



"IN FOCUS"

Newsletter of the
Morgan Hill Photography Club

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

February 2011



Editor
Susan Brazelton
brzlttn@garlic.com

**2011 Dues
(\$20)
are now due.**

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January Meeting

The January meeting was preceded by the **Artists' Reception** for the club's first 2011 gallery show, **"My Favorite..."** Members and guests gathered in the main hall of the Community & Cultural Center (CCC) to admire the photos, munch on appetizers, and chat with the photographers.



A fine spread of appetizers complemented the show



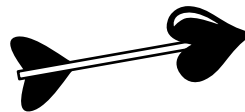
Bruce & Marty discuss a photo



Duane's panorama drew many admirers



"Hey, Lance, Look at the camera."



Print Share

After noshing it up in the gallery hall, members moved into the very spacious Hiram Morgan Hill room of the CCC for the regular monthly meeting. As at every meeting, we started off with a print sharing session. This is our way of immediately including new members and guests in the club's very social atmosphere. It is wonderful to have an opportunity to show photos to other photographers, but the real benefit of print sharing is that it gives members and guests an opportunity to get to know each other.





Mike points & shoots while waiting for a phone call

Manipulating Light



After watching a 15 minute video on the use of reflectors to manipulate the light, Noella shows an example. With a Five-in-One Reflector set, the diffuser she is holding comes with two two-sided covers: gold & silver, and white & a gold-silver combination. These allow the photographer to add warmth, direct light into shadows, and soften glare. The circles are available in various sizes and fold into a small carry case.

Navigate the Website <http://www.morganhillphotographyclub.org/>
The program in January consisted of three parts: a review of the main features of the club's website; an explanation of white balance, including the common white balance icons on most cameras; and the use of reflectors and a diffuser to control light.



Noella Vigeant led the group on a tour of the main features on the website while George Ziegler brought the pages up on the big screen. Links to the various pages can be found at the top of the Home Page.



Click on **“Documents”** and you will find links to:

- a New Member Orientation kit that includes instructions on how to sign up on Flickr and the Yahoo Forum
- the entry form and waiver for the most current gallery show
- Guidelines for submitting photos for the biannual photo critiques.

Click on **“Flickr Sites”** to find a list of quick links to all the club's [Flickr](#) Group sites, including the newest ones created by several of the Focus Groups.

If you want to join a Focus Group, click on the **“Focus Group”** page for a complete list of groups, and the contact link for each facilitator.

Did you accidentally delete the email with the newsletter attachment? No worries! Click on **“Newsletters”** for an archive of every issue since the start of the club in April 2008.

What's the Big Deal with White Balance?

George Ziegler took the attending members and guests through an explanation of the importance of white balance and how to get it right.



White is not always “white.” Some whites have a yellow cast and some a blue. If you get the correct white in your exposure, all the other colors will fall into line. To control white balance, you can adjust by choosing one of the icons on your camera: sunny, cloudy, shade, florescent, or tungsten. Or you can set it to automatic (A) and let the camera decide. Shooting in RAW format gives the photographer the fullest control of white balance because the data can be adjusted in a computer. If shooting in jpeg, the white balance is set in the camera and further adjustments are limited. The use of a grey card or ExpoDisc are two excellent methods for setting the correct white balance.

Member News

Welcome to New Members

Tom Walerius & Bonnie Carroll

Marty Cheek is Morgan Hill's 2011 *Man of the Year*. This highly prestigious honor is awarded by the Chamber of Commerce for outstanding leadership and service to the community. If there is a major event going on at the library or the Community Center, it's a good bet that Marty is involved. In addition to being a charter member of our club, Marty is a columnist for the *Morgan Hill Times* (and this newsletter), a member of Leadership Morgan Hill, and a regular videographer, writer and host on Morgan Hill Access Television (MHAT). You can see/hear Marty's acceptance speech at: <http://blip.tv/file/4733769>

Member Opportunities

Roy Hovey will be stepping down as Webmaster at the end of this year. If you have **experience in creating/maintaining a website**, and you would like to take on the job of **Club Webmaster** and join the executive board, please contact Susan: brzlttn@garlic.com

Gallery Show Committee: We are expanding the size of this committee and need a few more members to help organize the three yearly gallery shows. The committee usually meets four times a year: once for long-term planning and then once approximately four weeks before the start of each show. This is a great way to get more involved in the club and support the shows. **Meeting: Monday, 21 February 7PM** If interested, please contact Susan brzlttn@garlic.com

Math Mardi Gras is an interactive, hands-on, educational math festival sponsored by the **American Institute of Math (AIM)**. **Lori Mains**, the event organizer is looking for a **volunteer to photograph** this year's festivities. In past years, two or more of the photos from the event have been published in the *Morgan Hill Times* (with credit). This is an all day event on Sunday, 27 March 2011. If you are interested in this volunteer position, please contact Susan Brazelton by March 1st brzlttn@garlic.com

Mayor **Steve Tate's** *State of the City* address will feature an introductory slide show of photographs taken by members of this club (**Alex Curtis, Linda Tarvin, Sam Shueh, Eric Stetson, David Fritts, Noël Calvi, Bob Smith, Roy Hovey** and **Toby Weiss**). Project leader **Susan Brazelton**, and editor & musical composer **John Tarvin** invite you to attend the mayor's speech and the slide show debut on **Tuesday, 22 February in the El Toro room of the CCC starting at 7PM.**

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

**Pat Stone
Tracey Morris**
Members-at-large

Focus Groups Review

Even though they were established less than one year ago, Focus Groups have become an important part of the club structure. After an initial meeting is called (usually prior to a general meeting) to launch a new Focus Group, the interested members take over, determining the objectives of the group and where and how often they will meet. Each group has a facilitator who is the contact person for the group and helps organize the meetings and activities. If you are interested in joining a Focus Group (must be a member of the club), please contact the facilitator.

Point and Shoot Cameras - Dan Gregg: dwgdvm@aol.com

This group met for the first time in January and determined they wanted a socially active group that stressed photographic composition and FUN. After a "Show & Tell" session featuring the many P&S cameras the members brought, they set a group assignment: any time during the first week in February, photograph at the San Juan Bautista Mission including a 'target' image of the statue of San Juan Bautista, himself. They also ingeniously created their own Flickr site to share their images. (This idea has since been copied by two other Focus Groups.)

Next meeting: Thursday 24 February at 7PM at Dan's house.

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/1605480@N21/>



©Cathy Cassidy



©Dan Gregg



©Roy Hovey



©Sabrina Pettibone



©David Fritts

Macro Photography - Susan Brazelton: brzltn@garlic.com

The macro group has also established its own Flickr site. Their project for the month of February is to take macro photos in their own backyard and post five of them to the site for discussion and critique. They are encouraged to provide technical data of camera, lens and any attachments (like extension tubes or reversing rings) that were used, as well as f-stop and shutter speed. They also have a "Moss and Mushrooms" shoot-out coming up in March (exact date/time TBA)

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/mhpc-macrofocusgroup/>

Lightroom - George Ziegler: George@gwzphotography.com

In its monthly meetings, this group continues its exploration of the many tools and modules in Adobe Lightroom. The February meeting will feature podcasts showing features and shortcuts.

Next Meeting: Thursday, 24 February 7PM at George's house.

Photoshop Elements - Roy Hovey: chessnjava@mac.com

This group is on a reorganizing hiatus. Stay tuned for further developments.

Photographing People - Noella Vigeant: nvigeant@gmail.com

At their last meeting, this group brought in two models for a hands-on lighting with flash workshop. After setting up a backdrop, stool for the models, and a flash on a tripod, they experimented with bouncing light off a reflector and a piece of white mat board. They also experimented with the flash meter, noting how the readings changed when the backdrop was changed to white. The February meeting will feature editing.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 22 February, 6PM at Noella's house.

Night Photography - Susan Brazelton: brzltn@garlic.com

This group also followed the P&S lead and set up a Flickr site to share and critique their photos. Several members are driving up to San Francisco to shoot the Chinese New Year Parade. All members are encouraged to shoot the full moon rising on Thursday, 17 February.

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/mhpc-night-focusgroup/>

Flickr Theme Projects

The Flickr Theme Projects were established at the very first club meeting in April 2008. This group now has 111 members and over 2,700 photos have been posted. Members choose the twelve themes for each year and then the board creates the monthly calendar. Each club member may post up to five photos for each theme. Although interpretation of the themes is left up to individuals, inquiries have prompted this extended explanation of some of the 2011 themes.

March: Silhouettes - Backlighting is needed here so the main subject becomes a dark shape.

April: Special Effects - No straight forward photographs here. Either in the camera or in the computer, change an ordinary photo subject into something surreal, uncanny, unearthly, weird, dreamlike, psychedelic, or magical. (These photos may then be submitted to the spring gallery show, "*Altered Reality*")

May: Stormy Weather - So far our winter has been pretty mild, but let's look for lightening strikes, hail stones, rain and thunder clouds. Don't stay inside where it's warm, grab your gear and get out there in the tempest. (Stay safe: no umbrellas if there is lightening)

June: Doors - The portals that lead us in and out of buildings

July: City Lights - The night Focus Group will be organizing several after dark shoots. We'll keep you posted.

August: Street Scenes - No looking up at skyscrapers this month. Photograph the nitty-gritty, or beauty, of what you see at street level.

September: Out of Town - In this case, "town" is Morgan Hill. Post photos of any place or thing that is at least 50 miles away.

October: Fences - Self-explanatory

November: Alphabet - Photograph shapes that look like letters of the alphabet. DO NOT PHOTOGRAPH ACTUAL LETTERS. We purposefully put this one at the end of the year so everyone would have plenty of time to find their letters. Every time you go out and soot, look for letters in nature, gates, objects around the house, cloud formations, etc. You get extra credit if you spell your name and double extra credit if you photograph the entire alphabet.

December: Seasons - Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall



Flickr Theme Photos

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

Gallery Shows

The current gallery show, "***My Favorite...***" runs through Friday 25 February 2011 at the CCC. If you haven't seen this impressive array of favorite photographs, please stop by soon.

The club's next gallery show, "***Altered Realty***" which is co-sponsored by the MH Historical Society will open Sunday, 15 May and run through Sunday, 10 July 2011 in the Morgan Hill House at Villa Mira Monte. See "***April: Special Effects***" above for what is meant by "***Altered Realty***."

The final gallery show of 2011 has a theme of "***Black & White***" and will be held at the Senior Center (CRC) from Friday, 7 October through Monday, 28 November.

Exhibition guidelines and submission deadlines will be sent out at a future date.



Logo Apparel, Patches & Iron-on Transfers

and transfers are available for purchase (\$5) if you prefer to have the logo embroidered directly onto your own apparel (hat, jacket, or shirt) for \$10, bring the garment to a general meeting, give it to **Michael Sue BrownKorbel**, and she will return it at the next general meeting.



The Patch



Light Shirt Transfer



© Roy Hovey



Dark Shirt Transfer

2011 Dues (\$20) are now due

You may send a check to
17145 Munro Way,
Morgan Hill 95037

A Few of the Many Benefits of Membership

Participation in Gallery Shows

Flickr Theme Projects

Membership in Focus Groups

Biannual Print Critique

URL Link on MHPC Website

Membership Directory

Post photos on the club's Flickr sites

Yahoo Group Forum

Fun Friendship and Photography

2011 Dues (\$20)

It is time to pay your 2011 dues of \$20. To remain an active member and receive all the membership benefits (see sidebar), your dues must be paid by **Wednesday, 30 March 2011**. You may pay at a general meeting or **send a check to:**

"Morgan Hill Photography Club"
17145 Munro Way
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Yahoo Group Forum

We encourage every member to join the Yahoo Forum. Just go to the site and click on, "Join" You will need a Yahoo ID, 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, upcoming events, valuable resources, and possible solutions to your photographic dilemmas. Only club members may join the site and see the messages and files.

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

JAGO Frames
408-665-5441

Editor's note: Marty Cheek writes an occasional column for this newsletter. This month he acquaints us with photographer **Robert Mapplethorpe** and the San Jose exhibit of some of his early portraits. (All club members are invited to write a column for *In Focus*. Please send your thoughts to this editor at brzltm@garlic.com for inclusion in a future issue.)

It's safe to say that one of the photography world's most controversial artists is Robert Mapplethorpe. With his sexually provocative images that have caused religious and conservative groups to criticize him for "pandering obscenity," Mapplethorpe is a photographer who stirs a storm of debate.

Mapplethorpe gained wide national attention with a show of his prints that was set to open in June 1989 at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. That show, called "The Perfect Moment," shocked museum board members and members of Congress with its explicit images of homosexual eroticism. The show was funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, and created an intense debate in print and airwaves at the time about using government money to fund sexually explicit prints for public viewing. The Corcoran show was cancelled, but "The Perfect Moment" soon after opened at the Washington Project for the Arts. The scandal brought in large crowds to view the images.

The San Jose Museum of Art recently opened up an exhibit of his portraits from the 1970s and 1980s that does not contain his sexually explicit works. Mapplethorpe photographed a large number of people – including celebrities such as Richard Gere, Grace Jones, Peter Gabriel and Deborah Harry. A print he made of Andy Warhol in 1987 sold for \$643,200, the ninth most expensive photograph in history.

The portraits now showing at SJMA give viewers a visual of New York City during the 1970s and the 1980s. They reflect the artistic and theatrical effervescence vitality of the city's cultural milieu.

Mapplethorpe got his start in photography with a Polaroid camera in the mid-1960s. A decade later, he moved on to a Hasselblad medium-format camera. He is known for his highly-stylized black and white portraits but he also took photos of flowers, especially orchids. He died on March 9, 1989 at age 42 from complications from AIDS.

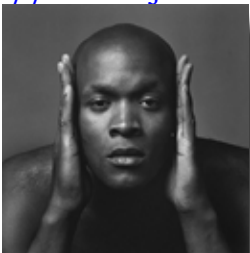
Robert Mapplethorpe: Portraits:

San Jose Museum of Art, 110 South Market Street
Through 5 June 2011

Museum hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday

Admission is \$5-\$8

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



Donald Cann



Self-portrait



Self-portrait



Yoko Ono

View photos from recent club shoot-outs at:

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

Next Meeting

Wednesday, 2 March 2011

7:00pm



Community & Cultural Center

(not the Rec. Center)

Professional Landscape Photographer



Gary Hart

Gary Hart has photographed California's natural beauty for over 30 years. His images appear in magazines, greeting cards, postcards, and calendars, and are displayed in galleries and private collections throughout the world. His photos have appeared on many *Sierra Heritage* magazine covers, and the June 2007 *Sierra Heritage* featured his "Shoot the Moon" article and photo essay. He is also a contributor to *Outdoor Photographer Magazine*.

Gary's book, The Undiscovered Country is a hardcover book of inspirational images and classic verses by poets such as Robert Frost, Emily Dickinson, and Walt Whitman.

Gary is an experienced and enthusiastic trainer and guide who conducts photo workshops and private photo tours in some of California's most scenic locations.

To learn more about Gary & view his photos, go to:

Website: <http://www.garyhartphotography.com/>

Photoblog: <http://garyhart.aminus3.com/>

Workshops: <http://www.garyhartphotography.com/photocalifornia//index.html>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/garymhart>

Coming in April ★

New Member Orientation

6:00 - 6:45

Biannual Print Critique

Members may submit up to 3 photo prints for review and critical comment by an experienced commentator/judge.

This is always one of our most popular programs.

MHPC's 3rd Anniversary Celebration

Join in a toast to our club's splendid success in promoting Fun, Friendship & Photography



Coming in May

Camera & Accessories

Show & Share

Bring your camera and favorite accessories to share with other members

Photographic Swap Meet

Gather up all that excess camera gear and bring it to the pre-meeting swap meet.

Someone else may need what you no longer want

Sell it all...

cameras, books, bags, filters, tripods...

★ Starting in April we will be back to our regular meeting arena, the multi-purpose room of the CRC.

Calendar of Events

Through 25 February

My Favorite... Gallery Show
Community & Cultural Center (CCC)

Saturday, 19 February

Chinese New Year Parade Shoot-out
Contact Noel Calvi
Have_camera.Will_travel@yahoo.com

Sunday, 20 February 2:00

Shoot-out at Uvas Canyon County Park
Meet in upper parking lot

Tuesday, 22 February 6:00pm

Photographing People Focus Group Meeting
Contact Noella Vigeant for location
nvigeant@gmail.com

Thursday, 24 February 7:00PM

Lightroom Focus Group Meeting
Contact George Ziegler for location
George@gwzphotography.com

Thursday, 24 February 7:00pm

Point & Shoot Focus Group Meeting
Contact Dan Gregg
dwgdvm@aol.com

Wednesday, 2 March 7:00pm

General Meeting
Guest Speaker Gary Hart
Community & Cultural Center (CCC)

Wednesday 9 February 7:00pm

Executive Board Meeting
Senior Center (CRC)

Monday, 21 March 2:00pm

Shoot-out at Henry Coe Park
Meet at the ranger station

Wednesday, 6 April

New Member Orientation CRC 6:00 - 6:45
General Meeting CRC 7:00pm
Print Critique & Anniversary Celebration

Tuesday, 12 April 1:00pm

Shoot-out at Villa Montalvo
Meet at the entrance

Wednesday, 13 April 7:00pm

Executive Board Meeting
Senior Center

Wednesday, 27 April 10:00am

Shoot-out at SF Palace of Fine Arts

Wednesday, 4 May

Photographic Swap Meet 6:00 - 6:45pm
General Meeting CRC 7:00pm
Camera & Accessories Show & Share

Quick Reference Guide to Flickr Themes

(See page 5 for details)

March - Straight Lines

April - Special Effects

May - Stormy Weather

June - Doors

July - City Lights

August - Street Scenes

September - Out of Town

October - Fences

November - Alphabet

December - Seasons

Check the Yahoo Forum
for last minute changes & additions
to the calendar