



The View from the President's Corner

What a fast year!!! Where did it go?

This year has been very exciting in many different ways. We had the big Rules discussion, which I think we finally put to rest with the vote in August. Along with that we had to reduce our submissions from 3 to 2 in order to not have our competition meetings go until 11:00 and to stop killing our judges.

We enjoyed a number of great field trips and our Scavenger Shoot with the Marin Club was wonderful fun. It would be nice if we had more activities with Marin, but WHEN?? We are all so busy living our lives, we do not always have time for the fun stuff.

The Club has enjoyed a surge in membership this year. I have the impression that at every meeting we've had more guests than in the past and many of those guests have become members. And even better, many of those new members are interested in getting involved with what the Club does; not only the fun part, but also the work part. We hope to put these energies to good use in the coming year.

The positive October vote on trying on a new second meeting structure should keep us all on our toes. We'll certainly be busy deciding what to submit, participating in the discussions, and learning and trying out new ways of improving our work. We also have a plethora of Masters who will entertain us with their presentations. Sharon Feissel is the first to present in April. Check the calendar for the others as you will not want to miss these.

I'm really looking forward to 2007 and although I'm hoping to tread water for a while, the changes that will occur with the second meeting change should keep me wide awake.

Hope your Holidays bring you peace and joy!

Donna G. Campbell

~ INSIDE ~	
Exhibitions/Calls to Artists	2
Program Information	2
Bulletin Board	3
Competition Results	4
Articles	5

~ CALENDAR ~

DECEMBER

7 2006 Annual Awards Banquet, 6 p.m., LBA&G Center

JANUARY

10 Info sheet items to Donna

11 Monthly competition, 7 p.m.

24 Info sheet items to Donna

Newsletter items to Marcia

25 Al Shelton Competition, 7 p.m.

FEBRUARY

6 Board meeting, 6:30 p.m., at the LBA&G Center

7 Info sheet items to Donna

8 Monthly competition, 7 p.m.

21 Info sheet items to Donna

22 Electronic Salon, 7 p.m.

23 Newsletter items to Marcia

~ Exhibitions and Ongoing Calls to Artists ~

EXHIBITIONS, ETC.

Deadline Dec. 15: Juried competition for (a) a single image and (b) a photo project, annual contest by Santa Fe Center for Photography. Entry fee: \$45 (\$35 if paid online). Submit prints, CD, or slides; guidelines and more information at <http://www.sfcp.org/programs.cfm>

Deadline Dec. 15: Juried portfolio review (not an exhibit, but a useful event for emerging photographers) at prestigious Santa Fe Center for Photography; formal reviews by 9 photography professionals over two days (in mid-May - contact the center for exact dates). Entry fee \$55 by mail, \$45 online; submit 20 images (prints, 9x12 max., files on CD, or slides). If admitted, the two-day event costs \$595; some financial assistance is available. For more details: <http://www.sfcp.org/programs.cfm?p=Review>

Deadline Dec. 22: San Diego Art Institute /Museum of the Living Artist 49th International Award Exhibition, 4/28 to 6/10, 2007. All media (except crafts/functional art). Total Awards: \$5,000. Fee: \$20/1 entry \$30/2 entries: slides or on-line submission. Prospectus: www.sandiego-art.org. Contact: Marc Pickett at admin2@sandiego-art.org.

Deadline Jan. 26: Show May 4-27, 2007, at Hilton Head (South Carolina) Art League. Slides only for entry; fee of \$40-60 for 1-3 images. Cash awards. Entry form at: <http://hhal.org/docs/Juried%20Brochure.pdf>

PALM SPRINGS ARTISTS COUNCIL, 38th Annual Juried Exhibition. Exhibit runs Jan. 23 to March 4, 2007. Entry fee of \$45 for 1-2 slides. For prospectus, contact Kimberly Nichols at knichols@psmuseum.org or phone (760) 325-7186. Entries to Arts Council, Palm Springs Museum, P.O. Box 2310, Palm Springs, CA 92263-2310.

ONGOING CALLS TO ARTISTS

The Atrium Gallery at Marin General Hospital mounts four shows a year of "healing art." The gallery is looking for local artists for future shows. Previous artists have included Ernest Braun. Send slides and SASE to Wende Heath, Institute for Health and Healing, PO Box 8010, San Rafael, CA 94912. Ongoing.

Plaza Arts Gallery in Healdsburg is accepting submissions for its Resident Artists program. Resident artists are given an 8' by 8' space to show their work on an ongoing basis for a modest fee. Sitting the gallery is required. Please send SASE for application form to Plaza Arts, 130 Plaza Street, Healdsburg 95448 or pick one up at the gallery. Phone: (707) 431-1970.

LINK independent curators seek art for shows. Send slides, statement, SASE to: 626 Costa Dr., Napa, CA 94558.

PROGRAM NOTES FOR JANUARY 2007

The regularly scheduled program for the second meeting of January is the Al Shelton Trophy Competition. (See Section 5 of the Competition Rules.) This annual event is named for a former SRPS member, Al Shelton, who designed the competition. Perpetual trophies in each category are held by winners for one year then returned for the next competition.

Members may submit two entries in each category. All images submitted for this competition must have been taken during 2006. The images need not, however, have been submitted for competition. All of our members compete as one group for this event and the categories are (1) Slides and Electronic Images – Landscape/Seascape (2) Slides and Electronic Images – General (any subject other than landscape/seascape) (3) Slides and Electronic Images – Nature and (4) Print – Any subject (any print from any source). This competition is judged by two non-member judges and the club member who won in the respective category in 2006. The judging is by paddle so there will be no critique. Last year's winners were: Landscape/Seascape – Ruth Pritchard; General – Drew Jackson; Nature – Alan Glazier; Print – Butch Conner. These winners may not submit images in the categories in which they won in 2006.

This is a grand opportunity to see some exciting work – so whether you compete or not, please be sure to attend and enjoy another glimpse of our talented members' efforts. For details regarding submissions, see page four, below.

Janet L. Gelfman, Vice President

2005 END-OF-YEAR WINNERS

A - CREATIVE

“ZIHUATANEJO CORNER” - DAVID HENNEMAN



2005 END-OF-YEAR WINNERS

B - CREATIVE

“SUGAR FACTORY, LOOKIN’ SWEET” - MARCIA HART



~ OUR THANKS TO ~

**RUSS DIETER AND DAVID WALLACE
FOR THE
YUMMY NOVEMBER TREATS...**

**AND, TO OUR NOVEMBER JUDGES, HOWARD
BRUENSTEINER, ELVIRA LAVELL, DIANE
MILLER, DAVID HENNEMAN, ALAN GLAZIER,
GUS FEISSEL, TANYA BRAUNSTEIN, CHUCK
HONEK AND RON PEARSON.**

WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL!

CHECKING THE SENSOR ON YOUR DIGITAL CAMERA

Changing lenses is guaranteed to get dust and particles on a digital sensor. Always point your camera down when you change lenses and have the power off (to minimize electrostatic charge on the sensor.) Keep the back of the lenses clean. I check for dirt after each shoot, and almost always need to do a cleaning. Here's how:

Put on a short telephoto lens (70 mm or more.) Set ISO 100. Highest quality JPEG is OK, or you can convert from RAW. Set aperture priority and stop down to your highest f-stop. (If your lens is not at its best at its highest f-stop, that's OK. Image quality is not a concern here. You want a point source of light.)

Turn auto exposure on, no compensation. Set manual focus. Shoot a clear patch of sky (set close focus) or a very evenly-illuminated white piece of paper (set infinity focus.) If you use paper, have the light coming straight onto it, from behind you, so its texture won't show. Don't worry about camera shake if you have a long shutter speed. That will just help defocus things.

Open the shot in Photoshop. Do Ctrl-U and desaturate it fully. (No need for an adjustment layer.) Do Ctrl-L and bring the two end sliders under the histogram to near the ends of the sharp, centered histogram curve.

You may need to modify the slider positions so you have the whole image in some reasonable shade of middle gray that lets you see the spots. If the illumination of the sky or the card was too uneven, try again until you get a fairly flat tone across the image.

Dust, particles and oil on the protective glass in front of the sensor will be sharper as the f-stop number increases. You can shoot the same test image at lower f-stops to see what the sensor contamination looks like in those cases.

There is good information on the Visible Dust web site, www.visible-dust.com, and an Adorama tutorial at <http://www.adorama.com/catalog.tpl?op=academy&article=073106>.

(Thanks to Diane Miller for this submission.)

**BE SURE TO EMAIL YOUR GOOD NEWS TO POSITIVE PRINT
EDITOR, MARCIA HART, FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEWSLETTER.**

NOVEMBER COMPETITION RESULTS

NATURE

Level - B

1st ... Joe Simons	Grebe Taking Morning Bath
2nd... Marcia Hart	Clinging Vine
3rd... Lorna Peters	Julia

Level - A

1st ... Kathie Kameoka	Mating Moose
2nd... Bob Orr	Black Oak Glory
3rd... XXX	XXX

Level - AA

1st ... XXX	XXX
2nd... XXX	XXX
3rd... XXX	XXX

Level - Masters

1st ... Marilyn Brooner	White Egret in Flight
2nd.. Art Butterfield	Sharp Shinned Hawk on Rock
3rd... Howard Bruensteiner	Cumulonimbus Incus Clouds

CREATIVE

Level - B

1st ... Gene Gross	Fence to Nowhere
2nd... Jeremy Joan Hewes	Lavender and Leash
3rd... XXX	XXX

Level - A

1st ... Liz Lawson	Morning Dew
2nd... XXX	XXX
3rd... XXX	XXX

Level - AA

1st ... Tania Amochaev	Dahlia Reflections
2nd... Sharon Feissel	Palouse Rhythms
3rd... Edmond Bridant	Moon Over Half Dome-Infrared

Level - Masters

1st ... Barbara Larson	Blue Reflection
2nd... XXX	XXX
3rd... XXX	XXX

GENERAL

Level - B

1st ... Ali VonEhrenkrook	Moving Water
2nd... Sheri Prager	Hanging Out
3rd... Ali VonEhrenkrook	Come Get It

Level - A

1st ... Katherine Woodford	Fort Ross Still Life
2nd... Liz Lawson	Reflection in Marble
3rd... Katherine Woodford	Conservatory Hibiscus

Level - AA

1st ... Diane Miller	Desert Church at Dawn
2nd... Drew Jackson	Quechua Mother and Daughter
3rd... Jerry Meshulam	Logjam, Buckskin Gulch

Level - Masters

1st ... Russ Dieter	Old Boat, Tomales Bay
2nd... Barbara Larson	Floating Gold
3rd... Russ Dieter	Manzanita and Lichen

AL SHELTON COMPETITION - ENTRY REQUIREMENTS -

ALL ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS FOR THE AL SHELTON TROPHY COMPETITION MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2007. BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE ELECTRONIC IMAGE SUBMISSION RULES.

FOR THOSE WHO WILL BE ENTERING PRINTS AND/OR SLIDES, PLEASE SEND THE SUBMISSION TITLES AND CATEGORIES INFORMATION BY E-MAIL TO DAVID WALLACE, THE COMPETITION CHAIR, BY JANUARY 19, 2007.

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ANNUAL COMPETITION, SEE PAGE TWO ABOVE.

PLACES TO GO – THINGS TO SEE

by Janet L. Gelfman

I found a new calendar - the 2007 Northern California Coast Almanac Engagement Calendar. It contains all kinds of information which may be of interest to photographers including but not limited to monthly information on tides, moon, stars, climate, weather, flowers/plants and trees, birds, land mammals, sea mammals (e.g., January – Ocean: Pacific Gray Whale southern migration peaks; Beach – Northern Elephant Seal at Point Reyes, Ano Nuevo, Farallones), reptiles, amphibians and Other Wildlife. There are charts for Northern California Tide Corrections, a map which shows the Northern California Coast Ecosystems and Habitats. I found the calendar at Corrick's in Santa Rosa. However, you can order it on line by Googling 2007 Northern California Coast Almanac Engagement Calendar.

Using this calendar as a source document for January, it sounds like Point Reyes and Ano Nuevo might be interesting places to get to. Belonging to the Point Reyes National Seashore Association makes us the recipient of their "Currents" which has lots of information about what is happening in the area. In particular, the January notes confirm the "Peak of southern gray whale migration, visit the lighthouse and Chimney Rock for best whale-watching. Snow Plover at Abbotts Lagoon and Estuary shore-birds breeding season can be viewed on Limantour Beach." Go to <http://www.nps.gov/pore/planyourvisit/things2do.htm> for information on upcoming events.

Jack London State Historic Park in Glen Ellen has completed the renovation on Jack London's cottage. It might be an interesting locale to explore. Call 707-938-5216 or visit <http://www.parks.sonoma.net/JLPark.html>.

If you are in the Sacramento Delta area, you might enjoy taking a tour which would include a visit to the Rush Ranch Open Space (<http://www.rushranch.org/>) which encompasses a 2,000 plus acre tidal marsh, stop at the Western Railway Museum (<http://www.wrm.org/>), photograph at Locke near Walnut Grove which is the community which was established in 1915 by Chinese laborers (<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/twhp/wwwlps/lessons/locke/locke.htm>), proceed on to Clarksburg to the Old Sugar Mill. Information contained in the AAA magazine, "Via", is another great source of where to go and what to see.

For those of you with time to take a longer trip how about heading to Death Valley? Visit <http://www.nps.gov/deva/> for additional information. Note that the projection for wildflowers is good – at least for the moment.

For those of you who are not traveling, your kitchen, your special treasures, game pieces, interesting or beautiful bits of glass, ice cubes colored, flowers frozen in ice and back-lit are just a few suggestions for a place to point your camera during January. The places we go in our imaginations can make the most wonderful images.

You might want to look at a book by Paul Arden, "Whatever You Think, Think the Opposite", 2006, Penguin Group - "A fun and clever guide to taking risks and unlocking your creative powers", according to Kirkus Reports. It can be ordered on Amazon.

Final Note: Be sure if you are traveling to Canada or to Mexico that you have a passport with you. Other forms of identification will not work.

JANUARY 20, 2007 - FIELD TRIP OPPORTUNITY

Those of you who were present at the September 24th meeting will remember Steve Emmons, Wildlife Refuge Manager for the Sacramento and Delevan Wildlife Refuges. Steve is a wonderful photographer and leads programs in the Refuges each January. He has agreed to lead a one day program just for SRPS members on Saturday, January 20th. This will be an afternoon and evening shoot and we probably will plan to stay in the area overnight, shoot again in the early morning and then head for home.

If you are interested in participating in this field trip, please contact Janet Gelfman via email (see roster) to sign up. It is important that we know how many of us will be going by the end of the year.

Janet Gelfman, Vice President