

# INFOCUS

September 2018

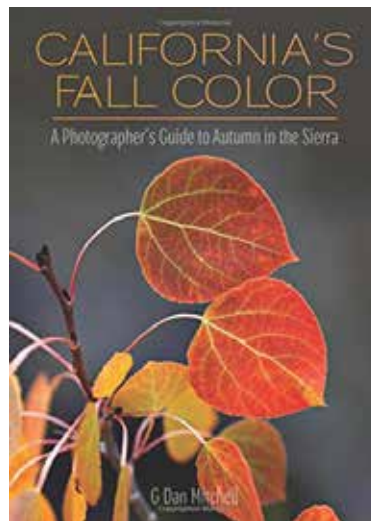
[www.morganhillphotographyclub.org](http://www.morganhillphotographyclub.org)

## Do Not Miss October's Demands

Many of us strive for far away trips to the Rockies, Alaska, or Mt. Saint Helens in order to take new, assumed grandeur photographs because locally, there nothing worthy of shooting. We all learned such statements are often false thanks the club members' excellent presentation of Secret Places 50 Miles from Home in this month's meeting. Closer equals cheaper too.

Jeff DuBridige discovered, *California's Fall Color: A Photographer's Guide to Autumn in the Sierra*, at the Morgan Hill Public Library about two years ago and recently purchased it from amazon.com. The book is by local photographer, G. Dan Mitchell, and with the group of members attending the Easter Sierras Safari next month, this is just the book they need and all members need when heading east for the best Autumn photography in this area.

Since the club is always searching for immersive meetings to attract members, "Dan is the Man." Dan's book will be available for purchase, with author's signature, after the meeting. Get ready! The book is a bargain on amazon.com at under \$15, and will be a similar price at the meeting.



## SEPTEMBER ISSUE

Do Not Miss October's...	1
Editor's Note	2
Focus Groups (New Group)	3
Call for Entries	3
Utah Photo Safari	3
This Month's <i>InFocus</i> Photographer: Roll Pfeifer	4
The Master Photographers	22
Membership Application	25

## Facebook

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 always share your photographic thoughts and links.

# Editor's Note

by [Jeff DuBridg](#)e

I am leaving later today. Where, you might ask. It has been a couple of years since I been on an official photographic adventure—not that they're required. To begin, I will spend about six days in Lassen Volcanic National Park, followed by three days in Lava Beds National Monument, and, finally, a six day backpacking trek through the northern end of Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument.

I have never been to Lassen. Both my sons have visited with their Grandparents, but for the wife and I, zip. I will be camping at Manzanita Lake (C-32 if you wish to visit) and I cross my fingers that mosquitoes will not invade my body. If mosquitoes do attack, it won't be as bad as back country Minnesota...10,000 lakes as their license plates state. Honestly now, as for the Internet and the publications I have read, there does not seem too be much in the way of fabulous scenery, or, I was unimpressed. Maybe I'll photograph the frogs.

Lava Beds. Again, never been there, which I why I am going I suppose (you weren't expecting me to say that I'm sure). What

is nice about the Monument is that it is cool, literally, not hip, slick, wicked, or neat. The cave temperatures, regardless of the external heat, are mild year round. Once being a safety professional, I'll be caring at least three light sources along with photography gear and pads and, of course, a helmet. I have had a skull fracture in the past, a planned fracture, but quite painful nonetheless.



Here's the best part of my trip, a six day backpacking venture through the Mount Margaret Backcountry which is part of the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument. As [recreation.gov](#) states,

“ This rugged and spectacular area offers hikers an opportunity to explore and discover the dramatic effects of the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens. The lateral blast, a hot stone-filled wind, shattered trees and swirled around peaks and basins as it toppled thousands of acres of pristine forest. Trails in the Mount Margaret Backcountry have narrow tread, are steep in places and can climb over 2,000 feet in elevation. The Whittier Trail #214, in particular, is very narrow and crosses steep cliffs; it is not suitable for hikers that are uncomfortable with heights. ”

I searched the web with a bit more depth and recent visitors stated to stay away from #214 as the north western end has almost impossible access to most of the trail from a recent storm. Heck, I can do it! NOT!

No matter how the backpacking goes, good or bad, I'll tell the wife about the almost orgasmic daily ventures through landscapes never, ever to be forgotten, etc. Orgasmic? Maybe, I will label it as a ne plus ultra, or a death defying Dunkirk. On second thought, I'll stick with ne plus ultra.

As I have said before, landscapes are not my forte, at least not yet. This venture shall surely state my new level of landscape finesse upon completion. At the November meeting, I will be the Featured Photographer, so I will let you be the judge.

“And now for something completely different.” Over the years (I'm not sure if I should say this), the club meeting reviews often have a suggestion of providing cookies to meeting attendants. Cookies aren't good for you, besides, with my food allergies, I can't eat food with added sugar or grains, so I suggest apple slices and sugar snap peas. What do you think?

## Focus Groups

### Film Photography

**STARTING**, Contact [Joshua Pheneger](#) for more information.

**Lightroom** - Active, meets third Thursday of every month.

([George Ziegler](#))

**Night** - Active, Contact ([George Ziegler](#)).

**People** - Active, meets approximately every 4–6 weeks.

([Larry Campbell](#)) for more information.

**Video & Drones** - Active, third Tuesday of every month.

([David Fredericks](#))

**Film Photography** Starting, Contact [Michael Sue BrownKorbel](#) for more information.

**OPEN** - If you have areas to consider for a new Focus Group, contact a Board Member,

## Call for Entries: *Ships & Boats*

An upcoming gallery show to be held in the Morgan Hill Centennial Recreation Senior Center: October 30th–December 4th. Only members of the MHPC are eligible to enter.

The theme of the exhibition is *Ships and Boats*. Raise high the mainsail! Batten down the hatches! All hands on deck! Port outbound, starboard home!

**DEADLINE:** Submit your image online by emailing a jpg copy to [submissions@...](mailto:submissions@...) no later than 9PM Sunday, September 30th. MHPC will only accept entries submitted via email which are received before the deadline.

**“The photographer’s most important and likewise most difficult task is not learning to manage his camera, or to develop or print, it is learning to see photographically...that is, learning to see his subject matter in terms of the capacities of his tools and processes so that he can instantaneously translate the elements and values in a scene before him into the photograph he wants to make.”**

—Edward Weston

## The 2018 Executive Board

### George Ziegler

President, Gallery Show Chair,  
and Webmaster

### Susan Brazelton

Past President and Community Events Director

### Noella Vigeant

Vice President and Program Director

### Barbara Dawson

Treasurer

### Noël Calvi

Membership and Marketing Director

### Mark Grzan

Photo Safari Committee Chair

### Jeff DuBridg

Newsletter Editor

### Dominic Godfrey

Community Connections Committee Chair

### Michael Sue BrownKorbel

Photo Diva

### Lennie Randall

Member at Large

### Cherie Newland

Member at Large

## Utah Photo Safari

by George Ziegler

Lance and I are planning an extensive Photo Safari to Moab, Utah in February, 2019. Arriving February 20th & departing February 27th. We will have a full week to explore and photograph the surrounding local, such as Arches and Canyonlands National Parks, Dead Horse Point, etc. More details will follow but we wanted to let you know so you can start booking rooms. We are planning to stay in the Holiday Inn Express in Moab (<https://tinyurl.com/y8b83swh>). The rates are reasonable and vary anywhere from \$90-\$120/night.

It will take a minimum of two days to get there & two days to get back, so we will probably stop along the way (near Las Vegas) for other photo opportunities: to be determined. We suggest that carpools only have three people including the driver since you will need to pack a lot of cold weather apparel. IT IS VERY COLD IN UTAH IN FEBRUARY! We do not expect deep snow.

If you are thinking of going you should book your rooms now, you can always cancel. NOTE: Do not use non-refundable rates if you may think you will cancel.

Let either Lance or I know if you plan to join us.



## This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer



Rol's experience goes back to High School and a Brownie. What makes him special is his extensive travels around the world. Rol has been to the best of the best (New Zealand's South Island), to the worst of the worst (Dominican Republic of Congo). Photographs are in order: Africa, Maui, and New Zealand. Rol may make it to each of Earth's continents before the end, & he's working on it.

All photos © Rol Pfeifer



This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer





This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer



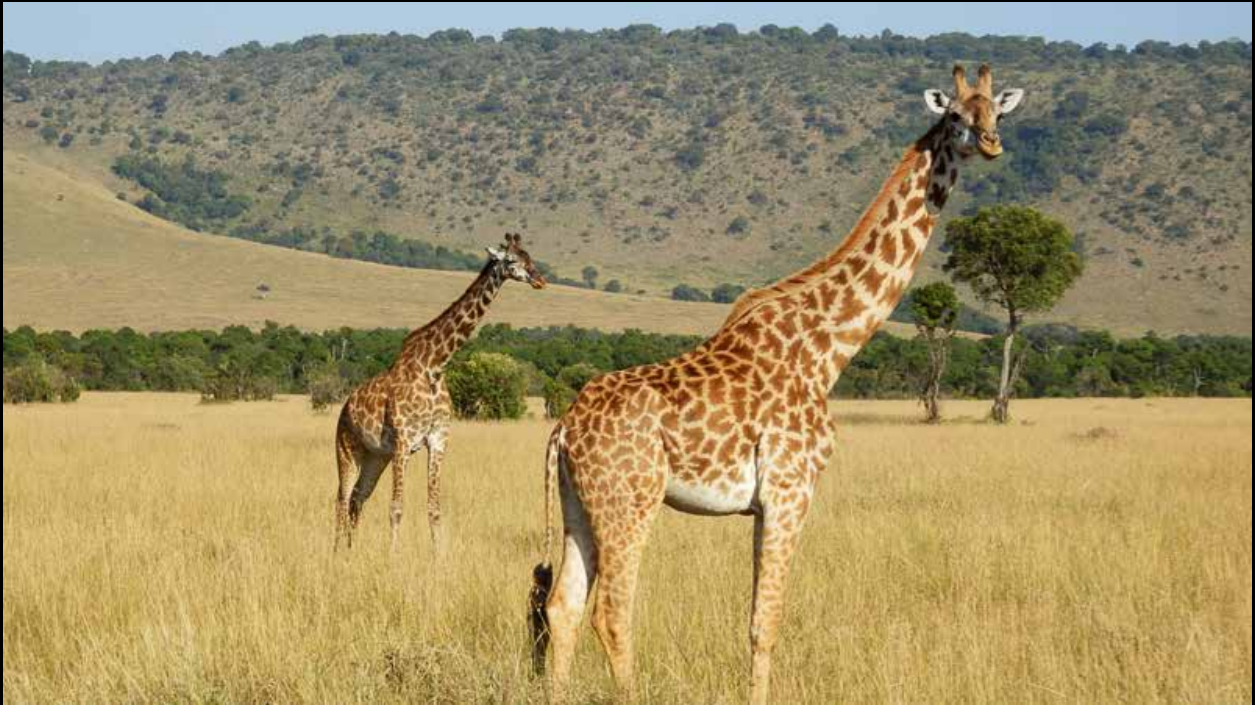


**This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer**





This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer





This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer





**This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer**

---

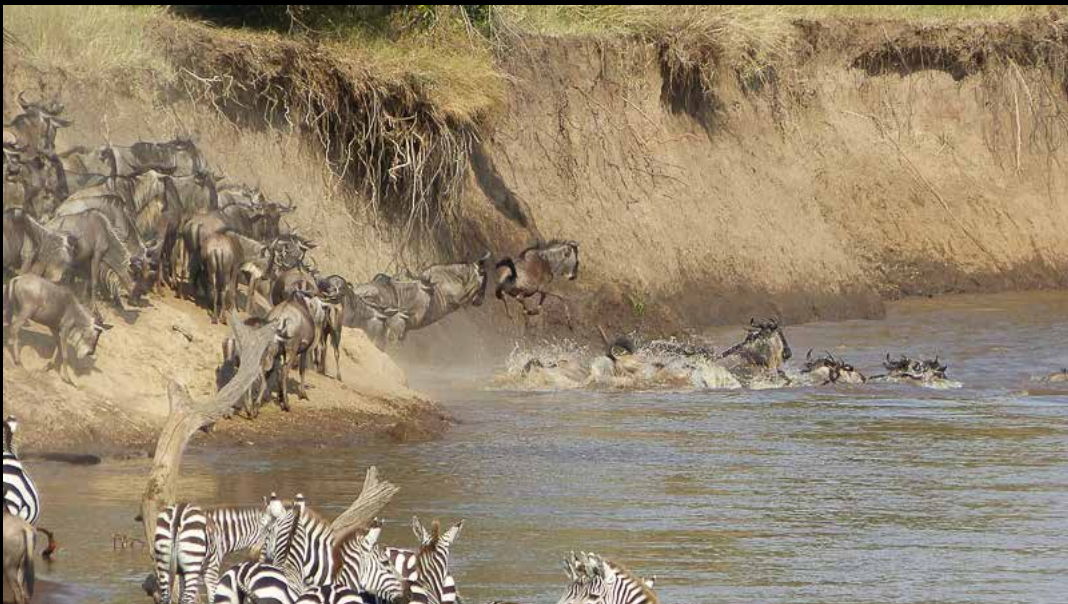




**This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer**



This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer





**This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer**





This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer





This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer



**This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer**





This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer





This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer





**This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer**



This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer





This Month's *InFocus* Photographer: Rol Pfeifer



# The Master Photographers: Rol Pfeifer

Rol Pfeifer interview by Jeff DuBridge on September 7th at Jeff's place.

JD: What age were you when you started into photography?

RP: Back in high school and I grew up in the Midwest in a little town of 300 people in a farming community and not too many people had cameras. My parents dabbled, have had a big old clumsy Brownie, or whatever it was, those kind of things were not easy using and it was expensive to get your stuff processed.

Yes, taking pictures was not something did all of the time because of the cost. And, also, it's just that not much was priority placed on photography. We really started dabbling with it more when we when we started to look for pictures of our ancestors and there were precious few of them.

That's the origin of my interest in photography for me probably. Started in early high school but in college the activity dropped off to almost nothing because of the cost and I wasn't rolling in cash at that time at all.

JD: After college, when did you start back into serious photography?

RP: So after college when I got back into it. With an undergraduate degree from the University of Nebraska in Business Administration, I got a job with General Electric came out here to San Jose.

JD: When was this?

RP: Nineteen...seventy...three.

Since I got my MBA from Santa Clara University, I worked for a couple of companies, and then went to law school, came out and worked for Arthur Andersen, the City of San Jose, and, finally, the City of Santa Clara, for the bulk of my career as an attorney for their electric utility.

After law school, the wife and I took off and spent some time in Canada for a little break from the action, we decided to some worldwide traveling. We'd never been out of the country for we had no experience that we needed to do this. So we decided after law school, we would just park our law degrees for about a year and a half and we took off.

We planned for two years but we bought tickets through PanAm that gave us an opening ticket to do gold sector fares and you could buy



12,500 miles sectors and as long as your are always flying the same direction and didn't use the same airport twice, you can fly the sectors and they would give you an open ticket with a list of cities with no dates and you could fly into the city. And then, upon arriving at our destination, we had to be sure not use the same airport twice when we made our next reservation—and we didn't *have to* deal PanAm, any airlines worked—so we had 120 flights and we spent 14 months, basically just traveling backpack based.

We didn't lose interest and took a lot of pictures. So, that's really where I cut my teeth on photographing. When I got back, I sent all my film from Kodak for processing.

JD: How did you acquire all the funds to go on such an adventure?

RP: We sold the house that we had bought when we first moved here and took out some money and bought another house and put a minimum down on it and rented it out while we were gone. That's how we got the capital, about \$30,000, to buy another house.

JD: Ouch! That was a lot of money at the time.

RP: Yes. We bought all these tickets and we put the rest of the money in a bank account. We sent out our checking account to our families and said, "When the bills just come in, just pay them".

We left for Tokyo on August 1st, '79 and didn't come back until October 15th, 1980. Basically we just flew to our left. We started in Tokyo and China had just





# The Master Photographers: Curt Palm

Rol Pfeifer interview by Jeff DuBridge on September 7th at Jeff's place.

opened around '79. Nixon had been just been down there a year or two earlier to open it up.



JD: Nixon visited China in 1972.

RP: A professor of mine went in during '78 and he said he was among the first people who were allowed to go on tours.

We have made reservations for cities but no reservations for anything else. We'd fly into his city and just basically wing it.

JD: Really, that sounds like the way to travel.

RP: We never had any dates. We never knew how long we would be in a certain area. Although, we had to put the exact dates in China which was like for 12 days.

We took about 75–100 slides rolls which we thought was a lot of time. Now, you get that much in an afternoon. So, that's where I really spent a lot of time on the landscapes.

JD: Approximately, what percent of your photography is taken in the States?

RP: That's about 10% in the US and most of it's in the places that we travel to, such as the great wall, the temples in Thailand, and the outback in Australia.

JD: I would think that's probably a better classification as travel photography.

RP: There is definitely a pattern there.

JD: What software programs do you use?

RP: I'm only just beginning to dabble

in Lightroom and Photoshop, and even though I've been using digital for 18 years

JD: In the area of inspiration whose work, one person or a group, has influenced you the most?

RP: I still love going to the Ansel Adams galleries. All black and white but still there is no other particular photographers' name that comes to mind.

JD: Are you working on the task of completing such photographs yourself?

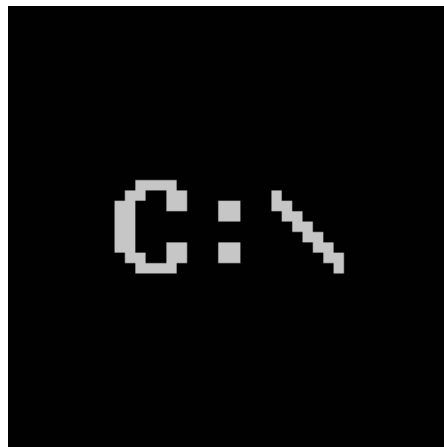
RP: That's why I need to learn Photoshop.

I opted for the Canon because I liked the design of their equipment a little better.

They're actually the most user friendly of everything.

I used a Nikon a couple of times but I just felt more comfortable with Canon.

JD: Yes, it's sort of like a Macintosh and a PC. Nikon is sort of stuck in DOS. Well, maybe not that bad.



I started in Canon. Growing up, my dad had a Canon AE-1 in the '70s when he took a photographer class in college. So, I started using the Canon because it was just familiar to me.

This is an interesting question, how do you define or describe your photographic style?

RP: I usually have, in the my back of my mind, documentation when people

come to the house and I can show them photographs of our trips as we travel more than most of our friends do. And so we tend to go to places that they want to go on to have or aspire to go to or maybe in their mind already reminders of the fact that will never go there. I like to be able to tell a story with what we did that day, and how the day progressed, and what we saw.

I think that style is more of a narrative, if you will, style of photographs simply because there are a series of photographs which I think a lot of people now are moving more towards the video snippets able to recall the visit even better. One of my frustrations with video is the need for editing and the time it takes to do...

JD: something simple...

RP:...is a just a major pain in the ass. Also, so much of this is always stuck on the computer.

JD: The key is the key question, what is the most rewarding part about being a photographer?

RP: I think what I what I get is a very good feeling when you get positive feedback about the pictures that you take when people don't expect you to do it. So, I give them as gifts.

JD: What do you like least about being a photographer?

RP: People are expecting. So, maybe they find out that you do an event and suddenly it becomes something more of a job rather than something that I was doing just for fun.

JD: Yeah. The Tour of California recently came through Morgan Hill. In the time trial that went through downtown, I took photographs for the City with a combination of the riders and the businesses. I stood on a ladder for most of the photos using a Canon 1Dx Mark II that takes 12 to 14 frames per second. As the riders were about to enter the frame, I pressed the shutter and hoped for the best. I had to use a large *f*/stop, along with a decent sized ISO, to get the riders and businesses in focus, but the action was stopped. Close to 1500 photos were taken in order to get a handful of photos of the rider in the right place at the right time.

# The Master Photographers: Rol Pfeifer

Rol Pfeifer interview by Jeff DuBridge on September 7th at Jeff's place.



That was a lot of work for all of the photographs and then, because I had a press pass, I went through the rest of the stages as a press release photographer and I tried being like a professional sports photographer along with true professional sports photographers from one city to the next. I did five stages. It was kind of fun but, overall, I don't want to do it over and over again during another event the week following, the years following... You really take a picture of the guys walking to register and they're smiling. Click, click. Photos of the finish are taken followed by awards for race winner, leader's jersey, etc.

One nice part though, was talking to



the leader, American, Tejay Van Garderen, when he was in the yellow and waiting for his turn to go up to the stand and register. I got to chit chat with him, just the two of us, taking his photo.

So what's your favorite place in Morgan Hill?

RP: I love shooting wineries.

JD: What is the worst place in Morgan Hill?

RP: The hodgepodge of growth over the years.

JD: In is the U.S., what's your favorite location?

RP: Lake Tahoe.

JD: What is the worst?

RP: The Midwest. The Midwest cities that have mostly political issues based upon their environment of huge amounts of corn and related. Acres and acres of corn as far as you can see it. I like for something that has a little more dynamic.

JD: What's your favorite sport?

RP: I'm a baseball fan. I don't follow anybody. I grew up playing baseball, it's the only sport I really know.

JD: When it comes to playing pool, who comes to your mind?

RP: The only one that comes to mind is Minnesota Fats.

Jackie Gleason played Minnesota Fats in a Paul Newman flick in the early '60s. Forgot the name of the movie.

JD: What's the best and worst place in the

world?

RP: New Zealand's South Island. I would go there in a heartbeat.

The worst is a place called the Democratic Republic of Congo.

JD: Anything else you want to say?

RP: No, I mean who am I speaking too?



JD: The club and the 'net.

RP: I'm enjoying the two years I've been a member of this club. I'm also belonged to another club out of state. And this is, by far, the most active, progressive and most involved. I think that the attitude of people who are involved with the group are ones that want to maximize people's enjoyment of the hobby of photography.

JD: Okay, last question. Back to places. If you had to move to a place, in any part of the world, where would it be? You could make any house you like in any one place. Where would it be?

RP: A coastal house on Maui.

JD: Excellent choice!



# Morgan Hill Photography Club

General meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at the Morgan Hill Centennial Recreation Center  
171 West Edmundson Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

<http://morganhillphotographyclub.org>  
[info@morganhillphotographyclub.org](mailto:info@morganhillphotographyclub.org)



# Membership Application

<b>Personal Information</b>  Please print clearly  Application to be completed and signed on a yearly basis.	<b>PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY</b>			<b>YOUR LEVEL OF PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPERIENCE/SKILL:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner <input type="checkbox"/> Low Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> High Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced/Professional
	Name: _____ Phone: [H] _____ [C] _____ eMail: _____ flickr@ screen name: _____			
	<b>THE CAMERA YOU USE MOST OFTEN:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Film (any format) <input type="checkbox"/> Phone/Tablet <input type="checkbox"/> Digital SLR <input type="checkbox"/> Point and Shoot <input type="checkbox"/> ILC (mirrorless w/interchangeable lens)		<b>PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERESTS (check all that apply):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Macro <input type="checkbox"/> Sports/Action <input type="checkbox"/> HD Video <input type="checkbox"/> Night <input type="checkbox"/> People/Portraits <input type="checkbox"/> Nature <input type="checkbox"/> Landscapes <input type="checkbox"/> City/Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Events <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
How did you hear about us? _____				
<b>Membership Dues</b>  (circle one)	RENEWAL: <b>\$20</b> Due and payable on or before January 1 of each calendar year.	NEW MEMBERSHIPS:		
		Join in January thru September - includes current year only. <b>\$20</b>	Join in October or November - includes following calendar year. <b>\$25</b>	Join in December - includes following calendar year. <b>\$20</b>
<b>Privacy Opt-IN</b>	MHPC periodically issues a membership directory. <b>Your name and flickr@ screen name will appear in the directory</b> , however, you may elect to share only some of your other personal information. <b>Please circle which personal information you agree to share in the directory.</b>			
	eMail	Home Phone	Cell Phone	None
<b>Membership Agreement and Liability Release</b>	I, _____ <b>PRINT NAME</b> _____, hereby renew or apply for membership in the Morgan Hill Photography Club [MHPC] and request to participate in <i>General Meetings, Shootouts</i> (photographic field trips and walks), <i>Focus Groups</i> (periodic gatherings of members who have a common special photographic interest), <i>Gallery Shows</i> , and other activities [collectively Activities] as organized by MHPC and/or its members.  I understand that MHPC has been organized to provide its members and guests with the opportunity to participate in various Activities related to photography. In addition, I understand that such Activities may present inherent physical risks to my person and/or property, and that membership in MHPC does not require my participation in such Activities. I therefore voluntarily assume full responsibility for any loss, damage, or injury that may be sustained by me and/or my property, as a result of participating in such Activities. Furthermore, I understand that MHPC does not provide general liability, accident or theft insurance of any kind for it's members and/or guests.  In consideration of membership in MHPC and participation in MHPC's Activities, I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless MHPC, its officers, and/or members, from any claims arising out of my participation in any MHPC activity, and agree to refrain from making any claims or commencing any lawsuit against MHPC, its officers and/or members.  <b>I agree to the foregoing</b> and acknowledge that I have read and understand the MHPC Membership Agreement and Liability Release.  Signature: _____ Date: _____			
<b>Payment</b>	Cash or checks made payable to <b>Morgan Hill Photography Club</b> . A \$25 fee will be charged on all returned checks. <b>Membership dues are non-refundable.</b>			

On the reverse side of this application describe any skills or expertise that you would be willing to share with others.