



# "IN FOCUS"

Newsletter of the  
Morgan Hill Photography Club

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



## February 2012



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## February Meeting

Have you noticed that the number of people attending the general meetings has increased? Two years ago the average attendance hovered around forty-two. Now we routinely have sixty-plus people at every meeting.

**Print Share:** What more can be said about print share? It energizes the start of every meeting. People have an immediate opportunity to socialize by sharing a favorite photo and offering comments about others' photos. And in the process, we all learn something about one another. Even those who don't have a print are included in the conversations. No one is ever left out. As you can see from these photos, sharing photographs is fun.



## “Shutter Speed”

In planning the February program, Program Chair **Noella Vigeant**, took advantage of the sizable Hiram Morgan Hill Room at the Community & Cultural Center (CCC) to set up three stations where people could learn about and practice manipulating shutter speed.

**How Slow Can You Go?** Hand holding the camera (no tripod), what is the slowest shutter speed you can use and still get a clear shot? Although the *rule of thumb* is: *choose a shutter speed with a denominator that is larger than the focal length of the lens* (50mm lens = 1/60th of a second; 200mm lens = 1/250th of a second), in practice, a shutter speed that works for one photographer may result in blur for another. With the help of **Michael Sue BrownKorbel** and her assistants,



**Rodney Myatt, Noël Calvi, and Bob BrownKorbel**, participants tried shooting a low-light subject (the lamp) at various shutter speeds to determine which produced the clearest picture.



With the ingenious use of a laser beam attached to the camera and a target on the wall, everyone had an opportunity to improve hand-holding techniques and graphically see improvement.



### Steady Your Shot

- Pull your elbows tight into your body
- Exhale completely before pressing the shutter button
- Steady your stance by placing your feet shoulder width apart and one foot slightly ahead of the other.
- Lean against a solid object like a wall or tree
- Sit or kneel

**Rear Sync Flash (aka: rear-curtain sync):** **Larry Campbell** and **Duane Middlebusher** explained how to achieve a special effect by combining flash with a slow shutter speed. Using rear-sync flash creates a stream of light behind a moving subject (the flash fires right at the end of the exposure). With a large format camera, Larry demonstrated exactly how the curtain worked.



For additional information or a review of rear sync flash, check out this excellent seven minute video by Adorama:

<http://www.adorama.com/alc/article/12970>



Continued on next page...

**Long Exposure Special Effects:** With assistance from **Lance Trott**, **George Ziegler** explained how to use the “bulb” setting for exposures longer than thirty seconds. He held everyone’s attention when he twirled his light sticks to paint the dark. Those with a zoom lens learned how to create an exploding special effect by turning the lens (zooming) *during* a several second exposure.



After everyone had *not quite enough time* to learn and practice, the group-as-a-whole reconvened to share their practice photos and ask the main presenters a few additional questions.



George, Duane, Larry, Michael Sue



## Member News & News for Members

### Welcome to New Members

- Peter Kapetanic    •Bert Berson    •Elizabeth Mandel    •Bob Parish
- Linda Sinyard    •Fran Welin    •Miguel Carlos

2012 membership total: 123 (so far)

## 2012 Dues Are Now Due

For just **\$20** you get to

- Meet with & learn from friendly photographers every month
- Join Focus Groups,
- Display your photos in any of 3 Gallery Shows
- Share your photos on Flickr
- Ask & answer question on the Yahoo Discussion Forum
- Participate in shoot-outs
- Use *express check-in* at meetings
- Be a member of the best photography club in Santa Clara County

### 7 March 2012

is the cut-off date to maintain your club membership and be included in the 2012 membership directory.

Returning members may pay at the March meeting or send a check to

**“Morgan Hill Photography Club”**

**17145 Munro Way  
Morgan Hill, CA 95037**

## 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](mailto:dwgdvm@aol.com)

This group meets the second Thursday of the month to review photos and learn more about using a P&S camera. The January project was "rain."

View P&S photos on the group's Flickr site:

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

**Next Meeting: Thursday, 8 March 2012, 7:00pm**



©Dan Gregg

### **Lightroom - George Ziegler:** [George@gwzphotography.com](mailto:George@gwzphotography.com)

Learn how to use the many tools and modules in Adobe Lightroom. The group often watches short instructional videos, and members share tips and short cuts that help them make full use of the software. Lightroom 4 will be released soon.

**Next Meetings: Thursday, 23 February 7:00pm at George's house**

### **Macro Photography - Susan Brazelton:** [brzlttn@garlic.com](mailto:brzlttn@garlic.com)

If you enjoy shooting macro photos or want to learn more how to, this is the group for you. Members help each other during shoot-outs, and by commenting on photos posted on Flickr

View macro photos taken by members at: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/mhpc-macrofocusgroup/>

### **Photographing People - Noella Vigeant:** [nvigeant@gmail.com](mailto:nvigeant@gmail.com)

Learn how to take better family photos and catch the highlight in your grandchild's eyes. Practice different lighting techniques and flash settings. Learn how to fill in shadows and avoid glare. If you enjoy shooting people, this is the group for you.

To join contact Noella or Larry Campbell ([Larrycam@pacbell.net](mailto:Larrycam@pacbell.net))

### **Night Photography - Susan Brazelton:** [brzlttn@garlic.com](mailto:brzlttn@garlic.com)

Join in the three part "City@Night" series of shoot-outs, which starts this month. We'll be practicing special effects like exploding zooms, light trails, and rear sync flash.

Wednesday, 29 February - Morgan Hill

Wednesday, 28 March - San Jose

Saturday, 19 May - San Francisco

View night photos on Flickr:

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

## New Focus Groups - Starting in March

**Come to the initial organizing meeting before the start of the  
March 7th General meeting 6:00 - 6:45pm**



**iPhoneography (Droids Welcome):** Are you getting the most out of your smartphone camera? In this group members will explore the basics of taking photos (including choosing the focus point and controlling the exposure); creating albums; buying apps (both shooting and editing); and applying artistic enhancements and special effects.

**Photo Critique:** Would you like to receive constructive criticism on your photos? This group will meet to analyze what makes a great photo: possibly by comparing two versions of the same subject; exploring how to get the most effective crop; and evaluating color combinations. Resources may include a competition judge, advanced photographers, online articles, and workshops.

## Shoot-outs

Shoot-outs are a perfect opportunity to practice photography in an informal, social, and mutually supportive setting. Leaders often gain access that is not available to the general public, but like all the activities in the club, shoot-outs don't magically happen. Each one involves time and effort to organize, promote and carry-out. Without members who are willing to take on this responsibility, and plan these events, we'd all be lonely shooters.

Meet the members who plan the shoot-outs:  
(L-R) **Duane Middlebush, Sharon Russell, Bruce Unger, Alex Curtis, Susan Brazelton, Jean Myers, & Barbi Kutilek.**  
Missing: **Molly Gaylord, Ed Honesto, Pam Porter, Pat Stone**



### These are some of the shoot-outs planned for February through May

- February (Wednesday, 29th) Downtown Morgan Hill @ Night  
First in a 3-part series of *City@Night* night shoots  
Meet in the parking lot on 3rd & Monterey (across from the bagel shop) at 5:00PM  
Leader: Bruce Unger ([BUnger@msn.com](mailto:BUnger@msn.com))
- March (Sunday, 25th) Uvas Canyon Co Park (10am)  
Leader: Alex Curtis ([acurtis001@sbcglobal.net](mailto:acurtis001@sbcglobal.net))  
Will include brown bag, picnic lunch in the park
- March (Wednesday, 28th) Downtown San Jose  
Time & Place: TBA  
Leaders: Jean Myers ([dosriosjean@gmail.com](mailto:dosriosjean@gmail.com)) & Susan Brazelton ([brzltm@garlic.com](mailto:brzltm@garlic.com))  
Second in a 3-part series of *City@Night* shoots
- April: (Date: TBA) Año Nuevo: Leader: Sharon
- April: (Date: TBA) Girls' Softball - Leader: Bruce
- April: (Date: TBA) Santa Cruz Boardwalk - Leader Ed
- May (Date & Time: TBA) Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge – Leader: Barbi Kutilek
- May (Saturday, 19th) San Francisco at Night: Leader – Susan Brazelton  
Third in a 3-part series of *City@Night* shoots.



We'll look for Ladybugs

View photos from all club shoot-outs at:

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

## Flickr

The theme for February is **“MACRO”**



©Linda Tyson



©Jim Burzo



©Bob Smith



©Archie Kregear



©Barbi Kutilek



©Duane Middlebush

View all the theme photos at:

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

## People Power

This club runs on *People Power*. If no one contributed his or her time, expertise, talents, or knowledge, nothing would happen: no shoot-outs, no Focus Groups, no Flickr sites; just a bunch of befuddled photographers floundering around wondering what to do and where to go.

### How are you going to become more involved and support the success of your club?

- 1. Join a Focus Group:** As the club grew in size, focus groups were established so members could delve more deeply into a particular area of interest. The groups also allow members to learn and get to know each other in a small-group setting.
- 2. Participate in a shoot-out** and offer to drive a carpool: another excellent way to learn and get to know other members.
- 3. Join the Gallery Show Committee:** Help plan and administer gallery shows: meets four times a year.
- 4. Join the Shoot-out Committee:** Plan and possibly lead a club shoot-out to one of your favorite locations: meets four times a year.
- 5. Create a club float for the Fourth of July Parade:** Could be as simple as a convertible car or a pick-up truck full of photographers. Coordinate the decorating and direct the participants. Many people would help. What fun this would be!
- 6. Arrange for local businesses (coffee shops, restaurants, offices,) to display member photos. This is a priority!**
- 7. Organize community service projects** that would link our club with low-income families, senior facilities, and public service projects.
- 8. Create a connection with local schools** to support young photographers. This might lead to a high school auxiliary club, a scholarship program, or monetary/supplies support for school photography programs.
- 9. Join the Executive Board** as Second Vice President. Job description includes attending the board meetings (7-9PM on the second Wednesday of the month), help with planning the monthly programs, and assist with other activities as needed. Every meeting includes laughter.
- 10. Help set up before the general meetings:** move tables and chairs, arrange name badges, and distribute materials.
- 11. Assist at the sign-in table:** greet and assist guests by offering information about the club and answering questions.
- 12. Create your own club project:** Whatever your interest might be, the members of the Executive Board will help.

### Become more involved

Contact Susan: [brzlttn@garlic.com](mailto:brzlttn@garlic.com)

## Executive Board

### Susan Brazelton

President  
Newsletter Editor

### Noella Vigeant

Vice President  
Program Director

### Open Position

Second  
Vice President

### Dan Gregg

Treasurer

### Noel Calvi

Membership Chair  
Marketing Director

### George Ziegler

Web Master  
PSA Liaison

### Michael Sue

### BrownKorbel

Photo Diva

### Molly Gaylord

### Rodney Myatt

Members-at-large

Show your club spirit  
by having the  
logo embroidered on  
your favorite shirt or  
jacket



©Mike Winn

# Opportunities

## North Valley Art League 2012 International Juried Photography Show

The show is open to all photographers and all forms of photographic expression are encouraged. \$1,750 IN PRIZE MONEY WITH BOTH A PHYSICAL GALLERY AND ONLINE EXHIBIT.

Best of Show is \$1000. The show will be exhibited May 1-June 2 at the North Valley Art League's Carter House Gallery in Redding, California. The gallery is adjacent to the Sacramento River and major recreation areas attracting both local and tourist traffic.

All entries will be online and are currently being accepted. The prospectus and entry information are on the website or click the following link: [http://nval.org/Photography\\_Show.html](http://nval.org/Photography_Show.html)

## Teen Photography Workshop

**Maureen Grzan**, the Teen Center Coordinator for the Centennial Recreation Teen Center, and **Susan Fent** have begun a new program called *Step It Up To Thrive*. They would like to have a Teen Photography Workshop, with a focus on different aspects of photography and cameras. They plan to print out the teens' best photos to display in and around the Teen Center. They will promote this to all local middle and high schools, as well as Teen Center members. "We would be honored to have a member of the Photography Club come lead the workshop along with Maureen. April would be a great month to incorporate this program.

If interested in this opportunity, contact Maureen Grzan: [Maureen.Grzan@morganhill.ca.gov](mailto:Maureen.Grzan@morganhill.ca.gov)

## iPhone Photo Workshop by Don Smith (our September 2011 guest speaker)

May 4-6, 2012 Carmel, CA

<http://www.donsmithphotography.com/3/Asset.asp?AssetID=45633&AKey=J5ADJ6V2>



### A Peek into the Future...

#### April

4<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Celebration  
Print Critique with Claudia Peterson  
Pre-meeting New Member Orientation

#### May

Focus Groups Review  
Pre-meeting Swap Meet

#### June

"Elements of Composition"  
Photographic Scavenger Hunt

#### July

**The July meeting will be on the  
11th (not the 4th)**

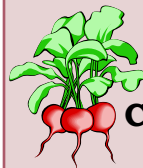
## Gallery Show

### "Garden Party"

**29 April - 24 June**  
**Villa Mira Monte**  
**(Morgan Hill House)**



**Submission Deadline:**  
**Sunday, 25 March 2012**



**Call for works will go out on  
20 February 2012**

**All photos must be taken in a garden.**  
**(The name of the garden will go  
on the title card)**

**Please consider vegetables, sculptures,  
ornaments, gnomes, critters, & tools,  
as well as flowers.**

Next Meeting  
**Wednesday, 7 March 2012**

Guest Speaker

**Scott Schilling**

Scott is a local (San Martin), event, sports, and landscape photographer and workshop leader

<http://scottschillingphoto.aminus3.com/>  
<http://www.scottschilling.com/>

**“HDR Photography”**

(High Dynamic Range)

What is it?

Simple Ways to Create HDR Images

Filters & Software

iPhone HDR

iPhoneography Focus  
Group Meeting  
6:00-6:45  
(See page 4 for details)

Critique Focus Group  
Meeting  
6:00-6:45  
(See page 4 for details)

## February/March Calendar

Continuing through 24 February  
**“Transportation” Gallery Show**  
Community & Cultural Center (CCC)

Tuesday, 14 February All Day  
Valentine’s Day  
[StVal@lovemail.com](mailto:StVal@lovemail.com)



Thursday, 23 February 7:00PM  
**Lightroom Focus Group**  
George Ziegler: [George@gwzphotography.com](mailto:George@gwzphotography.com)

Wednesday, 29 February 5:00PM  
**City@Night Shoot-out**  
Downtown Morgan Hill  
(See page 5)  
Bruce Unger: [BWUnger@msn.com](mailto:BWUnger@msn.com)

Wednesday, 7 March 7:00PM  
**General Meeting**  
Centennial Recreation Senior Center (CRC)  
Initial Focus Group Meetings:  
iPhoneography & Critique  
Guest Speaker: Scott Schilling

Sunday, 11 March  
**Start Daylight Savings**

Wednesday, 14 March 7:00PM  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
CRC

Saturday, 17 March  
**St Patrick’s Day**  
[StPat@Greenmail.com](mailto:StPat@Greenmail.com)



Sunday, 25 March  
**Submission Deadline for  
“Garden Party” Gallery Show**  
(See Page 7)



Sunday, 25 March 10:00AM  
**Uvas Canyon Shoot-out**  
Alex Curtis: [acurtis001@sbcglobal.net](mailto:acurtis001@sbcglobal.net)  
(See Page 5)

Wednesday, 28 March 5:30PM  
**City@Night Shoot-out**  
Downtown San Jose  
(See page 5)