



# PHOTOGRAM

Monthly Newsletter of the Redlands Camera Club

MARCH  
2026



Stone Huts 14MM  
Jim Hendon

# BEHIND THE LENS

## Message from the President

In photography, we talk a great deal about light. We chase it at sunrise. We wait for it at sunset. We measure it, soften it, and shape it. Yet this month's theme reminds us that light never works alone.



Shadows are not the absence of light. They are proof that light was there.

A shadow gives form to a face. It adds depth to a landscape. It turns an ordinary sidewalk into a graphic design of lines and angles. Without shadow, an image feels flat. With it, the photograph gains dimension, mood, and mystery.

In harsh midday sun, shadows carve bold shapes across walls and pavement. In soft window light, they fall gently across a subject's features. Long evening shadows stretch across fields, whispering that the day is ending. Each tells a different story.

Shadows also invite us to slow down. They require observation. Where is the light coming from? What is being revealed? What is being hidden? Often, the most compelling part of the frame is not the subject itself, but the shape it creates on another surface.

As photographers, we are students of contrast. We learn that drama lives at the edge where light meets dark. When we begin to see shadows not as problems to fix but as elements to compose with intention, our images grow stronger.

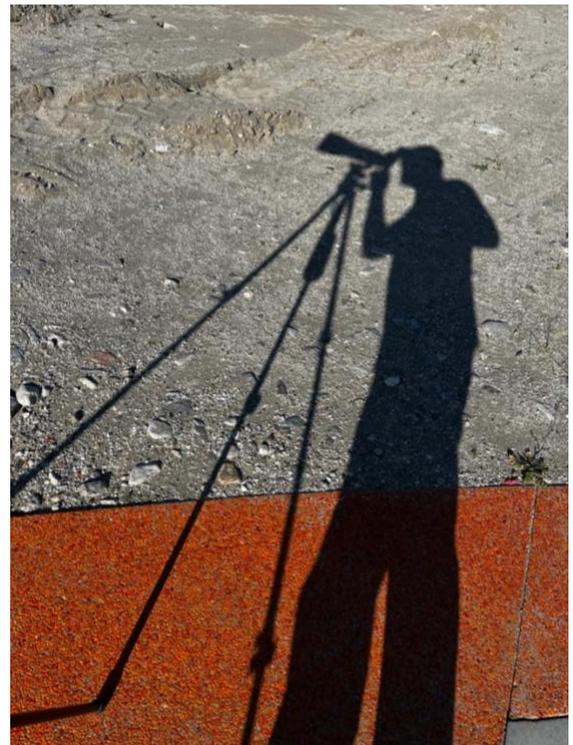
This month, many of you proved that beautifully. You did not avoid the shadows. You embraced them.

And in doing so, you found the light.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Herwig".

Learn, Shoot, Edit, Share.

*I can't wait to see your photos!!*



Self Portrait

# UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Cheryl Diermyer - Vice President/Programs



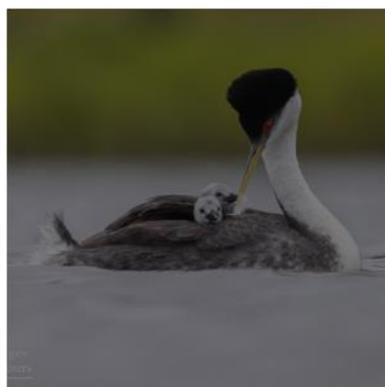
## Lake Hodges, Grebes, water levels and the future!

Monday, March 2nd @ 7pm

*In person & Zoom Meeting – Brian Caldwell*

Hodges Reservoir has become an important part of the Pacific Flyway, and with over 240 species of birds residing or passing through is its own micro ecosystem. But there is trouble on the horizon.

Lake Hodges has its own micro ecosystem and is an ideal location for nature photographers. In this presentation, we will discuss the photographic opportunities, along with the best techniques and equipment to get the job done. Brian will highlight the differences between shooting from shore and shooting from a boat, including the pros and cons of each. He will also spend time discussing the various locations on and around the lake, and which areas are best suited for specific photographs. Brian will explain how to capture that award-winning shot. He will also touch on the challenges grebes are facing due to the state-mandated lower water levels, as well as the individuals who are working to improve the situation.



### Presented by Brian Caldwell

Having been a resident of the Del Dios area on the banks of Lake Hodges for more than 30 years, Brian is the ultimate lake local. He's a NANPA (an award winning photographer) and served as a Grebe consultant for the recent PBS Nature Documentary 'San Diego, America's Wildest City'. Brian's an avid outdoorsman and nature enthusiast. [lakehodgesphototours.com](http://lakehodgesphototours.com)





# COMPETITION UPDATE

Julie Lowe – Competition Chair



Our **Spring Competition** is officially open and ready for your creativity to shine!

## Important Dates

- **Entries Open:** February 16 – March 9
- **Judging Night:** Monday, March 16 at 6:30 PM (Zoom)
- **Awards Celebration:** April 6
- **Category X:** *Flora*

## Entry Reminders

Please keep the following in mind when submitting your images:

- Upload your **profile picture** if this is your first time entering
- Confirm your **digital image dimensions** meet competition requirements
- Submit the **\$10 entry fee** to cover both images (if entering two)
- Review the “**Special Note**” section for the latest updates and important competition details

I’m looking forward to seeing your stunning captures and your creative masterpieces! **Good luck, everyone!** If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out.



## OUR COMPETITION JUDGES



**Bruce Bonnett, M. Photog.**, is an award-winning nature and landscape photographer based in Redlands, California. A longtime Redlands Camera Club member and past president, he has earned numerous state and national honors for his work, including multiple Top Ten Photographer awards from the Professional Photographers of California.



**Jerry W. Venz, M.Photog., Cr., S-PPC, F-PPC** has spent over sixty years mastering the art and science of photography—from film and home darkrooms to today’s digital “dim-room.” A lifelong PPA member and multi-award-winning portrait photographer, Jerry continues to share his passion through education, mentoring, and professional judging.



**John-Paul Wolf, Ph.D.**, is an award-winning portrait photographer based in the Inland Empire, specializing in high school seniors and family photography. As President of IEPPV, he mentors emerging photographers while continuing to create authentic, personality-driven portraits that reflect confidence and connection.

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## CLUB MEMBERSHIP

**Stephanie Billings - Membership Chair**

### FOR ALL EXISTING MEMBERS FISCAL YEAR 26-27 RENEWALS ARE DUE



**MEMBERS:** We are starting to collect yearly membership dues of \$45. Memberships are due by the beginning of our fiscal year, which is April 1st. If you have not already paid, please take a minute or two go online and fill out the form, hit pay and you’re all done. If you would rather pay at the monthly meeting, please bring a completed renewal/new member form and your payment. It’s just that easy!

If you have any questions about your membership, contact Stephanie Billings at:  
[HeartandSoul4@yahoo.com](mailto:HeartandSoul4@yahoo.com)

**RCC members let’s all give a warm welcome to our newest members:**

Garey Harvey, Kim Holcomb, Norman Mathis, and Cristina Turlea.



# UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Brian Spears - Field Trips

## Southern California Railway Museum Field Trip Saturday, March 21, 2026 @ 9 am



### Southern California Railway Museum

2201 S. "A" Steet Perris, CA. 92570

Photograph the West's largest collection of railway locomotives, passenger and freight cars, streetcars, interurban electric cars, buildings, and other artifacts dating from the 1870's. Ride streetcars, interurban cars, and trains on the museum railway. Trolleys and trains operate every weekend and on many major holidays, 11AM to 5PM. You can also Visit the Pinacate Station Museum Store.

The Museum grounds are quite large and contain numerous buildings, parks, and outdoor areas to explore and photograph. Dressing appropriately for the weather and wearing comfortable walking shoes.

After we're done, we can have a late lunch at Taqueria 2 Potrillos | 403 S. D St. Perris, CA 92570

### Trip Leader:

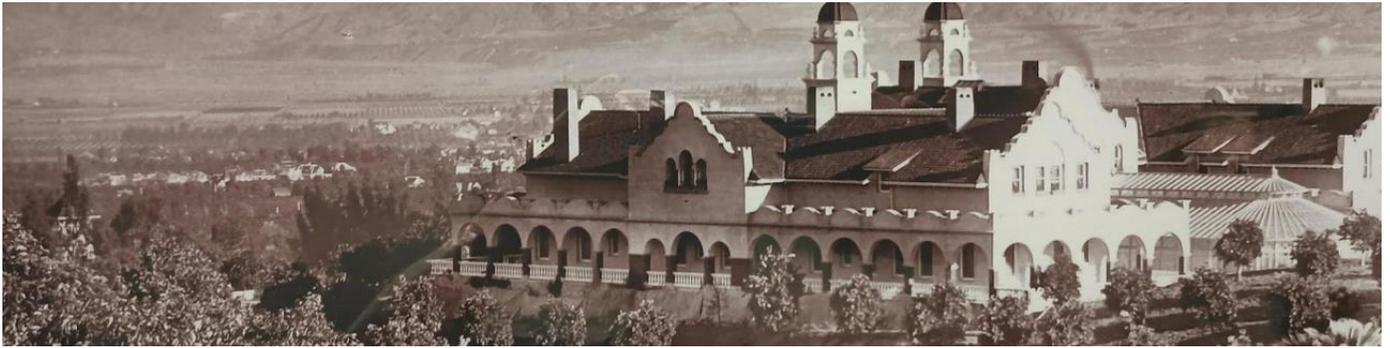
Robert Fletcher

| [rrfletcher@gmail.com](mailto:rrfletcher@gmail.com)

*If you are interested in carpooling, let us know in the RSVP. We'll leave Coco's Bakery Restaurant in Redlands at 8:20 am sharp. 1140 W Colton Ave, Redlands, CA 92374.*

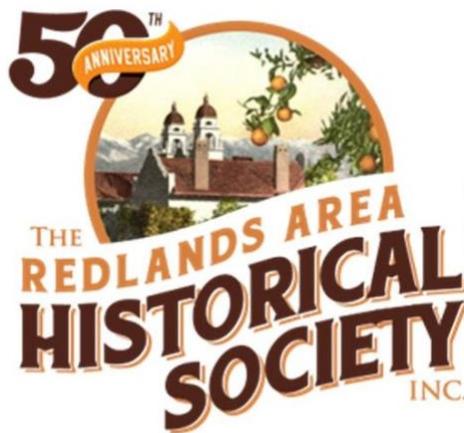


[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)



## HERITAGE AWARDS PHOTO CONTEST

Celebrating 50 Years of Heritage Awards



**February 16 through April 30, 2026**

The Redlands Area Historical Society and the Redlands Camera Club invite you to participate in our inaugural photo contest highlighting Heritage Award-winning historic homes and buildings in Redlands.

- Photograph up to three (3) homes or buildings from <https://rahs.org/heritage-awards/>
- Complete and submit this entry form. (It is free to enter.)
- Upload your photographs before the contest deadline
- Entries will be judged by Mayor Mario Saucedo, Judith Hunt, President of the Redlands Area Historical Society, and Bruce Herwig, President of the Redlands Camera Club
- Adult and Youth Categories available
- Winners will be awarded at the Redlands Area Historical Society's 50th Annual Heritage Awards on June 9, 2026
- All entries must be **received by midnight April 30, 2026**

[Click Here to Enter](https://rahs.org/heritage-awards/)

# MEMBER GOOD NEWS

**Congratulations to  
Judith Sparhawk, Jim Hendon and Russ Trozera  
Photos Juried into the RAA Multi Media Mini Show**

**Judith Sparhawk**



**Jim Hendon**



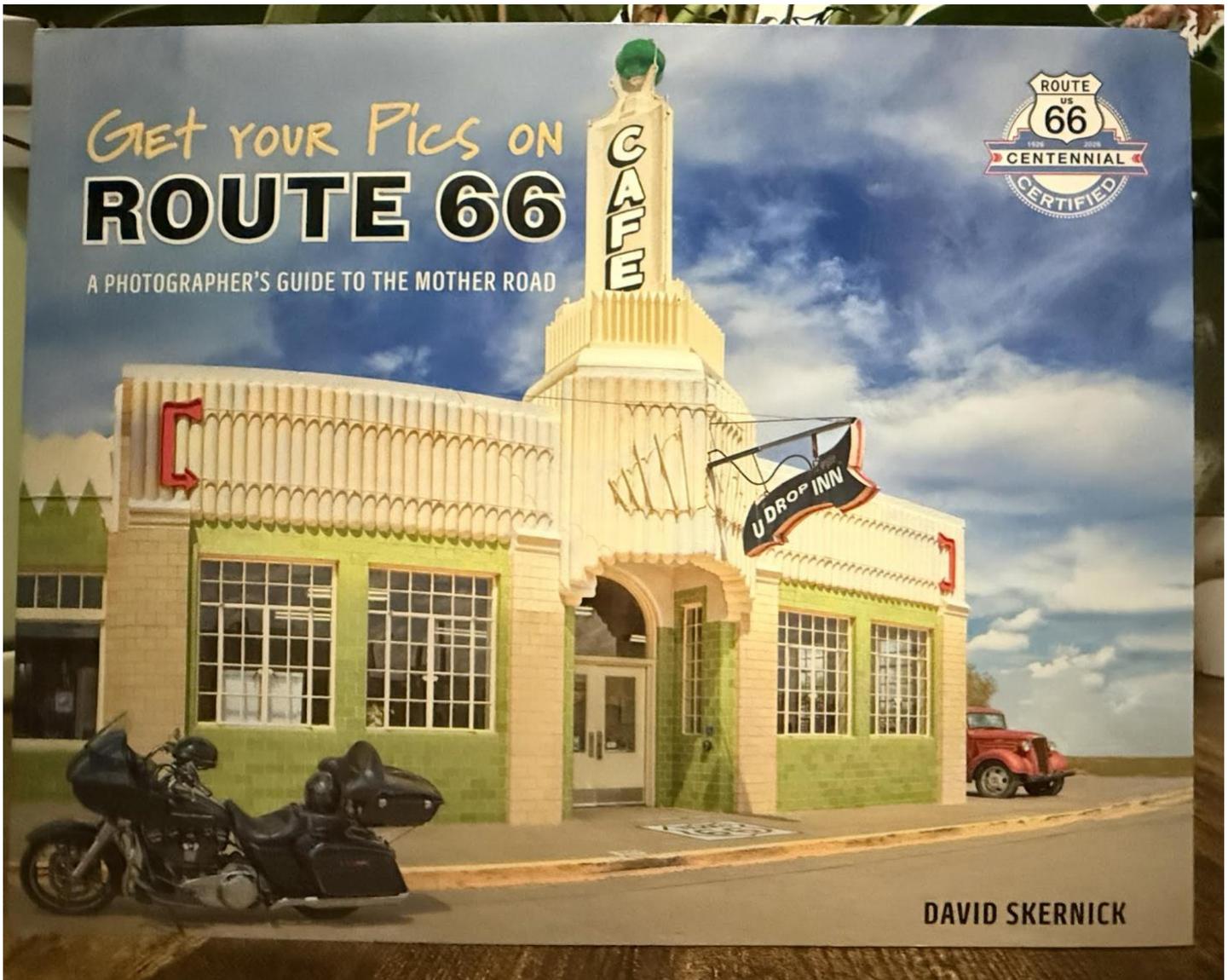
**Russ Trozera**



Multi-Media—all the traditional art media plus creative and experimental mediums.  
Mini means pieces are 14 ½ inches or smaller in any direction, including base or frame.  
**They can be seen at the Redlands Art Association gallery through March 19.**

# Congratulations to Stephanie Billings

## Photos published in Route 66 Book



I received this coffee table photo book "Get your Pics on Route 66" from David Skernick. I was on his last Route 66 workshop for the book. He has included three or four of my images towards the end, in the Missouri section!

<https://davidskernick.com/books/get-your-pics-on-route-66/>



## Congratulations to Tracy Reyes 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner Yucaipa Photo Contest



***Great Egret's Catch***

I won 3rd place in the animal category in the 2025 YuCapture Yucaipa Photo Contest for my image, *Great Egret's Catch*. There was a record-breaking total of 132 entries for the 2025 contest! Scroll down to the bottom to see the 2025 winners.

<https://yucaipa.gov/photocontest/>

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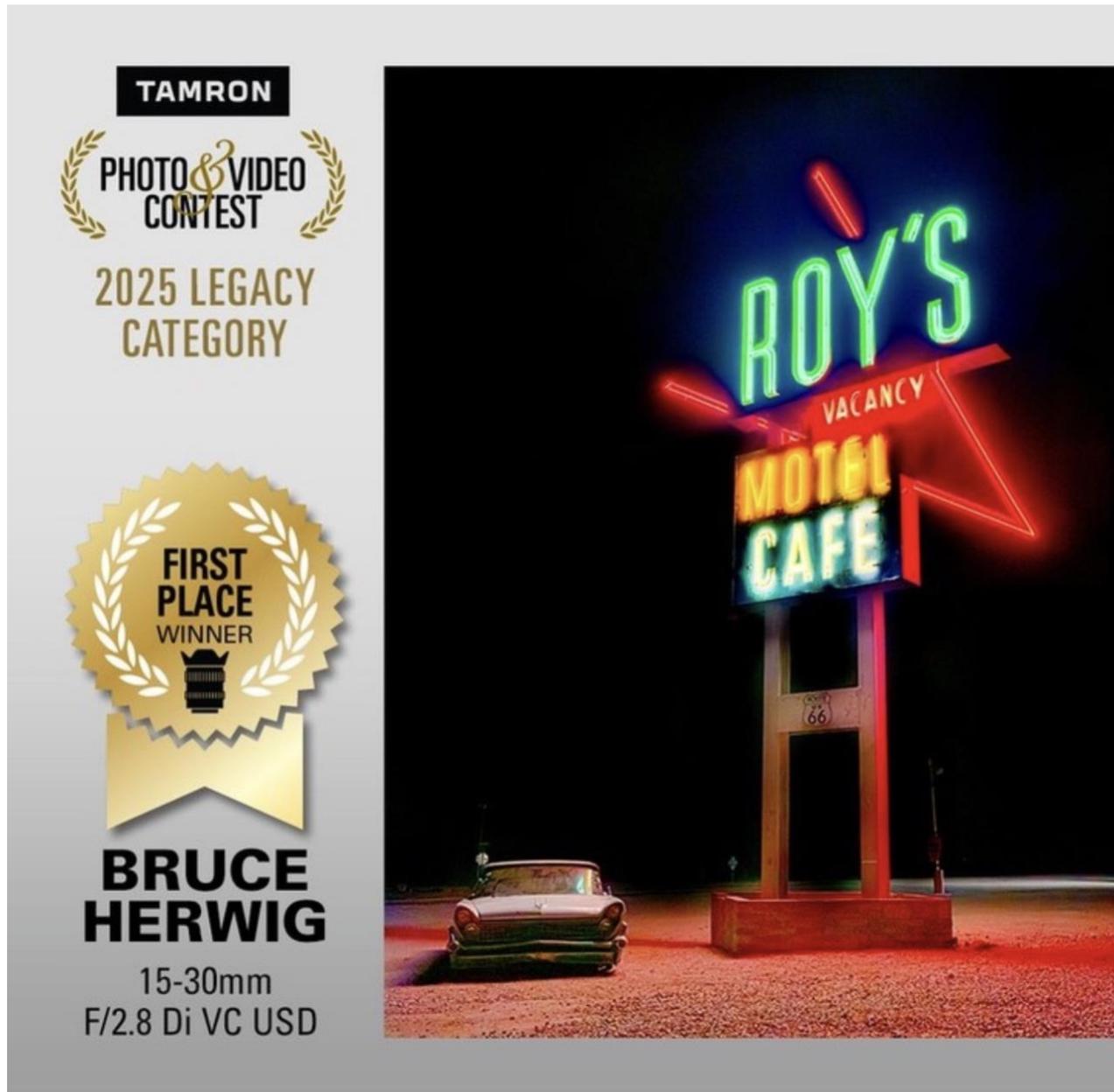
**Did you win a photography award, get published or in a show?  
Let us know about it!** Don't be bashful...we would love to celebrate you and your accomplishments!

There is a form on the website called "Good News."

[RedlandsCameraClub.org/GoodNews](https://RedlandsCameraClub.org/GoodNews)

# Congratulations to Bruce Herwig

## 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner Tamron Photo Contest



TAMRON 15-30mm F/2.8 Di VC USD  
[Focal Length: 30mm; Exposure: f/8; 1/10 sec.; ISO 800]

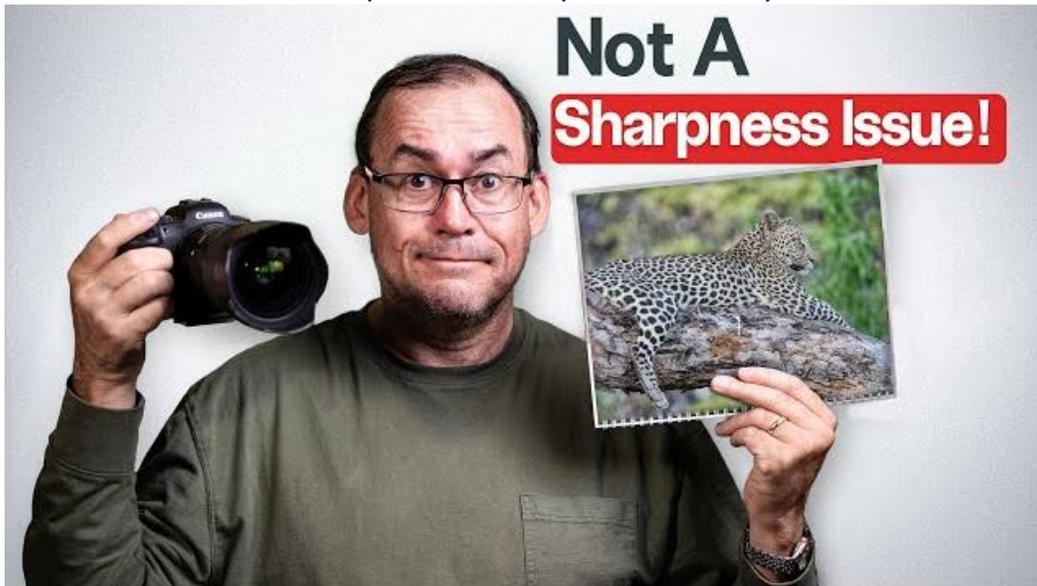
*"I love this striking image because it genuinely portrays the unique aura of Route 66 and the Southwest in the mid 1900's. The pink 1957 Bel Air under the neon sign completes the image and adds to its charm, making this an image I would gladly hang on a wall in my home. Congratulations Bruce and thank you for sharing such a wonderful image as well as for your support of Tamron."*

Legacy Category Judge: Gregg Maniaci, President & CEO, Tamron Americas.

# PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS OF THE MONTH

## Why your sharp photos still look flat (and how to make them POP!)

Discover professional techniques to transform flat, two-dimensional photos into striking, three-dimensional images. Explore how lighting, contrast, and composition choices directly affect perceived depth and clarity.



[Click Here](#) To Watch (11 min)

## How to Photograph a Wedding Ceremony (FULL Breakdown)

In this episode of Wedding Day 101 we're breaking down how to approach the ceremony! If you're a brand new photographer, this episode is exactly what you need before photographing your first wedding!



[Click Here](#) To Watch (17 min)

# PHOTOGRAM CHALLENGE FOR FEBRUARY WAS "SHADOW"



Shadow on Fence by Dorothy Cunningham



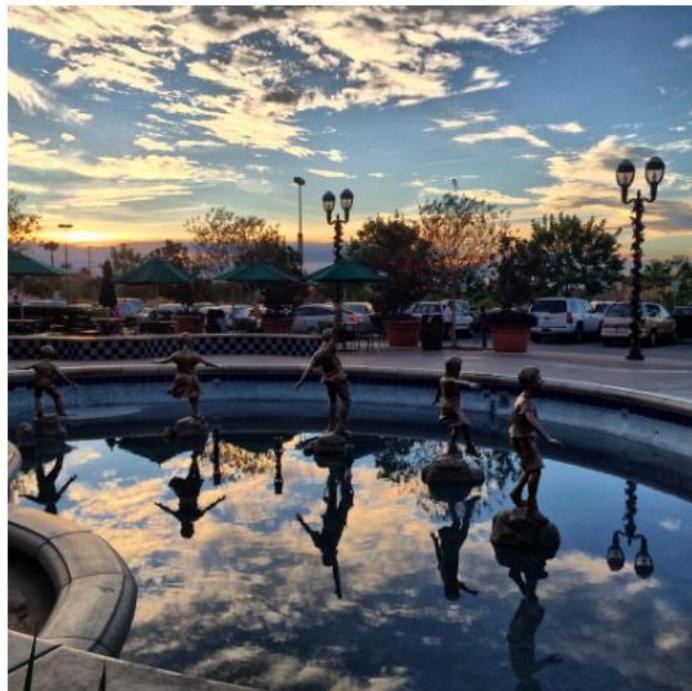
Agua Mansa Cemetery by Heidi Wilson



Shadows viewing the Desert Pulse -1 by Carol Farrar



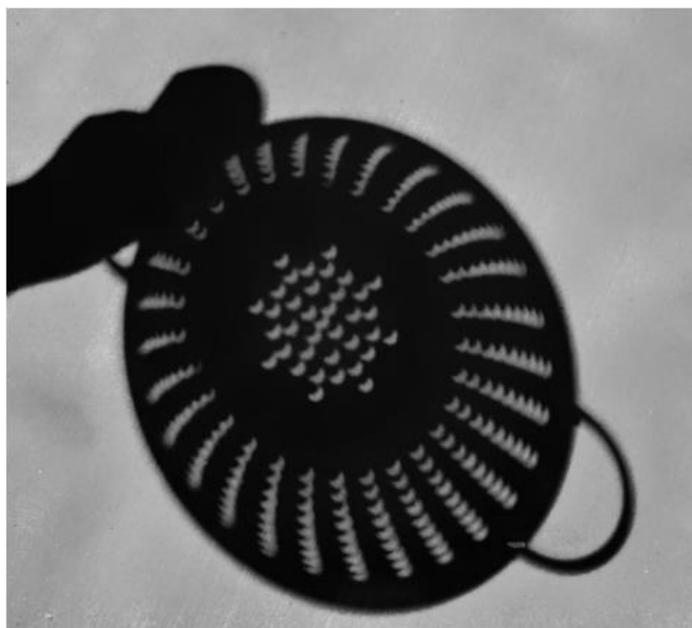
A film noir look by Olive Market by Linde DeBaun



Citrus Plaza Fountain by Brian Spears



Lurking in the Shadows by Tracy Reyes



Colander Eclipses – Heidi Wilson

## PHOTOGRAM CHALLENGE FOR MARCH IS "SUNSETS"

Please post your images on the [RCC Photo Blog](#)

#Sunset or email Nancy Currie at

[bassetmama13@gmail.com](mailto:bassetmama13@gmail.com) with your photos!

**Deadline March 25.**



## BEST OF THE BLOG – President's Choice



### Curious Reflection by Zach Feingold

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](mailto:bassetdude@gmail.com)

# DATE FESTIVAL FIELD TRIP

Our field trip to the Indio Date Festival was a great time for everyone who joined us. Between the colorful rides, lively crowds, and endless photo opportunities, we had a lot of fun!



Cowboy Antics by Tracy Reyes



Don't Try This at Home! by Cheryl Diermyer



Pig Races by Bruce Herwig



Waiting For The Train by Tracy Reyes



Cowgirl Up! by Glenn Tetley



Creative Souls of the Fair by Cheryl Diermyer



All-Alaskan Racing Pigs

by Christine Pence



Caged Cage-free Eggs by Mike Livingston



Big Wheel by Glenn Tetley



You looking at me? By Bruce Herwig

## Use It or You Lose it By Cheryl Diermyer

That phrase came back to me during our February field trip to the Riverside County Fair and Date Festival—right after reviewing a series of images that were too dark, poorly exposed, out of focus, or simply not what I intended. It quickly became clear that I had overlooked the basic steps that normally happen before the camera even reaches my eye.

After the busy holiday season, then being swept up with parental care commitments, several months had passed since I last picked up my camera. I was surprised at how quickly I became out of practice. This made me realize I could benefit from a simple pre-shoot camera checklist, and perhaps you might find it helpful as well.

### Before you lift your camera to your eye check these 7 basic functions:

- Exposure Mode (e.g., manual, aperture priority, auto, or shutter priority)
- Focus Mode (e.g., single-shot, auto, manual, continuous, face/eye, assist, direct manual)
- White Balance (e.g., auto, daylight, shade, incandescent, fluorescent, flash)
- ISO (the light sensitivity level of your cameras sensor)
- Shutter Speed (e.g., 1/1500 for action, depending on subject)
- f/Stop (e.g., f8 or f11 typically. F2 for a shallow DOF, f22 for wide DOF)
- Image Stabilization (on for handheld, off for tripod)

It's important to know your camera well enough to access these basic controls quickly as your shooting requirements change. Starting with these fundamentals will set you up for a more successful shoot.

Of course, the correct settings will always depend on what you are photographing—action or still life, indoors or outdoors, shade or full sun—and, most importantly, the creative vision you have for your image.

If you would like to reference this checklist when you're out in the field, simply snap a picture of it with your phone. If you're a paper kind of person, [click here to download](#).



## ALASKA PHOTO TRIP

RCC Members **Debra Dorothy and Rick Strobaugh** are planning a driving photography trip from Vancouver to Anchorage along the Alaskan Highway. Anyone who may want to join us, contact Rick ASAP. We will fly into Vancouver, spend a couple days there then take 10 days to drive to Anchorage thru Canada. We are planning on renting an SUV and about 6 hours of driving per day but with extended daylight hours till past 11 PM, will leave lots of time to stop and shoot photos and explore. Lots of scenery and wildlife in between with July being a peak time for much of the wildlife. We are looking at flying to Vancouver on June 29th. Debra lives in AZ now so she will be flying from Phoenix. We are planning on making hotel reservations as soon as possible so we are not stranded without rooms. We also plan on getting to Denali area for a couple days too before flying back home. Overall, just over two weeks. Rick's email is [rpdrunner@msn.com](mailto:rpdrunner@msn.com) or cell 909-915-4013.



*\*This trip is being organized independently by participating members and is not a Redlands Camera Club sponsored event.*

## Show/Sell Your Photos

The Wildlands Conservancy's Oak Glen Preserve is gearing up for The Arts and Nature Festival, a free day-long event that's perfect for visitors of all ages. The festival will feature a range of exciting activities, including interactive art projects, crafts, games, and plenty of music. Wildlands Conservancy's staff and volunteers will be on hand to lead additional art activities. There will also be a raffle drawing with some fantastic prizes up for grabs.

Event Date: May 16, 2026

Time: 9:00 - 3:30 pm

Address: 39611 Oak Glen Road #10  
Oak Glen, CA

The event is set to take place from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Setup is scheduled between 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Additionally, we provide a 30-minute grace period for late arrivals, so breakdown will start at 4:00 pm



The festival is expected to draw between 1000-1500 visitors, making it an ideal opportunity for artists to showcase their craft. If you're interested in participating, you'll need to complete the registration form and email sample artwork to [elba.m@wildlandsconservancy.org](mailto:elba.m@wildlandsconservancy.org). Before registering, it's important to read and understand The Wildlands Conservancy's Policies.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact The Wildlands Conservancy's Oak Glen Preserve office at 909-790-3698. Don't miss out on this excellent chance to experience art and nature in a unique way. We look forward to seeing you there!

Elba Mora Outdoor Education Director  
[elba.m@wildlandsconservancy.org](mailto:elba.m@wildlandsconservancy.org) | 909-790-3698 ext. 122

[Register / Learn More](#)



## Serving RCC: Publicity

*This is one of a series of articles revealing a little bit about RCC Board positions and the people serving Redlands Camera Club.*

The RCC Publicity Chair serves to communicate and represent Redlands Camera Club to the community beyond. This includes writing and distributing press releases/announcements to social media and newspapers, creating and maintaining promotional flyers posted at photo-related businesses, and representing RCC at community events. The Publicity Chair also maintains the Photo Opportunities page on the Redlands Camera Club website.



Twice a month, shortly after the club program meeting, the Publicity Chair prepares announcements for the next meeting and any other events like field trips and educational workshops that are happening in the meantime. These are distributed to print and online outlets. We use an app to schedule posts to Facebook and Instagram. We also push announcements to other online outlets like AboutRedlands.com and Redlands News Collective. And we email announcements to editors of area newspapers, like *Redlands Community News*, *Yucaipa News Mirror*, and others.

Once a year, the Chair reviews promotional flyers that are posted at businesses. These are typically photo-related businesses or services, like print stations in drugstores, but also includes Redlands Art Association and AK Smiley Public Library. The flyers inform, and hopefully attract, the public to check out the club. Once a quarter I check the businesses where I've been allowed to post the flyers. Frequently the flyer has faded and needs to be replaced. This is also a time to approach other businesses to see whether they're agreeable to having one of our posters on their wall.



On occasion, the Publicity Chair will serve as liaison to a community event. Examples of these include: a local TV interview of the RCC President and longtime member Frank Peele; a table display at the Redlands Area Historical Society Fair; and consultant to the Redlands Area Historical Society for their Redlands Heritage Photo Contest.

I've been serving in this position for four years. I stepped up because there was a need. It was 2022. We were beginning to remove our Covid masks and club membership had been devastated. I'd been a member of RCC off-and-on over several years. I knew the value of this club and wanted to preserve and grow it. I'd recently retired from a career that included product promotion. I had some social media and website experience, so helping to redesign the RCC website was one of my greatest desires.

I think all RCC Board officers would welcome assistance, and I would too. If you think you'd like to take the lead as the Publicity Chair, I will help you. But if you think you might prefer to assist as needed, I'm open to that as well.

More than specialized skills, a person thinking about serving as RCC Publicity Chair, or assisting the Chair, should begin with the right attitude. This is an others-focused position. It begins with an abiding belief in the value of Redlands Camera Club. The Chair should enjoy singing the praises of RCC to others. They should enjoy helping to make others look good: making the club look good, and making individual members look good. After that, some general technical skill with social media is helpful. Along with being others-focused, be improvement-focused. What we're doing and how we do it needs always to adapt to social changes, which includes where and how people get their information.

I'd love to have an assistant take over the digital tasks of this position: social media and photo opportunities. That would enable me to write feature articles and to look for more opportunities to put RCC in front of the community.

It's been gratifying to see Redlands Camera Club's award-winning website, to see membership soaring, and to see frequent, engaging activities. Redlands Camera Club has recovered vigorously from the pandemic. I'm happy to have played a small role in that.



*Mike triptych by Bruce Herwig*



# TIME TO GET INVOLVED...

**Field Trip Assistant** – Do you like details and talking to people? Help organize RCC Field Trips!

**Zoom Host** – let our Zoomers into the meeting, make sure they are welcome, mute them when you must : )

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

## RCC LEADERSHIP 2026



**President / Website / Photogram**  
Bruce Herwig  
[bruceherwig@gmail.com](mailto:bruceherwig@gmail.com)



**Vice President & Programs**  
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**Treasurer / Mentorship**  
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**Education**  
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**Competition Chair**  
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**Membership Chair**  
Stephanie Billings  
[heartandsoul4@yahoo.com](mailto:heartandsoul4@yahoo.com)



**Field Trips**  
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**Publicity / Social Media**  
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**Past President**  
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[photosbyruss@yahoo.com](mailto:photosbyruss@yahoo.com)

**Photo Blog**  
Stan Fry  
[bassetdude@gmail.com](mailto:bassetdude@gmail.com)

**Club Secretary**  
Heidi Wilson

**Photogram Editor**  
Nancy Currie

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

