



# “In Focus”

Newsletter of the  
Morgan Hill Photography Club

<http://www.morganhillphotography-club.org/>

**April  
2015**



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## April Meeting Image 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 image sharing continues to be one of the most popular elements of the general meetings.



## Image Critique

We were very pleased to have **Chris Cassell** as our guest commentator this month. As a trained photography judge, Chris looked at twenty-nine images submitted by members and commented on initial impact, composition, technical proficiency, and photographic interest. When appropriate, he made suggestions on how a photograph might be improved. The images were submitted both electronically and as prints. Each print was placed on the lightbox for close scrutiny by Chris, and at the same time projected on the big screen (via George's computer) for everyone to see. At the end of the meeting, the prints stayed on display for those who wanted a closer look.



- For animal photos, try to wait until the animal is looking at the camera and make sure the eyes are in focus.
- Tightly compose so there is no wasted space in the composition. If necessary, crop out any unnecessary areas in post processing.
- Repeating patterns add interest to a photo.
- Bring out texture in shaded areas (rather than allowing the area to just black).
- Carefully look at the color cast of a photo. If it looks unnatural, fix it in post processing.
- Monochrome photos need texture and a full range of tones (light to dark) to be interesting.
- The viewer's eye is drawn to the lightest part of a scene. Make sure this is your main subject.
- A composition needs something to hold the eye in the frame, like a definite subject. If the scene is too cluttered, the viewer doesn't know where to look, gets bored, and moves on.
- With landscape, a foreground object will add interest and a sense of depth to the scene.
- A photograph does not have to be realistic. Follow your artistic vision.
- A slow shutter speed will give flowing water a pleasing, milky look.
- When composing a scene, ask yourself, "What is the most interesting part of this scene, and is it interesting enough to take a photo?"



## Member News & News for Members

### Welcome to New Members

•Paul Guersch •Bob Moberg •Virginia Hosford

2015 Membership Total: 157 (so far)

#### April Featured Photographer: Noël Calvi

Noël displayed several photographic prints taken on a recent trip to France with her husband. These included gardens, landscapes, and historic structures. She also shared the best of the photos she has taken on club shoot-outs in San Francisco and along the California coast.

### *7th Anniversary Celebration*

©Michael Sue BrownKorbel

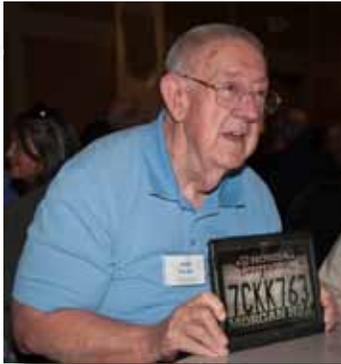


This year's anniversary celebration emphasized Lucky Number 7. Members and guests enjoyed "7" sugar cookies (thank you to Didi Wake for ordering and bringing the cookies) and toasted to the club's past and future successes with a can of 7-UP.

#### And that's not all!

All members who shared a photo of 7, received a raffle ticket to possibly win one of seven photography books. Our very creative members shared seven rock formations, seven jars of salad dressing, a seven pound bag of cat food, seven bottles of 7-UP and more. The lucky seven prize winners were: **Wanda Brown, Dong Bui, Monique Riso, Paul Guersch, A.J. Barel, Linda Tarvin & Dzung Tran.**

Check out the photo that John Tarvin shared. How many 7s can you find in it?



The 7th Year 7-UP Toast



Photo taken by Jeff DuBridge

#### 7 Year Members

From L: **Bob Thompson, Alan Futterman, Lance Trott, Noël Calvi, David Rosas, Marie Lamb, Ken Brown, George Ziegler, Noella Vigeant, Mike Winn, Susan Brazelton, Toby Weiss, Barbara Dawson, Michael Sue BrownKorbel, David Fritts, Celise Elkassed, Don Schneider.**

Missing: **Howard Hall, Marty Cheek, Sue McElwaine, Curt Palm, Roy Hovey, Barbi Kutilek**

## Member News Cont....

### Executive Board

**George Ziegler**  
President  
Web Master

**Noella Vigeant**  
Vice President  
Program Director

**Barbara Dawson**  
Treasurer

**Noël Calvi**  
Membership Chair  
Marketing Director

**Susan Brazelton**  
Past President  
Newsletter Editor

**Mark Grzan**  
Shoot-out Chair

**Dominic Godfrey**  
**Shae Collinge**  
Community  
Connections  
Co-Chairs

**Mike McElvy**  
**Didi Wake**  
Members-at-large

**Michael Sue**  
**BrownKorbel**  
Photo Diva

### Executive Board - Past & Present

In addition to the current members who have been in the club since the first year, the anniversary celebration included recognizing all the past and present board members. Members of the current board are listed in the box on the left. Past board members include:

**Ken Brown** (Secretary),  
**Charlotte Fernandes** (Treasurer),  
**Lance Trott** (Member-at-large & Shoot-out Chair)  
**David Rosas** (Member-at-large)  
**Molly Gaylord** (2nd Vice President)  
**Dan Gregg** (Treasurer)  
**Roy Hovey** (Web Master)  
**Rodney Myatt** (Member-at-large & Logistics Chair)  
**Toby Weiss** (Member-at-large)  
**Barbi Kutilek** (Member-at-large & Shoot-out Chair)

### Newsletter Editor

The executive board is seeking a club member to join the board as editor of the club newsletter.

The editor has the overall responsibility for the production of the newsletter, which is issued the third week of every month. This includes:

- Compiling the content and arranging it into a layout of the editor's choosing (The new editor does NOT have to follow the format of previous newsletters).
- Writing parts of the content of each month's newsletter, as needed (A cadre of 'reporters' could be created to cover many of the activities and events.)
- Gathering and choosing photos that highlight members' participation in various club activities. (Many members are willing to take photos for the newsletter.)
- Editing and proof reading all copy that goes into the newsletter for grammar and spelling.
- Attending the executive board meetings

**You don't have to go it alone.**

**Members of the board and this editor will assist in any way needed.**

### Critique Assignment

#### "Three of One"

15 April - 10 June 2015

Between the dates of 15 April and 19 June, take three different photos of the same subject. Each photo must be notably different from the other two: different perspective, different focal length, different DOF, different...? You're the artist. You decide. Even though the three photos are a set, each one will be critiqued separately on its own, unique merits.

REMEMBER: The purpose of the critique assignments is to take new photos and then learn to take better photos by giving and receiving constructive criticism. For every photo you post, you must add constructive comments to another person's photo.

## Shoot-outs

Shoot-outs provide opportunities 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.

### Doan Ranch 12 April 2015 Leader: Noël Calvi

This was a unique opportunity to photograph the *not-yet-open-to-the-public* Doan Ranch that's part of the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority. Noël arranged for docents to guide the participants to the most picturesque sections of the park. We photographed flowered covered hills, open meadows, stately oaks, ponds, and even some unexpected wildlife.



### Future 2015 Shoot-outs

The shoot-out committee is meeting next week to plan additional spring and summer shoot-outs. If you have a suggestion for a location, contact committee chair Mark Grzan: [fam.grzan@charter.net](mailto:fam.grzan@charter.net)



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

## Flickr Theme Projects



©Dzung Tran



©Andrea Bazely

## 2015 Flickr Themes

January - Wood  
February - Doors  
March - Macro  
**April - Stormy Weather**  
May - Fences  
June - Animals  
July - Reflections  
August - Rocks  
September - City Scapes  
October - People  
November - Silhouettes  
December - Autumn



©Bob Thompson



©Lisa Ponce

View all 5,890+ theme photos at:  
<http://www.flickr.com/groups/mhphotoclub/>

## facebook

**Are you on Facebook?  
Have you liked the club's Facebook page?  
Want more photography friends?**



The MHPC page has been static at 153 Likes, like forever.  
Let's see if we can get that up to 200!

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

**The first 12 members who post one photo taken in the 95037 zip code area will receive a 4GB MHPC thumb drive.**



That's right! All you have to do is take one photo in Morgan Hill and post it on the MHPC Facebook page. Everyone who has liked the club's page (153 people) will see your photo, and it will show up on your wall for your friends to see.

Speaking of "Friends," to help promote the club, **invite some of your friends to like the page.** (They don't have to be members of the club.) Look for the box on the left side of the page "*Invite your friends to like Morgan Hill Photography Club.*" You can scroll through your list friends to decide whom to invite.

## Focus Groups Review

Do you want to learn more about a specific aspect of photography? If so, check out the list of Focus Groups the club offers. Each one allows members to delve more deeply into an element of photography that is best studied 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:** [brzltm@garlic.com](mailto:brzltm@garlic.com)

No regular meetings, just occasional practice shoots & postings on Flickr  
Flickr site: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/mhpc-macrofocusgroup/>

### **Compact Cameras - Dan Gregg:** [dwgdvm@aol.com](mailto:dwgdv@aol.com)

Meets occasionally, as needs/opportunities arise.  
Flickr site: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/1605480@N21/>

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

Beginners and advanced users are welcome.  
Meets the Third Thursday of each month

### **iPhoneography - Michael Sue BrownKorbel:** [mbrownkorbel@yahoo.com](mailto:mbrownkorbel@yahoo.com)

No regular meetings, but members may post photos on Flickr.  
Flickr Site: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/1945737@N22/>

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

No regular meetings, but plenty of sunset, moon rises, and after dark shoots.  
Flickr postings are not limited to club shoot-outs. Group members may post any night photos.  
Flickr site: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/mhpc-night-focusgroup/>

### **Designing Your Wordpress Website - Jean Myers** [dosriosjean@gmail.com](mailto:dosriosjean@gmail.com)

Meets the fourth Tuesday of each month.

### **Videography - David Fredericks:** [david@dosgatos.net](mailto:david@dosgatos.net)

Meets the third Tuesday of every month.

### **Printing - Jack Yovanov:** [jack@yoracing.com](mailto:jack@yoracing.com)

Meets the first Monday of every month at the Morgan Hill Library at 7:00pm.

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

Practice sessions once or twice a month at various locations.  
To join contact Noella or **Larry Campbell** ([Larrycam@pacbell.net](mailto:Larrycam@pacbell.net))

On Friday 1 May, the people focus group will take portraits of the seniors at the CRC. The seniors sign up for a specific time and are directed to one of several stations set up by the photographers. After the event, each photographer picks his/her best photo of each person, does whatever post-processing is necessary and submits the photo for printing at the club's expense. Each senior gets a free 5x7 photo.



©Linda Tyson



Don't see a focus group that fits your needs? It is easy to start a new one. Just contact George [george@gwz.photography](mailto:george@gwz.photography) with your idea. He and the rest of the board will help you get the group started.



©Rick Luyet

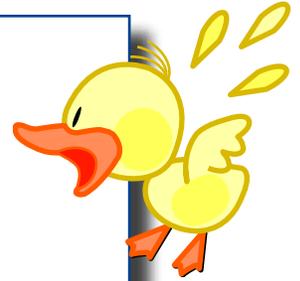
# Club Communication

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

## *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



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



©Mike Winn

## *“In Focus”*

(This newsletter needs a new editor)

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 periodic articles from members.

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 with members, but with all the world.

Make friends with other members in the club (most board members are on Facebook) and share your photographic thoughts and links.

*See page 6 to learn how you can win a MHPC thumb drive by posting on Facebook*

## *Membership Directory*

The membership directory allows members to easily contact one other. **A curse will infect your computer if you share the contact info outside the club or add member names to a mass mailing list.**

Look for your copy this month 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
- 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/>

## 2015 Gallery Shows

### "95037"

Morgan Hill House  
12 July - 16 August  
Artists' Reception:  
Friday, 17 July  
6:00PM - 8:00PM



### "California State Parks"

Morgan Hill House  
16 August - 20 September  
Artists' Reception:  
Friday, 21 August  
6:00PM - 8:00PM



©John Tarvin

### "Let's Eat"

Centennial Recreation Center  
22 September - 9 November  
Artists' Reception:  
Friday, 25 September  
6:00PM - 8:00PM



©Ram Gupta



**Next Meeting**  
**Wednesday, 6 May 2015**  
7:00PM

**Centennial Recreation Center**  
(Multi-purpose Room)

### "Pet Photography"

**Gary Parker**

Gary, a San Jose-based photographer, will explain his creative approach to pet photography. He will cover how to capture unique portraits and the emotions of cats and dogs (and their human friends).

You can apply these same skills to people photography.  
He will cover lighting, composition and creativity.

To view some dog, cat & people photos like you have never seen before,  
visit Gary's website:

<http://www.garyparker.com>



### Newsletter Trivia Question???

How many times does the word and number 7 appear in this newsletter?  
First member to email Susan with the correct answer wins a club logo patch  
(Don't count the two pictures of cookies on page 3.)