



"IN FOCUS"

Newsletter of the
Morgan Hill Photography Club

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

**June
2011**



Editor

Susan Brazelton
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June Meeting

The agenda for this meeting was turned up side down. Instead of starting with a print share session, we started with an innovative approach to a program that will take two meetings to complete. The first part of the program, **"Developing Your Creative Eye,"** involved all sixty-two members and guests at the June meeting fanning out around the CRC as part of a Photographic Scavenger Hunt. With cameras ready and list in hand, teams of five or so roamed the patio, the gardens, the parking lot, the building, the skate board park, the dog park and the pond searching for the eleven items on the hunt list (see insert next page). Even with the unusual-for-June cloud cover, there was plenty of light, although finding a shadow, #10 on the list, took some creative searching.

What is "Creative Eye"?

A photographer with a creative eye takes an imaginative approach when visualizing a photograph, possibly looking for a novel vantage point, using selective focus, experimenting with focal length, and finding (or creating) the light that will add impact to an image.

After forty-five minutes of shooting, everyone returned to the meeting room to share and compare their photos.



George Ziegler will compile a slide show of the photos that will be shown at the July meeting to kick-off Part II of the Creative Eye program.

Scavenger Hunt

If the smiles and energy shown in these photos and the comments on Yahoo are any indication, this mass shoot-in was a big success and calls for a repeat next summer.



- Hunt List**
1. Red
 2. Words
 3. More Than One
 4. Something Hidden
 5. Ground Level
 6. Motion
 7. Unique to Your Group
 8. Reflection
 9. Texture
 10. Shadow
 11. Wild Card



June Meeting (cont.)

Print Share

After reviewing the shots from the Scavenger Hunt, we went right into three rounds of print sharing. Members just never seem to tire of talking to other photographers. Print sharing continues to be one of the most popular elements of each meeting. Why is that?



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

George Ziegler

Web Master
PSA Liaison

Michael Sue

BrownKorbel

Photo Diva

Roy Hovey

Web Master

Pat Stone

Molly Gaylord

Members-at-large

Member News

Welcome to new members

- **Kevin Cook** • **Shelby Farnsworth** • **Jack Yovanov**
- **Sandra Dunie** • **Scott Dunie** • **Allen Palmer**

and returning members

Gordon Diddens & Susan Ferner

Molly Gaylord has joined the executive board as a member-at-large (replacing **Tracy Morris** whose one year term ended in May).

Thank you, Tracey

Charlotte Fernandes, who has been club treasurer for two years is leaving the board in August.

Like to write checks? Allocate funds? Estimate expenses?

If you would like to join the board as the new treasurer,

please reply to Susan: brzlt@garlic.com

Focus Groups Review

Focus Groups are self directing, with the members deciding where and when to meet and how they want to pursue their interest. 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 usually meets twice a month: first for a practice shoot using point & shoot cameras, and then again to review the photos, exchange ideas, and learn more about the capabilities of the cameras. In May and June, they practiced taking action photos.



©Cathy Cassidy



©Tom Wallerius



©Dan Gregg



©Eric Stetson



©Roy Hovey

See more of this group's photos at: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/1605480@N21/>

Their project for July is to shoot the Fourth of July festivities

Next Meeting: Thursday, 14 July 7:00pm

Lightroom - George Ziegler: George@gwzphotography.com

In its monthly meetings, this group continues its exploration of the many tools and modules in Adobe Lightroom, often watching short instructional videos. Members go away from every meeting with new insights, shortcuts and skills for processing their photos.

Next Meeting: Thursday, 16 June 7:00PM at George's house

Photoshop Elements & Picasa - Bob Smith: rwsjls62@gmail.com

This group usually meets once a month at a computer lab in south San Jose to practice using Elements and Picasa.

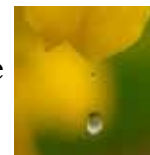
Next Meeting: TBA - Contact Bob

Macro Photography - Susan Brazelton: brzltm@garlic.com



©Linda Tyson

The members of this group held a shoot-out in May in the rose garden in front of Morgan Hill House. Their specific goal was to photograph water drops on the flower petals. For June, they will concentrate their efforts on creating abstract macro photos.



©Rodney Myatt



©Pat Stone

View macro photos taken by members at:

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

Photographing People - Noella Vigeant: nvigeant@gmail.com

Members are gathering on Wednesday, 15 June to take portraits at the Senior Center. This is great practice for the photographers and a wonderful opportunity for the seniors to receive a professional portrait for free. They have a private website to view and critique photos.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 15 June CRC 11am to 1:00pm

Night Photography - Susan Brazelton: brzltm@garlic.com

Join the members of this group in photographing the Fourth of July fireworks at Community Park. Meet at the playground equipment by 8:30pm. The fireworks usually start around 9:00pm. Hopefully we will have a clear sky. Check the calendar on page 9 for a link to an article on how to photograph fireworks.

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

Shoot-outs

Most people join the photography club to meet other photographers, improve their photographic skills, and experience new and interesting places to photograph. Participating in a shoot-out accomplishes all three of the above. In a continuing effort to provide and promote successful

shoot-outs, nine members have volunteered to take on a leadership role by becoming members of the newly formed **Shoot-out Committee**. An initial meeting was held in May with the purpose of formulating guidelines for the organization, promotion and implementation of shoot-outs.

The committee decided that, in general, shoot-outs should have a leader, include a social aspect (with food if possible), and be educational. To these ends, the following guidelines were recommended:

1. Every shoot-out should have a leader who will provide information about the chosen location and determine a start and end time.
2. Members who plan to participate should reply to the leader.
3. Carpooling will be encouraged and facilitated
4. Shoot-outs should start with an informal gathering of the participants, with introductions and information on what types of photographs are available.
5. Experienced photographers will be encouraged to help others.
6. The shoot-out should end with a short debriefing session on the shared experience.
7. When feasible, include time for breakfast, lunch (picnic maybe), dinner, or coffee.
8. Over the course of the year, shoot-outs will be scheduled on various days of the week and at various times of the day.



L to R: Pam, Molly, Ed, Pat, Jean (front), Alex, Susan, Eric (missing: J Johnny)

Organized by the Macro Focus Group, and open to all members, ten people converged at Villa Mira Monte to photograph in the beautiful rose garden. The morning, overcast sky provided perfectly diffused light.



©Linda Tyson



View photos from club shoot-outs at:

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

Shoot-out at Filoli Gardens

Thursday, 23 June
2:00pm - 6:30pm

On this day, artists are allowed after-hours access, but you must reserve a spot.
\$25 admission fee

Contact Molly Gaylord by
Monday, 20 June.
Carpool will leave MH at 2:00pm
mollygaylord@yahoo.com

Editor's note: **Marty Cheek** writes an occasional column for this newsletter. This month he recounts the life of the man who spawned the popularity of photography among the masses and his connection to Morgan Hill. (All club members are invited to write a column for *In Focus*. Please send your thoughts to this editor at brzltn@garlic.com for inclusion in a future issue.)

George Eastman Made Photography Popular

In Morgan Hill at the eastern end of Tennant Avenue near Foothill Avenue stands a magnificent mansion home that is owned by the Chiala family. It was built in 1927 and 1928 for Gertrude Achilles, the heiress of the Eastman Kodak. Popular photography and cinema both owe a great deal to George Eastman, a revolutionary American businessman and inventor who enabled ordinary people to easily take pictures using low-cost, easy-to operate box cameras.



Eastman was born in Waterville, New York, in 1854. His invention of the first practical roll film and the Kodak camera he developed to use this film led to an immense fortune. In 1888, Louis Le Prince became the world's first filmmaker by using flexible transparent film in roll form for his motion picture film. Later inventors including Thomas Edison and the Lumiere Brothers also used Eastman's film to develop the art and craft of motion pictures.

In 1892, Eastman created the Eastman Kodak Company to mass-produce standardized photography equipment. He and his mother used an anagram set to come up with the name "Kodak." He liked the "strong sound" of the letter "K" and wanted a company name that was short, could not be mispronounced, and could not be similar to anything or be connected to any other name. The Kodak company, based in Rochester, New York, grew quickly as the demand for Kodak cameras and film took off. Eastman was a generous man with his money, donating more than \$75 million to projects including endowments for the Eastman School of Music as well as a school of medicine and dentistry at the University of Rochester. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Rochester Institute of Technology also benefited from Eastman's philanthropic liberality. Unlike many of the major philanthropists of his time – such as Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller – Eastman often preferred to be anonymous in his financial gift giving, requesting to be called "Mr. Smith" in the press announcements.

In his last two years of life, Eastman suffered from intense pain from a spinal condition called lumbar spinal stenosis, caused by the calcification in his vertebrae. The pain and discomfort from the degenerative disease caused him to go into a deep depression. On March 14, 1932, he committed suicide by firing a single gunshot into his chest. He left a note which read, "My work is done. Why wait?"

Today, the Oscars are presented every year at the Kodak Theater in downtown Hollywood. Few people who watch the Academy Awards show probably know the remarkable story of the man who brought photography to the masses and provided the film medium to make motion pictures. And few Morgan Hill residents know that a portion of Eastman's vast fortune went to build a beautiful home in our city.

Marty Cheek

Online & Other Resources

This is an incomplete list of what is available, not necessarily recommended.

Magazines

Nature Photographer: <http://www.naturephotographermag.com/>

A how-to magazine published in print form three times a year. The magazine is intended for nature photographers and nature enthusiasts who range from beginners to professionals. This is a magazine for those who are interested in photographing the wilderness—in far-off destinations, in local parks or in your own backyard. Nature Photographer's app is in the Apple iPad app store. The present cost of the app is \$3.99.

Digital Photo: <http://www.dpmag.com/>

Published in print and digital editions. Includes camera reviews, buyer's guide, how-to articles, galleries, contests, and a community forum.

Digital Photo Pro: <http://www.digitalphotopro.com/>

Mostly for pro commercial photographers, but has many digital techniques useful for outdoor photographers.

Photoshop User: <http://www.photoshouser.com/>

The official publication of the National Association of Photoshop Professionals (NAPP) focuses on Photoshop & Lightroom with how-to information in graphic design, photography and digital art.

Currents: <http://www.nanpa.org/>

The magazine of the North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA) features content specific to nature photographers.

Photograph North America Newsletter: <http://www.photographamerica.com/>

Each issue of the newsletter describes in detail where to photograph North American landscapes, wildlife, hidden waterfalls, remote beaches, slot canyons, wildlife migrations, and much more. Learn where, when, and how to discover the best nature photography in America. Newsletters are available individually, in regional collections, as complete collections, and by subscription. A one-year subscription includes four issues, as printed newsletters and/or PDF files via email download links.

Online Instruction

<http://www.lynda.com/>

Offers over 1000 courses in photography and design, including software such as PhotoshopCS and Final Cut Pro.

www.kelbytraining.com

Offers online and in-person seminars, DVDs and books on photography and Photoshop and Lightroom

<http://www.betterphoto.com/>

Offers online classes with well known professionals who will present lessons, give assignments, and critique images.

Workshops:

<http://www.outdoorphotographer.com/travel-and-workshops.html>

Provides an extensive list of photography workshops and tours, categorized by location.

"Altered Reality"

Gallery Show at Villa Mira Monte

Co-sponsored by the Morgan Hill Historical Society

The exhibit continues through 10 July 2011

17860 Monterey Street

Morgan Hill House is open

Fridays: Noon - 3:00pm

Saturdays: 10:00am - 1:00pm

Next Gallery Show

"Black & White"

7 October - 28 November 2011

Submission Deadline

Sunday, 11 September 2011

Details will be sent out in August

Next Meeting

Wednesday, 6 July 2011

7:00pm

Centennial Recreation Center (CRC)

"Developing Your Creative Eye, Part II"

(composing in an unexpected and surprising way)



First we will view a slide show of photographs taken during
the June Scavenger Hunt,
then

a panel of creative photographers has been assembled to discuss
the creative ways a photographer can add
impact & originality to his/her images.

Coming in September

Professional Photographer

Don Smith will return as a guest speaker

"Low Light & Night Photography"

**His presentation will include how to photograph
dawn and dusk light,
the moon,
using light painting**

and how to capture pinpoint stars and star trails.

Don is a prominent workshop leader, writer, & landscape photographer,
& is the official photographer for the San Jose Sharks.

You can learn more about Don, on his

- Website: <http://www.donsmithphotography.com/>
- Face Book: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Don-Smith-Photogphy/371422548082>
- Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/15972779@N04/>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/shrkshttr>
- Photo Blog: <http://donsmithphotography.aminus3.com/>

Upcoming Shoot-outs

Filoli Gardens:

Thursday, 23 June, Meet at 2:00 to carpool or 3:15 at Filoli ticket window (See page 5)

Fourth of July: The club has a special Flickr site just for 4th of July photos:

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

Fireworks:

Community Park 8:30pm Meet at the playground equipment. Here is a link on "How to Photograph Firework Displays: <http://www.digital-photography-school.com/how-to-photograph-fireworks>

Salinas Rodeo:

Thursday, 23 July Contact Pat Stone for more info: pstonephotos@yahoo.com

Pat has 4 free tickets available.

Meeting Calendar

Continuing through 10 July

"Altered Reality" Gallery Show

Morgan Hill House

(See page 8)

Wednesday, 15 June 11:00am - 1:00pm

Photographing People Focus Group

Community Service Project at the CRC

Members will take portraits of senior citizens.

Contact: Larry Campbell: Larrycam@pacbell.net

Thursday, 16 June 7:00pm

Lightroom Focus Group Meeting

Meet at George Ziegler home

George@gwzphotography.com

Wednesday, 6 July 7:00pm

General Meeting

Scavenger Hunt Slide Show

"Developing Your Creative Eye, Part II"

(See pages 1 & 8)

Wednesday, 13 July 7pm

Executive Board Meeting

Centennial Recreation Center (CRC)

Thursday, 9 June

Point & Shoot Focus Group Meeting

(See page 3)

RSVP: dwgdvm@aol.com

2011 Flickr Themes

June: Doors

July: City Lights

August: Street Scenes

September: Out of Town

October: Fences

November: Alphabet

December: Seasons

JAGO Frames

408-665-5441

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

Yahoo Group Forum

We encourage every member to join the club's forum on Yahoo Groups. 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. Postings may include spontaneous shoot-outs, 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 (which include past newsletters).

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