

March 2009



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Flickr theme for  
March is  
"Reflections"

Theme for April is  
"Water"

See the  
**2009**  
**Calendar**  
**of Events**  
(a work  
in progress)

on page 7

## March General Meeting

The March meeting was an interesting exercise in flexibility, problem solving and making the best of a difficult situation. Our regular meeting room at the senior center was mistakenly double booked, and the other event was well under way before we arrived to set up. Fortunately, Susan Fent, the senior center director, appeared and immediately looked for an empty room for us. None was available. We finally decided that the only area big



enough to accommodate our large group was the main lobby of the CRC. Tables were moved, furniture rearranged, chairs brought in, and a portable projector and screen were set up. Surprisingly, the meeting started on time and, with only a few last minute changes

to the agenda, we pretty much carried on as usual. Everyone kept their good humor and we had a successful meeting. Fifty-eight people attended, eleven for the first time.

**Print Sharing:** We were a bit cramped for space, but members and guests were still able to share their prints and meet with one another. We used a print sharing process called, "Chaos" that worked appropriately well.



**Club Business:** Vice President **Noella Vigeant** welcomed guests, gave a quick synopsis of the purpose of the club, and introduced the club officers.

- **Sign-in procedures:** We are looking for someone who will manage the sign in process at the meetings. We have several people who have volunteered to help, but we need someone who will make sure the sign-in table is set up and staffed, starting at 6:20 each month. If you would like to take on this responsibility, please contact Susan

- **Matting Party:** Learn how to mount and mat your photos at a hands on workshop, Saturday, March 28 starting at noon.

- **Senior Center Donations:** If you would like to help save the senior center from drastic cutbacks, you can make a direct donation. Forms will be available at all future meetings.



**Have you  
paid your  
2009 dues?  
\$10.00**

• **2009 Dues:** Our club is growing fast and the only way to support the many activities and projects the members have indicated they want, is to require the financial support of dues. We have purposefully kept the dues low so everyone who is interested may join. So far this year, thirty new people have joined the club and forty 2008 members have re-joined. To receive the many benefits of membership and support our photographic community, please pay your dues at the April meeting, or send a check, right now, made out to Morgan Hill Photography Club, to 17145 Munro Way, Morgan Hill, CA 95037.

Some of the benefits of membership include:

- Participation in the monthly Flickr Theme Projects.
- Participation in Gallery Shows
- Photo Critiques (one is scheduled for April)
- Discounts for paid events
- Numerous opportunities to learn more about photography
- Social connections, esprit de corp, and lots of laughs.



• **Open Mike:** **Michael Sue BrownKorbel's** idea to have an open mike session at the end of the club business portion of the meeting has turned out to be a popular addition. Michael Sue and **Toby Weiss** reprised their "Someday your prints will come" act. **Jackie Wall** took the mike to describe the 365Days Fickr project, which is to take a self portrait every day for a year. (See sidebar for the address.)



The mike was passed to new member **Mary Hiller** (pic-

tured at left) who invited club members to the Valle de Sur Gallery Show currently hanging at the CCC, and to their reception. Several members of our club also belong to Valle de Sur. **Noël Calvi** next held the mike to ask who else is using Lightroom. About ten hands went up. (Noël, we promise that next month, we'll use a live mike.)

**Linda Tarvin** held up the glasses that were left at the February meeting at the CCC. No one claimed them.

Thank you to **Marie Lamb** for rooting out a real mike. It saved our program for the evening.



The 365Days Flickr group Jackie talked about can be found at [www.flickr.com/groups/365days](http://www.flickr.com/groups/365days)

**"Noël, we promise that next month we'll use a live mike."**

## Executive Board

**Susan Brazelton**  
President

**Noella Vigeant**  
Vice President

**Ken Brown**  
Secretary

**Kathina Szeto**  
Treasurer &  
Community  
Partners Chair

**Noël Calvi**  
Membership &  
Marketing Chair

**George W Ziegler**  
Competition/  
Critique Chair

**Noella Vigeant**  
Program Chair

**Michael Sue  
BrownKorbel**  
Photo Diva

**Roy Hovey**  
Webmaster

**Toby Weiss**  
Member-at-Large

## Executive Board Meeting

The complete minutes of the February 11th Executive Board meeting are posted on our Yahoo Group

## March Presentation: Portrait Photography



**Rosemary Rideout**, a local, professional photographer who specializes in photographing families of all ages shared many of her photos of children and seniors, along with some of the techniques she uses to capture them at their best. Rosemary first defined a portrait as an artistic representation of a person in which the face is dominate. It is a composed image in a still

position. She does not own a studio and usually photographs families at their home or a park, and children outside. If she is going to use a photo on her web site or in a slide show, she gets a signed model release.

Some of the points she made include:

- A tripod doesn't work when photographing children. They need to move. She uses a 70 - 200 lens with Image Stabilization, and a high ISO to make sure she has a fast shutter speed.
- To get your subject to relax, take camera in hand and talk, talk, talk. Some take longer than others.
- Position groups of people to form diagonal lines or triangles. Avoid positioning everyone with heads at the same level. Have some sit and some stand.
- An uneven number of people is better than an even number.
- If the subject is wearing glasses, tip the surface down a bit to avoid glare.
- The subject's head should be in the upper third of the frame.
- Sit subjects at an angle to the camera, not straight on.
- Use props, such as a bouquet of flowers, to hide perceived flaws and make the subject feel more comfortable.
- Window light is useful, especially with the use of a reflector to add or even out the light.
- Multiple light sources (like lamps) are usually better than just one.
- When photographing families, she talks to them ahead of time to determine what they want from the photographs, and how they are going to use them. She often asks them to dress in similar colors or, at least, with the same degree of formalsness.



You can view Rosemary's wonderful photography by visiting her website:

[www.rosemaryrideoutphotography.com](http://www.rosemaryrideoutphotography.com)



## Yahoo Group

**George W Ziegler** keeps the club's Yahoo discussion site up-to-date by posting copies of the newsletter, executive 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 Forum e-mail George at: [George@gwzphotography.com](mailto:George@gwzphotography.com)

## Flickr Comments

Everyone likes to read comments about their photos. Come on, you know you do.

When you look at photographs in the Flickr pool, take the little bit of extra time to post a comment.

This is one of the ways in which members can connect.

The photographer will appreciate it, you'll feel good about yourself, and everyone will be happy.

## Flickr Pool

Flickr is a photo sharing web site 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 after paying the dues, you may go to the site and ask to join.

[www.flickr.com/groups/MHPhotoclub](http://www.flickr.com/groups/MHPhotoclub)

## 2009 Flickr Themes

**January - Black & White**

**February - Still Life**

**March - Reflections**

**April - Water**

**May - Trees**

**June - Animals**

**July - People**

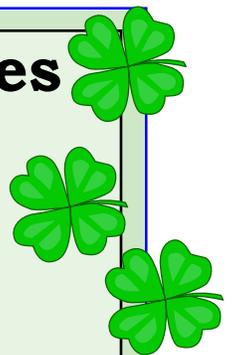
**August - Macro**

**September - Sunrise/Sunset**

**October - Three of Anything**

**November - Night**

**December - A Different Perspective**



A photoblog is a type of web log (blog) that is regularly updated with photos, invites comments, and often develops a coterie of regular viewers.

### Shoot-outs

Anyone may plan a shoot-out.

If you'd like to photograph at some scenic location, most likely others would enjoy it also and wouldn't it be fun to go as a group.

Just post the information on Yahoo a couple of days prior, and connect with others who might be interested. It's that simple.

## Member News

First we would like to welcome new members to the club.

### March New Members

Joan Prather

Mary Hiller

Lennie Randall

Kris Ciraulo

Bill Hiller

Elise Alexander



**Tracey Morris** seems to have inspired several members to start their own photoblogs. You can find Tracey's at: [www.penandview.blogspot.com](http://www.penandview.blogspot.com)

You can view **Jackie Wall's** at: [www.quaintjackie.blogspot.com/](http://www.quaintjackie.blogspot.com/)

**Susan Brazelton** has a less ambitious goal of posting at least one new photo each week. You can read/view her blog at: [Visual-Journey.blogspot.com](http://Visual-Journey.blogspot.com).

Does anyone else have a photoblog you'd like others to know about? Or if you have a personal website, send the information to Susan for publication in the next newsletter.

BTY: Who's on **FaceBook**? You can find **Noella Vigeant, Tracey Morris, Susan Brazelton** and ??? If you're on, make contact. Let's be friends.

**Lance Trott, JJohnny, Susan Fletcher, Mary Hiller, Brenda Renzulli** and **Lennie Randall** each have one or more photos currently hanging in the Valle de Sur Gallery Show at the CCC.



Marie and Mike examine a camera



Howard & George discuss important matters



## Looking for Volunteers



**Program Vice Chair:** Noella Vigeant is the current Program Chair, but she could use some help in setting up the monthly programs. Noella is lots of fun to work with, and if you become her assistant, she will invite you to her home for a cup of tea.

We are looking for workshop leaders who have expertise in flash photography and/or macro photography. If you know of someone who might be willing to share their knowledge at one of our monthly meetings, please contact Noella at [nvigeant@gmail.com](mailto:nvigeant@gmail.com)

**Shoot-out Leaders:** Do you have a favorite place you like to photograph? Know of a colorful festival or event? If yes, maybe you'd like to arrange a shoot-out. Wouldn't it be fun to photograph at one of your favorite places with several other enthusiastic photographers? Being a shoot-out leader doesn't take a lot of time. Just choose the place, select a date and time to meet, and then post the info on Yahoo and/or announce it at a meeting.

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.

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

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

## Next Meeting

and

**the club's one year birthday party**

**Wednesday**

**1 April 2009**



**Centennial Recreation Center**

**(our regular meeting place)**

**7 - 9 p.m.**



**Join in the celebration of our club's first year**



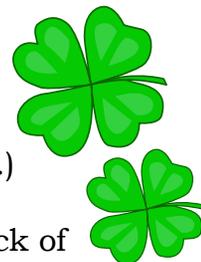
## Print Critique

**George Ziegler** has arranged for **Claudia Peterson** to return for another critique session at our April meeting. Those who attended the first one in October, agreed that the session was one of the best. Claudia is an experienced and talented photographer who has won several awards from the Photographic Society of America, FOTOCLAVE, and the Central Coast Counties Camera Club Council, of which she is currently president. Each photo print will be displayed on a light box for everyone to see as Claudia comments on composition, technical proficiency, colors, and possible improvements. The photographer's name is kept concealed.

NOTE: The photographs will be simultaneously projected on the big screen.

### **Guidelines for submitting a photo to be critiqued:**

- Only members (dues paid) may submit a photo (or two)
- Each photograph must have a title ("Untitled" is not a title.)
- Only prints will be accepted.
- The title & photographer's name must be affixed to the back of the print.
- Prints may not be smaller than 8X10 nor greater than 16X20.
- Prints must be mounted or matted. The mount or mat may be larger than the print, but may not exceed 16X20.
- Photos may be monochromatic or color.
- There will be a fee of \$1.00 for each print submitted.



Even if you don't submit a photo, seeing the prints and hearing the comments will be a valuable learning experience.

# Calendar of Upcoming Events



**Saturday 3/28**

**Matting Party**

Leader - Noël Calvi

Those who reserved a spot will be notified of time and place.

**Saturday 4/18**

**Wild Flower Shoot-out at Henry Coe State Park**

Leader - Howard Hall

9am

**Saturday 5/2**

**Roses & More Shoot-out MH Historical Society Rose Garden**

Leader - Susan Brazelton

7am

**Saturday 5/16**

**Shoot-out at Garrapata State Park in Carmel**

Leader - Howard Hall

Meet at CCC parking lot to carpool.

Time: TBA

Photograph wild flowers, a redwood grove & the coastal ridge.

**Saturday 6/13**

**Downtown Morgan Hill Walk & Shoot**

Leader - Susan Brazelton

9am - Noon then out to lunch

**Saturday, 6/27**

**Shoot-out at Harvey Bear Park in San Martin**

Leader - Craig Lore

8am

**September (date to be determined)**

**Solis Winery**

Leader - Holly Phillips

**Saturday, 10/10**

**Shoot-out in Downtown Carmel**

Leader - Holly Phillips

Time TBA

Meet at the CCC parking lot to carpool



A complete and up-to-date calendar is on the Yahoo Group Forum



## Member Profiles





## Dan Gregg

Dan is a veterinarian at, and owner of Morgan Hill Animal Hospital. He describes himself as a novice, self-taught photographer, and his goal is to take higher quality photographs. He mostly enjoys photos that tell a story. Dan leads a busy and active life, enjoying bike riding, swimming, hiking, and riding a motorcycle. Oh yes, and traveling. He's been married to Jeanie, "the love of my life" for thirty-eight years. During that time, Dan has been very active in the Morgan Hill community through the Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the Boy Scouts, and MHUSD, just to name a few.

**"Bull Rider Down"**  
Lead, South Dakota  
August 2004  
Nikon Coolpix 5200

"The cowboy did not move after this fall and was taken away on a stretcher directly to an ambulance."



## Holly Phillips

Holly is a beginning photographer whose day job is a Usability and Market Research Manager at Agilent Technologies. In addition to photography, she participates in yoga, hiking and biking. "Photography is a wonderful, creative outlet that helps balance stress for me. I also find that as I learn more about composition, form, shape and texture, I'm much more aware of those elements in everyday life, and have a greater appreciation for the beauty around me."



## "Maui Time"

June 2008  
Maui, Hawaii  
Nikon D80 18-200 VR Lens at  
170mm, f/11

"The colors and unusual style of this old truck immediately grabbed my attention. I applied a photoshop palette filter to further emphasize the colors and give it a more surreal feel."



### **“Yosemite in Winter”**

Yosemite, CA  
January 2008  
Canon Power Shot A75

### **Pam Porter**



Pam is a Senior Accounts Manager who works with company clients on their Disability and Workers Compensation programs. She is mostly a self-taught photog-

rapher, but has recently started to take some basic classes to develop her skills, and hopes to learn more from the club. She loves animals (has two dogs), especially horses (has three), and all things outdoors.

“I would like to learn enough to actually have some control over the quality of the photos I take. Right now, if I get a good shot, it’s pretty much due to luck, or an exceptionally good subject.” She adds that she is very open to input and assistance from members of the club.

### **Marie Lamb**



Marie is a casual picture taker who likes to have a visual record of people and places she’s seen. Her photographic goals are very casual: for the moment, she is content to live vicariously through the successes of other members. “I just want to have fun. I’ll cheer others on.” And she adds about the club, “It is nice to rub elbows with such talent.” Her other interests include walking, reading, cooking, writing, singing, dancing, gardening, sewing, and yoga (to name only a few). “By taking the time to select that certain shot, I appreciate the beauty in the world more fully.”



### **“Gilroy Rockhenge”**

California Native Garden Tour, Gilroy, CA  
April 2008

Olympus 5.9 mm Lens f/2.8

“Picture reminds me of Stonehenge in England, but the weather is better here.”