



PHOTOGRAM

Monthly Newsletter of the Redlands Camera Club

DECEMBER
2025



A View From The Park
by Stephanie Billings



BEHIND THE LENS

Message from the President

As December arrives, I am looking back at our year with a smile. We filled this year with good conversations, memorable field trips, lively meetings, and more photos than any one person could count. It has been a joy to watch our club grow in skill, confidence, and friendship.



I want to thank our board for all the time they invested. They answered emails, planned programs, organized events, checked Zoom equipment, ran competitions, and kept things moving even when nobody was watching. Their quiet work made this year run well, and I am grateful for every hour they gave.

I am also grateful for each member who joined us along the way. You brought your photos, ideas, humor, and curiosity to every meeting. You tried new techniques, encouraged one another, and helped build a warm and welcoming community. Our club feels stronger because of you.

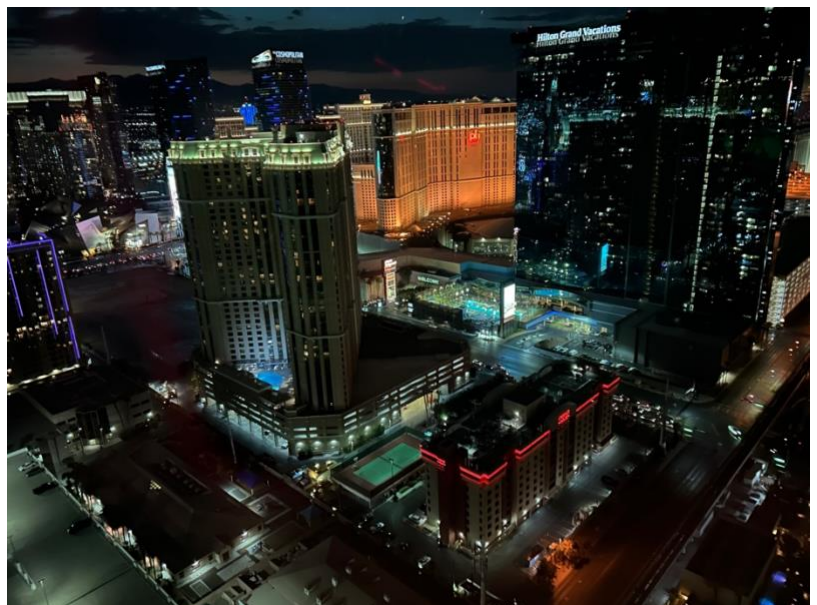
As we look ahead, I hope you take a moment to enjoy the progress you made. Maybe you learned a new skill. Maybe you took a photo that surprised you. Maybe you made a new friend. These moments are what make this club special.

Thank you for being part of the Redlands Camera Club. Thank you for another year filled with creativity and good company. I look forward to more learning, more laughter, and many more great photos in the year to come.

Learn, Shoot, Edit, Share.

I can't wait to see your photos!!

PS. A special thanks to Christine Pence for helping gather information for our *Photogram* newsletter. I'm still looking for an editor. Please email me at bruceherwig@gmail.com if you're interested in learning more.



Room with a view



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Cheryl Diermyer - Vice President/Programs



Shooting the Season:

A Guide to Christmas Light Photography

Monday, December 1, 2025 @ 7pm

In person & Zoom Meeting

Join us as we step into a world of twinkling lights and festive color, exploring the art of photographing Christmas displays—from glowing neighborhoods to dazzling light festivals. Forget washed-out bulbs and overexposed images; we'll uncover how to create photos that capture the warmth, sparkle, and spirit of the season. Whether you're an experienced photographer or simply inspired by the magic of the holidays, this session will help you transform ordinary snapshots into extraordinary images filled with depth and emotion.

What settings work best for capturing glowing lights? How do you balance exposure between bright decorations and dark skies? And how can you make your compositions stand out in the crowd? We'll also review recommended camera settings and helpful accessories, Postprocessing tips to enhance your seasonal images.



Presented by RCC President
Bruce Herwig





2025 Holiday Party

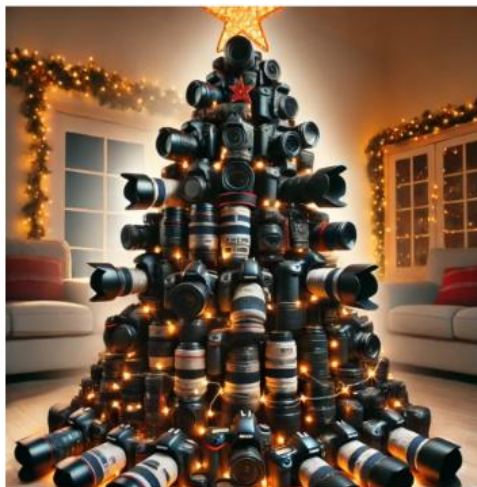
Monday, December 15 @ 7pm

In person & Zoom Meeting

Join us as we celebrate the season together at our annual holiday gathering! We'll enjoy a fun-filled evening of good food, laughter, and photography highlights from the past year.

Festivities include:

- **Ugly Holiday Shirt Contest** – Show off your most outrageous holiday attire for a chance to win bragging rights! Members vote.
- **Bring something good to eat** – Sweet or Savory, something to share
- **Photo Op** – Take selfies in front of the holiday backdrop. Simple lighting is provided. If you bring your own SD card for the holiday photo, you can take the photograph home with you that evening
- **Photo Share** – Bring a printed version of one favorite photo you captured this year to share with the group. Please also email your image to Cheryl Diermyer at diermyer@gmail.com so our Zoomers have a clear view of your image too. Your screen image should be .jpg format – try to keep your image size around 1080×1920.



Let's come together to celebrate our creativity, friendships, and shared passion for photography. We can't wait to see you there—ugly shirts and all!

[Click Here to upload your photo.](#)





COMPETITION UPDATE

Julie Lowe - Competition Chair

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Winter Competition! I continue to be amazed and inspired by the incredible talent within our club—you've truly set the bar high for future competitions.



I always learn so much from the judges' feedback, and I hope you found valuable takeaways as well. Their insights motivate me to keep sharpening my skills.

We'll be announcing the winners and presenting awards at our in-person meeting on December 1, 2025. Be sure to join us—you just might be one of the winners! Good luck, and see you there.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Stephanie Billings - Membership Chair

If you have any questions about your membership, contact Stephanie Billings at: HeartandSoul4@yahoo.com



New Member Profile

Paul Bock

I started photography in 8th grade with a small German Altix camera, and the interest never left me. I later used Exacta and Pentacoon cameras, but my real journey began when I returned to photography in the 1990s. I worked with Nikon gear and a heavy 4x5 large format system before moving to Canon when digital quality finally met my standards.

Over the years I have owned many Canon cameras, and I now use a Canon RP and a Canon R5 Mark II. I believe photography is not about the camera. It is about seeing, imagination, and being present in the moment. Good tools help, but creativity does the real work. I enjoy travel, people, landscapes, and anything that sparks a story through my

images. I am an engineer and an author with many published books and scientific papers. I have shown my work in several countries and hold a degree in photography.



UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Brian Spears - Field Trips

123 Farm – Christmas Nights Field Trip

Thursday, December 11, 2025 @ 6:00 pm



Join us for a festive evening of photography at **123 Farm's Christmas Nights**, where Southern California's largest organic lavender farm transforms into a dazzling holiday wonderland. Capture over a million twinkling lights illuminating lavender fields, historic olive groves, and the majestic thousand-year-old oak tree. Explore glowing pathways, vibrant Christmas galleries, and the warm ambiance of Highland Springs Ranch—all perfect backdrops for night photography. Bring your tripod, bundle up, and enjoy hot cocoa, organic treats, and plenty of opportunities to capture the magic of the season through your lens.

This is a “you're on your own” field trip. Pair up as you see fit. Walk at your own pace, photograph, eat, shop, etc.

Advance Purchase Required: Tickets (\$16 per adult) are NOT available at the door. [Click Here](#) to purchase. *Tickets are non-refundable.*

Parking is \$18 per vehicle and can be purchased with your ticket. *If you are interested in carpooling, let us know when you RSVP, and we'll do our best to match people up.*

123 Farm is located at:

[10600 Highland Springs Ave, Beaumont, CA 92223](#)

Field Trip Leader:

Bruce Herwig

bruceherwig@gmail.com

909-742-9206

[Click Here to RSVP](#)





Spring Wildflower Workshop

Taught by Dave Ficke | Cost \$100/person | Max 6, min 3 students

Spring work is going on with joyful enthusiasm ~John Muir.

As winter fades and warmer days return, wildflowers begin their yearly rebirth. In Southern California, climate shifts make the season unpredictable. Some years bring only a light bloom, while others offer a real show. Rain and temperature decide everything. Too little rain means a weak bloom, steady rain helps, and a sudden heat wave can dry the flowers almost overnight.



We will be covering safety, camera settings macro – telephoto lenses, tripods, clothing, lighting and how to take wildflower images.

February 9th – first Zoom meeting – students will learn about lenses and camera settings and what they will need for being in the field. Students will be given a few weeks to get some of the items they will need for field work. Students will have two weeks to practice around their home and submit images for discussion on 2nd zoom meeting.

February 23rd Second zoom – this is designed for students to share some of their images, share what went well or not so well.

February 28th first field meeting – Southern entrance to Joshua Tree National Park.

Late March (date TBD) – Dogwood flower shoot in the San Bernardino Mountains and other possibilities of mountain wildflowers – date to be determined based on weather.

Questions? Contact Dave Ficke yosemitedave1@gmail.com

[**LEARN MORE
AND RSVP HERE**](#)





MEMBER GOOD NEWS

Congratulations to Christine Pence



In January Christine Pence gave our club a fascinating presentation on how “Sexy Grouse Help Save Our Native Lands.” She mentioned she was working on an article.

“The North American Grouse Partnership 2025 Fall Annual Report just published our most recent article on Saving the Colorado Prairie Chicken. This is the second year in a row for a publication of ours in this Annual Report. www.grousepartners.org”

[Read The Full Article](#)

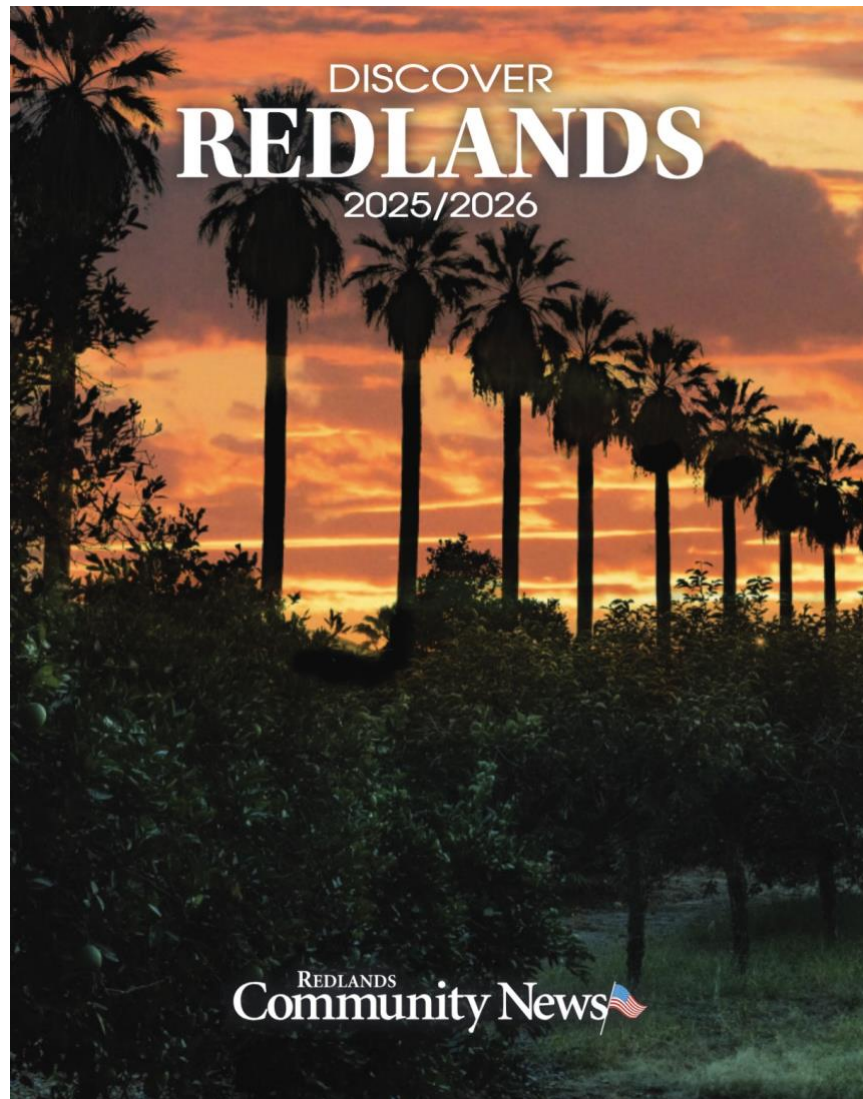
Did you win a photography award, get published or in a show?

Let us know about it! Don't be bashful...we would love to celebrate you and your accomplishments! There is a form on the website called “Good News.”

RedlandsCameraClub.org/GoodNews



Congratulations to Bruce Herwig On his cover photo for the “Discover Redlands” magazine.



Sunset view from an orange grove.

Bruce was also asked to set up a display of his Redlands photography at Gerrards Market.

*He will be showing at the YMCA
Holiday Boutique (Sat & Sun)
December 6-7, 9 am – 4 pm*





PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS OF THE MONTH

The BEST Way To Fix Halos In Photoshop



[Click Here](#) To Watch (5 min)

Lightroom Top 10 New Features



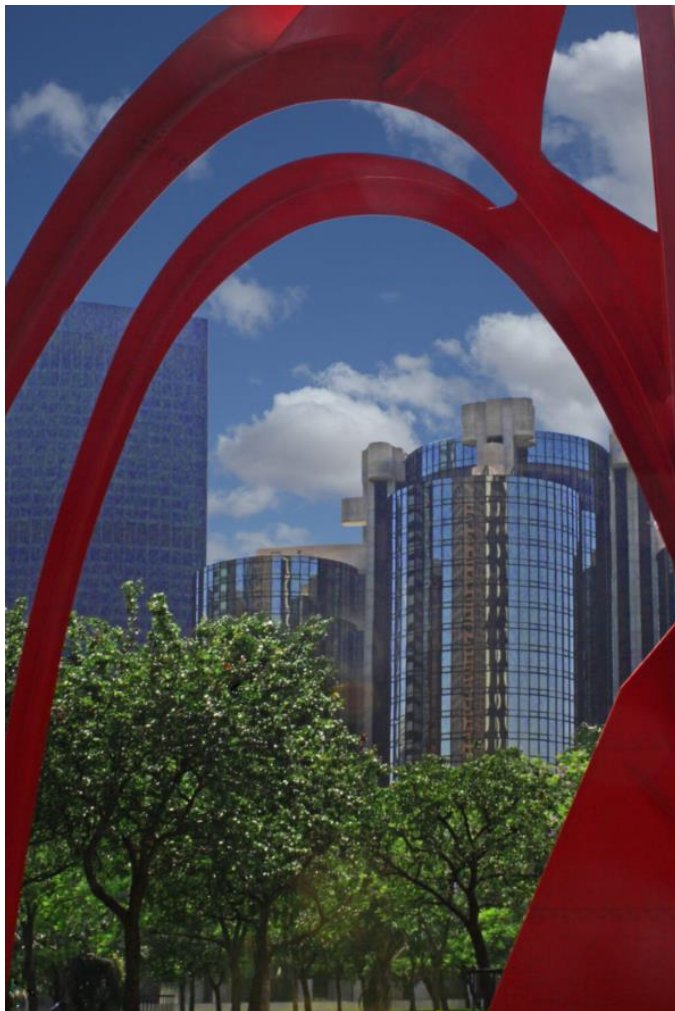
[Click Here](#) To Watch (14 min)

Have a Lightroom or Photoshop video you would recommend?
Let me know! Email bruceherwig@gmail.com

PHOTOGRAM CHALLENGE FOR NOVEMBER WAS “CITYSCAPE”



Doha Past & Present by James Capo



Through the Red Arch by Judith Sparhawk



Looking Up by Rick Strobaugh



Place de la Comedie Museum
by Stephanie Billings



Surfers Paradise
by Cheryl Callanan



Akihabara Electric Town, Tokyo
by Heidi Wilson



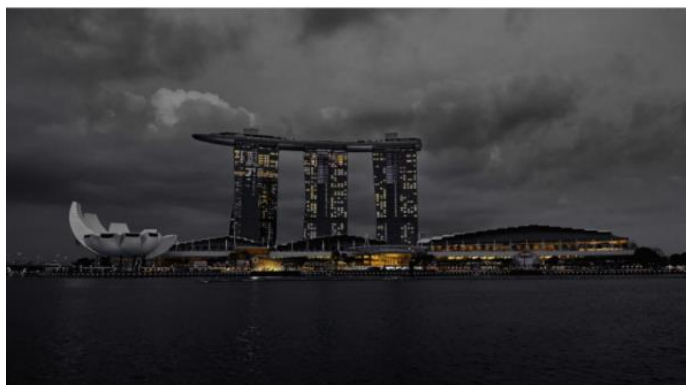
The Anti City Scape
by Linda DeBaun



Long Beach from the Queen Mary by Sue Thalasinis



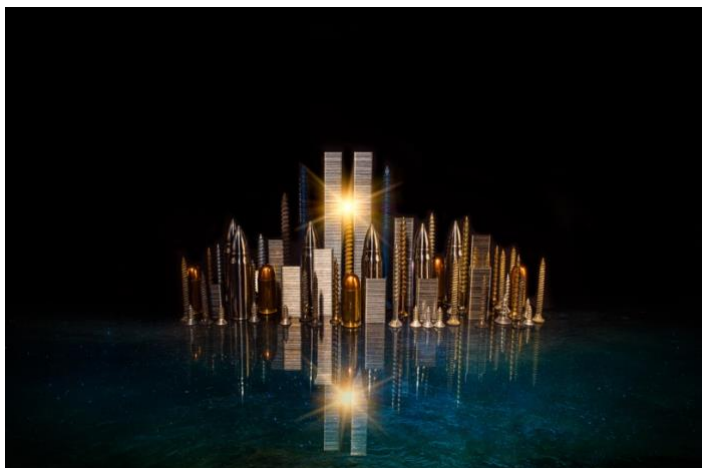
Hard Times
by Curt Burgess



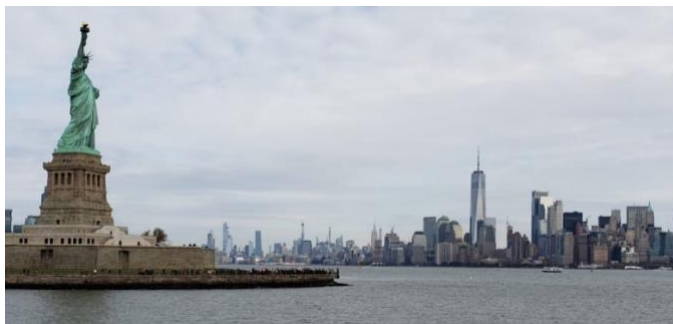
Night time at Marina Bay Sands
by Christine Pence



Theresa, Ghandi, Fire Escape, NYC
by Jim Hendon



Bulletproof
by Ellie Burgueno



New York Cityscape by Sue Thalasinis

PHOTOGRAM CHALLENGE FOR DECEMBER IS "HOLIDAY LIGHTS"

Please post your images on the [RCC Photo Blog](#) #HolidayLights or email Bruce Herwig at bruceherwig@gmail.com with your photos! **Deadline December 25.**

BEST OF THE BLOG – President's Choice



Blue Bottles by Thomas Powers

Elmer's Bottle Tree Ranch close up of blue glass bottles

Joining the Redlands Camera Club Photo Blog offers a supportive, safe space to showcase your work, comment on photos, and stay connected with fellow RCC photographers.

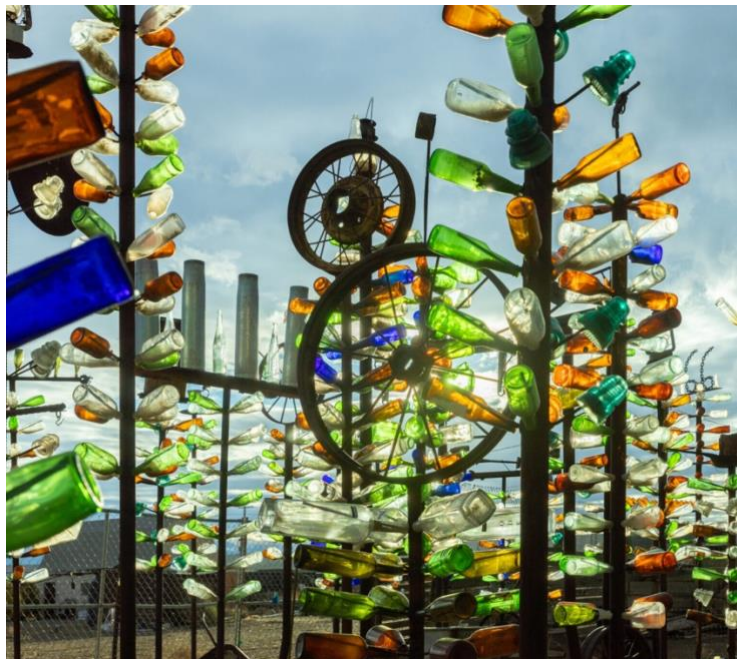
If you are a Redlands Camera Club member and would like to access to our member photo blog, please email Stan Fry, at bassetdude@gmail.com

ROUTE 66 FIELD TRIP



66 Iconography by Deborah Seibly

We had a great time exploring Route 66 with stops at the museum, the arch and the always colorful Elmer's Bottle Tree Ranch. We wrapped up the day with pizza and conversation at the Cross Eyed Cow.



Bottle the Light by Bruce Herwig



One from Elmer's Bottle Tree Ranch

DL Seibly



The Coke Train
by Cheryl Callanan



Bones in the Caboose
by [Pieter Nystrom](#)



Rt 66 memories
Thomas Powers

Save It For A Rainy Day

Russell Trozera

Winter is settling in, and we have had our share of rainy days. Bad weather makes it hard to get outside with a camera, so this season is a great time to bring your photography indoors. Macro work and table top setups can turn an ordinary day at home into a creative adventure.

Portrait lighting can be simple. A window, a lamp, or one small flash is often enough. The same is true for macro photography. You do not need fancy gear. A single light, a reflector, or even a piece of white paper can shape the scene.

Flowers are always a good place to start. Bring a few home, set them near a window, and let the colors glow. One of my favorite winter projects came from an orchid my wife grew. I remembered a photo Dave Garner made of his grandchild in a field of flowers with a bold border and a playful pop out effect. That inspired me to take the orchid, place it behind a mat, and create a simple, clean composition that felt fresh and fun.

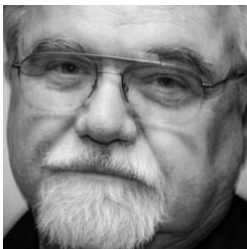
Cold weather also gives you time to organize your photos or learn a new technique. Macro work is perfect for slow days. Look around your home, set up a small space, and let your creativity grow. Most of all, enjoy the process.





"ONE-DAY" WORKSHOPS 2026 WITH BOB FLETCHER

Jan 11, 2026 <i>Sunday</i>	La Jolla Cove Wintering Birds (<i>sunrise - 11:00 am</i>)	\$ 95
Jan 25, 2026 <i>Sunday</i>	Bolsa Chica Pacific Flyway Birds (<i>sunrise - 11:00 am</i>)	\$ 95
Feb. 8, 2026 <i>Sunday</i>	Elephant Seals & Monarch Butterflies (<i>sunrise - 4:00 pm</i>)	\$129
Feb. 22, 2026 <i>Sunday</i>	Tehachapi Union Pacific Loop (<i>sunrise - 1:00 pm</i>)	\$ 95
March 8, 2026 <i>Sunday</i>	Salton Sea - Abandoned Dreams (<i>sunrise - 4:00 pm</i>)	\$ 95
June 27, 2026 <i>Sat/Sun</i>	Milky Way in Borrego Springs (<i>11:00 pm - 5:00 am</i>) <i>Sunrise @ 5:30 am Sunset @ 8:00 pm</i>	\$129
July 11, 2026 <i>Sat/Sun</i>	Milky Way in Joshua Tree NP (<i>9:00 pm - 3:00 am</i>) <i>Sunrise @ 5:45 am Sunset @ 8:00 pm</i>	\$129
Aug 29, 2026 <i>Sat/Sun</i>	Milky Way in Alabama Hills (<i>5:00 pm - 12:00 am</i>) <i>Sunrise @ 6:30 am Sunset @ 7:50 pm</i>	\$129
Sept. 26, 2026 <i>Saturday</i>	California Condor Release (<i>sunrise - 2:00 pm</i>)	\$129



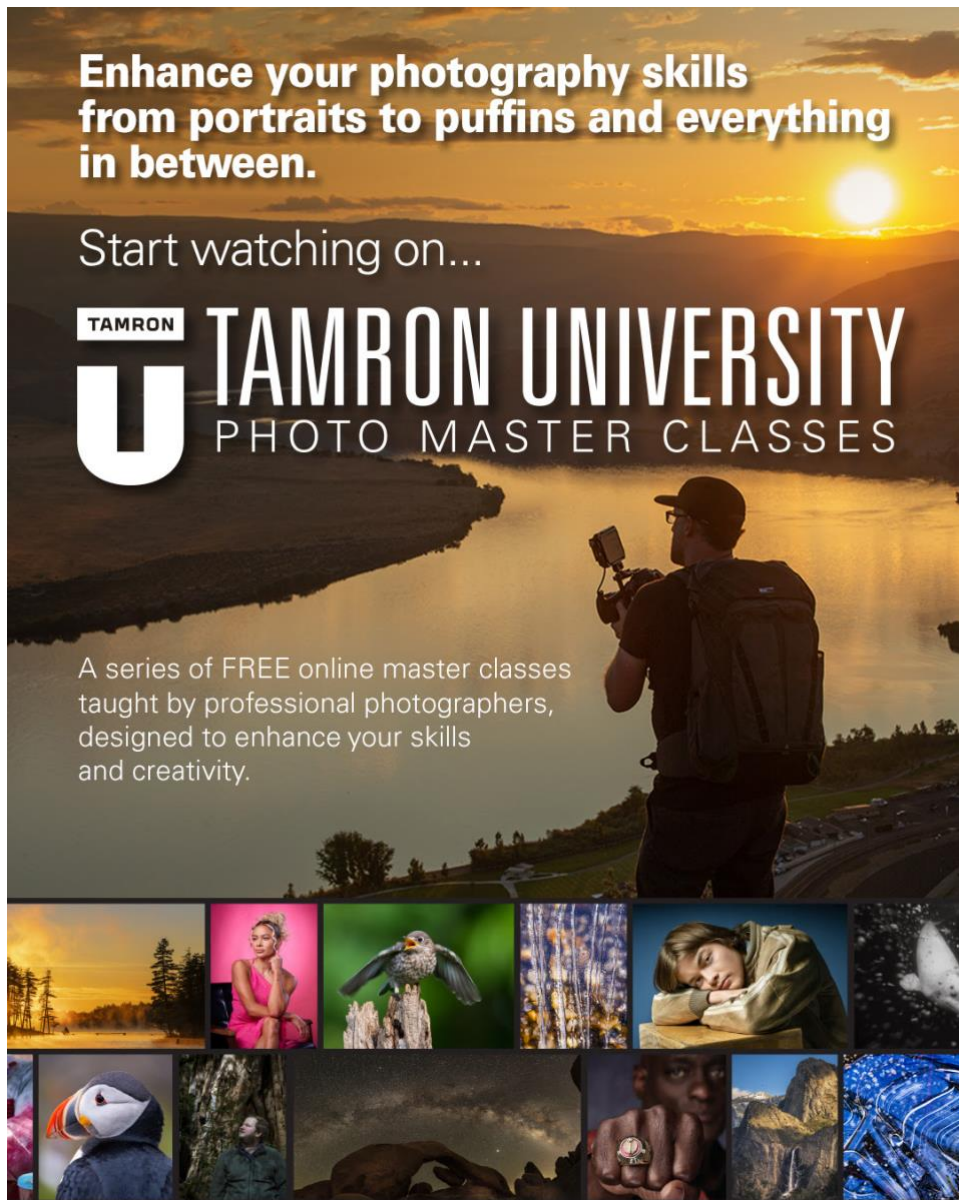
Interested or would like to learn more?

Contact Bob at rrfletcher@gmail.com

Robert Fletcher learned photography the traditional way through hands-on mentoring and went on to work closely with Canon USA. He enjoys guiding photographers of all levels and creating tours that inspire learning, exploration, and a love for the art.

Notes:

For the \$95 workshops, I need a minimum of 5 attending to make it happen
For the \$129 workshops, I need a minimum of 7 attending to make it happen
No amenities are included: transportation, meals, any rooms needed, etc.



Enhance your photography skills
from portraits to puffins and everything
in between.

Start watching on...

TAMRON
TAMRON UNIVERSITY
PHOTO MASTER CLASSES

A series of FREE online master classes
taught by professional photographers,
designed to enhance your skills
and creativity.

The advertisement features a large background image of a person with a backpack and camera taking a photo of a sunset over a body of water. Below this, there is a grid of 12 smaller images showing various photography subjects: a sunset, a woman in a pink dress, a bird of prey, a close-up of a flower, a person sleeping, a puffin, a person in a forest, a close-up of a hand, a close-up of a face, a mountain, and a close-up of a flower.

Tamron Offers Free Online Master Classes for Photographers

Tamron Americas now has a series of FREE online master classes led by professional photographers and filmmakers. These multi-part courses are designed for enthusiasts looking to elevate their skills and creativity, as well as seasoned professionals.

- Portraiture • Landscape and Nature • Travel and Storytelling
- Wildlife • Macro • Astrophotography and Night Skies

Each course is taught by an accomplished industry professional who takes you behind the scenes of their creative process. They will provide valuable insights into their technical approach, gear choices, business strategies, and artistic philosophies in nine or more focused lessons. Participants can access and complete each class at their own pace.

Enrollment is open at <https://tamronamericas.co/tamron-university>.



TIME TO GET INVOLVED...

Club Secretary - Attend the quarterly RCC Board Meetings and take notes. Provide input and feedback into club decisions. *3 hours quarterly*

Photogram Editor - Know Microsoft Word? Work with an existing template and help coordinate the design of this essential club resource! *4-6 hours per month*

There are so many opportunities to getting involved with the Redlands Camera Club...
Contact Bruce Herwig bruceherwig@gmail.com 909-742-9206.

RCC LEADERSHIP 2025-26



President / Website / Photogram
Bruce Herwig
bruceherwig@gmail.com



Vice President & Programs
Cheryl Diermyer
diermyer@gmail.com



Treasurer / Mentorship
Rick Strobaugh
rpdrunner@msn.com



Education
Dave Ficke
yosemitedave1@gmail.com



Competition Chair
Julie Lowe
ejlowe.mom@gmail.com



Membership Chair
Stephanie Billings
heartandsoul4@yahoo.com



Field Trips
Brian Spears
rccfieldtrips@gmail.com



Publicity / Social Media
Mike Livingston
mliv1@verizon.net

Past President
Russell Trozera
photosbuyruss@yahoo.com

Photo Blog
Stan Fry
bassetdude@gmail.com

Club Secretary Needed

Photogram Editor Needed

Redlands Camera Club meetings are held the first and third Monday of each month @ 7 pm.
1st Monday = In Person & Zoom
3rd Monday = Zoom Only

In Person Meetings:
First Presbyterian Church, Redlands, CA
Click For Directions
Visitors are always welcome at any of our meetings!

Member Since 1986

