



PHOTOGRAM

Monthly Newsletter of the Redlands Camera Club

MAY
2026



Rrrriibbit!
James Capo

BEHIND THE LENS

Message from the President

A few weeks ago I had cataract surgery. I knew my vision had been slipping, but I did not realize how much until everything came back into focus. Blacks are blacker. Yellows, browns, and maroons are richer than I remember. It is as if someone turned up the saturation slider on the world!



I keep noticing details I had stopped seeing. The texture of clouds. The fine veins in a leaf. The faint pattern in a piece of fabric. It feels like I am looking through a freshly cleaned lens.

As photographers, we love to see new things. We plan trips. We scout locations. We chase a subject we have never photographed before. That hunger is part of what keeps us picking up the camera.

But there is another kind of seeing that matters just as much. We need to see things new. The same backyard. The same street corner. The same face we have photographed a hundred times. When we slow down and look with fresh eyes, even the most ordinary scenes can surprise us.

My surgery gave me that gift physically. I am hoping to carry it into my work as well. You do not always need a new place or a new lens. Sometimes you just need a clearer way of seeing what is right in front of you.

Rene Herwig

Learn, Shoot, Edit, Share.
I can't wait to see your photos!!



Baby Feet

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Cheryl Diermyer - Vice President/Programs



Choosing A Photography Website

Monday, May 4 @ 7pm

In person & Zoom Meeting – Panel Discussion

Where We Show Our Work Online: Photographers Talk About and Demo Website Choices. In this panel discussion, four photographers share the ‘why’ behind their website choices. They will demo and discuss their preferred web hosting platforms. From cost vs. value and customer support to the features they love—and the features they’re still waiting for—get an inside look at the logic behind their website choices. Gain the clarity you need to pick an online home for your work or be inspired to redesign your current site.

Panel Presenters:

Judith Sparkhawk <https://www.sparhawkphotography.com/> Cheryl Diermyer <https://www.original-images.com/>
Russ Trozera <https://www.russell-trozera.photography/> Rick Strobaugh <https://www.original-images.com/>
Christine Pence <https://ccpence.500px.photography/>



Visualization: Finding the image in the vision

Monday, May 18 @ 7pm

Zoom Meeting – Randy Bradbury

When I'm abroad with a camera, I see the world differently. Or, perhaps, it's more accurate to say I look at the world differently. Ansel Adams talked of visualization, and I admit that in my typically skeptical journalist's mind, I might have done a little internal scoff when I first read that. But in fact, that's the best way to describe what I'm doing with a camera. I see and appreciate the "things" of the world. The vistas, the tableaux, the details. But I reflexively, perhaps even unconsciously, frame them into potential images. The light. The shadow. The composition. The crop. I won't pretend to tell you as artists how to realize your visions, but perhaps in this session I can give you a few ideas to consider as you visualize the world in your image.



Presented by Randy Bradbury



I like to say I got into photography because my dad wasn't. My parents published weekly newspapers in the Dakotas, and while each had a darkroom, my dad stuck with a Polaroid. Those darkrooms became my playground. I learned on Speed Graphics and 4x5 film, growing from rough prints into a love of black and white and the Zone System.

My career began in newspapers, moved into advertising, and ended in public relations. Along the way I lived in the Dakotas, Kansas, and the Pacific Northwest.

Today, my wife Denice and I live in Spain. I shoot digital color, though I still look for any excuse to return to monochrome.
<https://randylbradbury.substack.com/>



UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Brian Spears - Field Trips

Outdoor Portraiture Photography Field Trip

Saturday, May 9, 2026 @ 5:00 pm

Sycamore Highlands Park

5777 Fair Isle Drive, Riverside, CA 92507



J The Craft of Outdoor Portraiture Photography Field Trip. On this photoshoot field trip we will be focusing on the use of available light as well as flash and creative color gels to enhance the ambiance of the scene. Our models are a Western Cowboy and a woman in a Flying Dress

We will meet in the Sycamore Highlands Park Parking lot. You can look for Cheryl's White Jeep Grand Cherokee.

What to Bring:

- Your camera
- Lens – For flying dress you'll want a wide lens. For portraits, you'll want closer. A 24-70mm would work well
- Tripod (optional)
- Pack your own snack/dinner.
- comfortable walking shoes and a walking. There are NO RESTROOMS so plan accordingly.



Trip Leader:

Cheryl Diermyer

diermyer@gmail.com

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)



CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Stephanie Billings - Membership Chair

RCC Motto

LEARN, SHOOT, EDIT, SHARE

Become a Member of the Redlands Camera Club



The Redlands Camera Club (RCC) offers a variety of activities for those passionate about photography whether a beginner or a seasoned veteran.

Our mission is to aide photographers of all levels in developing their skills through membership critiques of their work, exposure to the work of others and educational opportunities via our guest speakers, and field trips.

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

MEMBERS: 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

MPB is a proud sponsor of the Redlands Camera Club

**Surprises are for
parties, not purchases.**

**Every camera is
inspected by experts.**

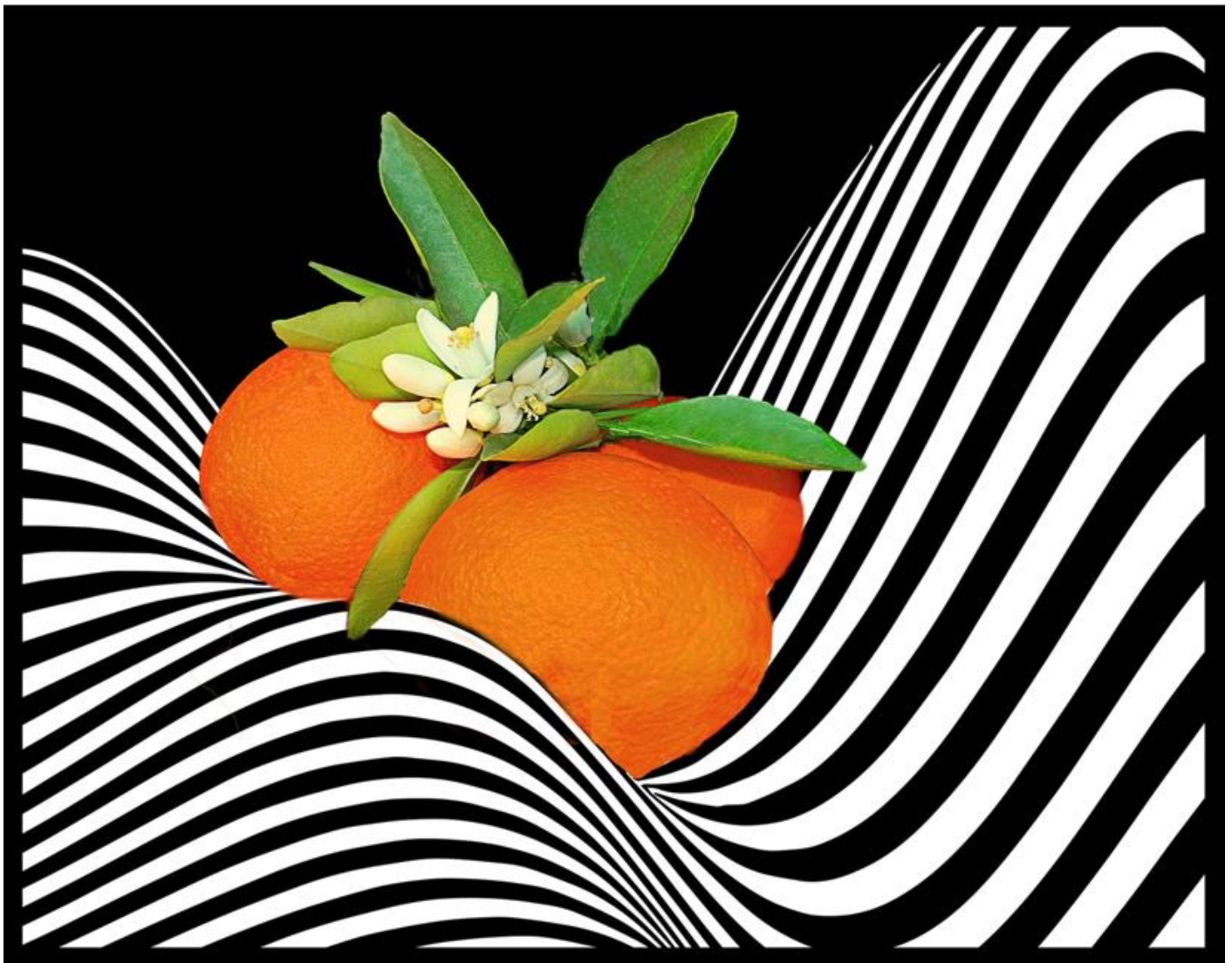




MEMBER GOOD NEWS

Congratulations to Judith Sparhawk
Third Place Award

National Orange Show All California Juried Art Exhibition -
Citrus Category....AND it sold!



**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

PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS OF THE MONTH

Flying Dress Photoshoot | Setup vs The Shot (Behind the Scenes)



[Click Here](#) To Watch (13 min)

Photoshop NEW Features 2026 v27.6 | Here's What's NEW!



[Click Here](#) To Watch (9 min)

PHOTOGRAM CHALLENGE FOR MARCH WAS "THE COLOR GREEN"



by Brian Spears



Mesquite Bean Pods by Cheryl Callanan



Grasshopper Sneaking A Peek by Heidi Wilson



Sprezzatura by Maggie Finneran



Owlet Surrounds with Green
by Dorothy Cunningham



Medusa by Cheryl Callanan



A Favorite Place by Linda DeBaun



Green Spot Motel by Tracy Reyes



Kermit by Stephanie Billings



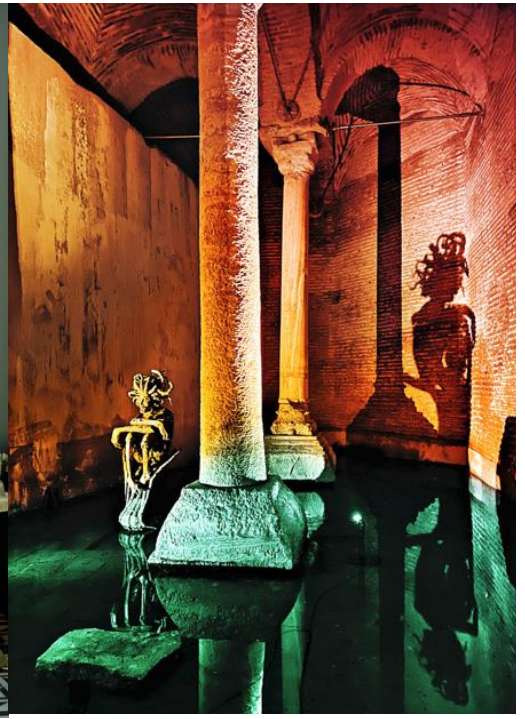
Little but Fierce by Deborah Seibley



A Brief Respite
By Curt Burgess



Come Drink With Me
By Russell Trozera



Medusa with Shadow
By Paul Bock

PHOTOGRAM CHALLENGE FOR MAY IS "DOORS"

Please post your images on the [RCC Photo Blog](#) #DOORS or email Nancy Currie at bassetmama13@gmail.com with your photos! **Deadline May 25.**

BEST OF THE BLOG – President’s Choice



Self Containment Curt Burgess

This is Sulia. I got this dress at a consignment shop in Montreal; it had such a 60s vibe. I’ve only shot with it twice. This was an image that was part of a set for her website.

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

SPRING 2026 COMPETITION WINNERS

BEST OF SHOW



Lake Mary and Mountains

by Rick Strobaugh

DEVELOPING DIVISION



Incoming Snow Geese

by William Jochimsen

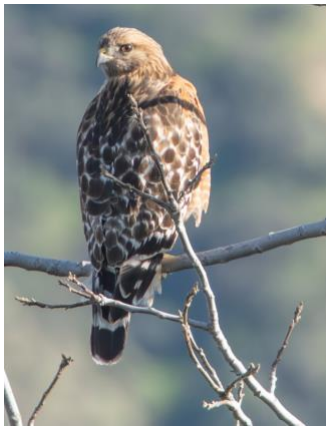
1st Place — Developing Animal



Performing a High-Wire Act

by Tracy Reyes

2nd Place — Developing Animal



Looking at You
by Cristina Turlea

3rd Place — Developing Animal



Spring
by Cristina Turlea

1st Place — Developing Close Up Macro



Stormy Day
by Kathleen Jackson

1st Place — Developing Open Miscellaneous



The Joy of Spring
by Julie Lowe

1st Place — Developing People



Crown of Light
by Thomas Jackson

1st Place — Developing Places



Celestial Standoff
by Thomas Jackson

2nd Place — Developing Places



Enchanted Castle

by Julie Lowe

3rd Place — Developing Places



Hummingbird Sage

by Tracy Reyes

1st Place — Developing Category X



Winter's Breath in the Ahwahnee Meadow

by Carol Farrar

2nd Place — Developing Category X



Icelandic Poppy Weeping

by Heidi Wilson

3rd Place — Developing Category X

ADVANCED DIVISION



Cactus Wren
by James Hendon

1st Place — Advanced Animal



Greater Yellowlegs
by James Capo

2nd Place — Advanced Animal



Phainopepla and Phall Phoilage
by Carl Bernhardt

3rd Place — Advanced Animal



Bike in Pickup Bed
by Rick Strobaugh

1st Place — Advanced Digital Artistry



Friendly Pelican Trio
by Wayne Purcell

2nd Place — Advanced Digital Artistry



On My Bike, Just Me and My Girl
by Dorothy Cunningham

1st Place — Advanced Open Miscellaneous



Exploration
by Judith Sparhawk

2nd Place — Advanced Open Miscellaneous



Monk in Prayer
by Glenn Tetley

1st Place — Advanced People



An Austere Stare
by Cheryl Callanan

2nd Place — Advanced People



Athena
by Russell Trozera

3rd Place — Advanced People



Fire in downtown San Bernardino
by Brian Spears

1st Place — Advanced Photojournalism



Yosemite Icy Sunset
by Wayne Purcell

1st Place — Advanced Places



Salty Dawg Aurora, Homer Spit, Alaska

by James Capo

2nd Place — Advanced Places



On the Lake NY

by Stephanie Billings

3rd Place — Advanced Places



Spring on ice

by Stephanie Billings

1st Place — Advanced Category X



Flamen Stamens

by Cheryl Callanan

2nd Place — Advanced Category X



B&W Lotus during Pollination

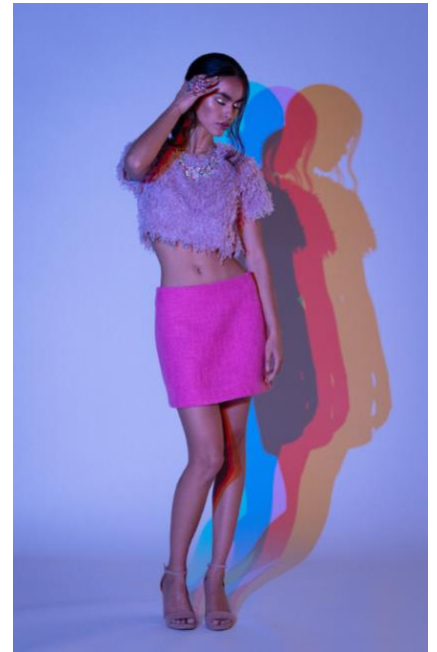
by Brian Spears

3rd Place — Advanced Category X

Stepping Into New Light

By Cheryl Diermyer

To enhance my skills in portrait photography, I attended the Wedding and Portrait Photographers International (WPPI) conference this past March in Las Vegas. I felt like a kid at the fair, taking in all the sights, colors, sounds, and oh so many toys! At the time, my lighting gear included a set of constant lights, not strobes. Honestly, I have not used this gear for several years. My time was consumed by my career as a CBS News Photojournalist and my love for landscape photography. As I came full circle and reentered the world of portrait photography, it became obvious, I needed a studio upgrade! So, after attending conference workshops, listening to respected professionals, and speaking with other photographers, I headed to the vendor showroom where I invested in new studio gear.



I wanted to move beyond constant light and into the world of strobes. I still like constant light because you can see the light fall on your subject and adjust before pressing the shutter release. However, I also appreciate the portability, creativity, and clarity that strobe lights offer. As a result, in addition to new strobes, I also purchased a set of upgraded constant lights with RGB capability. What a complicated, yet wonderful, world this stepping into new light has brought me. There is so much to learn! Channels, CCT mode, HSI mode, dialing in white light, and app controls! Yet another thing to learn. Wing modifiers, V-flats, plate shot, cross lighting, beauty dish lighting, clamshell lighting, butterfly lighting, broad lighting, edge lighting, soft lighting, hard lighting, special effects lighting, fractions of light, sync speed, posing, client relations, controlling your image not by changing the settings on your camera, but rather by changing the settings on your lights, never use auto white balance for high-volume portrait work—and the list goes on. My mind is full; my heart is grateful.



Ellie Burgueno, a multi-international award-winning photographer and RCC member, known for her flying dress photography, told me, “Practice every day or you will forget.” So, every day I head to the studio where I practice. Although I’ve been a professional photographer for over sixteen years, I never stop learning or growing in my field. Hopefully my gained knowledge and experiences become lessons for someone else along the way.

The Redlands Camera Club (RCC) has been such a wonderful place to make connections. For instance, RCC member, Christine Pence, has been one of my portrait subjects and has brought me subjects to photograph as I learn my new gear and how to work through a portrait shoot fast, without second guessing my process, which is essential when working with paid clients. RCC is a treasure grove of talent. If you're not reaching out to connect with members, you're missing out. Start by inviting me, or another member, for a conversation or serving on one of the RCC working groups. Contributing to the club is a great way to give back, build community, and keep RCC strong. We all, including you, have a lot to share, learn, and practice. Whether it be composition, postproduction, business process, basically anything photography, reach out, contribute, and let's step into a new light together.

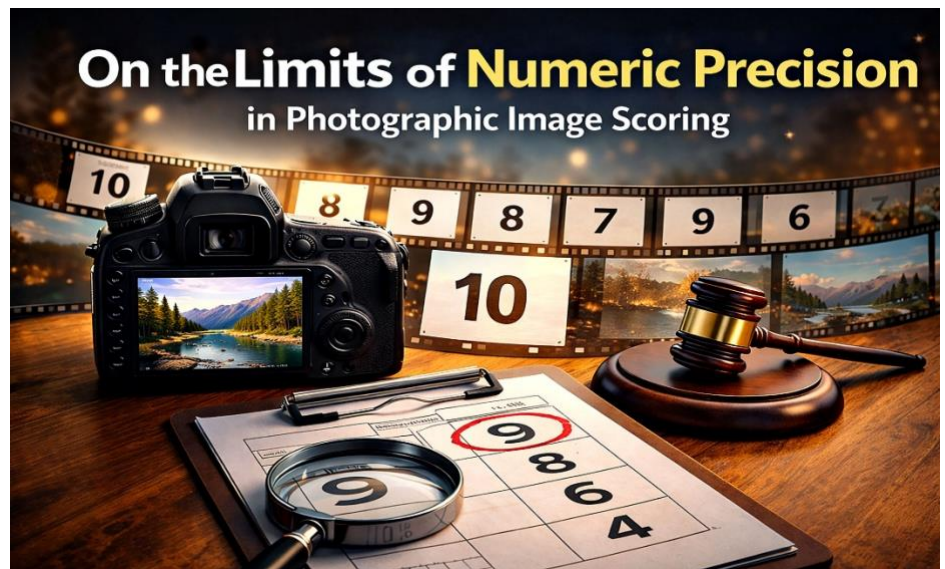


A Limits of Numeric Precision in Photographic Image Scoring

BY PAUL BOCK

PFIAP, International Juror. 2026

Photography competitions and salons rely on juried evaluation to assess artistic merit, technical execution, originality, and expressive impact. To formalize these judgments, exhibitions adopt numeric scoring systems. While numerical scores can facilitate aggregation, ranking, and administrative decisions, the choice of scoring scale carries implicit assumptions about the nature and resolution of human judgment and the measurability of differences in image quality that are presumed to exist.



In recent years, some federations and salons have adopted fine-grained numeric scales, most notably 0–100. This paper examines whether such granularity reflects genuine evaluative



capability or instead constitutes false precision. The analysis focuses on whether differences of one or two points on a 100-point scale can be meaningfully perceived, justified, and reproduced by human judges.

Photographic evaluation is inherently:

- **Aesthetic**, involving subjective perception and emotional response
- **Comparative**, rather than absolute
- **Context-dependent**, influenced by presentation order, thematic framing, and viewing conditions

Unlike physical quantities such as length or mass, photographic quality has **no objective unit of measurement**. There is no agreed-upon, linear, additive metric by which an image can be said to exceed another by a fixed, quantifiable amount. Many forms of human judgment yield **ordinal data**, indicating order but not measurable distance; photographic judgment yields **ordinal information** (better, worse, comparable), not **cardinal measurement** (precise numerical distance). Treating such judgments as interval or ratio measurements constitutes a category error.

A numeric scale implies that each increment represents a consistent and meaningful difference. In a 0–100 system, a one-point difference implies a 1% change in quality. For this implication to hold, judges would need to reliably:

- Perceive differences at that resolution
- Apply the scale consistently across images
- Justify the distinction in clear, reproducible terms

Research in human perception and decision-making demonstrates that evaluators cannot reliably discriminate fine-grained differences beyond a small number of categories. Even under controlled conditions, the **just-noticeable difference** for complex stimuli far exceeds 1%. Consequently, distinguishing between an image scored 87 and one scored 86 exceeds the cognitive resolution of human aesthetic judgment.

Photographic evaluation naturally supports **ordinal judgments: ranking and grouping**, not precise cardinal measurement with meaningful numeric distances.

Judges can reliably say:

- Image A is clearly superior to Image B
- Images C and D are comparable
- Image E falls below the acceptance threshold



They cannot reliably say: “Image A is superior to Image B by exactly one unit on a 100-point scale.” This represents a category error: treating qualitative judgment as quantitative measurement.

The use of overly fine scoring scales leads to several negative outcomes:

- Arbitrary ranking based on noise rather than signal
- Illusory fairness, masking subjective variability behind numbers
- Erosion of trust among participants who are affected by marginal score differences
- Post-hoc rationalization by judges, rather than principled evaluation

When acceptances or awards hinge on one-point differences, the system conveys an authority it does not possess.

Advantages of a 1–10 Scoring System

A 1–10 scale aligns more closely with human cognitive resolution and perceptual capabilities. It:

- Provides sufficient differentiation without false precision
- Avoids claims of unjustifiable precision
- Encourages consistency among judges
- Supports meaningful averaging and thresholds
- Is intuitive to participants and audiences

Differences between scores such as 87 and 86 are neither perceptually meaningful nor statistically defensible. They reflect not a real difference in image quality, but the limitations and noise inherent in human judgment. Scoring systems that imply such precision risk undermining the credibility of juried exhibitions.

A 1–10 scoring system represents a more honest, fair, and intellectually consistent approach, consistent with psychometric theory, perceptual limits, and the comparative nature of aesthetic judgment. It respects the nature of photographic evaluation, supports transparent decision-making, and avoids the false authority of over-granular numeric scales.

In the interest of integrity and trust, photographic organizations should reconsider the use of excessively fine numeric scoring and adopt scales that reflect what judges can genuinely perceive and justify.

***Editor’s Note. As convincing as Paul’s arguments may be, The Redlands Camera Club is NOT looking to change our scoring system for our competitions.*

Serving RCC: Cheryl Diermyer

BY Mike Livingston

Vice President/Program Chair

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

The Redlands Camera Club Vice President/Program Chair is a two-in-one position. As VP, this person works closely with the President in shaping the RCC experience and assumes the president's responsibilities as needed when the president is away.

Cheryl Diermyer is our current Vice President/Program Chair. She assumed this position from Russ Trozera. Russ has facilitated Cheryl's assumption of duties and continues to nurture her success.



Perhaps the most obvious duties of the VP/Program Chair are those associated with the planning and coordination of club programs. There are lots of small details that must be considered, so the Program Chair leads bi-weekly planning meetings to address recruiting and confirming presenters, and ensuring speakers are properly supported, introduced, thanked, and paid.

Along with other Board members who collaborate with the Program Chair, two RCC members—Heidi Wilson and Zach Feingold—currently assist Cheryl with program tasks. They'd welcome more help.

Programs are selected to foster alignment with competitions, field trips, and other club activities, thus helping to create a cohesive, well-organized, and engaging experience for members. Once candidate programs are selected, team members collaborate with the speaker to develop a description of the program and brief speaker bio. They collect descriptive images and coordinate particular needs for the presentation. Once the presentation is complete, the Program Chair and team members ensure the presenter is paid.



Cheryl has been serving as Vice President/Program Chair for a bit over two years. Bringing a background in process improvement and program planning, she was eager to work with other club members to help shape the RCC experience. In her time so far, she has facilitated a clear, structured program planning and tracking process. That process now employs collaborator tools to streamline communication, gather materials, plan for promotion, and more.

“I’m pleased with how efforts have improved efficiency, communication, collaboration, and long-term planning,” Cheryl says. “Program planning team members are fantastic to work with and it’s a joy to talk with other photographers who might be interested in presenting to our club.”

Could this be an area where you might step into a deeper engagement with Redlands Camera Club? If you’re not feeling confident about becoming the Chair just yet, what about co-chairing and mentoring with the Chair? Or maybe you’d like to assist the Chair as a member of the support team. Are you a people helper/problem solver? Are you a good researcher/task finisher? If you have skill using Microsoft PowerPoint, Google and Zoom, you’re fitting the bill.

Play a roll. Have an influence. Become a contributor to your club.

DID YOU KNOW: The Redlands Camera Club website has a Suggestion Box. Open the menu; it’s there under Member Resources. Got an idea for a club program? You can submit your idea to the Suggestion Box. Of course, you’re not limited to programs. This is a good place to submit ideas for outings, educational workshops, photo opportunities, community engagement, and more.

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 :)

Webmaster, new person welcomer, chair putter outer, community outreach, article writer, field trip helper, program coordinator, welcome slider maker, and more!

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



RCC LEADERSHIP 2026-27



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Photo Blog
Stan Fry
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

