

Sierra Camera Club of Sacramento, Since 1936

Eighty Years of Support for the Art and Craft of Photography

GAMMAGRAM



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Travel Image of the Night, September 2016
"Castle Geyser At Night, Yellowstone" by Don Goldman

Congratulations

to SCC Members accepted in
the KVIE Auction.

Lucille vanOmering
"Sunset, Old Fair Oaks Bridge"

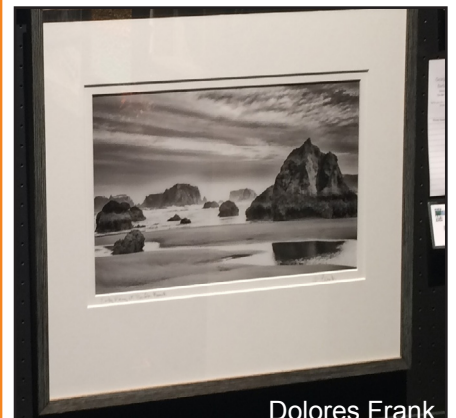
Michelle McCormick "Oak Road"

Michael Corlew
"Sunrise: Bosque del Apache"

Dolores Frank
"Early Morning at Bandon Beach"

Grant Kreinberg
"Bodega Church"

Dave Kent
"Teton Trees" Juror's Award



Calendar Last Competitions for 2016

Thursday Oct. 6Nature Competition

Tuesday Oct. 11General Competition

Thursday Nov. 3Travel Competition

Tuesday Nov. 8Print Competition

Travel Division Singles Honors, September 2016

Glen Cunningham, Director * Ed Lindquist, Assistant * , Doug Ridgway, Judge



“Sunset at Bellingham, WA, Harbor”
by Gary Cawood



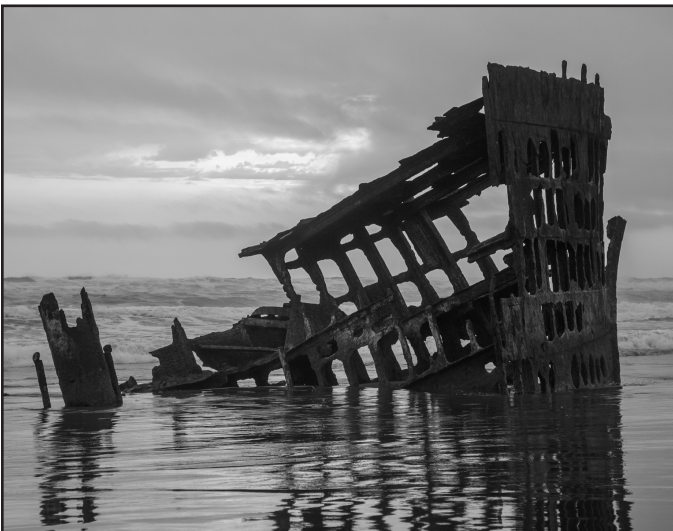
“Stone Sculpture Trail, Shanghai China”
by Willis Price



“Vancouver Harbour, British Columbia”
by Cheryl Glackin



“New Port of Copenhagen Denmark”
by Mel Wright



“Wreck of Peter, Iredale Oregon”
by Kristian Leide-Lynch



“Burmese Woman Smoking Corn Leaf Cheroot”
by Gary Cawood

Travel Honors



“Antelope Canyon Rock Patterns” by Willis Price



“Inside Fort Point” by Ed Lindquist

Travel Division Scores September 2016

Singles Scores

Cawood, Gary	Sunset at Bellingham Harbor	12	.....	Burmese Woman Smoking Corn Leaf Cheroot	12
Filter, Gale	Crossroads Valencia	11	.....	Norse Goddess and St. Albans, Copenhagen	11
Glackin, Cheryl	Vancouver Harbour, British Columbia	12	.....	Summer in Banff NP	10
Goldman, Don	Castle Geyser At Night Yellowstone ...	13	.....	Great Fountain Geyser	11
Goodwin, Theo	Fiddler Jamming in Pub, Ireland-1	11	.....	Accordion Player, Ireland	10
Gwathney, Eugenia ..	Mongolian Family at Nadaam Festival ..	11	.....	Break Time in the Gobi, Mongolia	10
Gwathney, Eugenia ..	The Pitch, Wrigley Field, Chicago	10	.....	After the Storm, Gobi Desert, Mongolia	10
Holtzclaw, Truman ..	Tallin Estonia	11	.....	Finland Bicycle Rentals	11
Holtzclaw, Truman ..	Elko Young Cowboy	11	.....	Grey Lodge Sunset.....	11
Krueger, Werner	California Street Cable Cars	11	.....	Cruising North to Alaska	11
Leide-Lynch, Kristian ..	Duncans Cove	10	.....	Wreck of Peter Iredale, OR	12
Lindquist, Ed.....	Golden Gate Bridge and Fort Point	11	.....	Inside Fort Point.....	12
Maurizi, Barbara	Roadside Tool Display, Nevada	11	.....	Dead Texas Oak Trees	10
Maurizi, Barbara .....	.....	.....	.....	Big Gulp Utah Style.....	11
Price, Willis	Stone Sculpture Trail, Shanghai, China ..	12	.....	Antelope Canyon Rock Patterns	12
Wright, Mel	Mt. Rushmore National Memorial SD.	10	.....	New Port of Copenhagen DN	12
Wright, Janet .....	.....	.....	.....	Los Palafitos on Chiloe Island Chile.....	10
York, John	Derelict Boats Barrow Alaska	10	.....	Chalk It Up, Sacramento.....	10
York, John	Devil’s Tongue, Iguacu Falls, Argentina. ..	11	.....	Sunrise Three Sisters South Wales, Australia	10

Travel Sequence Scores

Cawood, Gary	Kodiak Sockeye Voyage	11
Filter, Gale	Buenos Aires	12
Glackin, Cheryl	Redwood National Park	13
Goldman, Don	People of Myanmar.....	12
Goodwin, Theo	Kilmainharm Prison Dublin, Ireland	11
Gwathney, Eugenia ..	Lambeau Field Tour	11
Holtzclaw, Truman ..	Beautiful Peterhof	11
Holtzclaw, Truman ..	Copenhagen is a Fun Town.....	11
Krueger, Werner	Endicot Arm	12
Lindquist, Ed.....	Fort Point at San Francisco	11
Maurizi, Barbara	Colorado National Monument	11
Maurizi, Barbara	Sand Mountain Recreation Area	11
Price, Willis	Sacramento Mural Festival 2016	12
Wright, Janet	Traditional Meal Curanto Chiloe Island ...	10
Wright, Mel	Three Forks Rodeo Montana	12
York, John	Summer Solstice	11
York, John	Kennedy Space Center.....	12

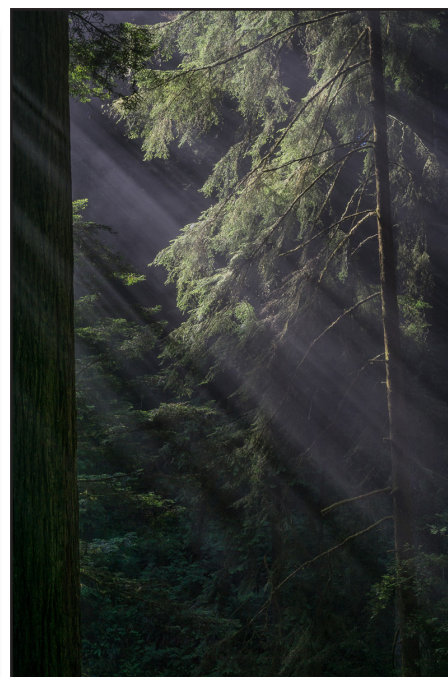
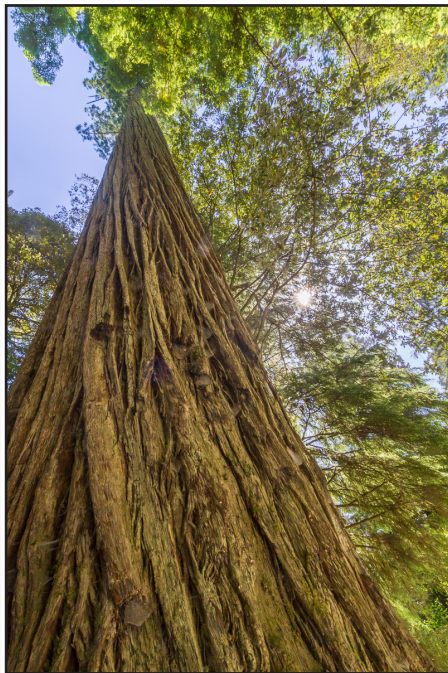
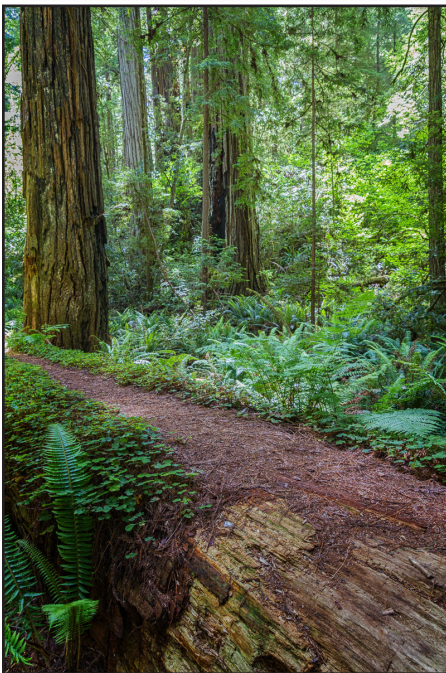
Printed copies of the Gammagram sponsored by Mike’s Camera & Printing, 2200 J Street, Sacramento. Pick one up at a SCC Meeting.





**Travel Sequence
Image of the Night
September 2016**

**“A Walk in Redwood
National Park”
by Cheryl Glackin**



PhotoSpeak 101, Lesson 7

“Point-and-Shoot,” “Mirrorless,” “DSLR,”
“Micro-four-thirds,” “APS-C,” “Full-frame,”
“Megapixels and Megabucks”

Bob and Chuck explore some options in digital cameras

Think you need a new camera? Been reading the ads? How about those new full-frame cameras with a gazillion megapixels, low noise, and high dynamic range? Wow. You need one, right?



Nikon D810; Full-frame, 36 Megapixels,
\$2,796.95 without lens



Canon 5DS; Full-frame, 50 Megapixels,
\$3,449 without lens

Well, here are some legitimate reasons for buying a new camera: your camera is broken and out of warranty or cannot be repaired; your camera is ten years old and only has six-megapixels; there's a new camera with features you need; you want a new camera and you can afford it."

But can a new camera make you a better photographer? Remember, a camera is just a tool. The photographer provides the vision and the technique. This truth was dramatically demonstrated years ago when a leading photo magazine published several stunningly beautiful photos made by noted photographers using Diana plastic cameras.

If those guys could do it with a plastic toy, think what you can do with any of today's digital cameras...

Starting at about eighty bucks at are some decent little point-and-shoot cameras with 16- to 20-megapixel sensors, zoom lenses, accurate auto-focus, image stabilization, and both automatic and manual exposure.

The main advantage of the small point-and-shoot is that it can always be with you, in a pocket or handbag. And, being there with a camera is 90% of great photography.

These little cameras are likely to have a little more noise at high ISO and at long exposures, and Some have no eye-level viewfinder, making it difficult to accurately frame a shot under some lighting conditions.



Sony DSC W800, 20 Megapixels, 5x Optical Zoom, \$79.95

Bulkier and costlier, \$200 to \$600, are the larger point-and-shoot cameras too big to fit in a pocket. These cameras have eye-level viewfinders, longer zooms, larger sensors, and up to 20 megapixels. They have less noise and higher dynamic range (the ability to reach into the shadows while holding the highlights) than their pocketable cousins.



Panasonic FZ70, 60x Optical ;Zoom, 16 Megapixels, \$279

Also in the \$600 to \$1200 range, lenses extra, are the APS-C size DSLRs and mirrorless cameras with 24-megapixel sensors



Canon 80D; APS-C, 24 megapixels \$1,199, without lens

When it comes to mirror or no-mirror, there are pros and cons. The optical viewfinder of the DSLR shows the actual live scene in front of the camera in real

camera shows the picture that will be captured when the shutter button is pressed. Sports photographers and some wildlife photographers prefer the optical viewfinder, but these are usually pros or serious amateurs who don't mind the bulk and weight of the DSLR system.

Seeing your photo in the viewfinder before you take it has some very real advantages. You see lighting, exposure, and depth of focus before you click the shutter.

The large, full-frame, professional model cameras have the best photo quality, but they are expensive, they are large and heavy, and they have large and heavy lenses.

APS-C models have sensors about half the size of the full-frame models, so they tend to have a little less dynamic range and a little more noise at high ISO, but the bodies and lenses are smaller and lighter than the full-frame models. They also have pop-up flash while most full-frame models do not.

We older camera club members transitioned from a film SLR to a digital DSLR. The heft and feel were much the same, we still had the optical, through-the-lens viewfinder to which we'd grown accustomed, and we could use lenses we already owned.

But, now there are some mirrorless cameras getting rave reviews. Having no mirror-box and no pentaprism, their bodies and lenses are smaller and lighter than those of DSLRs. As to low noise and high dynamic range, Sony's A6300 and A7RII claim to be among the very best.

The Sony A7RII has one interesting advantage over the full-frame DSLRs: it can magically accept APS-C-size lenses by switching to APS-C mode and using 24 megapixels in the center of its 42-megapixel sensor.



Sony A7RII; Full-frame, 42 Megapixels, \$2,949, without lens. Zeiss lenses.



Sony A6300 APS-C CMOS sensor. ISO 100-25600. \$550. without lense.

Speaking of megapixels, how many do you really need? The answer depends on what you do with your photos. If your goal is to create images for Club competition, 16 megapixels is plenty. And, even if you want a large print to hang on the wall, the images can be satisfactorily resampled upward in Photoshop.

can be satisfactorily resampled upward in Photoshop. The Sony A7RII's 42-megapixel image could be printed at 30"x20" without resampling. With resampling? How about wall-size murals?.

But don't forget, the more megapixels, the more megabytes of storage. And, this can be a real consideration when traveling. Large megabyte files require carrying a laptop and external hard drives.

Right now, the full-frame, megapixel race goes to the Canon 5Ds with 50 megapixels. But hang on, Canon is reportedly about to announce a 120-megapixel model.

Megapixels are good, high dynamic range is good, low noise is good... But, handling might just be more important than megapixels, low noise and high dynamic range all put together. Are the camera's settings understandable and readily accessible or are they buried deep in a very complicated menu? Does the camera fit your hands or does its size and shape make it awkward to handle? You can only answer these questions by actually handling the camera.

Look at it this way: choosing a camera involves a balance among cost, features, weight and bulk, and ease of operating and handling.

When you pay more you get more, but you also might get more weight and bulk. A complete system built around two full-frame DSLR bodies might weigh seventy-five pounds while the same system in micro-four-thirds format would weigh only twenty-five pounds.

And it's possible that the quicker handling and ease of controlling the settings on the smaller camera might actually result in better photos.

When all is said and done, choosing a camera is your responsibility, but we suggest that you proceed somewhat as follows:

1. Rate your goals. Do you just want really good family and travel photos, do you want to be a serious competitor in Club competitions; do you want to excel in the art by creating large prints with universal appeal; or maybe all of the above.
2. Try a variety of cameras; handle them, study their dials, wheels, and buttons. Is it intuitive? Or is it a complicated beast? Talk to other Club members, ask to handle and study their cameras.
3. Read on-line reviews of the cameras you're interested in.
4. Face yourself in the mirror in the quiet of the morning and ask, "Do I really need a Maserati if I'm just driving to the grocery store?"

Photography is fun! Enjoy!

BIRD CLASS

Hi fellow birders and photographers!

As most of you know, I work with a great organization called Sacramento Splash, where we get kids off the pavement and into nature. We teach school kids throughout the Sacramento region about nature and wildlife, using the vernal pool grasslands of Mather Field as our outdoor classroom.

Sacramento Splash also offers enrichment classes for the general public, focusing on a variety of natural history topics. We have one of these classes coming up very soon and I'm hoping you may be able to help us get the word out to your Audubon chapters and Camera clubs. The class is all about birds of the Sacramento region and will be taught by Chris Conard, a rock star in the Sacramento birding community.

This would be a wonderful class for beginning and intermediate birders to take. It also would be a perfect class for photographers who compete in Nature/Wildlife photo competitions, as it's always important to properly identify the birds you photograph!

Can you please distribute this information to your members and help spread the word? A description of the class is below so it will be easy for you to simply cut and paste. Here's the description of the class and a link to more information and registration:

Do you enjoy observing local birds? Would you like to be able to properly identify the birds you are photographing? Then join us for our upcoming LifeLong Learning class: "Birding in the Sacramento Region with Chris Conard."

Over 300 species of birds can be found in the Sacramento region's wetlands, riparian forests, grasslands, oak woodlands, and chaparral. Over the course of three evening classes and three Saturday field trips, this class will introduce you to most of species you're likely to encounter around Sacramento in the fall.

We expect to observe and become familiar with over 100 species during the field trips. Additional emphasis will be given to migration and seasonality, vocalizations, and behavior. Other topics will include optics, recording and documenting your observations, and resources for improving birding skills. More information: <http://www.sacsplash.org/birds2016>.

We'd also like to offer a \$15 discount exclusively for our Audubon and camera club friends. You can just use the promotional code "splashbirds2016" when you sign up.

Thank you for your help to spread the word! I hope we see a bunch of Audubon members and local camera club members at the class!

Sincerely,
David

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