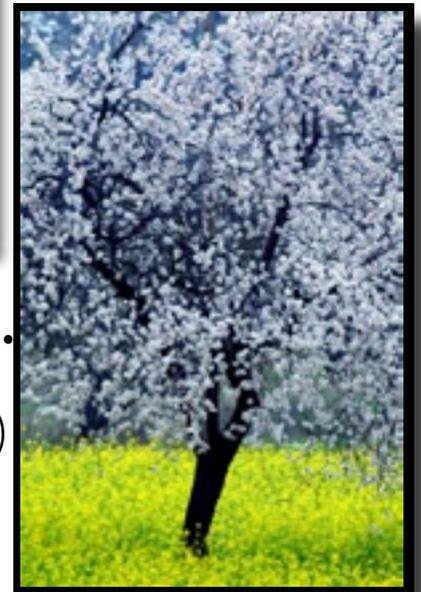
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6.



5.

