

# Sierra Camera Club of Sacramento, Inc

# GAMMAGRAM



Volume 73 Number 4 \* April 2010 \* [www.sierracameraclub.com](http://www.sierracameraclub.com)

## March Images of the Night



NATURE: "Sandhill Cranes Take Flight at Sunrise" by Valarie Trudeau

### Contents

Nature Honors .....	2,3
Nature News & Scores .....	4
Travel Honors .....	5,6
Travel News & Scores .....	7
Winning Sequence .....	8
Greetings from Florence .....	9
Prints News, Meetup .....	10
PSA, Gold Rush .....	10
General Photography News.....	11
President's Message .....	11

### April Calendar

Nature & Travel Meeting..... Mon. 5th  
Chinatown Field Trip ..... Sat. 10th |

General Photography Meeting...Tue. 13th

### May Calendar

Gladding McBean Field Trip ...Sun 2nd  
Nature & Travel Meeting.....Mon 3rd  
General Photography Meeting..Tue 11th  
Print Meeting.....Tue 18th

Preston Castle Photographer's Day  
Saturday May 22. For tickets go to  
[www.prestoncastle.com/photoday.html](http://www.prestoncastle.com/photoday.html)



TRAVEL: "Horses and Dust" by Willis Price

# March Nature Honors



“Grand Canyon Strata” by Joan Scheer



“Moss Covered Tree, Jack London State Park“ by Donna Sturla



“Pelicans” by Paulo Oliveira



“Snow Geese and Moon” by Jeanne Snyder



“Klamath Eagle” by Roger Vander Plaats

# More March Nature Honors



“Horsetail Falls” by Allen Greenberg



“Mystic Island” by David Grenier



“African Fish Eagle” by Willis Price



“Butterfly & The Lady Bug” by Melba Martin

# Nature Division News

by Donna Sturla, Nature Division Director

We had a great competition on March 1st, with judge Barry Walton from the Auburn Camera Club. We had 55 entries. Barry was quick and I think most people would agree that he was one of the better judges we've had. Many beautiful images were sent in, and it was no easy task for any judge to come up with helpful comments and meaningful scores. Thank you, Barry.

One issue that did come up quite a bit during Barry's judging was the issue of "digital noise". Barry did comment on many images that he thought the digital noise was noticeable and detracted from

the image. I must admit that I did not always see the noise, and that sometimes I think digital noise adds some interesting textures to an image. Again, this is a somewhat subjective opinion and those of us who were there can take it and correct it if they choose to, or others may choose to ignore it. It's really up to the photographer, and is often in the eyes of the beholder.

Thank you to all of you who participated in the competition!

Our next meeting will be Monday, April 5th. We will have a presentation by Truman. (see page 7)

## Nature Scores, March Competition

Donna Sturla, Nature Division Director    Barry Walton, Judge

Name	Title	Score	Title	Score	Total
Anzelc, Greg	Coyote, Sentinel Meadow	11	El Capitan	10	21
Anzelc, Lynne	Tufa	10	Fly on My Head	11	21
Candilas, Linda	Raindrops	8	Waterfall, Yosemite	9	17
Farol, Dorothy	Blue Heron Couple	11	Canada Geese Dining	10	21
Greenberg, Allen	Horsetail Falls	12	Yosemite Robin	9	21
Grenier, David	Peaceful, Easy Feeling	11	Mystic Island	12	23
Holtzclaw, Truman	Early Light, Mammoth	11	Dawn's Light, Mt. Rainier	10	21
Hovey, Diane	Yellow Crested Night Heron	11	Female Frigate Bird and Chick	11	22
Judd, Alfred	Great Head Trail, Maine	11	Bubble Pond, Maine	10	21
Kent, Dave	Moab Sunset	10	Sunset, Arches National Park	11	21
Kent, Gay	New Growth	10	Fall Leaves, McGee Creek	11	21
Kovatch, Julius	Grand Canyon Winter Vista	11	Sandhill Cranes in Natural Habitat	9	20
Krueger, Werner	Margeria Glacier	11	Sonoran Desert Near White Tanks	8	19
Larsen, Anne-Marie	Imported Photos	10	Christmas and Kip	8	18
Leide-Lynch, Kristian	Bodega Head	10	Mushrooms	11	21
Lightfoot, Jan	Tulip	10	Uluru Fall Leaves	11	21
Lyman, Rachel	Storm Cloud Over Tahoe	8	Over Easy	10	18
Martin, Melba	Butterfly and the Ladybug	12	Ospreys Caring for Chick	11	23
McCleary, Bob	Hummingbird	11	Redwinged Blackbird	11	22
Oliveira, Paulo	Bird Walk	10	Pelicans	12	22
Pivetti, Chuck	Cranes in Flight	11	Flamingos Strain Lake Water 4 Food	11	22
Price, Willis	African Fish Eagle	12			12
Scheer, Joan D.	Sunset Crater, Arizona	10	Grand Canyon Strata	12	22
Snyder, Jeanne	Mushroom	11	Snow Geese and Moon	12	23
Sturla, Donna	Moss-Covered Tree	12	Shooting Star and Bud	11	23
Sydor, Marcia	Alabama Hills Lichen	10	Sierra Arch	11	21
Trimble, Allan	Sunrise	10	Blooms by Moonlight	10	20
Trudeau, Valarie	Sandhill Cranes Take Flight	13	Catch Me If You Can	11	24
Vander Plaats, Roger	Klamath Eagle	12	Sierra Aspen	10	22
Willard, Charlie	Brown Pelican Landing	11	Grey Wolf	11	22

# March Travel Singles Honors



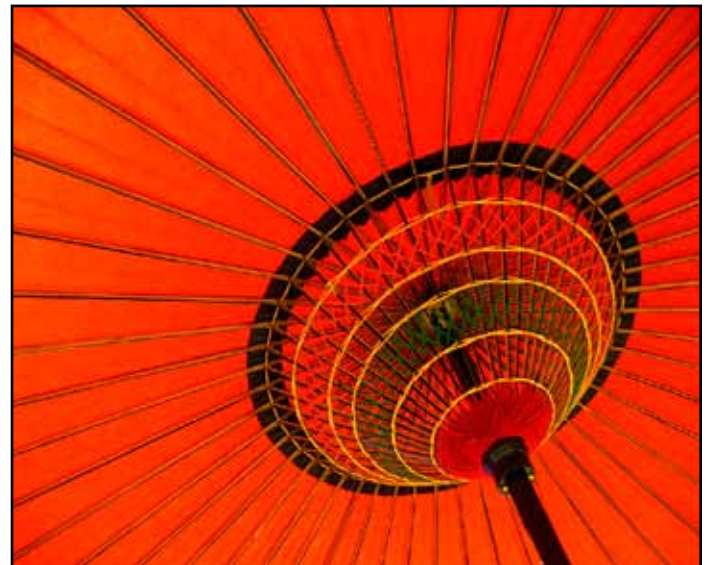
“At Prayer, Sikh Festival” by Sande Parker



“Antelope Canyon” by Lynne Anzelc



“Thai Kids get Buddhist Lessons” by Chuck Pivetti



“Tokyo Umbrella” by Alfred Judd



“Bodie Cabin” by Willis Price



“Pemaquid Point Lighthouse, Bristol, Maine” by Melba Martin

# More March Travel Singles Honors



“Burano Reflection” by Jan Lightfoot



“Bodie Window Reflection” by Ron Larsen



“Baby Jerry, Manzanar” by Sande Parker



“Baja Mexico Rodeo” by Charlie Willard



“Misty Fjords” by Greg Anzelc



“Fisherman Portugal” by Paulo Oliveira

# Travel Division News

by Charlie Willard Travel Division Co-Director

The March 1, 2010 meeting of the Travel Division saw outstanding participation by club members. We had 49 single images and 19 sequences (150 images) for a total of 199 images. There were many outstanding entrees and our judge, Barry Walton, was able to get through the large number of images in a timely manner and made informative and helpful comments. Congratulations to our many honors recipients.

Our next Travel/Nature meeting is April 5 at 7:30 p.m. April is not a competition month. Our featured speaker will be Truman Holtzclaw who will present a program titled "Wide Angle Magic." His subtitle could be, "The Good, Bad and Ugly" while discussing what is a wide angle lens (it varies by image sensor size), the advantages and disadvantages of wide angle lens and wide angle zoom lens and the best times to use a wide angle lens. He will also present tips and demonstrations on using wide angle lens for interesting and unique perspectives to make beautiful images.

## Travel Single Scores, March Competition

Charlie Willard and Jan Lightfoot, Co-Division Directors

Barry Walton, Judge

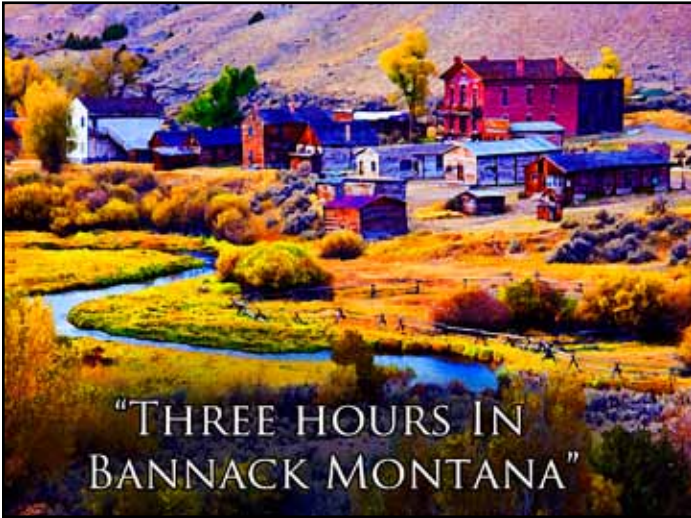
Name	Title #1	Score	Title #2	Score	Total
Anzelc, Greg	Misty Fjords-1	12	Misty Fjords-2	11	23
Anzelc, Lynne	Antelope Canyon	12	Valley View	11	23
Candilas, Linda	Reflections of Yosemite Bridge	10	Sunset Over Half Dome	11	21
Cosulich, Charlotte	In Prayer	11	Pomegranate	10	21
Farol, Dorothy	Columbus and Bird in Barcelona	11	Preparing Nets for Barcelona Fishermen	11	22
Holtzclaw, Truman	Early Light Bryce	11	Promontory Point Utah	11	22
Judd, Al	Point Arena Fire Alarm Box	11	Tokyo Umbrella	12	23
Kent, Dave	Arches National Park	11	Early Morning Bishop Creek Canyon	10	21
Kent, Gay	Bishop Fall Color	11	Enchanted Entrance Willow Camp	10	21
Krueger, Werner	St. Michael's Cathedral, Sitka	11	Tower Bridge	9	20
Larsen, Ann	no name	10			10
Larsen, Ron	1929 Dodge	11	Bodie Window Reflection	12	23
Lightfoot, Jan	Burano Reflection	12	Hotel Concordia	11	23
Lynch, Kelley	Tetons	11	Yellowstone Falls	11	22
Lyman, Rachel	Bath England	11	Rugby Finals	11	22
Martin, Melba	Napa Valley Vineyard	11	Pemaquid Point Lighthouse, Bristol	12	23
Oliveira, Paulo	Church Door	11	Fisherman Portugal	12	23
Parker, Sande	At Prayer Sikh Festival	12	Baby Jerry, Manzanar	12	24
Pivetti, Chuck	Guns of Fort Sumpter	11	Thai Kids Get Buddhist Lessons	12	23
Price, Willis	Bodie Cabin	12	Horses and Dust	13	25
Scheer, Joan	Pathway to Ocean	10	Sightseeing on SF Bay	11	21
Snyder, Jeanne	Fishing Trip to Crystal Lake	11	Sheepdog Trials in Zamora, CA	10	21
Sydor, Marcia	Dnieper Bridge	11	Yalta Chandelier	11	22
Trudeau, Valarie	My Home My Baby	11	Sunrise in Bryce	9	20
Willard, Charlie	Baja Mexico Rodeo	12	Loreto Mexico	10	22

## Travel Sequence Scores, March Competition

Name	Title #1	Score	Name	Title #1	Score
Alberson, Dan	Baja Motorcycle Trip	11	Leide-Lynch, Kristian	Geyser	12
Anzelc, Lynne	Peaks of Alaska	12	Lightfoot, Jan	Cosala	12
Cosulich, Charlotte	Morocco Market Color	12	Oliveira, Paulo	Preston Castle	11
Holtzclaw, Truman	3 hrs in Bannack Montana	13	Parker, Sande	Butte Creek Mill and Store	11
Judd, Al	Locke	12	Pivetti, Chuck	A Walk Through Florence	11
Kent, Dave	Arches National Park	11	Price, Willis	Grand Canyon Expedition	11
Kent, Gay	Big Snow Moab	12	Scheer, Joan	Grand Canyon Majesty	11
Martin, Melba	Views & People of Hawaii	11	Sydor, Marcia	Ukrainian Cossack Show	12
Larsen, Ron	Thaw in Yosemite Valley	12	Vander Plaats, Roger	Steam Threshers Reunion	12
			Willard, Charlie	Yellowstone	12

# March Travel Sequence of the Night

“Three Hours In Bannack Montana” by Truman Holtzclaw





# Saluti da Firenze! (Greetings from Florence!)

by B.J. Ueltzen



“Obama Pops Out of the Float”  
Viareggio Carnevale

This is my ninth year of coming here for a couple months at a time, and this historic city has become my second home. I have a wonderful rented flat with all of the conveniences (especially an oven, washer and wi-fi). Now all my neighbors and the vendors at the open market nearby recognize me and welcome me back.

It has been a particularly rainy month since I arrived at the end of January, and the predictions for rain in the next two weeks will make my husband’s arrival for his first visit here a soggy one. That, and the temperatures are heading back down to freezing. Sometimes I struggle with staying in and dry, but most of the time my camera and I head out for some small adventure, even if it’s exploring only a few blocks away from here.

Gay asked me to pass on a few photos, so here are some that have been collected at the Viareggio Carnevale (where Obama made appearances, in papier maché), in my beloved Spello, at the monthly Lucca antiques fair, in the English Cemetery where Elizabeth Barrett Browning is entombed, and around my neighborhood. I have another 7 weeks here, and plans for travel to some new locations I’ve never seen or photographed. Do a “sun dance” for me, because holding a camera and an umbrella is just too difficult! Read my blog at [oldbroadabroad.com](http://oldbroadabroad.com) Ciao!



“Michael Jackson Thriller Float”  
Viareggio Carnevale



“Butcher Shop Local Specialties”  
Spello



“Snow on Monte Subasio”  
Spello



“Shopping for Used Fur Coats”  
Lucca



“Marble Marker, English Cemetery”  
Florence



“Copying Duomo Columns by Hand”  
Florence



“My Street in the Rain”  
Florence

# Print Division News

by Dave Kent, Print Division Director

Our first new Print Division Meeting was a great success. Chuck Pivetti did a double mat cutting demonstration, having a visitor "Mike" cut his first mat. For our 2nd activity, most of the 25 people in attendance showed two prints. The audience was lively offering advice and praise. A wide variety of subjects were covered. For our next meeting in May, the group decided to keep the same meeting format instead of a competition.

## Meetup Group

by Jan Lightfoot

If you have not joined the Exploring Photography Meet-up group that our club is sponsoring, this trip might inspire to join. On **Sat May 2nd** is a special photography tour limited to the first 25 people who sign up! The tour will be led by Mary Ellen Dempsey and will include the Lincoln Feats of Clay Art Show and a complete tour of the 135 year old terra cotta Gladding McBean factory. After the two hour tour, there may be time to re-visit some areas of interest that we saw along the way. It's OK to bring a tripod, and much of the factory has great HDR potential. After the tour, we can grab some lunch at one of the local restaurants and then drive on to Loomis for a visit to High-Hand, a unique combination of art gallery, nursery, pottery and architecture. Tickets are \$25.00 each and because they are limited, this is a photographer's only venue. See the web site for more information. <[www.meetup.com/exploringphotography](http://www.meetup.com/exploringphotography)>

Another trip will be on **April 10th in Chinatown San Francisco**. As we walk through Chinatown's Gateway Arch, you may begin to feel you're in the middle of something exotic and exciting. We'll visit St. Mary's Square, Old St. Mary's Cathedral, Ross Alley, Waverly Place (also known as The Street of Painted Balconies), and many other points of interest. This walk will offer a little bit of everything, from architecture to rich, vibrant colors and contrasts, to street and people photography. A discussion on photographing people on the street will be made available prior to the meetup. <[www.meetup.com/exploringphotography](http://www.meetup.com/exploringphotography)>

# PSA

The Sierra Camera Club is affiliated with the Photographic Society of America. By joining PSA you receive a beautiful monthly magazine, the "PSA Journal".



The Journal is designed to bring how-to articles, reports of competitions, news of Divisions, business of the Society, educational articles, photographic opportunities



both domestic and foreign, and much more. The PSA website contains a lot of information and beautiful images. <<http://www.psa-photo.org>>

**Photographic Society of America  
72nd Annual International  
Conference of Photography  
October 3-9, 2010  
Charleston, South Carolina  
<http://www.psa-photo.org>**

## Gold Rush

Next Gold Rush Chapter Meeting

Sunday, June 6, 2010

Red Lion Hotel, Arden Village

1401 Arden Way, Sacramento, CA

Our regional "Gold Rush Chapter" is also affiliated with the Photographic Society of America. The Photographic Society of America Gold Rush Chapter is an organization of interested amateur and professional photographers who want to improve their photographic skills and share their images with others.

The Gold Rush Chapter covers a geographical area of 31 counties in northern and central California and six counties in Nevada. There are currently 17 camera clubs in the Gold Rush Chapter. [www.psa-goldrush.org](http://www.psa-goldrush.org)

# General Photography Division News

Grant Kreinberg and Chuck Pivetti, Co-Directors

The presentation by Bill Bachmann at our March meeting turned out to be a real treat. We owe a big “thank you” to Judy Tillson for getting him to come speak to us.

At our next meeting on April 13 we will have our second competition of the year. So send two images that you are proud of to Chuck Pivetti . Attach your JPEG files to an e-mail addressed to <cpivetti@winfirst.com> Since the April Nature/Travel meeting, there has been a lot of discussion about sizing and compressing images into JPEG format. The April judge raised fears that JPEG compression was causing noise and artifacts. But trust me, the Club’s instructions for sizing images for electronic submittal do not cause noise and artifacts.

Noise results from shooting at high ISO, from under exposing and after-capture brightening, from over sharpening, but mostly by working on an original JPEG image in several sessions and re-saving it each time. Every time the same JPEG file is saved, it is degraded. Think of it as shooting color film, having the film processed and printed, throwing the negatives away, making copies by copying the prints, and then making future copies by copying the copies.

If you edited an image until you were proud of it, saved it as a JPEG to fit 1024 by 768 pixels, quality level 8, and then decided it needed more work and saved it again as JPEG, quality level 8, it would hurt the image a little. If you did that a third time, it would hurt the image a lot.

If you shoot RAW with your digital camera, that RAW file is your negative; it can never be changed. So any time you are not happy with your final PSD, TIFF, or JPEG file, you can always go back to the original and start over. That RAW file cannot be degraded.

If you prefer to shoot JPEG in your camera because you can get more images on your card, just realize that the card holds more images because the files don’t contain as much information. You can, however, edit JPEG images non-destructively in Adobe Camera Raw (which ships free inside Photoshop) or with Adobe Lightroom (which is not free).

Also, when sharpening images, avoid sharpening the sky or large expanses of smooth texture. Even modest sharpening will result in a grainy sky.

And don’t forget the dinner at the Spaghetti Factory before the meeting. It’s a great opportunity to socialize and get to know one another better. We have to know how many are coming so we can reserve a table; RSVP with your e-mail submitting your images (or separately, but please let us know). Chuck

## Photoshop Tip of the Month

For faster navigating around in the Photoshop window, use space-bar+ctrl (cmd) to temporarily change to the Zoom tool; space-bar+alt(opt)+ctrl (cmd) to temporarily change to the Zoom-out tool; use the Zoom tool to draw a marquis around any part of your photo to blow it up to fill the window; use the spacebar to temporarily change to the Hand tool to drag your enlarged area around in the window; use ctrl(cmd)+zero to size your entire photo to fill the screen. (Mac shortcuts in parentheses. These basic keyboard shortcuts work in all Adobe CS programs and most others.)

## President’s Message

by Bob Hubbell

Ahh . . . April means the flowers are smiling and beckoning! Dust off that macro lens or long lens! Get out that kneeling pad. Get your reflector and sun diffuser ready! And most especially, start doing deep knee bends, neck contortions, and photoyama yoga. Vernal pools started showing flowers on March, and if you’re lucky you’ll find “bathtub rings” around the pools now. The City Cemetery will be in bloom as well as many other areas. And don’t forget your own yard, and public gardens around town. Check our Meetup group schedule, too: <<http://www.meetup.com/exploringphotography/>> No excuses! Get out there.

TAH DAH: In case you missed it, the Prints Division had its first meeting this March. We had a lively crowd, lots of good images, and an interesting workshop. Yes, I know, I’m a member of the Geezer Generation, but prints are where it’s at! Websites are great but nothing beats a nice print on the wall. (See separate article in this Gammagram.)

Uh, speaking of websites, here’s one to inspire you: <[patohara.com](http://patohara.com) <<http://patohara.com>> > Great scenics but also look at “Garden of the Mind’s Eye.” Pretty far out, and I think they’re all done in the camera; none of that Photoshop manipulation.