

The Monthly Newsletter of the Santa Rosa Photographic Society

Serving Santa Rosa and Sonoma County for over 32 Years

Focusing on...

Competition: It's Not About Winning
Jerry Meshulam - Competition Chair

What's that supposed to mean? Isn't that the point of a competition? In my opinion, no. Sure, getting ribbons and plaques can be rewarding, but I see our competitions more importantly as all about personal challenge and development. We are competing against ourselves, not other members in the club. Positive comments from a judge may indicate that you have succeeded in meeting your personal challenge with a particular image, even if it doesn't win a ribbon. That is one reason why it is so important to participate in the competitions. As active members of SRPS we are interested in learning from each other, improving our artistic skill in photography and enjoying the wonderful camaraderie.

There's no better way to know how well you're doing than to show your work for others to view and to hear a judge's critique. The silence in the room means you don't get to explain to the judge how you awoke at 3:00 a.m., froze your fingers and crawled through barbed wire to get the shot, then worked for 10 hours at your computer to perfect it. The image speaks for itself. Did you succeed in presenting your subject in a fresh way? Were there techniques you used, or could have used? Was the image positively recognized? Did you learn something from the evening's critiques that inspires you toward excellence for your next month's entries?

Advancing through the club's levels is about challenging yourself to create exciting photographic art every month and then entering it on a consistent basis. Advancement through the levels is based on points. In fact, placing in the top three during a monthly competition has no added advantage in advancing to the next level.

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~ CALENDAR ~

FEBRUARY

- 5 Board Meeting - LBAG Center**
7 p.m. - All members welcome
- 8 Electronic entries due**
- 14 Monthly competition, 7 p.m.**
- 25 Newsletter items to Marcia**
- 28 Nature Photography Program**
7 p.m. (See page 3)

MARCH

- 7 Electronic entries due**
- 13 Monthly competition, 7 p.m.**
- 25 Newsletter items to Marcia**
- 27 Monochrome Options - Howard Bruensteiner & Diane Miller, 7 p.m.**

APRIL

- 4 Electronic entries due**
- 10 Monthly competition, 7 p.m.**
- 24 Art Quest & Kids With Cameras, 7 p.m.**
- 25 Newsletter items to Marcia**

~ Exhibitions and Ongoing Calls to Artists ~

EXHIBITIONS, ETC.

Deadline: February 5th - The Edge Photography Show Photo Gallery, The Center for Fine Art Photography - online event. "Edgy – Pushing the Limits of Photographic Art" seeks images that are on the leading edge of making a statement, conceptual design, being provocative – images that will stop the viewer in their tracks! Gallery Exhibition – May 2 to May 31, 2008. Awards: Presentation in CameraArts magazine, Artists' ShowCase, \$600 in awards, two-year online exhibition – and More. Information and online submissions at The Center for Fine Art Photography <http://www.c4fap.org> or email questions to info@c4fap.org.

Deadline: February 15th (postmark). Call for Artists: Annual Juried Exhibition, Falkirk Cultural Center, open to artists residing in the Bay Area. Submission by disk or slide. For prospectus, email Beth.goldberg@ci.san-rafael.ca.us. Questions: 415.485.3438.

ONGOING CALLS TO ARTISTS

Santa Rosa Recreation and Parks Dept. Exhibits at Finley and Steele Lane Community Centers and City Hall. To apply, go to Finley Commu-

nity Center, 2060 West College Ave., Santa Rosa, to pick up an application. Community Center hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm and on Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. For further information, call (707) 543-4512; contact is Tara Matheny-Schuster, email tmatheny_schuster@srcity.org

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.

SHOWCASE 2008. Plaza Arts Center is now taking applications for the Showcase 2008 season. Showcase exhibits are juried and run for a period of four weeks - including weekends, a reception and promotional postcards. Each artist is allocated 8 linear feet of display space except for the January Showcase, which allocates 12 linear feet. All media are considered - wall hung and 3-dimensional. The fee is \$125 for a four week event. Call (707) 431-1970 or send an SASE to Plaza Arts Center, 130 Plaza Street, Healdsburg, CA 95448 to request an application. www.plazaartscenter.org

Competition: It's Not About Winning - by Jerry Meshulam

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Although one way to achieve a requirement for reaching Masters is to win an end-of-year competition, it's not mandatory. Theoretically, you can reach the Master's level without ever winning a single club competition. However, it's unlikely because as you become proficient you will be creating images that are recognized by judges for their outstanding artistic qualities.

Many in the club have promoted salons that allow for extended discussion and improve the quality of feedback. I agree and encourage everyone to support the salons by participating with your comments and entries, but the salons are limited to a select number of images. At the monthly competitions you will have up to two of your images viewed and scored, most often with helpful suggestions. It's the time to show your best work, put yourself out there and see how others respond. Join the competition, join the fun, grow your excellence and delight in your personal rewards.

Please note: If you're new to the competitions and have questions about formatting or submitting your work, there are many options to get help:

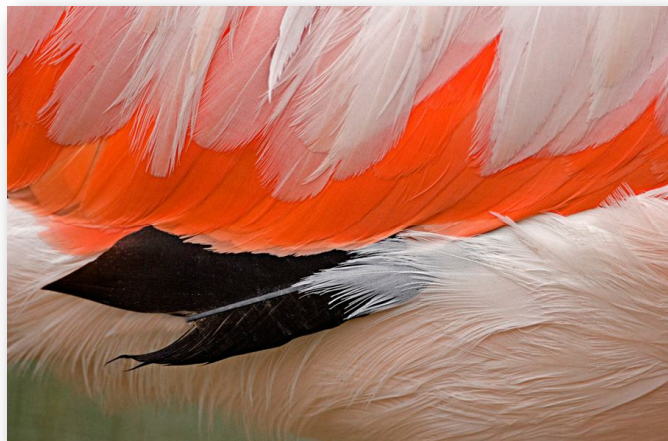
The club website: <http://www.santarosaphotographicsociety.org/srpsinfo/srpsinfo.html>

The club forum: <http://srps.proboards38.com/>

Ask seasoned members at a meeting.

Send me an email. Find my address in the club roster - we don't put email addresses in the newsletter - and I'll connect you with a personal, private club tutor.

**2007 END-OF-YEAR WINNERS
A - GENERAL
"FLAMINGO FEATHER" - JOE SIMON**



IMPORTANT DOWNLOADS

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD PDS's FOR BOTH THE PROVISIONAL NATURE RULES AND THE NEW, IMPROVED IMAGE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

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

If you have yet to check out Diane Miller's tutorials on the Adorama website, you are missing out. Here's a quote from Adorama:

Diane Miller's Adobe Photoshop Workshop is a must-read--Her monthly articles are our most popular feature; each one tackles a specific technique in great depth.

Congratulations, Diane!

Look here under the heading, "The Digital Darkroom", for some of her features:

http://www.adorama.com/catalog.tpl?op=academy&article=academy_archives

FEBRUARY NATURE PROGRAM

Our February program meeting, on the 28th, will include presentations by three of SRPS's finest nature photographers.

Alan Glazier, will discuss his path to becoming a superb nature photographer and give us some tips regarding locations, timing, technique and equipment while sharing some of his images.

Nature related travel photography will be the theme of Jim Thomason's presentation. He will include the demonstration of some equipment and will share some photos depicting the use of equipment.

Marilyn Brooner will use some of her photos that would not have been allowed under the rules prior to our current Nature Rules trial (February through June) and show us how she has used computer manipulations within the trial rules and made it possible to enter them in the Nature Category.

This will be an excellent opportunity for all of us to have a discussion about these trial rules and to clarify them as necessary. So, download the trial/provisional rules from our website, read up on them and come prepared with your questions.

DUES ARE DUE!

YOUR 2008 SRPS DUES ARE NOW DUE. SEND A CHECK - PAYABLE TO "SRPS" - FOR \$55 (FULL MEMBER) OR \$35 (ASSOCIATE MEMBER) TO SRPS TREASURER, DIANE MILLER, AT:
10044 LOCH HAVEN DRIVE,
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404

ANYONE NOT PAID BY THE END OF FEBRUARY WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE ROSTER.

JANUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

NATURE

Level - B

1st ...Adele Wikner	Greater Flamingo Preening
2nd...Betty Rhoades	Agave
3rd... Phil Wright	Winter Sunset on the Plains

Level - A

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

Level - AA

1st ...Cris Gondak	Rhinoceros & Young
2nd...Gary Saxe	Beside the Colorado
3rd... David Wallace	Winter Creek in Sugarloaf Park

Level - Masters

1st ...Alan Glazier	Salmon Creek Beach Sunset
2nd...XXX	XXX
3rd... XXX	XXX

CREATIVE

Level - B

1st ...Marilyn Caven	3 Ranunculus Blossoms
2nd...Phillip Hann	In Repose
3rd... Lorna Peters	Mask

Level - A

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

Level - AA

1st ... Ruth Pritchard	Canon Oaks
2nd...Janet Gelfman	Time and Motion
3rd... Janet Gelfman	Mission Courtyard

Level - Masters

1st ... Diane Miller	Laguna Tree Reflection Fantasy
2nd...Kay Damgaard	Dalliance
3rd... XXX	XXX

GENERAL

Level - B

1st ... Steve Palmer	Vista Anza Borrego
2nd...Jim Oswald	St. Paul France
3rd....Jim Andres	The Calm Before the Storm

Level - A

1st ... Marcia Hart	Pelican Dance at Sunset
2nd...Bob Alwitt	Cactus Blossom
3rd....Kathie Kameoka	Let the Steam Roll

Level - AA

1st ... Liz Lawson	Fronde Fan
2nd...Bobbi Chamberlain	Douglas Iris Reflection
3rd....Sheri Prager	High Flying Flag

Level - Masters

1st ... Diane Miller	Heron With Evening Clouds
2nd...Kay Damgaard	Sunset Salsify
3rd....Howard Bruensteiner	Homo Sapiens Version 8.1

AL SHELTON - 2008

Pictorial ...Ruth Pritchard	Red Hot Chili Pepper
NatureAlan Glazier	Snow Geese, Bosque del Apache
Seascape/ Landscape .Diane Miller	Yosemite Snow
PrintDrew Jackson	Merlot

ADVANCEMENTS

The following members advanced from the B to the A competition level via the portfolio/petition process:

Marilyn Caven
Butch Connor
Greg Gorsiski
Steve Palmer
Betty Rhoades

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!