



"In Focus"

Newsletter of the
Morgan Hill Photography Club

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

June 2010



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June General Meeting

Print sharing continues to be a popular part of each meeting, and no wonder. After four rounds of sharing, everyone has met, talked to, and shared a favorite photograph with eight to twelve other people. The main purpose of our print sharing session is to provide members with an opportunity to meet and get to know each other. It also allows guests an opportunity to immediately mingle with members.



Duane and John look at a photo



Luis, Cathy & David have a good time sharing



Luis shows his photo

It's fun to share.
Everyone is
encouraged to bring
one print
(any size, any subject)
to every meeting.



Toby admires Bob's photo



Curt shares. Michael Sue points.
Brenda, Don & Bob listen in.
Photo by Roy Hovey



Hey, What's so funny to Mack, Luis,
Luis & Margaret?
Photo by Roy Hovey



Diane looks at Brenda's print



Chuck & Craig at table H

Club Business

Logo Logo Logo

Susan displayed two examples of garments embroidered with the club's logo: a shirt with the logo in black, and a jacket with the logo in white. **Starting at the July meeting, members may bring in personal garments (jackets, shirts, hats, etc.) to be embroidered.** Cost is \$10 per item. Your choice of thread color.

Black on white, **sew-on logo patches** will also be available for \$5 each.

NOTE: Patches are 4x2.5 inches, outlined in black. Direct embroidery is same size, but without the outline.

Gallery Show Committee

Gallery shows are a wonderful way for members to display their photographs to a wide audience, and for the club to promote itself within the local community. The club usually has three gallery shows per year, one each at the Community Center, the Senior Center, and Villa Mira Monte. These gallery shows don't just happen. Each one takes volunteers to do the advance planning, organization, and promotion.

Volunteer Opportunity

To continue holding gallery shows, we are creating a **Standing Gallery Show Committee**. The committee will consist of five to eight members who will serve starting immediately and continuing through 2011.

Charlotte Fernandes has agreed to chair the committee. There is no weekly or monthly commitment required. Meetings are held as needed. This is an opportunity to make a contribution to the continued success of the club. We will be asking for volunteers at the July meeting.

Special Interest Groups

Four special interest groups have been established. These groups are meant to be self-directed. The members will decide when and where future meetings will be held and what the group hopes to achieve. For more information or to join any of these groups, contact the group's facilitator.

- **Macro Photography** - Facilitator: **Susan Brazelton** brzlttn@garlic.com
Met again Wednesday, 16 June to critique macro photos and share information on lenses and macro accessories. Also planned a group macro shoot in a member's garden. Next meeting: TBA
- **Photoshop Elements** - Facilitator: **Roy Hovey** chessnjava@mac.com
Next meeting: Tuesday, 22 June 2pm at a computer lab in San Jose.
- **Lightroom** - Facilitator - **George Ziegler** George@gwzphotography.com
Next Meeting: Thursday, 24 June 7pm
- **Photographing People** - Facilitator: **Noella Vigeant**: nvigeant@gmail.com
Next Meeting: Wednesday, 14 July 6:15- 7pm in the CRC main lobby

**Any member may start/organize a Special Interest Group.
If you'd like to start a group
with a focus on your special interest,
contact Susan and she will help you get started.**



Executive Board

Susan Brazelton
President
Newsletter Editor

Noella Vigeant
Vice President
Program Director

Open Position
Second
Vice President

Charlotte Fernandes
Treasurer

Noel Calvi
Membership Chair
Marketing Director

Lance Trott
Commissioner of
Shoot-outs

George Ziegler
Critique Chair
PSA Liaison

**Michael Sue
BrownKorbel**
Photo Diva

Roy Hovey
Web Master

**David Rosas
Tracey Morris**
Members-at-large



Photojournalism

Club member **Bill Strange** and *Morgan Hill Times* staff photographer **Laura Schraft** spoke to the group about their experiences as photojournalists. Bill has worked part-time as a photojournalist for over twelve years, mostly working as a “stringer,” who takes on periodic assignments for photos from specific events. Bill has been an official photographer at the Gilroy Garlic Festival for many years.



Photojournalism and event photography are similar in that there is usually only one chance to get the shot. Decisive moments happen quickly, so the photographer must anticipate the action, keep the camera up, and be ready to click.

Bill did a great job in explaining how photographers can improve their photo coverage of family events by applying journalistic techniques.

For an opportunity to practice photo journalism, Bill arranged for 15 press passes, (and a free meal) to members who would like to photograph the Garlic Festival on Friday, July 23rd. Sign-ups were taken at the meeting and all slots were filled.



To tell a story:

1. Take wide angle shots that show the theme and set the scene. For instance, at a child’s birthday party, these shots might include the venue, the decorations, and the guests.
2. Take medium shots that include the birthday child, the cake and some presents.
3. Move in close and capture the child’s face as he/she blows out the candles. This is the decisive moment.

Bill shared his photos from a documentary he shot of the monks at the Buddhist Monastery near Mt Madonna. These photos were taken during numerous visits over a long period of time. This same approach could be used to document a family event such as a wedding.

Using the story telling techniques listed above, cover the engagement, the shower, shopping for the dress, the rehearsal, and wedding day preparations. Combined with the wedding photos, you’ll have a precious, family documentary



For a staff photographer, often times one photo has to tell the whole story. In a slide show, we saw many of Laura’s published photos of local news events. She showed the equipment she uses, which includes several cameras and lenses that are easily accessible in a somewhat heavy, waist pack. She also keeps a ladder in her car for that bird’s eye perspective.

Processing news photos may include touch-up editing (i.e. contrast, sharpening, levels), but never removing or adding anything to the photo. She also explained that as a staff photographer, her employer owns the rights to her photos.



Member News

Welcome

to one new member and one returning member
Gordon Diddens & Donna Weisblatt

Our 2010 membership now totals 124
who have paid the full \$20 in dues

Scott Schilling has been busy. He will have photographs in three upcoming shows: the Los Gatos Festival de Artes, August 6th & 7th; and in the fall, a show in Mountain View and another in Sunnyvale.

Noella Vigeant is the instructor of a class offered by Gavilan College.
PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY 2 sessions
Saturday July 17 and Saturday July 24 10:00AM to 1:00 PM
Fee: \$69 plus \$5 material fee to instructor
To register, or for more information, call 408-852-2801
or go to <http://gavilan.augusoft.net>

George Ziegler will have a one man photography show November 15 - 19 at the Herbert Sanders Gallery on the San Jose State campus. This show is one of the last requirements for George to earn his Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree. An artist's reception will be held on Tuesday, 11/16 at 6pm.

Tracey Morris joins the club's Executive Board as the 2010 Member-at-Large

Mug Shots



Mack



Margaret



Kim



Donna



Pat

Benefits of Membership

Participation in Gallery Shows

•

Mentor Program

•

Flickr Theme Projects

•

Special Interest Groups

•

Biannual Print Critique

•

URL Link on MHPC Website

•

Listed in the Membership Directory

•

Initiate Friendships, Reinforce Camaraderie, Spread Conviviality &

&

Expand

Esprit de Corps with other local photographers

Shoot-Outs

Opt-out Option

Roy Hovey & Susan Brazelton often pull photos off Flickr for use on the website and in the newsletter. (Photo credit is always given.) If you do NOT want your photos used on the website or in the newsletter, please contact Roy (chessnjava@mac.com) or Susan (brzltm@garlic.com).

Hakone Gardens June 5th

Five members drove to Saratoga to stroll through and photograph Hakone Gardens, the oldest Japanese style estate in the Western Hemisphere. Plants, stones, waterfalls and ponds combine to create a harmonious atmosphere that invites one to wander, wonder, and photograph.



Steve



Bob



Pat



Linda photographs a dragonfly



Linda's dragonfly



View more photos from this and previous shoot-outs at:
<http://www.flickr.com/groups/mhphotoclubshoot-outs/>

Future Shoot-outs

4th of July (2 shoot-outs)

1. The club has a **Flickr site dedicated to the 4th of July**. Photos of the Patriotic Sing, street dance, Freedom Run, parade, picnic, and fireworks are all welcome. You are not restricted to Morgan Hill activities. Wherever you celebrate the 4th, take photographs and post the best at:

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/morganhill4thofjuly/>

2. A Moment in Time: High Noon on July 4th. (one photo)

Periodically, an exact moment on a specified day will be designated, and members may post **one photo** taken at that moment on the club's shoot-out site. So set the alarm on your watch or phone for 12:00 Noon on July 4th and post that momentous photo.

Please label the photo: "Moment in Time 7/4/10 Noon"

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



Worldwide Photo Walk: 24 July 2010

For the second year, Morgan Hill has been accepted as an official site for **Scott Kelby's Worldwide Photo Walk**. Over 32,000 people participated last year in cities around the world. Read all about it and register online at: <http://worldwidephotowalk.com/> Check the Yahoo Group Forum for the exact start time and place in Morgan Hill.

George Ziegler will be leading the shoot.

"Life in Our Valley"

Gallery Show

Co-sponsored by the Morgan Hill Historical Society
Closes on Saturday, 26 June.

This is your last chance to visit the Morgan Hill House
and view the 52 photographs.

17860 Monterey Street
Friday Noon to 3pm
Saturday, 10am to 1pm

Artists' Reception on 21 May



Wanda & Ken slip
outside to grab a few
quick shots of roses



Photo by
Mike Winn

Next Gallery Show

"Reflection"

At the CRC Senior Center

Starts 27 August 2010

Submission Deadline: Saturday, 31 July 2010
An email call for works will be sent out in early July

Next Meeting Wednesday, 7 July 2010

Centennial Recreation Senior Center (CRC)
7pm - 9pm

Program

“Post Processing”

Four presenters will each explain a different, common post processing procedure, using popular software, including Photoshop, Photoshop Elements, Lightroom, & Aperture.

California Photo Scout: <http://www.blogcatalog.com/blog/california-photo-scout>
Includes a list of many photographic sites in California. The “How to photograph” descriptions are so general they are almost useless, but the extensive list of possibilities, makes the site worth checking.

Tips for Better Travel Photography

(extracted from an article in *Popular Photography*, April 2010))

1. Do some research before you leave home
 - Visit the city or destination website.
 - Read the *Lonely Planet* guide and then avoid the must-see places it recommends (if you want to avoid the crowds).
 - Search Flickr to see what photos others have taken at your destination
2. When you arrive
 - Find the Visitors’ Center. Almost every city and State/National Park has one. You’ll find maps, schedules, information about points of interests, books, and best of all, knowledgeable people who will answer your questions.
 - Look at a rack of postcards to see the iconic photos. Ask how to get to the spot where a photo was taken.
3. Shooting Strategies
 - If you have the time, scout locations and make a plan based on the best time of day to shoot your chosen subjects.
 - Get up and get out early. You’ll avoid most tourists and enjoy the best light. Shoot during dinner time and later for the same reasons.
 - Use the photojournalism techniques described on Page 5 of this newsletter.
4. Connect with the locals
 - Talk to shop clerks, wait staff, resort employees, and anyone using a tripod. You’ll gain insight into the area, and the human contact will add depth to your travelog.

Javier Gonzalez, owner of **JAGO Frames** in Morgan Hill makes custom frames and mats for very reasonable prices.

He’s good. He’s fast. He’s local.

And he gives a 10% discount to MHPC members

Call 408-665-5441

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June/July

Upcoming Events

“Life in Our Valley” Gallery Show

Villa Mira Monte

Show ends June 26th

Friday: Noon - 3pm

Saturday: 10am - 1pm

Tuesday, 22 June

PS Elements Special Interest Group Meeting

2pm

(See page 2 for details.)

Thursday, 24 June

Lightroom Special Interest Group Meeting

7pm

(See page 2 for details.)

Sunday, 4th of July

Parade - 11am

Fireworks - Dark

“Moment in Time” High Noon

(See page 5 for details.)

Wednesday, 7 July

General Meeting 7 - 9pm CRC

“Post Processing Techniques”

Saturday, 10 July

Shoot-out at Natural Bridges State Park

Santa Cruz

Saturday, 24 July

Worldwide Photo Walk

Downtown Morgan Hill

(See page 5)

2010 Flickr Themes

January - Reflections

February - Black & White

March - Barns

April - Water

May - Flowers

June - Patterns & Lines

July - Action

August - Beach Scenes

September - Signs

October - Structures

November - Shadows

December - People

Yahoo Group Forum

This forum is an important part of the club's communication network and we encourage every member to join. Just go to the site and click on, “Join This Group.” You need a Yahoo ID to join, and the site will take you through the steps to get one. It's all free. Postings may include spontaneous shoot-outs, last minute changes to the calendar, photographic events, and valuable resources.

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