

PHOTOGRAM

Monthly Newsletter of the Redlands Camera Club

September 2014

Redlands Camera Club meets: 1st & 3rd Mondays 7:00 pm First Presbyterian Church - 100 Cajon St - Redlands, CA Guests are always welcome

A New Feature Starts This Month

For several years the Redlands Camera Club Website has recognized a club member each month as the Featured Photographer of the Month. Starting with this issue the Featured Photographer will also be recognized in the Photogram.

The article appears on page 4.

Reception for Club Exhibitors

Do plan to attend the reception at the First Methodist Church in Redlands on September 7th from 2 pm to 4 pm to recognize and to support the club members exhibiting their images.

The Photography Exhibit article appears on page 4.

Head for Venice Beach on September 6th

Venice Beach is loaded with color and usually with colorful extroverts. Join other club members for the Photo Scavenger Hunt. It is a good place for general photography, street stealth photography or environmental portraits of colorful extroverts. Hope to see you there.

The Field Trip article appears on page 6.

Programs for September & October

Sept 1st

Bring Your Camera Night

Along with:
Sensor Cleaning &
Lens Calibration

Sept 15th

Creating
Steadier,
Sharper
Images
Frank Peele

Oct 6th

Principles of Composition

A perspective

Jerry Reece

Oct 20th

Members' Night

Submit 2 images for display and critique

Details for the current month's programs may be found in the Programs article, starting page 2.

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Editorial Committee:
Jerry Reece, Chair
Alex Woodcock & Debra Dorothy



Steve Oberholtzer

Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.

Arthur Ashe

For most of us, making a good image takes time and devotion. Getting up and trying it again is what it is all about. To exceed what we are today, is a goal that we all aspire to. The club offers a gamut of bite-sized ways to be a better photographer tonight than you were this morning. How about checking and understanding your equipment? The September 1 meeting will give you the chance to focus test your lens and get your sensor cleaned, and discuss with other members your particular brand of equipment. You may learn something about your camera you didn't know. Then you can try out your cleaned camera at the scavenger hunt in Venice Beach on the 6th. I am still envious of that photograph of the little bicycles and shadows, and I believe that was taken there. If your scavenger hunt images came out a little soft, or don't please the eye, there is a solution: we have two educational programs coming up on September 15th and October 6th with Frank helping us to get sharper images, and Jerry elaborating on the principles of composition. Do you really want to do better than you are doing? There are some of your chances to learn how to do so.

Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.

Programs

Carl Detrow

Sept. 1 - Labor Day: Bring Your Camera Night, Sensor Cleaning, Lens Calibration

The first Monday in September is always Labor Day so there has also always been a question as to whether it's worth it to schedule a meeting that night. Years ago your board decided "Yes," with instructions that it be something a little different from our regular meetings. So this year it will be a multi-tasking, bring-your-camera night. Bring your camera, owner's manual, and an inquiring mind.

First we will break into groups of members with similar equipment interests. If you're a Canon fan, you'll have the opportunity to talk with other Canon fans about what you like (and don't like) about your chosen brand and why you chose it. Same for Nikon, Fuji, Panasonic, Sony, Olympus, Kodak, and anything else you might want to bring. A list of questions will be provided to stimulate discussion. ("I love this feature." "What does this button do?") Our members range in experience from apprentice to advanced, so this will be a great opportunity for us novices to learn from the experts. They might even learn something from you. If you use more than one brand of equipment, there will be an opportunity to switch tables during the evening.

We will also have focus testing and sensor cleaning that evening, so you will be able to leave the discussion tables to take advantage of those club benefits as well.

See the special **Labor Day Round Table** article on the next page for specific details related to the Focus Testing and the Sensor Cleaning.

Sept. 15th - Frank Peele: Creating Steadier, Sharper Images

One of the most frequently heard comments from judges during members' nights or competitions is, "It's not sharp." Lack of sharpness can result from a variety of causes from camera/subject movement to focusing errors. Whatever the cause, unintentional lack of sharpness can seriously detract from the quality of your image. Frank Peele will discuss and demonstrate ways you can defer the blur and make those images sharper.

Programs for October:

Oct 6th Principles of Composition – a perspective by Jerry Reece
Oct 20th Members' Night - submit two images for display and critique

Labor Day Roundtable

Frank Peele

Free services for Redlands Camera Club members on September 1st

Focus Testing RCC has a precision focus test rig to determine if your camera body and lens(es) focus accurately. Jerry Reece also owns the same test rig, so we'll be able to test more equipment. Bring your camera(s) &lens(es) to this meeting to ensure that your gear is giving you as much sharpness as possible.

What you need to do:

- 1. Each camera should have a fully charged battery and freshly-formatted memory card.
- 2. Each lens should be clean.
- 3. If your camera uses a non-standard flash connection (Sony and Minolta owners, take note!) you will need an adapter to convert your flash hotshoe to the world standard. We have the sync cable, but the adapter is up to you. If your camera uses a standard PC flash sync fitting or hotshoe, and the vast majority do, you'll be fine.
- 4. If your camera has a removable battery grip, remove it.
- 5. If your camera has a quick-release tripod fitting, remove it.
- 6. Set your camera for manual exposure, lowest ISO possible, the maximum flash sync speed for its shutter, and set the white balance to Flash.
- 7. Mode should be set to shoot in RAW format.
- 8. If your camera has the ability to micro-adjust the autofocus, refresh your knowledge about this.
- 9. If any of this seems like Greek to you, your owner's manual is your friend!

Lenses and cameras will be tested in order of lens focal length, with longest lenses tested first. For example, 300 mm lenses before 200 mm lenses, etc. Each focal length requires moving the test rig to the proper distance; therefore, we will test like focal length lenses together. Each of your lenses each will be tested in its grouping.

Doing the above **before** it's your turn at the test rig will speed things up. You must be ready when called upon.

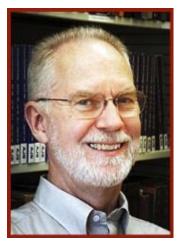
Digital Sensor Cleaning Frank Peele will provide free checking and, where necessary, cleaning of DSLR digital sensors. Each camera body **must** have a fully-charged battery – any camera without a full charge will not be accepted for cleaning due to the potential for damage to your gear. Read your owner's manual to refresh your knowledge of how to set the camera for <u>manual</u> sensor cleaning. When you present it for cleaning, it should be "ready to go". You will also sign a form releasing RCC and its members from liability in the unlikely event of damage. We've done this many, many times and haven't had any damage- ever.

We will inspect your sensor with a special lighted magnifying loupe. If there is any debris on the sensor, we will clean it for you using state-of-the-art equipment designed just for this purpose. No liquids will be introduced into your camera. Once in a while, a sensor will have spots, usually caused by deposits of camera internal lubricants, which can't be removed. If this is observed, we will advise you about what steps you can take next.

Wayne (Woody) Wood

Peter Burke

My name is Peter Burke and I recently retired from UC Riverside after 50 years of being a professor (only the last 12 at Riverside). With what little extra time I now have, I am getting back to an early love for photography. In the 1950s I had some excellent cameras (my most fun was a Busch Pressman, but those big flashbulbs could certainly eat into the earnings of a high school student) and I worked for a couple of years part time back then in a photo shop



developing and printing customer's film. Also I had set up my own darkroom in a closet with the ability to develop film and enlarge pictures. Then life took over and smaller cameras became the rule. I did make the change to digital format as most everyone else, but then a few years ago I began to yearn for a better camera and, more importantly, a better lens that gave sharp pictures. So, now my goal is to move my skills up to what my new Canon 7D with an EF 24-105 f/4L lens can accomplish. I especially want to apply these skills to landscape and nature photography. The Redlands Camera Club seem like the best place to do that, learning from the wonderful and friendly members, the classes and workshops, and all the rest that comes with membership.

Photography Exhibit

Judith Sparhawk & Frank Peele

At the First Methodist Church --- Come One, Come All

Congratulations to our members whose work was juried in to the Redlands Camera Club exhibit which will hang in the Gathering Area Gallery of the Methodist Church throughout September and October.

There will be a reception for members and guests on Sunday, Sep. 7, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Plan to bring family, friends and neighbors to enjoy the food, fellowship and a great display of photographs.

The gallery is located at 1 East Olive Avenue (at Cajon Street) in downtown Redlands, and there's plenty of parking across the street.

Webmaster

Wayne (Woody) Wood

Hi, Everybody, <u>B&H Photo</u> has returned to our affiliates' page. They cancelled their program a few months ago due to a tax issue with the state of California. The link is now active again. You can also search their site right from the logo. Only a few of our die hard members are using the links. You must click on the link on the affiliates page of our web site, if you want to shop at one of the listed merchants. There is a special code embedded in the link that tells the affiliate program where the referral came from. Please consider clicking on these links if you are planning a photo or computer type of purchase. By going to these sellers' web sites

through our links the club will be paid a small percentage of each sale. It won't be much, but at the end of the year it could wind up being a sizeable amount.

Membership

Bitsy Bernor

Meet Gary Fitch

Gary was raised in Kansas and at age 17 moved to Sothern California which has been his home ever since. In 1971, while on vacation in South Dakota, he met a beautiful and wonderful woman whom he married a year and a half later. He says he doesn't know how she puts up with him but has been doing so for over 41 years.

Out of High School he found an interest in metallurgy and spent 5 years working in heat treating facilities to work his way into companies that designed metal and composite systems for the aerospace industry. With cutbacks in the space program the early 1970's he went to work in the construction industry. He spent the next 39 year in the Research and Development Department for a company that manufactured paint based drywall finishing and Portland cement based products. In 2010 Gary retired and has been enjoying every day since.

(Editor's Note: My apologies to Gary. I inadvertently left the article out of the August issue of the Photogram.)

S4C - Southern California Council of Camera Clubs

Debra Dorothy

Monthly digital competitions are about to begin for 2014-2015

The first monthly competition for the 2014-15 years begins in October. Images can be submitted the last week or so of September. At this printing the date has not yet been announced. The mid-month email to all Redlands Camera Club members will give further details. Redlands Camera Club members interested in the S4C competitions this year should start getting your best images ready now.

Since the Redlands Camera Club has a club membership in PSA, all of our club members are eligible to participate in the S4C competitions. If you are not familiar with S4C, it is a fun, rewarding way of getting your images recognized among some of the best photographers in Southern California. Submissions are digital from your computer direct to the competitions. Monthly competitions are held each month from October through May each year.

If you are not yet active in the S4C competitions and would like to be or would like more information regarding S4C, please write or call me at and hopefully I can answer your questions.

<u>Debbiedsd.dorothy@gmail.com</u> 909.794.3887

Education/Workshops

Frank Peele

Schoolhouse News

About once a year we survey our members regarding the classes and workshops you want to see offered. Response to the latest survey has been good, but if you haven't submitted yours yet we need to know your preferences! Every member was sent an email with the survey form attached. If you don't still have yours, please email educationworkshopsrcc@gmail.com for a printable copy. Deadline for submissions of the survey will be September 1. It's still true: if you don't vote, you don't get to gripe about the outcome.

Field Trips

Rick Strobaugh

Venice Beach – Scavenger Hunt September 6th

The September Field-trip is a Scavenger Hunt at the Venice Beach Boardwalk on Saturday, Sept 6th. For those who have not been on a photo scavenger hunt, you are not collecting items, just photos of those items. I will have a list which I will e-mail to anyone interested in attending. Be sure to bring a copy with you since it may be hard for me to meet up with everyone.

The photo subjects are pretty broad to allow for each person's creative interpretation. There are plenty of interesting characters, activities, vendors and sights on the boardwalk which runs next to the beach. As with any other beach areas, there is more parking availability, the <u>earlier</u> you get there. There are several city and private parking lots with the private being the most expensive. I was told that the closest city lot at the west end of Venice Blvd is \$17.50 per day during summer hours. So, carpooling would be less expensive.

Some of us will be at Coco's Redlands, corner of Tennessee & Colton Ave, and plan to leave at 7:00 am from there. It is about an hour and forty minute drive from Coco's in Redlands to the ocean at Venice Beach.

Bring your own lunch or there are a number of food vendors. Those interested meet at Danny's at 12:30 for a group lunch. This is where we ate at our field trip to Venice a couple of years ago. Jerry & Bessie ate there about two weeks ago. Danny's is only a 100 ft. or so from the actual boardwalk at 23 Windward Ave. Jerry's cell phone & text number is 909.223.8052. Let him know if you plan to join him for the group lunch.

At some point in the future, we will show a collection of photos taken by members, at a camera club meeting.

E-mail me for a scavenger hunt list or for any other information you may need. Also contact me if you have any suggestions of field trip locations for the future.

Rick Strobaugh: rpdrunner@msn.com

Competitions

Russ Trozera

Winter Digital Competition -- December 7th

Our Winter Digital Competition is December 7, 2014, which seems like a long time away. The months go by fast. Summer is almost gone, Fall is almost here and Winter is coming. There is still plenty of time to get some great summer shots. Fall is a wonderful time of year everything is turning colors, yellows, oranges, reds and browns. You might even be able to seek in a few winter shots. The other day I saw snow on Mt. San Gorgonio from the thunderstorms that passed through. I was even hoping to chase lighting. For other winter shots just go north you will eventually find snow.

The opportunity to up-load your images for the winter competition begins Nov. 3rd and continues through the Nov. 17^{th.} You can upload three of your images for this competition.

Have a great September.

Club Calendar

Information is that which was available to the editor at the time of publication.

Aug 25, 2014 Architecture Photography Shoot
Aug 27, 2014 Image Take-In for Methodist Church Exhibit
Sept 1, 2014 Bring Your Camera Night/Lens Testing/Sensor Cleaning

Sept 6, 2014	Field Trip/Scavenger Hunt – Venice Beach
Sept 15, 2014	Creating Steadier, Sharper Image –Frank Peele
Oct 6, 2014	Principles of Composition – Jerry Reece
Oct 20, 2014	Members' Night - Submit 2 images
Nov 3, 2014	How Did You Do That? Competition Winners Reveal Secrets
Nov 17, 2014	Studio Magic – Managing Composites
Dec 1, 2014	Winter Competition
Dec 15, 2014	Holiday Celebration, Competition Awards

You Heard It Here!

Members are invited to submit questions to the editor. The submitter will get feedback right away The question & response will appear in the next issue. Submit your question to: <u>bjreece@verizon.net</u> or call: 951-845-2950.

How do you shrink an image for submission for an entry? asks Luana In Photoshop go to the Image drop-down menu on the menu bar near the top right & click on Image Size... In the dialog box that appears check to see if all of the 3 boxes near the bottom left are checked. Bicubic Automatic should appear in the box at the very bottom. Find the Resolution box within the Document Size area and enter at least 72 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. I usually input 280 ppi. Now go to the Pixel Dimensions area and replace the Width or the Height, whichever is the <u>largest number</u> with 1280. The two drop down boxes on the center of the Pixel Dimension area should read "Pixels". Your final action for sizing will be to click on OK in the Image Size dialog box. Be sure that you do the changes in the order as described.

For projection or display you want the color space to be sRGB. Go back to Edit on the drop down menu bar at the upper left of the screen and click on Convert to Profile... A Convert to Profile dialog box should appear. If the Profile in the Source Space is already sRGB, then click on the Cancel button. If the Source Profile is other than sRGB, go to the Destination Space and select sRGB from the drop down menu. There may be other information after the sRGB, but make sure that there is an "s" in front of RGB. Click OK to close the Convert to Profile dialog box.

Do remember that any final sharpening should be done after you have re-sized your image. Use Save As rather than Save and give your image a modified name so you do not lose your original image.

Items for Sale by Members

If you have items to sell, submit to the Editor, <u>bjreece@verizon.net</u>, by the 3rd Thursday of the month for the next Photogram. Note: The Photogram Editor and Redlands Camera Club are not responsible in any manner for items listed in this section.

Tamron 60mm, f/2 Macro 1:1 w/Tiffen UV Filter \$300 Sigma 10-20 mm f/4-5.6 DC HSM \$350

Both lenses are: Nikon AP-C (Crop Frame)

Contact Bob Upton: 951-850-7175 or rvupton@yahoo.com

Your items for sale or trade can be placed here in future issues

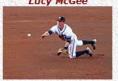
Members Gallery

2014 Summer Competition - 2nd Place Winners





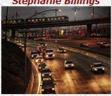
First Base Toss Intermediate - Photojournalism Second Place Lucy McGee



Drop And Give Me 20 Advanced - Close-Up Second Place Bruce Woodcock



New Day Dawning Apprentice - Open/Misc Second Place Stephanie Billings



Trona Pinnacles Intermediate - Places Second Place Russell Trozera



Melissa Advanced - People Second Place Bruce Bonnett



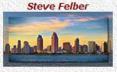
Shady Trio Intermediate - Animal Second Place



Stairway To The Stars Intermediate - Open/Misc Second Place



San Diego Sunset Advanced - Places Second Place Steve Felber



Lily Intermediate - Close-Up Second Place



Lift Off Advanced - Animal Second Place



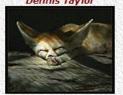
Flame Out Advanced - Open/Misc Second Place Larry Huddleston



Line Rider Intermediate - People Second Place



Nap Time Advanced - Animal Second Place Dennis Taylor



Redlands Camera Club P.O. Box 7261 Redlands, CA 92375

www.RedlandsCameraClub.com

Club Officers

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