

the *Lens Paper*

*The North County Photographic Society...Inspired by Photography,
Powered by Volunteers!*

MARCH 2007

PLEASE SEE BACK PAGE FOR MEETING SCHEDULE

MARCH PROGRAM (March 28, 2007)

The Story Behind the Photos: John Gastaldo

Born and raised in New York City, John Gastaldo started his newspaper career at 15 when a photo he took from his family's downtown apartment ended up on the front page of The New York Times. An admitted poor quality news photo, it still provided him the seed money to buy his first Nikon. After that he was hooked.



Despite attempts to try to stick with a “safe” career in psychology, he returned to his true calling in college and started a career shortly thereafter at small newspapers in New Jersey and Connecticut. In 1994 he was hired at the Union-Tribune and has live in San Diego County ever since. Gastaldo’s work graces the inside pages and occasionally the covers for the Union-Tribune’s A section, it’s new Our Region section and occasionally has work in the myriad Features sections.

Photos are entertaining, and often the stories behind the photos add to the viewer’s understanding of what it took to get the shot, technically and compositionally and even what to look for the next time out when a similar situation is presented.

Newspaper photographers rarely have the time, but rely on luck, timing and their honed skills to provide the county’s readers with a regional set of eyes in the field. Working on a daily newspaper is rarely boring, often fresh and occasionally heart rending. It forces shy people to come out and boisterous people to calm down and take a new perspective. Gastaldo welcomes the opportunity to speak to readers and critics alike to improve his vision and the vision of his coworkers to more accurately reflect the county in the pages of the Union-Tribune.

Photograph by John Gastaldo, San Diego Tribune



PRESIDENTS CORNER by Stan John

We want to thank **Jim Respass** for an interesting presentation at our February meeting where he told us about his adventures in making digital art using multiple photographs skillfully blended into a new scene using Photoshop.

We need a New Program Chairman. I'm sure you all know by now that Barbara Royer has relocated to New Mexico and will no longer serve as our Program Chairman. Barbara arranged all of the wonderful presentations we have enjoyed for the last several years. As I'm sure you realize this is a difficult job that requires a wide range of interests and knowledge of the many photographers/artists in the San Diego area. Anyone willing to take on this challenge should contact me as soon as possible. Carrie Barton is filling in temporarily but does not want to perform this task on a permanent basis. We need your help, please consider volunteering.

Teaming Up for Conservation. During our photo shoot on January 13th, Sharon Anthony led us on a photo tour of the Batiquitos Lagoon. As a follow-up to the event, Mike McMahon produced a short video of the event, featuring the beautiful surroundings and wildlife of the lagoon. Sharon Anthony, a docent with the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation, has introduced the video as part of the training program for new docents. And the video is now on display at the Lagoon's Visitor Center for all to enjoy. Congratulations to Mike for his video footage and editing and to Hugh Cox and Sharon Anthony who contributed still images to the show.

Room Size. All of us are aware that we are crowded in our current meeting space. Our group has been growing for a number of years so that we are now limited by the size of the room. We have 219 members and about 100 come to our monthly meeting. A little over a year ago we stopped publicizing our meetings in the expectation that our growth rate would slow down. There are two factions among us. There are some who want the group to grow and grow. The other faction enjoys our current size, where we have a critical mass and yet are small enough that we all know each other. Both factions

have their appeal. I'm convinced that if we move to a larger room our membership/attendance will increase. I'm sure you know of Parkinson's Law, which in one form posits that requirements will expand to fill the available resources. With the above in mind we will ask you to vote on whether you want us to search for a larger space or let the membership be self limited by the size of our meeting room.

Another consideration in this matter is the cost of a meeting room. At present we pay \$60 per month for the room and an additional \$25 for the audio system. Our first effort in looking for a new space indicated we may need to pay about \$200/mo. This could strain our finances and require a small increase in the annual dues. Much more work is needed to find a new space but I believe the question of our group's growth is the key question that needs to be answered before we make a serious effort. I believe our current location is convenient to most of our members and any new space should be nearby.

New Photoshop

Many people have asked about the new Photoshop CS3, which is to be released sometime this spring. The beta version is available for download from the Adobe web site and there is a detailed article in the recent Digital PhotoPro (Mar/Apr Edition). There is also an article on Adobe's new product called Light Room.

Flash Trigger. I have read several articles and have recently heard in school that there is a problem firing many 'older' external flash units from most modern cameras. The problem is that the voltage and current levels required to fire the flash units is too high for the cameras circuits. This is true of my Vivitar 283 flash unit, which I used for years on my older hot shoe film cameras, and of the heavy-duty studio strobes we use at Palomar College. I've been told that you can operate one of these units a number of times without any apparent problem but the cumulative effect eventually burns out the contacts and only an expensive camera repair will fix the problem. The cure for this is to purchase a hot shoe to pc cord adapter with a protective circuit in it such as the Wein safe-sync hot shoe to hot shoe high voltage sync regulator or to use a remote radio control to operate the flash unit.

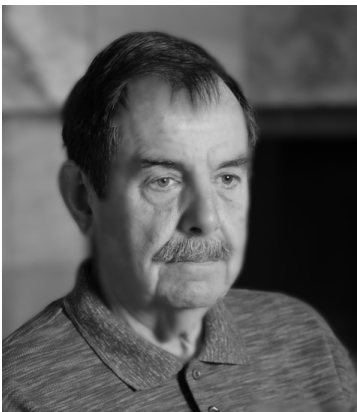
MEMBER SHARE by Barbara Swanson

The membershare topic for March is "Motion". Please bring up to two images to share.

This is a very broad topic, ranging from motion of the subject (such as an animal) to motion generated by the camera (moving the camera or lens). The use of very long or very short shutter speed could be effective for portraying your idea. The photo can be representational or abstract, so use your imagination!

Later this year we will have a membershare for showing multiple photos. Everyone can pick their own theme, and then develop a short (~1 minute) presentation. Unless a collage is done, the presentation will need to be digital. More details will follow, but it may be good to start thinking about your theme.

MEMBER PROFILE by Fred Heinzmann



As a teenager, born and raised in Los Angeles, I was fascinated by the beauty and precision of the early German 35mm cameras. I saved up money I had made for doing odd jobs and bought a used Contax IIa. That started it all. I continued my hobby of photography

after graduating from Stanford University (in Electronic Engineering) and then spending 2 years in the Air Force in Massachusetts, followed by a career in industry back in California.

One of the companies I worked for was Hydro Products (long gone) in Sorrento Valley. We designed and manufactured underwater cameras and lighting systems, mostly video, for a wide range of applications: offshore oil platform and nuclear reactor inspection and sophisticated projects for the US Navy.

The limiting factors in underwater Photography are the high absorption of light and backscatter from

particulates so it is very difficult to provide enough light and the cameras had to be very low light sensitive. These requirements provided many interesting photographic challenges.

My photographic hobby ran in fits and starts due to the varying pressures of work and family. At one point, I built a darkroom in the garage and for a quite a while processed black & white and color negatives, slides, and prints. The dark room was later converted, and has now been a store room for many years.

When digital photography became available in the late 1990's I became hooked again. Computers provide a much friendlier place to work than a cold, wet darkroom; so digital photography is now the focus of my interest; and my computer and PhotoShop have become my "darkroom."

I am now retired with more time to devote to my hobbies, so several years ago I joined the club and subsequently volunteered to "help with the club web site". As a result, I am now your humble webmaster.

PHOTO SHOTS by Al Schlegel

April's Photo Shoot – hosted by Carrie Barton

☺ **Come Tide Pooling at Cabrillo!** ☺

What: Photo outing at San Diego's best known tide pool areas

When: 12:00 noon on Saturday, April 14, 2007

Where: Cabrillo National Monument

Why: Because. ☺

How: Contact Carrie Barton at ouraydog@cox.net (or home phone: 858-756-5231) for directions. Entrance into the monument is \$5/vehicle.

Cabrillo National Monument (<http://www.nps.gov/cabr/>) has photo ops galore – the lighthouse, the view, the military history,...and tide pools! The latter is what we'll really be going for, although you'll be welcome to wander and explore the different possibilities.

There is a low tide of minus 0.5 on this day, which is why it got picked! And I've been told that the best tide pool window is 1.5 hours before, and 1 hour after, the low tide. So we'll start at noon and go till about 3pm.

Feel free to bring a little picnic lunch, snacks, water. Probably better plan on a hat and sunscreen too! And don't forget your polarizer (and macro lens? tripod?)!

For those who are interested, we may do a side trip afterwards to the **Rosecrans cemetery** (<http://www.cem.va.gov/CEM/cems/nchp/frosecrans.asp#gi>).

In both places, however, be warned that all participants will need to be respectful! The tide pools are a fragile, although highly visited, environment – be careful where you step! We want to be as low impact as possible! And if we go to the cemetery, the need for gracious and respectful manners should be obvious.

Should be a fun day – come join us! ☺

RECAP: The Huntington Photo Shoot on 2/10/07

Hosted by: Bob Cameron

The event started at 8:30 am under gray a sky and predictions of rain that varied between 50 and 90 percent. This did not deter the little band of four intrepid photographers. Fortunately, the entire group could be transported in one vehicle. The compact nature of the group greatly enhanced communication a coordination among the members and there were no mishaps throughout the entire event. The two-hour trip went smoothly and the group arrived at the Huntington Gardens/Art Gallery/ Library at 10:30 am. This was just 30 minutes after the opening time so parking was easy and the crowds were small. That changed as the day wore on. While the group started the shoot, the sun came out and chased the gloomy overcast away for the entire day. All that bright sunshine may lift the spirits but it certainly made outdoor photography more difficult. High on everyone's list were the new glass and steel botanical building (i.e. Conservatory) and the half completed Chinese Garden. From this fellow's point of view,

these two venues would have made the trip worthwhile. A surprise bonus was the skilled help given by some of the more knowledgeable participants. There is no learning experience more intense and retentive than in the field training. The group eventually broke up into subgroups that went at different paces and in different places. Lunch was at a small cafeteria that was located on the premises. At lunch, there was additional mentoring that was both valuable and appreciated. The lunchtime mentoring, however, was focused on the photographic equipment rather than on photographic techniques such as subject selection and composition. Toward the end of the day, some of the participants visited the world class Huntington Art Gallery. Here they could view such renowned masterpieces as Gainsborough's "Blue Boy" and Lawrence's "Pinky." After leaving the Huntington, the trip back to San Diego went without a hitch. All in all, this outing can be marked down as a mighty fine shoot.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS



Carrie Barton's "Lightning Strike: Uncompahgre National Forest, Colorado USA" won First Place: Power of Nature (Amateur) in the 2006 National Wildlife Photography Awards. One of just 18 winners, the prestigious group is currently hanging at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC. Congratulations, Carrie!

See her winning photograph in color (as well as the rest of the select winners) at: http://www.naturesbestmagazine.com/gallery_player2/main_ss.php?dest2006_nwpa_winners

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest members!

James Kurtz - Encinitas
Hal Snyder – Rancho Santa Fe

OTHER NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

2007 Daley Ranch Amateur Photography Contest

Instructions and entry forms may be picked up at the entrance to Daley Ranch at the north end of La Honda Drive, Calumet Photography, Escondido Public Library, and the Dixon Lake Ranger Station. Escondido City’s website: www.escondido.org/daley also has downloadable forms. Submissions may be made between April 7 and April 21 at 5:00 p.m. and photographers may submit up to 5 entries.

SDMA: Annie Liebovitz Exhibit

From February 10 until April 22, the San Diego Museum of Art (SDMA) will be the first West Coast venue to host **Annie Liebovitz: A Photographer’s Life, 1990-2005**. This large scale retrospective contains approximately 200 photographs from the legendary photographer. Although few contemporary photographers can rival Liebovitz in sheer popularity and familiarity, this show includes many less familiar images that the artist produced for her personal purpose.

SPONSORS

The NCPS thanks the following Annual Photography Exhibition sponsors. Please show your appreciation by visiting them.

GOLD LEVEL

<p>Calumet San Diego 830 West Valley Parkway Suite 330 Escondido, CA 92025 800-451-6650 www.calumetphoto.com</p>	<p>George’s Photo & Video Exchange 3837 30th Street San Diego, CA 92104 619-297-3544 www.georgescamera.com</p>
<p>Kurt’s Camera Repair 7811 Mission Gorge Rd # P San Diego, CA 92120 (619) 286-1810 www.kurtscamerarepair.com</p>	<p>Modern Postcard 1675 Faraday Ave Carlsbad, CA 92008 800-959-8365 www.modernpostcard.com</p>
<p>Nelson Photo 1909 India Street San Diego, CA 92101 619-234-6621 www.nelsonphotosupplies.com</p>	<p>Oceanside Photo and Telescope 918 Mission Ave Oceanside, CA 92054 760-722-3348 www.optcorp.com</p>
<p>Photo Art of Carlsbad 2744 Carlsbad Blvd., Ste. 116 Carlsbad, CA 92008 760-729-1960 www.photoartofcarlsbad.com</p>	<p>Total Photo 118 S. Solana Hills Dr Solana Beach, CA 92075 858-755-6311 www.totalphoto.net</p>

SILVER LEVEL

<p>Encinitas Photo Center 967 S. Coast Highway 101 #107B Encinitas, CA 92024 760-436-0562 www.encinitas101.com/encinitasphoto.htm</p>	<p>Green Flash Photography 4966 Lamont Street Pacific Beach, CA 92109 858-272-1926 www.greenflashphotography.com</p>
<p>Jim Cline Photo Tours 11223-5 Carmel Creek Road San Diego, CA 92130 858-350-1314 www.jimcline.com</p>	<p>North Coast Photographic Services 5451 Avenida Encinas, Suite D Carlsbad, CA 92008 760-931-6809 www.northcoastphoto.com</p>
<p>The Ordovery Gallery Studio 172 444 S. Cedros Ave Solana Beach, CA 92075 858-720-1121 www.ordovergallery.com</p>	<p>PC Photo & Imaging 127 N. El Camino Real Encinitas, CA 92024 760-632-1790 www.pc-photo.net</p>
<p>Professional Photographic Repair 7910 Raytheon Road San Diego, CA 92111 858-277-3700 www.procamerarepair.com</p>	<p>Michael Seewald Photo Workshops 835 N. Vulcan Ave. Suite B Encinitas, CA 92024 760-633-1351 www.seewald.com</p>

March 2007 Meeting

Wednesday, March 28, 2007
Quail Botanical Garden, Encinitas
Ecke Building Meeting Room
Enter Front Gate - **Exit Rear Gate**
Front Gate is Locked at 7:00 p.m.

- 6:00 p.m. - Front Gate Opens**
- 6:15 p.m. - Sign-in & Refreshments**
- 6:30 p.m. - Announcements & Member Greeting**
- 6:45 p.m. - Member Share**
- 7:15 p.m. - Break & Refreshments**
- 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Presentation**
- Donations: First-time guests free/returning guests \$3.00**

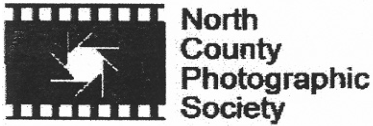
TO REACH NCPS

Web Site: www.nc-photo.org

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP TEAM

President	Stan John	To contact an individual Team Member go to our Web Site and click on CONTACTS and then on the person you wish to contact.
Vice Pres.	Barbara Swanson	
Treasurer	Nancy Jennings	
Secretary	Nancy Telford	
Gatekeeper	Ed Stalder	
Hospitality	Judi Works	
Mailbox	Jack Jennings	
Membership	Al Joseph	
Newsletter	Terri Spath	
Photo Shoots	Al Schlegel	
Programs	Carrie Barton	
Publicity	Carrie Barton	
Reception	Darlene Ashley	
Web Site	Fred Heinzmann	

NOTE: Please place NCPS in the Subject line of all correspondence.



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