



"IN FOCUS"

Newsletter of the
Morgan Hill Photography Club

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

**December
2013**



Editor
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**2014 Dues
(\$20)
are now due.**

**Member
Recognition
Pages 3 & 4**

**2013 Shoot-out
Review**

**2014 Flickr
Themes
Page 7**

**2014
Gallery Shows
Page 8**

**Two New
Focus Groups
Page 9**

End of the Year Club Social

The club's annual end-of-the-year party is a time for members and guests to enjoy food, music, prizes, and each other. No print share at this meeting or a featured photographer. Members were encouraged to bring as many photos as they wanted to share, in any form. While a year of Flickr theme photos played across the big screen, photos around the room were viewed on computers, tablets, smart phones, and in hard copy books.





More Party Picts “Fun, Friendship & Photography”



Roy & Susan flashed each other.

©Roy Hovey



Door prizes included four gallery frames with mats, gift certificates from B&H and Amazon, subscriptions to *Outdoor Photographer* & *Popular Photography*, flash accessories, and more.



©Roy Hovey



“Find & Sign” is a mixer where members gather signatures of people who fit one of 15 different descriptions. From all the completed papers, a winner was drawn:
Ed Honesto!



Michael Sue verified every name.



Member Recognition



Executive Board

George Ziegler
President
Web Master

Noella Vigeant
Program Director

Dan Gregg
Treasurer

Nichole Larson
Membership Chair
Marketing Director

Susan Brazelton
Past President
Newsletter Editor

Rodney Myatt
Logistics Chair

Barbi Kutilek
Mark Grzan
Members-at-large

Michael Sue
BrownKorbel
Photo Diva

Noël Calvi
Adjunct

Welcome to New Member

Al Ferla

The club's final membership total for 2013 is a record breaking 180.

The end of the year is a good time to recognize member contributions and achievements.

The Executive Board:



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Left to Right: **Rodney, Mark, Nichole, Michael Sue, Barbi, George, Susan, Noella, Noël, Dan**

2013 Gallery Show Participants:

Nancy Altman, Curtis Bierley, Michael Bellew, Susan Brazelton, Ken Brown, Michael Sue BrownKorbel, Larry Campbell, Marty Cheek, Sandra Dunie, Scott Dunie, Charlotte Fernandes, Cheryl Freedman, David Fritts, Beth Gardner,, Molly Gaylord, Dominic Godfrey, Dan Gregg, Mark Grzan, Leo Hoarty, Monica Hojda, John Hopkins, Roy Hovey, Arne Kalma, Jennifer Knerr, Archie Kregear, Bonnie Kregear, Barbi Kutilek, Dave Kutilek, Bob Lasswell, Dennis McWilliams, Mike Mister, Kyrod Myatt, Rodney Myatt, Lorraine Oback, Lisa Ponce, Lennie Randall, Diane Rocha, Kent Rossi, Sharon Russell, Jerome Sarmiento, Bob Smith, Eric Stetson, Chris Stocker, John Tarvin, Lance Trott, Bruce Unger, Noella Vigeant, Satu Viitanen, Didi Wake, George Ziegler

Flickr Theme Projects

Thirty-six members participated in the 2013 Flickr Theme Projects, posting over 700 photos. Twelve members received a LCD Cleaning Kit for posting photos all twelve months: **Barbi Kutilek, Bob Thompson, Jim Burzo, Lisa Ponce, Luis Franco, Luis Franco Sr., Rodney Myatt, Bob Smith, Duane Middlebusher, Susan Brazelton & Mike Winn.**



©Roy Hovey

Speakers and Panel Members



We have a lot of talent in this club and fortunately, members are willing to share their knowledge and expertise. These members volunteered as program facilitators, presenters and/or panel members (several of them more than once).

Noella Vigeant, Nichole Larson, Tracey Morris, Barbara Dawson, Bob Thompson, Jay Everson, Jose Vigano, Mike Winn, Roy Hovey, George Ziegler, Molly Gaylord, Rodney Myatt, Jim Burzo, Rick Rasmussen, Barbi Kutilek.



Community Connections Chair, **Nichole Larson** recognized **Bob Thompson, Arne Kalma, and John Tarvin** (missing from picture) for their slide show presentations at local senior centers. Each one visits two or three facilities a month, sharing their travel adventures.



Noella Vigeant & Larry Campbell introduced the photographers who took portraits of senior citizens at the CRC:

Ali Adams, David Adams, Rick Luyet, Dennis McWilliams, David Rosas, Richard Kintscher, Eric Stetson, Lance Trott, Larry and Noella.

The club's efforts to give back to the local community included covering events for non-profit organizations and allowing them to use the photos in their newsletters and for promotion on social media. These events included the Freedom Fest Run and Car Cruise, the Howl-O-Ween Dog Festival and the Community Foundation's Road Rally and Philanthropy Dinner. Photographers included: **Ali Adams, David Adams, Andrea Bazely, Gordon Bazley, Susan Brazelton, Larry Campbell, Barbara Dawson, Dominic Godfrey, Barbi Kutilek, Dave Kutilek, Dennis McWilliams, Lisa Ponce, Lennie Randall, David Rosas, Anne Rosenzweig, Jerome Sarmiento, Lance Trott & Noella Vigeant.**

Our club is *powered by people* who volunteer their time to create, plan, and organize the many club activities. Thank you to the

The Gallery Show Committee:

Larry Campbell, Dan Gregg, Chuck Kaekel, Curt Palm, Lennie Randall, Diane Rocha, Noella Vigeant, Satu Viitanen, Susan Brazelton & George Ziegler

The Shoot-out Committee & Shoot-out Leaders:

Kevin Cook, Molly Gaylord, Mark Grzan, Ed Honesto, John Hopkins, Barbi Kutilek, Duane Middlebusher, Rodney Myatt, Jean Myers, Rick Rasmussen, Sharon Russell, Jose Vigano, Susan Brazelton, Dan Gregg, Roy Hovey & George Ziegler.

The Focus Group Facilitators:

George Ziegler (Lightroom), Susan Brazelton (Macro & Night Photography), Noella Vigeant & Larry Campbell (People), Dan Gregg & Roy Hovey (Compact Cameras), Barbi Kutilek & Michael Sue BrownKorbel (iPhoneography)

The Meeting Room Set-up & Sign-in Table Staff:

Rodney Myatt, Roy West, Ram Gupta, Michael Malan, David Rosas, Alan Futterman, Dan Gregg, Susan Brazelton, Sue McElwaine, David Fredericks, Barbara Dawson

2013 Monthly Programs in Review

Every meeting included an instructional presentation/program on some aspect of photography. Program Director **Noella Vigeant** scheduled a variety of formats, including guest speakers, panels, and hands-on workshops. Whenever possible, she tapped the talent and expertise of our club members. Over the course of 2013, members and guest speakers shared their time, their techniques, and their creative skills:



January: Show, Share & Sell on the Internet:

- Social Media
- Blogging
- Selling
- Creating a Personal Website



February: "All About Aperture"

- Hands-on Depth of Field practice stations



March: "Cameras & Accessories"

- Break-out groups to learn more about cameras
- Accessory Show & Tell



April: Print Critique

- New Member Orientation
- Fifth Year Anniversary Celebration
- Guest Commentator **Virginia Scott**

May: Open Projector

- Ten members shared their photographs and described their processes for creating them.



June: "Color & Light" Scavenger Hunt

- George Ziegler takes over as president.

July: "Lighting" by Photoflex

- Norman Hughey & Craig Sargent demonstrate various lighting set-ups & tools



August: "Consistent & Repeatable"

- Guest Speaker Hal Schmitt told how to achieve good results time after time.



September: "Choosing the Right Lens" Member Panel

- Portrait Photography
- Sports Photography
- Landscape Photography
- Using Filters



October: Light Painting

- New Member Orientation
- Demos of several light painting techniques, then practice sessions



November: Print Critique

- Annual Photographic Swap Meet
- Guest Commentator **Hal Geren**



2013 Shoot-out Review

February:

- City Architecture

March:

- Cantor Art Center
- Casa Dos Rios

April:

- Oakland Zoo
- Canada de Los Osos Ecological Reserve

May:

- Rosicrucian Museum & San Jose Rose Garden
- Return to Fremont Peak

July:

- Super Moon
- Gilroy Gardens
- Moss Landing
- 4th of July Celebrations

August:

- Water Ski Tournament
- Railroad Garden Tour

September:

- Guglielmo Winery
- America's Cup
- British Fall Car Classic
- Rolex Big Boat Races

October

- World Wide Photo Walk
- Safe Halloween Trick or Treat
- Capitola at Night

November

- Niles Canyon Railroad
- Pfeiffer Beach

December:

- See Next Page



©Alan Futterman



See all 3,400+ shoot-out photos on Flickr:
<http://www.flickr.com/groups/mhphotoclubshoot-outs/>

December:

• Morgan Hill Holiday Lights Parade



©David Fredericks



©Jerome Sarmiento



©S. Brazelton

December Full Moon

With special permission from the homeowner, sixteen people converged on El Toro to capture panoramas of the valley, the sunset, and the full moon rising.



NOTE: These photos taken with an iPhone.

flickr Theme Projects

December 2013 Theme: "Panoramas"



©Scott Isaacs



©Roy Hovey

2014 Flickr Themes

Although it is not mandatory, members are encouraged to **take and post new photos for each theme.**

- January - **Pets**
- February - **Faces (Real or Imagined)**
- March - **Black & White**
- April - **Insects**
- May - **Missions/Churches**
- June - **Trains**
- July - **Statues**
- August - **Musical Instruments**
- September - **Historical Places**
- October - **Signage**
- November - **Cemeteries**
- December - **Through a Window**

2014 Gallery Shows

“Explosion of Color” February 4 - 27 at the Community & Cultural Center

This is a short show, but with the many events held at the CCC, it is usually the show that gets the largest audience of community members.

The theme for this exhibition is to capture objects/scenes that are literally exploding with color. Think of a box of crayons, or for you hippies, a tie-dyed scarf or t-shirt. It might be a bouquet of brightly colored flowers, a display in a store, intensely colored “wall art” on a building, or face painting. All photos must represent the theme and must be suitable in subject matter for a diverse and general audience.



The more colors and the brighter and more saturated they are, the better.



Complete exhibition rules and submission process can be found on the club website.

Submission Deadline: Sunday, 29 December

Future 2014 Gallery Shows

“Antiques”

May - June at Morgan Hill House

“After Dark”

July - August at Morgan Hill House

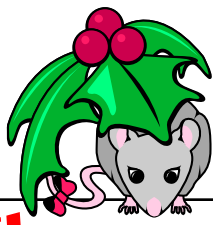
“Machinery”

October - November at the Centennial Recreation Center

Two Opportunities to Learn

Mark Grzan will be offering two Photoshop classes (Entry Level & Intermediate/Advanced) in the new computer lab of the Morgan Hill campus of Gavilan College. Classes begin January 27 and run through May 23. Mark has over 20 years of College teaching experience, of which 13 have been teaching Photoshop at the Gavilan campus in Morgan Hill. Registration information can be found at <http://www.gavilan.edu/admit/>

George Ziegler will be teaching **Adobe Lightroom 5** at the Morgan Hill Community and Cultural Center, **starting on Tuesday, January 21, from 7-9PM and lasting for ten (10) weeks (cost \$189)**. He will be covering all the modules in Lightroom 5 with special emphasis on the “Library” and “Develop” modules, which are the heart of Lightroom. In addition you’ll learn how to make a book using the “Book” module and how to use the “Print” module to its best advantage even if you do not do your own printing. If interested email George at george@gwzphotography.com.



Focus Groups

NEW!

“Build Your Own Website”

Using *Wordpress*

**Informational meeting from 6:00PM to 6:45PM
(just prior to the January 8th meeting)**

The purpose of the focus group is to learn about websites, how to build a website using Wordpress, and learn about “Wordpress themes.” You do not need to have any prior knowledge of Wordpress to join this group; nor do you need to know “code”. This group will begin at the beginning. If you have always wanted a website of your own, this is the focus group for you.

Facilitator: Barbi Kutilek: BK@ImagesbyBK.com

NEW!

“Video Photography”

**Informational meeting from 6:00PM to 6:45PM
(just prior to the January 8th meeting)**

Most still cameras today have the ability to also take video. In this group learn how to use the video features of your camera and also how to use software to create polished productions from that video. Facilitator: David Fredericks: david@dosgatos.net

**The Compact Camera Focus Group
invites all members to a mini workshop**

**Thursday, 9 January 2014
7:00 - 9:00**

Today’s choices for those seeking a backup camera, a travel camera, or just wanting to down-size - or upgrade - are plentiful. Choosing a new camera, for many, is a daunting task.

Those to choose from include the following types of cameras:

- 1) Interchangeable lens, compact system cameras (ILC’s or CSC’s).
- 2) Fixed Lens Cameras (high-end, long zoom/Bridge, lower-end)
- 3) Pocket Cameras (pocket, ultra-pocket, extended zoom pocket)
- 4) Phone Cameras and Cameras that attach to phones

At the January Compact Camera Focus Group meeting, **Roy Hovey** will describe the features of all the major, non-DSLR, compact cameras and demonstrate how they work.

RSVP **Dan Gregg** to reserve a spot and get directions. dwgdvm@me.com

**Focus Groups are for members only.
To join or continue your membership in a focus group,
2014 dues must be paid.**

**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

**Fun
Friendship
&
Photography**



2014 Dues (\$20) are now due

We ask that all returning members pay by 31 January. If you must miss the January meeting, please send a \$20 check & a **completed membership application*** to
"Morgan Hill Photography Club"
17145 Munro Way,
Morgan Hill 95037

**You can download the application off the home page of the club website.*

The first Wednesday in January is New Years Day. 

January 2014 General Meeting

will be held on the

Second Wednesday, 8 January

at the CRC. 

Program: "Open Projector"

8 members will have 8 minutes each to project 1 or 2 photos and tell 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.

**The February 2014 meeting
will be held on
Thursday, 6 February
(That's right: THURSDAY!)
at the CCC**

**"Explosion of Color"
Artists' Reception
Thursday, 6 February
6:00PM - 7:15PM
at the CCC
(just prior to the February meeting
which will start at 7:30PM)**

Yahoo Group Forum

We encourage every member to join the Yahoo Forum. Just go to the site and click on, "Join" You need a Yahoo ID to join, 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.

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

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

The guest column this month was written by **Mark Grzan**. If you would like to submit an article for **In Focus**, contact this editor: sbrzlttn@garlic.com

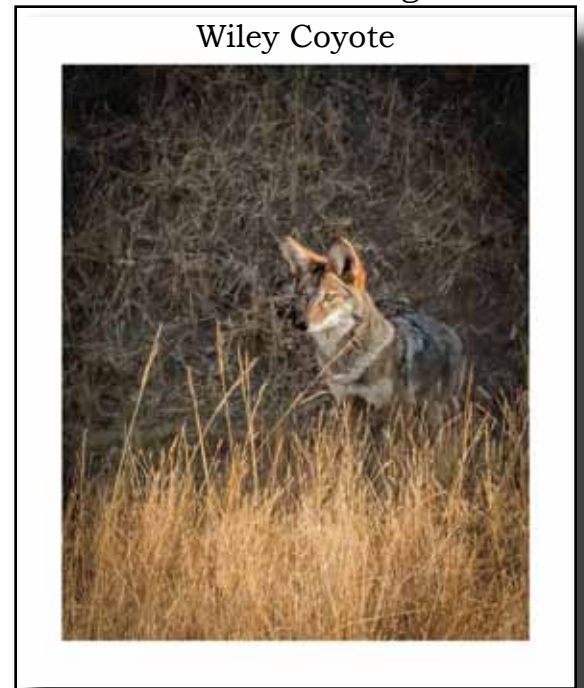
The Shot by Mark Grzan

It was mid-morning on Friday, November 09, 2013. I was back at Harvey Bear Ranch County Park at the eastern terminus of San Martin Road in San Martin. I was there shortly after the 8 AM opening and headed east and south on the Rancho San Ysidro Trail via the Willow Springs Trail. My purpose was twofold, 1) get exercise, and 2) get a picture. Since I was carrying twenty-five pounds of camera equipment up and down four hundred feet of elevation, getting exercise was never in doubt.

On this morning, there were great shots to be found everywhere. The light was terrific, the sun was warm and there were some stratus clouds in the sky. The hillsides were a-blazing in rich cinnamon and gold.

At 2.0 miles on the trail, there is a wonderful spring with a watering trough that seems to be a popular hot-spot for local furry and feathered residents. Looking up the trail I spotted a coyote. He was headed south, too far for me to get a picture. But then out of the corner of my eye, I saw movement in a gully to my left. It was another coyote. I quickly took off my pack to grab my telephoto lens. I was in a panic for I knew the coyote would not stay long. I switched lens and adjusted a few settings, later to realize they were wrong.

The coyote was initially in the shadow (see the dark background in the photo). He stepped forward and I took the shot. The composition is offset, the focus is the eyes (always) and positioned in the intersect of the upper right quadrant. Light is from the right and low. The darkened background enhanced the coyote and the golden grass in the forefront was just a big plus.



ISO 4000 was much too high for the shot. In haste I miss-selected a high number for a high shutter speed to capture movement. The f/22.0 was also too high, a residual setting from the wide angle lens. I could should have moved to f/8.0 and a lower ISO for less noise. The shot is good none the less, but is a tad grainy if you zoom. Lessons learned: be patient; know your camera, lenses and settings for the light conditions; check before shooting; and don't rely on the LCD screen. It is better to get one excellent shot as opposed to a morning of missed shots.

I processed the raw image in Adobe's Camera Raw, adding vibrancy & sharpening, adjusted for noise without adding blur, added a little vignetting and reduced some shadows. I cropped to enhance the composition. I used Nik's Viveza 2.0 add-on for more structure that brought out more detail. The final image measures 9.7' x 10.7" for 109 MB @ 300 dpi, bit depth 16, and saved as a PSD file/image.

Nikon D800E with Nikon 80-400 f/4.5-5.6 with a 1.4 TC. Hand held at 1/320, f/22.0, ISO 4000 @112 mm. 10 AM Harvey Bear County Park in San Martin, CA , 37° 5'34.62"N, 121°33'30.71"W