



"IN FOCUS"

Newsletter of the
Morgan Hill Photography Club

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

**April
2013**



Editor
Susan Brazelton
brzltm@garlic.com

**Print
Critique**
Page 2

**Anniversary
Celebration**
Page 3

Shoot-outs
Page 4/5

Focus Groups
Page 6

**Communication
Resources**
Page 7

**Artists'
Reception**
Page 8

April Meeting

Print Share

We had another room-packed meeting filled with expectant energy and people eager to meet with other photographers and share a photograph. Thirty minutes of round-robin print sharing continues to be one of the most popular elements of the general meetings.



April Featured Photographer: Molly Gaylord



Molly likes to photograph, "everything!" as evidenced by the wide array of subject matter she had on display. One of the things that has helped Molly improve her photographic skills is that she studies photographs that win awards & competitions. She pays attention to what the judges say about the photos and then tries to include the best aspects in her own photographs.

Print Critique



We were very pleased to have **Virginia Scott** return as the commentator for our biannual print critique. Virginia, a former president of the Los Gatos-Saratoga Camera Club, was a Central Coast judge for five years and is a member of the National Association of Photoshop Professionals (NAPP), and the Photographic Society of America (PSA). She has participated in over fifty competitions and group exhibits and has twice received “Best of Show” awards at the Santa Cruz County Fair. Virginia’s comments the on forty-three photographs submitted by eighteen club members are summarized below.

Virginia said she looks at three aspects when evaluating a photo:

1. Does the photo have a WOW! factor, something that immediately grabs her attention?
 - Is it moody, playful, dramatic, vibrant, or peaceful?
2. Does the photo have strong compositional elements?
 - Leading lines help the viewer’s eye travel to the main subject
 - Repetition of line, color, or objects add interest
 - Diagonal lines add drama and extra impact
 - An uneven number of elements adds appeal
 - The main subject must be immediately identifiable.
 - The viewer should not have to guess where to look
 - The Rule of Thirds places the main subjects at power points
 - Or ignore the rule purposefully.
 - If there are two main subjects, they should be coupled in some way
 - The photo should be cropped to eliminate any dull space that does not support the main subject. The viewer’s eye will be pulled to light spots, so eliminate them.
 - Simplicity can be amazingly successful
 - Look beyond the subject to see the graphic elements in the photo.
3. Technical Proficiency
 - Sharpness and correct exposure are critical.
 - Has the light (the building block of photography) been used effectively?
 - The golden hours of sunrise and sunset create beautiful light.
 - Sidelight creates drama and adds depth.
 - Backlight can add a halo effect and increase visual strength.
 - Increasing contrast can add PUNCH to a photograph.
 - Strong color can be used as an element of surprise, or repeated to add interest.



Thank you to **George Ziegler** and **Lance Trott** for setting up the light board, camera & screen

“The best place to photograph is where you are.”

Member News & News for Members

Welcome to New Members

•Don Hoskin •Deanne Stutzman •Jim Sugiyama

2013 Membership Total: 143 (so far)

Happy Birthday to Us!

The club celebrated its 5th anniversary with cookies, a toast led by **Marty Cheek** and a gift to everyone who helped celebrate the club's continued success.



Charter Members

L to R: Lance Trott, Ken Brown, Marty Cheek, Michael Sue BrownKorbel, George Ziegler, Barbara Dawson, Alan Futterman, Noella Vigeant, David Rosas.
Missing: Noël Calvi, David Fritts, Sue McElwaine,



©Roy Hovey



"I love the friendly, inclusive and learning (physical and virtual) environment the MHPC provides. Real people that care about photography and care about you."

Jose Vignano, member since May, 2012.

POP Quiz

Who said this?

"You don't make a photograph just with a camera. You bring to the act of photography all the pictures you have seen, the books you have read, the music you have heard, the people you have loved."

First member to reply with the correct answer wins a Zipper Pull

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



©Mike Winn

Shoot-outs

Winter (such as it was) is over and spring is blooming with renewed life. The hills are still green, the poppies are in bloom, and club members are meeting in the best places to shoot together and learn from each other. Shoot-outs are a perfect opportunity to practice photography in an informal, social, and mutually supportive setting. Leaders often scout locations ahead of time to determine the best sites and the time of optimal light.

Cantor Arts Center, Thursday, 4 April Leader: **Dan Gregg**

The Point & Shoot Focus Group carpooled up to the Stanford Campus to wander through a maze, view the **Andy Warhol** exhibit, and photograph sculptures, paintings, textiles, and each other. After shooting the Burghers of Calais in the Rodin Sculpture Garden, the excursion ended with a round of burgers at Kirk's Steakhouse.



Roy chats with a statue.

©Roy Hovey

Casa Dos Rios Thursday, 11 April Leader: **Jean Myers**

Jean graciously invited club members to join her in photographing her 1+ acre all-native garden. Poppy, sage, manzanita, columbine, iris, and native grasses, plus a vineyard and green foothills, provided a multitude of photographic opportunities.



Shoot-outs cont...

View photos from all club shoot-outs at:
<http://www.flickr.com/groups/mhphotoclubshoot-outs/>

Next Scheduled Shoot-outs

Canada de los Osos Ecological Reserve, Saturday, 27 April - Leader: **Rodney Myatt**
The Reserve consists of the various foothill habitats (streams, woodlands, grasslands). It was once a cattle ranch and contains remnants of ranch buildings, equipment, and fences. It has a number of conservation and habitat restoration projects ongoing. The reserve is not open to the general public. We gained access because Rodney has the right connections.

Guadalupe River Park (San Jose) Wednesday, 29 May - Leader: Susan Brazelton

San Jose Rose Garden + Rosicrucian Museum, Friday, 31 May - Leader: Dan Gregg
Organized by the Point & Shoot Focus Group, but all cameras are welcome.

UC Santa Cruz Botanical Gardens Thursday, 6 June - Leader: Rodney Myatt

Gilroy Gardens Art in the Park, Friday, 28 June - Leader: Susan Brazelton
Free access for artists We will visit the new Art Gallery with photos by MHPC members

Laguna Seca Time Trials, Friday, 28 June - Leader Ed Honesto

Moss Landing in the Morning, Friday, 19 July - Leader: Jean Myers
Catch the early morning light in the harbor, on the beach, and in town; then have lunch

Waterski Tournament, Saturday, 10 August - Leader Sharon Russell
Action packed event. Expect to get splashed!

Flickr Theme Projects

April
"Water"

2013 Themes

May - Gardens
June - Symmetry
July - Abstract
August - Bridges
September - Fog
October - Mountains
November - Cars
December - Panorama



©Bob Hopkins



©Kyrod Myatt



©Diane Rocha



©Linda Tyson

View all the theme photos at:
<http://www.flickr.com/groups/mhphotoclub/>

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. Focus Groups are a great way to learn more about a specific aspect of photography and to meet with other members in a small group setting. 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

Meets the 2nd Thursday of every month

Even if your P&S camera is just a back-up, it would still be wise to learn how to use it to its fullest. In addition to a monthly meeting, the group often plans shoot-outs to practice specific camera modes. View P&S photos on the group's Flickr site:

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

Macro Photography - Susan Brazelton: brzltm@garlic.com

No regularly scheduled meetings, but every shoot-out offers macro opportunities.

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

Photographing People - Noella Vigeant: nvigeant@gmail.com

Learn how to take better family photos and catch the highlight in your grandchild's eyes. If you enjoy shooting people, this is the group for you.

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

Night Photography - Susan Brazelton: brzltm@garlic.com

No regular meetings, but the group goes out several times a year to shoot after dark.

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

iPhoneography - Michael Sue BrownKorbel: mbrownkorbel@yahoo.com

- **Barbi Kutilek:** kutilek@ix.netcom.com

The iPhone has revolutionized photography. If you have one, join this group, which meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month to share iPhotos and apps.

See iPhone photos on Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/1945737@N22/>



Featured Focus Group: Lightroom

George Ziegler: George@gwzphotography.com

Lightroom is a photography software program developed by Adobe Systems for Mac OS X and Microsoft Windows, designed to assist users in managing large quantities of digital images and doing post production work. Lightroom combines photo management and editing in one interface.

The focus group meets the 3rd Thursday of every month to learn how to use the many tools and modules (Library, Develop, Map, Books, Slide Show, Print and Web), in Lightroom. During the informal meetings, members and share tips and short cuts that help them make full use of the software, and often watch short instructional videos. Whether you just bought the software or have been using it for years, you will always learn something new at the meetings.



Club Communication

The Executive Board has set up a variety of ways for members to know what's happening within the club.

Executive Board

Susan Brazelton
President
Newsletter Editor

Noella Vigeant
1st Vice President
Program Director

Molly Gaylord
Rodney Myatt
Vice Presidents

Dan Gregg
Treasurer

Nichole Larson
Membership Chair
Marketing Director

George Ziegler
Web Master

Michael Sue
BrownKorbel
Photo Diva

Barbi Kutilek
Member-at-Large

Noël Calvi
Adjunct

Everything Is on the Website

<http://www.morganhillphotographyclub.org>

- **Shoot-outs** • **Flickr Themes**
- **Future Programs** • **Newsletter Archives**
- **Focus Group Meetings**
- **General Meeting Information**
- **Links to Focus Group Flickr galleries**
- **A Complete Calendar**

(A calendar list will no longer be included in the newsletter)

In Focus

(This newsletter)

The newsletter gives an account of the most recent happenings in the club and a peek into the future. It always includes a summary of the monthly program, links to Focus Groups, speakers' websites, gallery show information, and pithy photography quotes.

Members are advised to read each page fully & carefully, because one day there might be a quiz.



Facebook

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

Like the club's page on Facebook and you'll gain another avenue of communication, not only to members, but to all the world. Make friends with other members in the club (all board members are on Facebook) and share your photographic thoughts and links.

Membership Directory

The membership directory allows members to easily contact one each other. A curse will infect your computer if you share the contact info outside the club or add the names to a mass mailing list. You should have received a copy via email.

Yahoo Group Forum

If you are not a member of the club's discussion forum on Yahoo, you are missing out on:

- **Sale of Camera Gear** • **Last Minute Shoot-Outs** • **Software Update Announcements**
- **Lively Discussions** • **Feed back to the board after each meeting** • **Questions & Answers**
- **Photography Workshops & Classes** • **Way More!**

We encourage every member to join the forum (it's free) and stay in the communications loop.

Only club members may join the site and see the messages and files.

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

Next Meeting
Wednesday, 1 May 2012
7:00PM

Centennial Recreation Center
(Multi-purpose Room)

★ **Open Projector**

15 members will have 5 minutes each to project 1 or 2 photos and tell the club the story behind each one. We'll learn what each photographer did before the photo was taken, what camera and lens were used, and how it was processed. This club is built on sharing and learning from each other.

June Program

"Color & Light"

Photographic Scavenger Hunt

"CITYSCAPES/ARCHITECTURE"

5 May - 2 June

Morgan Hill House

Gallery Photographs by

- Michael Sue BrownKorbel •Susan Brazelton •Larry Campbell
- Marty Cheek •Charlotte Fernandes •Molly Gaylord •Mark Grzan
- Leo Hoarty •John Hopkins •Rodney Myatt
- Lennie Randall •Diane Rocha •Jerome Sarmiento
- Linda Sinyard •Lance Trott
- Satu Viitanen •George Ziegler



©Charlotte Fernandes

Meet the photographers, drink some wine,
feast on appetizers,
and have an all-around jolly time
at the

Artists' Reception

Friday 10 May 6:00 - 8:00



©Larry Campbell

Two more club shows are scheduled for this year

"Animals"

In the summer at Morgan Hill House

&

"People"

In the fall at the CRC