



*Focusing on...*

*Our Alaska Adventure*

by Janet Gelfman

On July 3, 2008, Ira and I flew from Santa Rosa to Juneau, Alaska. As we flew into Juneau, we went over the Mendenhall Glacier. July 4<sup>th</sup> was celebrated with fireworks at midnight on July 3<sup>rd</sup> because the sky is light from 4 AM in the morning until 10:30 PM at night. There was a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.



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**~ CALENDAR ~**

**AUGUST**

- 8 Electronic entries due
- 14 Dinner with the Judge 5:30pm  
Monthly Competition 7:00pm
- 25 Newsletter items to Sheri
- 28 Program: Equipment Night; PSA  
TOPS 7:00pm

**SEPTEMBER**

- 2 Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 5 Electronic entries due
- 11 Dinner with the Judge 5:30pm  
Monthly Competition 7:00pm
- 25 Program: Jerry Meshulam  
Master's Presentation; Black  
and White salon 7:00pm
- 26 Newsletter items to Sheri

**OCTOBER**

- 3 Electronic entries due
- 9 Dinner with the Judge 5:30pm  
Monthly Competition 7:00pm
- 23 Fair Winners, 1st through 3rd;  
Electronic Image Salon
- 24 Newsletter items to Sheri
- 31 Electronic entries due

**~ EXHIBITIONS AND ONGOING CALLS TO ARTISTS ~**

**EXHIBITIONS, ETC.**

**Deadline August 10**

Digital creative image competition, "Imagination on Behalf of Our Planet," in which images must be altered digitally. Exhibit at New York Hall of Science, October 4-January 25. Details at:

<http://www.asci.org/index2.php?artikel=981>

**Deadline August 22**

Sebastopol Center for the Arts is reviewing applications for shows in 2009 in its Gallery II. Application for at

<http://www.sebarts.org/visual/pdf/GIIProspectus2009.pdf>

General information at

<http://www.sebarts.org/index.htm> - go to Visual Arts, then Gallery II.

**ONGOING CALLS TO ARTISTS**

**Santa Rosa Recreation and Parks**

**Department:** Exhibits at Finley and Steele Lane Community Centers and City Hall. To apply, go to Finley Community Center, 2060 West College Avenue, 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](mailto: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.

**Open deadline: 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. The fee is \$125 for a 4-week event. Showcase guidelines at: <http://www.plazaartscenter.org/artistShowcaseGuidelines.htm>

**FIELD TRIPS**

This is a gentle reminder to everyone that, if we are going to have field trips this year, it is up to the members to plan them. Bobbi Chamberlain has volunteered to be field trip coordinator for 2008, which means that she will be coordinating dates and assisting the field trip leaders if there are questions, but she will not be planning the field trips.

You don't need any prior experience to plan a field trip - most of the people who led field trips in 2007 had never done it before. If you're unsure of what needs to be done, contact Bobbi (see membership list for her email address). She has a list of things that should be considered. Also think about leading a field trip with one or two other people.

**~MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION~**

**SPRS WEBSITE**

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

**NEWSLETTER INFORMATION AND CORRECTIONS:**

Contact Sheri Prager, Editor, The Positive Print

The Print Salon held on July 24 was enjoyed by all. There were eleven entries on a variety of subjects, and from all member levels. The panelists provided incisive and helpful commentary on each, followed by questions and comments from the audience. The seating arrangement and ambient light level created an intimate atmosphere that supported an evening of relaxed discourse. The highlight, though, were the ice cream floats served up by the refreshment committee during the break. Way to go on a warm summer evening!

Jim Thomason is having a showing of prints of his wildlife photographs from various locations. It is at Fabulous Framers in Novato. He has 16 prints on exhibit through the end of August. This is in conjunction with the 3rd anniversary of the shop and they are having a reception with drinks, food and prizes on Saturday 2 August 3:00pm to 6:00pm.

Fabulous Framers  
430 Ignacio Blvd  
Novato CA

Take the Ignacio Blvd. exit from Hwy 101 between Novato and San Rafael. Go West on Ignacio about 1/4 mile to the Pacheco Center (on the right). Fabulous Framers is in the shopping center.

If you can't make it to the reception, Fabulous Framers is open 10:00am to 6:00pm Monday through Saturday and they would be happy for you to stop in and see the prints.

**“Reflections on My Journey”**

An All-Day Presentation by John Isaac

September 20, 2008 • 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Lark Theater, Larkspur, CA

Registration fee \$65 per person • \$25 student fee

Sponsored by the Northern California Council of Camera Clubs

**Photo Contest**

The California coastal Commission announces its 10th Annual Amateur Photography competition, with prizes.

Entries must be postmarked by Friday, August 22nd, 2008

Visit [www.coastforyou.org](http://www.coastforyou.org) for complete guidelines and entry forms, or write to:

California Coastal Commission Photo Contest  
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000  
San Francisco, CA 94105

# MAY COMPETITION RESULTS

## GENERAL

### Level B

1st Waiting in Prague  
2nd Woman Sweeping  
3rd Napa Sunset 2

Phil Wright  
Kevin O'Connor  
Jim Oswald

### Level A

1st Sausilito Twilight  
2nd Harvest Colors  
3rd XXX

Ira Gelfman  
Marilyn Caven

### Level AA

1st Saigon Woman  
2nd Ceiling Invalids  
3rd Shallow Depths

Drew Jackson  
Drew Jackson  
Liz Lawson

### Level M

1st Rose Macro  
2nd Peek a Boo  
3rd Nature Abstract 1

Diane Miller  
Marilyn Brooner  
Tania Amochaev

## CREATIVE

### Level B

1st Magical Mediterranean  
2nd XXX  
3rd XXX

Phillip Hann

### Level A

1st XXX  
2nd XXX  
3rd XXX

### Level AA

1st I See Said the Spider  
2nd XXX  
3rd XXX

Janet Gelfman

### Level M

1st Moonlit Sentinel  
2nd Awful Eyeful  
3rd Smoke in the Sunset

H Bruensteiner  
Barbara Larson  
H Bruensteiner

## NATURE

### Level B

1st River Otter with Crawfish  
2nd Scrub-jay  
3rd Fritillary

Adele Wikner  
Anne Abrams  
TJ Mills

### Level A

1st XXX  
2nd XXX  
3rd XXX

### Level AA

1st Windblown Foam on Beach David Wallace  
2nd XXX  
3rd XXX

### Level M

1st XXX  
2nd XXX  
3rd XXX



### 2007 End of Year Winners B—Nature

**"GREAT EGRET WITH GOPHER"  
BY ADELE WIKNER**



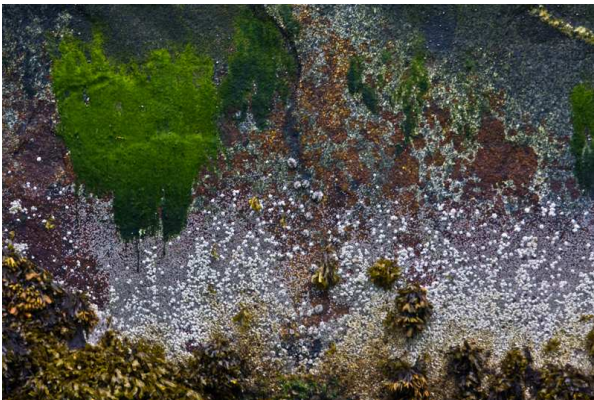
## Our Alaska Adventure

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On July 5<sup>th</sup>, we enjoyed a float plane trip from Juneau to Taku Lodge where we had a delicious fresh salmon dinner. We flew over five glaciers on our trip back and forth to Taku.

Late on the afternoon of July 5<sup>th</sup>, we boarded Cruise West's Spirit of Discovery. This ship accommodates a maximum of 84 passengers. It is a very relaxed atmosphere with no "dress" requirements. Our cabin had twin beds and enough room for Ira to set up the portable computer and for us to put away all of our belongings. Food throughout the cruise was beautifully prepared and delicious. The weather was not wonderful but we had breaks in the rain throughout the trip and a moment or two of sunshine.



Our trip covered portions of the Inland Passage beginning in Juneau and going up to Glacier Bay. Our first stop was Tracy Arm where we boarded small inflatable boats and were taken nearly into a waterfall and along the sides of the Arm where the minerals and the mussels, together with lichens and mosses, created incredible wall art.

At Frederick Sound we saw some whales although they were quite far away. We also saw beautiful ice floes and our ship acted as the lead for two other smaller ships that followed us through the ice. White bergs hold many trapped air bubbles; blue bergs are dense and reflect long wave colors (blue); greenish bergs may have carved off glacier bottoms.



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Next we stopped in Sitka where we got off the ship and walked through the town (in the rain). We had a wonderful time visiting with local people. This is an old community originally founded by the Tlingit peoples. The Russians arrived in 1799. In 1867, Alaska was sold to the United States for \$7.2 million dollars. After we returned to the ship, we saw sea otters. One of them came very close to the ship. They are actually the largest member of the weasel family.



We went on to Glacier Bay which was home to native peoples far earlier than when it was discovered by John Muir in 1879. It is the world's largest protected marine sanctuary. There are 16 major tidewater glaciers (those that go all the way to the water) and thirty alpine glaciers (those compressed between two hills). A Park Ranger, Emily, and a Huna Cultural Interpreter joined us. They both shared a great deal of knowledge with us. We saw sea lions, gulls, puffins, whales, orcas, and brown bears among other creatures on our journey into and out of Glacier Bay.

At the end of the day, Emily pulled out her violin and played a most beautiful selection of music. The ship was hushed as her gift to us and the surroundings brought tears to our eyes.

We continued on to Pelican, a tiny town rarely visited by tourists. A local couple came on board to share the history of this community which was founded in the late 30's and early 40's as a place for the fisherman to process and store their fish. Much of the town is built on pilings and surrounding a boardwalk that stretches the entire length of the town. Pelican is only accessible by boat or plane (as is much of Alaska). There is so much to photograph here – flowers, reflections, rusted pieces and even a toilet for Drew.



Our final day on the ship found us taking a trip through Icy Strait. The area attracts one of the largest congregations of Humpback whales because of the food supply. The day was gray and foggy. Suddenly there was a whale on the



port side and then another on the starboard side and then a pod in front of us. One of the whales has a distinct sound. Originally named Louis (for Mr. Armstrong), the name became Louisa when this whale was found with its young. The whales were blowing, breaching and spy hopping as they fed. It was easier to see the whales since they were closer to us and we could see the differences in their tails as they dove. The fins of the Humpback are small compared to the fins of the Orcas. Being amongst the whales is an incredible experience, as was this entire cruise and one we would recommend to anyone interested in Alaska, wild life or glaciers.

## ~ August 28<sup>th</sup> - Equipment Night and PSA TOPS Program ~

The August 28<sup>th</sup> program at Santa Rosa Photographic Society will feature a 45 minute video on the PSA TOPS program and an Equipment Night. The video will give us an idea of what is happening in the world of the Photographic Society of America (we did quite well this year) and the Equipment Night will give us the chance to see, touch, and talk about the latest, and greatest, tools available. It will be a rich experience I'm sure you will not want to miss.

For the Equipment Night part of the program any of our more experienced members will be bringing in the tools they use to take those amazing images you've seen at club meetings. Considering the jump into DSLR and want to see and feel the latest cameras? Have you ever wanted to see what a 500 or 600mm f4 prime lens looks and feels like? Are you curious about the most current digital tools available? If you answered, "Yes!" to any or all of the questions above, then this is the meeting for you.

Here are just a few of the highlights we have so far:

- Greg Gorsiski: The latest computer tools. (Beta CS4, Aperture)
- Alan Glazier: Telephotos and tripods.
- Jerry Meshulam: DSLR (Canon and Nikon)
- Diane Miller: Macro equipment (Lensbaby too!)
- Drew Jackson: Hauling Your Stuff (bags, vests, belts, etc.)
- Barbara Larson: Fun with Mylar (Did you ever wonder how she gets those incredible self portraits?)
- Marilyn Brooner: Macro techniques
- Howard Bruensteiner: What is a Tilt Shift Lens? Air filter
- Janet Gelfman: Sale / Swap Table too

More to be added . . . I'm sure  
This should be a lot of fun!

If you have something to share, contact Drew Jackson or Bob Alwitt and help us out. All are welcome to bring their cool "stuff" and share. Let's get together, share our tools, and talk about photography.

See you there.

Drew Jackson  
Second Meeting Committee