

Sierra Camera Club of Sacramento, Inc

GAMMAGRAM



Volume 78 Number 2 * February 2015 * www.sierracameraclub.com



January Nature Image of the Night
"Rainbow Over the Mesa" by Cheryl Glackin

Contents

	page
Cumulative Awards 2014.....	2
Capture Article by Bob & Chuck.....	3-4
New Column by Theo Goodwin.....	4
January Nature Division Honors & Scores.....	5-6
Annual Travel Awards.....	7
Annual Nature Awards.....	8
Annual General Awards.....	19
Annual Print Awards.....	10
President's Message.....	11
Shows and Events.....	11

February Calendar

Thursday 3rd Travel Competition
Saturday 7th Galt Winter Bird Festival
Tuesday 10th.....General Competition
Saturday 14th Grant Kreinberg Show

Exploring Photography

Both February Trips have wait lists.
<http://www.meetup.com/exploringphotography>

Cumulative Awards 2014



Color Print Division

- 1st Ron Parker
- 2nd Theo Goodwin
- 3rd Jeanne Snyder
- 3rd Melba Martin
- 3rd Dennis Scott



Monochrome Print Division

- 1st Ron Parker
- 2nd Dennis Scott
- 3rd Ed Lindquist



Creative Print Division

- 1st Dennis Scott
- 2nd Ed Lindquist
- 2nd Melba Martin
- 2nd Jeanne Snyder
- 3rd Barbara Maurizi



Travel Division

- 1st Jan Lightfoot
- 2nd Gary Cawood
- 2nd Peggy McCaleb
- 2nd Truman Holtzclaw
- 3rd Ron Parker



General Division

- 1st Truman Holtzclaw
- 2nd Monte Mattox
- 3rd Melba Martin,
- 3rd Willis Price



Nature Division

- 1st John York
- 1st Melba Martin
- 2nd Diane Hovey
- 2nd Jan Lightfoot
- 3rd Willis Price
- 3rd Barbara Maurizi
- 3rd Julius Kovatch
- 3rd Cheryl Glackin



Travel Sequence

- 1st Jan Lightfoot
- 2nd Laurie Friedman
- 3rd Truman Holtzclaw



Jeanne Snyder, President's Award



Cheryl Glackin, Service Award

“Pre-capture - CAPTURE - After-capture”

By Bob Hubbell and Chuck Pivetti

Introduction

In previous articles we discussed pre-capture: adjusting our seeing and perception, changing our everyday way of seeing, with a photographer's eye so we can capture a photograph that says what we want it to say. In this article we move on to using the camera to capture that photograph.

Capture

So, what's to talk about? We can set our DSLR on auto-focus and auto exposure, point it at our subject, click the shutter button, and capture an image. Well, as we've said before, as amazing as our cameras are, they still do not have brains. They have no idea why we are capturing a picture or what we are trying to say with that picture. Camera equipment is so amazing that we must take care that it doesn't distract us from what's most important: the *content of the image*.

Capturing a great picture requires that we pay careful attention to how we arrange that content within the frame of the viewfinder. We have to think how we are going to represent our three dimensional scene in only two dimensions. What clues will we provide the viewer of our photograph to see depth?

How will we separate the subject from the foreground and the background? Where will we place the point of interest? How do we select the best camera position?

A camera has no aesthetic appreciation; it's just a dumb tool. So we must make it record what we see so a person viewing the photograph will also see it.

We make the decisions as to composition. And, the very word “composition” is intimidating because it implies rules. But there really are no rules. Composition is the arrangement and treatment of the various elements in the scene. And how we arrange those elements depends entirely on what we want our picture to say.

As we frame our photograph in the viewfinder, paying attention to four things will help us get better pictures:

1. Near-middle-far
2. Viewpoint
3. Balance
4. Simplicity



Aerial Perspective

Near-Middle-Far

What's in the foreground and background should not be there by accident; it should be there for a



Near & Far



Linear Perspective

purpose. It should support, not detract from, the subject. The camera will move all three onto the same plane, so we must provide visual clues to separate them, clues like perspective, selective focus, and aerial perspective, to name a few.

Viewpoint

Our viewpoint determines linear perspective, which adds to the illusion of depth in our two-dimensional photograph. Viewpoint also determines the relative position of objects in the frame. So we should select a camera position that places elements where they support the subject, create the appearance of depth, and are in balance. Our camera's position can also determine the arrangement of graphic elements like lines and shapes.



Balance

Balance

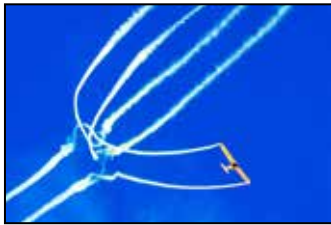
Elements in the frame should be in balance. A large object near the center of the frame can balance a smaller object near the edge of the frame. When it comes to compositional balance, it's not just the size of objects that give them weight. Bright objects have more weight than dark objects. People have more weight than things. Symmetry can provide balance, but we must be careful not to create a boring, static composition.

Simplicity

Simple compositions can make powerful and elegant statements. Elements that don't support the main subject should be eliminated or



Simplicity and Balance



Lines, Shapes, Triangles

subdued. Two common methods of subduing a distracting background are selective focus and aerial perspective. Selective focus can throw foreground or background, or both,

out of focus. Aerial perspective is usually the result of atmospheric haze, making distant objects like mountains less distinct.

Working the shot

With these four compositional principles in mind, we move left or right, up or down; try different focal lengths; place the subject at different locations in the frame. We try different camera settings. It's digital, there's no expensive film to waste, so we capture a



Receding Spirals

variety of compositions. We practice and learn.

And, we mustn't forget to use our feet. We don't just zoom in and out. We use our feet to move around. Using our feet to move in and out creates a different



Implied Triangle (Jets)

perspective and a different composition from what we get by zooming the lens. Let's not get lazy, let's work the shot. And, since we're not professionals, let's have fun doing it, otherwise, what's the point.



Selective Focus

Here are some examples of arrangements of compositional Elements. Remember, shapes and lines can be implied or can be completed by the edges of the frame.

Beyond the Lens by Theo Goodwin

How much time do we as photographers spend thinking about what equipment to buy, what exposures to use, how to make our photo images perfect and how to use social media to share our images? Too much time, I fear. This is the first column in a series that I will write that will not ask questions about how we make images, but about what we photograph. What our cultural and historical biases may be and what can we photograph instead?

The first photographic experience I would like to share is "Our America, The Latino Presence in American Art," which showed at Sacramento's Crocker Art Museum through January 15, 2015. It was a collection of one hundred pieces drawn from the Smithsonian Museum's greater collection of several hundred art pieces created by Latino artists over the past 50 years. Nothing is uniform or predictable about this collection. It is the work of many of the better known artists, including photographers, who emigrated primarily from Mexico, Puerto Rico and Cuba. It is work created in the United States out of the cultural heritage and context of what particular individuals brought with them to form unique world views. This exhibit does not attempt to represent clear trends from each country, but to show the waves of individuals who settled in America and what they and their children created here. Some of the work is

by Chicanos born in the U.S. interpreting their lives here. Their work shows how they were treated by America, such as during the years of the Bracero farm worker programs followed by the tumultuous period of the United Farm workers' organizing days with the grape and lettuce strikes in the 1970's. Many photos show the difficult living conditions, the pain suffered by families, the pride of their heritages and the faces of outsiders. Other images display Mexican missions built in the 1700's, views of the barrio with messages written in graffiti, cholos, zoot suits, ballroom dancing in the 1950's and evidence of Americans lynching Mexicans in trees. The artwork, whether created in photos, paintings, woodblock prints, sculptures or mixed media, depicts the fears, suffering, dreams and joys experienced by immigrants from the Hispanic hemisphere. Some visions depict what cultural lives the immigrants brought with them while others show us what was left behind, what was taken from them, what was lost, what was gained and what is still lacking.

The question that this unique exhibit causes me to ask is, "What do my photos really depict?" I am telling stories about life in the early 21st century, or am I re-creating pictures based upon a model of photographic conventions and beauty that was created seventy-five or more years ago? Am I copying images that many other people already make, or do I bring a unique vision to my work that tells a different story or tells the human story in a different way?

Nature Division Honors January 2015 Competition



"Black Bear Eye Contact" by Jan Lightfoot



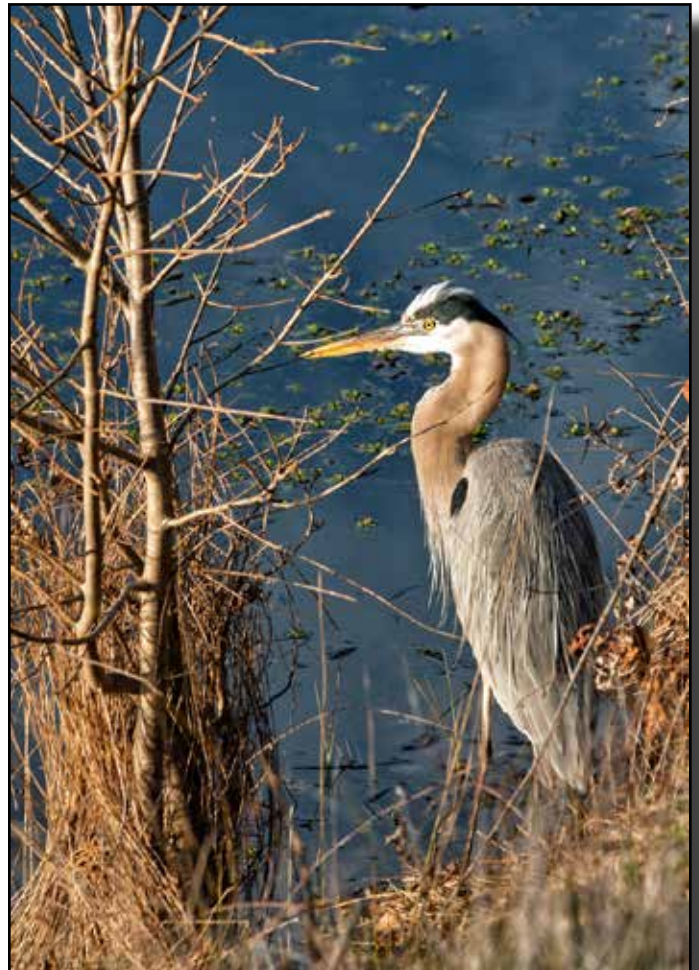
"Vela Supernova Remnant" by Don Goldman



"Sacred Lotus Flower" by Jeannie O'Brien



"Mule Deer Peering Through Spring Wildflowers"
by Jan Lightfoot



"Great Blue Heron at Nature Preserve" by Ed Lindquist



"Young Egrets" by Willis Price

January 2015 Nature Division Scores

John York, Director * Kristian Leide-Lynch, Assistant * Joe Fischer, Judge

Nature and Wildlife

Lynne Anzelc	.....Wildebeest Migration	.....11	...Grey Headed Kingfisher Tanzania	.....11
Gary Cawood	.....Snowy Egrets	.....11	...Great Blue Heron	.....10
Jorge Gaj	.....Bryce National Park 1	.....11	...Zion National Park 1	.....11
Cheryl Glackin	.....Clouds Move Across the Dunes	.....11	...Rainbow Over the Mesa	.....13
Don Goldman	.....Young Finches In Nest	.....11	...Vela Supernova Remnant	.....12
Truman Holtzclaw	....Redhead Duck & Reflections	.....10	...Hooded Merganser	.....10
Julius Kovatch	.....Point Lobos Spring	.....10	...Heated Debate Early Morning in the Pond	.....11
Werner Krueger	.....Ring Tailed Lemur	.....10	...Jaguar	.....10
Kristian Leide-Lynch	..Mammoth Hot Springs Yellowstone	.....11	...Bison On The Move Yellowstone	.....10
Jan Lightfoot	.....Black Bear Eye Contact	.....12	...Mule Deer Peering Through Wildflowers	.....12
Ed Lindquist	.....Great Blue Heron at Nature Preserve	10	...Great Blue Heron at Nature Preserve 2	.....12
Melba Martin	.....African Wildcat Kitten	.....11	...Black-Faced Vervet Monkey	.....10
Barbara Maurizi	.....	.....	...Swan Teaching Her Cygnets	.....10
Peggy McCaleb	.....Gull Steals Oyster from Oystercatcher	10	...Shadow of Fish Goes Down Pelican's Gullet	10
Jeannie O'Brien	.....Red Torch	.....10	...Sacred Lotus Flower	.....12
Willis Price	.....Young Egrets	.....12	...Spider on Web	.....11
Kathy Schubert	.....Hippo Skimming Surface at Zoo	10	...Egret in Flight	.....10
Donna Sturla	.....Egret Seeking Dinner	10	...Pelican Taking Off	.....10
Robert Valenton	.....	.....	...Hummingbird	.....11
Roger VanderPlaats	Big Sur Grass	.....10	...My Grass	.....10
John York	.....Giant Otter Eating Tiger Catfish	10	...Plush Crested Jay	.....11

Annual Travel Competition Awards 2014

Travel Singles



2nd Place Gary Cawood



1st Place Laurie Friedman



3rd Place Jan Lightfoot

Honorable Mentions



Gary Cawood



Theo Goodwin



Ron Parker



Ron Parker



Marcia Sydor



Laurie Friedman



Jan Lightfoot



Lynne Anzelc



Melba Martin

Travel Sequences



1st Place Jan Lightfoot



2nd Place Truman Holtzclaw



3rd Place Willis Price

Annual Nature Competition Awards 2014



1st Place Jan Lightfoot



2nd Place Robert Valenton



3rd Place Cheryl Glackin

Honorable Mentions



Diane Hovey



Cheryl Glackin



Julius Kovatch



John York



Ed Lindquist



Laurie Friedman



Jan Lightfoot



Truman Holtzclaw



Kathy Schubert



Kathy Schubert



Robert Valenton



Jeannie O'Brien

Annual General Competition Awards 2014



1st Laurie Friedman



2nd Diane Hovey



3rd Monty Mattox

Honorable Mentions



Melba Martin



Laurie Friedman



Laurie Freidman



Kathy Schubert



Diane Hovey



Lori Freidman



Donna Sturla



Lynne Anzelc



Julius Kovatch



Melba Martin



Gary Cawood



Jan Lightfoot



Jan Lightfoot



Kathy Schubert

Annual Print Competition Awards 2014

Monochrome



1st Place Ron Parker



2nd Place Dennis Scott



3rd Place Bob Hubbell



Ron Parker H.M.



Ed Lindquist H.M.

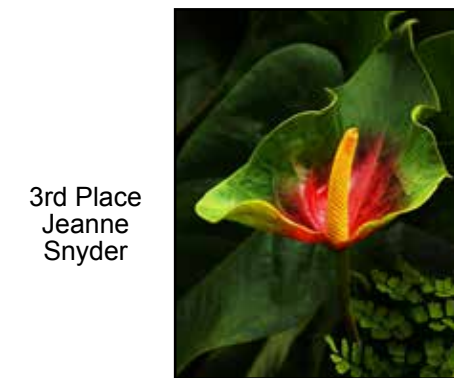


1st Place Lynne Anzelc



2nd Place Theo Goodwin

COLOR



3rd Place Jeanne Snyder



Lynne Anzelc H.M.



Barbara Maurizi H.M.



Greg Anzelc H.M.

Creative



1st Place Lynne Anzelc



2nd Place Kathy Schubert



3rd Place Barbara Maurizi



Jeanne Snyder H.M.

Gold Rush Chapter Meeting

Sunday, March 1st, 2015 8:30-3:30

Crowne Plaza Sacramento Northeast

5321 Date Avenue (I-80 at Madison Ave.)

- 8:30 Registration begins in Sycamore Room.
9:00 Rod Bradford opens the meeting.
9:15 Mini shows by members
10:30 PSA and the Southwest-Laurie Friedman,
Cheryl, Glackin and Susan Bovey
A Tour through Cambodia and Vietnam, Lynn
and Greg Anzelc.
11:35 Byron Hindman, PSA, FPSA:
"Print Evaluations"
12:00 Lunch served, Cyprus Room
1:00 Shooting Models, Instruction by Truman
Holtzlaw and Glenn Jones
2:00 Shooting Models-Gold Rush Members
shoot models **BRING YOUR CAMERAS!**

Michael Corlew's Photograph

was selected for the Crocker-Kingsley Show. Exhibit through February 21st at the Blue Line Gallery, Roseville. <http://www.bluelinearts.org/exhibits/exhibits.html>

Galt Winter Bird Festival

Saturday, February 7, 2015

To learn more about <http://www.ci.galt.ca.us/index.aspx?page=495> or Facebook, "Galt Winter Bird Festival"

Grant Kreinberg

is a new member of the Artists Collaborative Gallery at 129 K St, Old Sacramento.

His photography will be featured at the 2nd Saturday Reception on February 14, from 2 to 5 p.m.

President's Message

Our January Banquet, celebrating members 2014 accomplishments, was a great success. A huge thank you to Cheryl for her organization including the invitation, collecting reservations, trophies, ribbons and certificates. Also to Lynne for putting together the awards digital presentation. All the board and some spouses pitched in to help in many ways. They set up the prints with Mike, Kristian set up and ran the projector. As usual Truman documented the event with his camera and then posted them for everyone to see and for me to use in the Gammagram. <http://otruman.net/p428622530/h250c2146#h250c2146>



2015 is off to the great start with a Nature and the new Wildlife Competitions in January. Coming up in February will be Travel and General / Creative Competitions.

We will be doing some Sierra Camera Club Field Trips. Three of our members have agreed to lead them. If you would like to lead an outing please let me know. We are hoping to schedule one soon --the details will be sent to you.

We are also still sponsoring the Meetup Group. <http://www.meetup.com/exploringphotography> If you would like to attend a Meetup you can contact Jan Lightfoot directly.

PLEASE attend a February meeting and pick up your new handbook. There is a lot of new information for you.

Gay Kent

Viewpoint Gallery

Dennis Scott and Jeanne Snyder are two of the photographers in a current show featuring Viewpoint Field Trips. The last day to see it is Saturday February 7th.

A second show also on view is John Hennessy - Essential Aspects. There are two parts Architectural Aspects and Time & Tide which features the North Coast at various times of night and day. Outstanding!

<https://www.viewpointgallery.org>