



"IN FOCUS"

Newsletter of the
Morgan Hill Photography Club

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



November 2012



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Swap Meet Twice a year, members are invited to bring their extra camera gear and photographic paraphernalia to a pre-meeting swap meet. Negotiations were intense as some members reduced their inventory while others added to their picture taking arsenal. Bags, tripods, filters, books, cameras, and more exchanged hands.

Print Share We love to share our photos, don't we?



“Environmental Photography”

After working 20 years in the high technology industry, **Ralph Schardt**, our guest speaker at the November meeting, went back to school to earn a degree in Environmental Studies. He has taught practically all grade levels including college, and leads nature and birding tours for local groups. He is an avid birder and was involved in a two year project photographing the reintroduction of the California Condor at Pinnacles N.M. for the National Parks Service. His photos from this work were widely published. He has taught outdoor photography classes for Recreational Equipment Incorporated (REI), Orvis, San Jose State University, USNPS, as well as by private invitation. He is passionate about protecting nature and uses his photographic skills to document and promote environmental causes.



His presentation on the condor reintroduction was both enlightening and informative. When he heard about the reintroduction program, he offered his services to the National Park Service. They accepted and he became an integral member of the team of volunteers and park service employees dedicated to the recovery of this magnificent bird.



The California Condor is the largest flying land bird in North America and a California signature species. Condors were killed en masse during the Gold Rush for their quills, which were used to carry gold dust. The population further declined from lead poisoning and habitat loss over the next hundred years.

In the mid-1980s, the last 22 wild condors were captured for a captive breeding program to save the species from extinction. The condors adapted well to captive breeding, and about 300 birds currently live in the wild in areas such as Big Sur, Pinnacles National Monument and the Ventana Wilderness area.

The project required a sizable commitment of time and energy. First an aviary had to be built atop the mountain. Since there were no roads, lumber and building materials were airlifted via helicopter to a staging area and then carried by workers to the summit aviary site. Eventually trails were carved out to facilitate the difficult trek up. Usually on site from 6:00AM to 1:00PM each day, Ralph alternated between taking photographs and working alongside the others.



Ralph's presentation to the club was different in that the emphasis was not on techniques for becoming a better photographer, but rather on a way to use the skills we already have to further a cause. Photography is a powerful tool that can be used to educate and promote conservation. It can be used in campaigns to attract funding and grants, and you don't have to be a professional photographer to get involved. Ralph volunteered his services and then hoped he could, "rise to the challenge."

By sharing the Condor Recovery Program, Ralph showed us how we as photographers can contribute to the causes we deem important; whether they are environmental, scientific, religious, cultural, or educational.

What is your cause and how can you use your photography to promote it?



Member News & News for Members

Welcome to New Members

Sirish Sharma & Sharon Lohbeck

2012 Membership Total - 162 (2011 ended with 148 members.)

Executive Board

Susan Brazelton
President
Newsletter Editor

Noella Vigeant
1ST Vice President
Program Director

Molly Gaylord
2ND Vice President

Dan Gregg
Treasurer

Noel Calvi
Membership Chair
Marketing Director

George Ziegler
Web Master
PSA Liaison

**Michael Sue
BrownKorbel**
Photo Diva

**Rodney Myatt
Nichole Larsen**
Members-at-large

November Featured Photographer: Satu Viitanen

Satu had many wonderful photographs on display. She specializes in creating unique images of architecture and nature.



Satu had two works accepted into Valle del Sur's open, juried art show at the Community & Cultural Center, as did **Lance Trott**.

2013 Membership Application

Everyone who joins the club in 2013 (including returning members) will receive a membership application to complete that includes a few questions about photographic interests, cameras, and experience; as well as a liability release. The information will help the board in planning programs that meet the membership's diverse interests, and the waiver will help protect the club from litigation. A copy of the application will be sent out prior to the December Social or you may download it off the club's website.

2013 Dues (\$20)
may be paid at the December Social

Like us on Facebook

There is still time to earn a club logo patch by liking us on Facebook and then *sharing a post from the club's page*. Patches will be given out at the December Social.



Members may sign-up to be a 2013 Featured Photographer at the December Social.



<https://www.facebook.com/MorganHillPhotographyClub>

Focus Groups Review

Focus Groups have become an integral feature of the club. They allow members to delve more deeply into a specific aspect of photography and to work in a small group with other members who have the same interest. Once established, 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 who coordinates the meetings and activities. If you are interested in joining a Focus Group (must be a member of the club), please contact the facilitator.

Macro Photography - Susan Brazelton: brzltn@garlic.com



Forget the big landscape photos. Become a macro-ite and peer into the intimate landscape of a flower or catch a bee in the act of pollinating. You'll see a different world through a macro lens. No regular meetings, but monthly projects and occasional shoot-outs. Flickr site: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/mhpc-macrofocusgroup/>

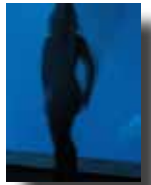
©Archie Kregear

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

Want to learn more about your P&S camera? Even if you mostly shoot with a "big camera," you probably own at least one small P&S. Learn how to use it to its fullest with this group which meets the second Thursday of the month to review and critique monthly project photos and compare camera features.

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

Next Meeting: Thursday, 13 December 2012, 7:00PM



©Eric Stetson



Lightroom - George Ziegler: George@gwzphotography.com

Learn how to use one of the most popular (and powerful) photo processing programs available. Members often watch short instructional videos and always share tips and shortcuts. All levels of users are welcome.

Next Meeting: Thursday, 20 December 7PM

iPhoneography - Michael Sue BrownKorbel: mbrownkorbel@yahoo.com

Barbi Kutilek: kutilek@ix.netcom.com



Make the most of your smartphone camera. Learn about apps and accessories, and how to turn your iPhotos into works of art. Several members of the group have taken iPhone workshops and share what they learned. Group meets the second Wednesday of the month in the CRC Senior Center Lobby.

Next meeting: Wednesday, 12 December 5:30 - 6:45

View iPhotos on Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/1945737@N22/>



Night Photography - Susan Brazelton: brzltn@garlic.com

It's fun to stay out after dark. Several members made a third trip up to Fremont Peak and practiced light painting, and the MH Downtown Safe Halloween presented many opportunities to capture ghosts & goblins.

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

©Roy Hovey



©Barbi Kutilek

Photographing People - Noella Vigeant: nvigeant@gmail.com

This very active group meets irregularly to practice dealing with difficult lighting situations, posing groups, and taking candid shots.

The next practice session is scheduled for Saturday, 1 December

To join contact Noella or **Larry Campbell** (Larrycam@pacbell.net)

Shoot-outs

Shoot-outs are a great opportunity to practice photography in an informal, social setting with like-minded people. Leaders often scout locations ahead of time to determine the best sites and the time of optimal light.

Night Photography at Fremont Peak

Saturday, 20 October



Have you ever tried light painting? A long exposure with focused light can create a unique, artistic image, like these two by **Barbi Kutilek**. The one on the right was created with the help of **Lance Trott** and **George Ziegler**, who painted the “MHPC” with his laser.



Safe Halloween Trick or Treat

Wednesday, 31 October

Several members joined the Monterey Street parade of ghosts and scary people on Halloween night.



©Barbi Kutilek

View photos from all club shoot-outs at:

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

Two Possible Shoot-outs in December... nothing definite yet...

San Francisco: Holiday Cityscape from Treasure Island

Big Sur: “Heaven’s Gate” at Pfeiffer Beach

YAHOO! GROUPS

We encourage every member to join the club’s 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/>

“When words become unclear, I shall focus with photographs. When images become inadequate, I shall be content with silence.”

□ **Ansel Adams**



Flickr Theme Projects

The club now has over 3,433 photographs posted to the Flickr Theme Project site. The projects are meant to inspire a broadening of techniques, subject matter, and skills.

Remaining 2012 Themes
November - Trees
December - Music

Although it is not mandatory, members are encouraged to **take and post new photos as often as possible.**
These photos were all taken in 2012.



©Luis Franco I



©Roy Hovey



©Bob BrownKorbel



©Bob Smith



©Lisa Ponce



©Scott Isaacs

Members who attended the November meeting cast their ballots for the 2013 Monthly Project Themes.



2013 Themes will be revealed at the
December Social

End of the Year Party

Gallery Walk

Delicious Food

Morgan Hill

Photography Club

Recognition
& Awards

Valuable
Prizes

Wednesday

5 December 2012
7 - 9pm

Centennial Recreation Center



Please bring an easy-to-eat, non-messy appetizer to share

Friends & Family
are welcome.

Share your Photos

Bring several prints to display or bring samples of some of the other creative ways you have used your photos: calendars, note cards, books, slide shows and movies.

(For the last two, bring your laptop.)

Here's a chance to show your creative spirit and maybe get some holiday gift ideas.



Looking Ahead

December

MHPC December Social

Wednesday, 5 December 7:00PM
CRC Multi-purpose Room

iPhoneography Focus Group

Wednesday, 12 December 5:30PM
CRC Senior Center Lobby

Executive Board Meeting

Wednesday, 12 December 7:00PM
CRC Senior Center Lobby

Point & Shoot Focus Group

Thursday, 13 December 7:00PM

Lightroom Focus Group

Thursday, 20 December 7:00PM

January Program

“Using the Internet to Show, Share & Sell”

This will be an instructional overview on how to:

- use social media to share your photos online,
- create and promote a personal blog (web+log=blog)
- generate a personal website
- sell your photos using internet storefronts.

February Program (at the CCC)

“All About Aperture”

A hands-on workshop to practice manipulating f-stop to control depth of field.
Bring your camera.

March Program

“Camera Break-outs”

Meet with others who use the same (or similar) camera as you. Share info on what all the buttons do, and what the icons mean; how to read the menus, and set the controls. Bring your camera again and the User's Manual.

2013 Gallery Shows

“Water”

1 February - 28 February, at the CCC

“Cityscapes & Architecture”

May - June, at Morgan Hill House

“Animals”

July - August, at Morgan Hill House

“People”

October - November, at CRC



Happy Thanksgiving

A complete calendar of club meetings and activities is on the website:
<http://www.morganhillphotographyclub.org/calendar.html>

“What I like about photographs is that they capture a moment that’s gone forever, impossible to reproduce.”

□ ***Karl Lagerfeld***