

FOTO FANFARE NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2021



Featured Articles!

**New
Feature!
Stab From the
Past by
D. Stinson**

**Judge's
Surveys**

**Fun with
Fisheye
Part 2**

THIS & THAT

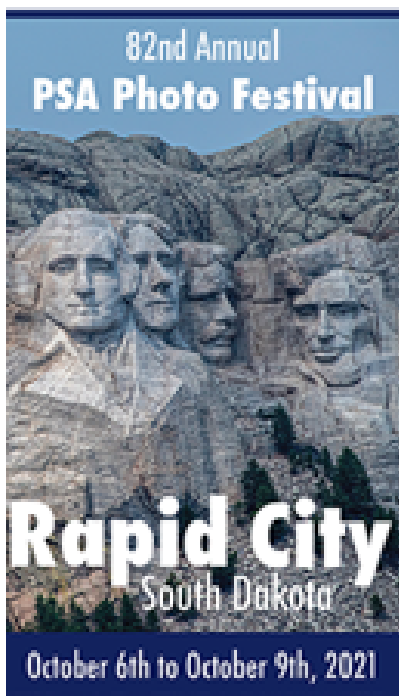
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PSA Photo Festival

PSA had to postpone their conference last year, just as many things were canceled or postponed. It's coming back for 2021 in Rapid City, SD! They've relabeled it as a Photo Festival and it's chock full of photo tours! I'm excited to experience it for the first time. I'll give you a full report when I get back, but you might want to think about going, yourself. Art Wolf will be the closing speaker, for one! Tours include sunrise and/or sunset at the Badlands, Mt. Rushmore, Spearfish Canyon Waterfalls, Reptile Gardens and more. Hotel rooms are relatively inexpensive, and I heard there is an awesome graffiti walk in Rapid City. Hope to see you there! For more information, go to <https://psa-programs.org/photo-festival-2021/>

Vicki Stephens



Cover Image Image of the Month

Spellbound

By Bruce Paul

Livermore Valley Camera Club

Helpful Websites

[N4C.org](https://www.n4c.org)

Instagram: [instagram.com](https://www.instagram.com/n4cphoto)

N4C page is titled
northerncacouncilofcameraclubs

Winning photos for the month:

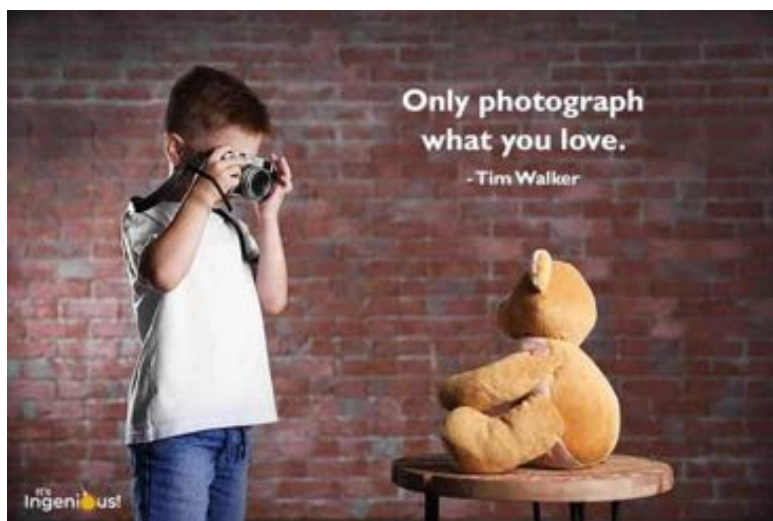
<https://n4c.photoclubservices.com/>

PSA - <https://psa-photo.org/>

<https://www.dvilladsenphotography.com/10-best-photography-locations-san-francisco-bay-area>

12 Best Photography Locations in the SF Bay Area:

<https://www.tripstodiscover.com/hidden-gems-in-san-francisco/>



Letter from the Editor

By Vicki Stephens

As you can see, I'm not Doug! This is usually where he writes his President's Corner, however he's been enjoying a photography getaway, so I'm stepping in for him. I can't wait to see the photos from his trip! In the meantime, I'll regale you with my publishing adventures, such as they are.

Since taking over the editing of Foto Fanfare, I've learned a lot about what makes a newsletter work. You've probably noticed some changes over the last year. I hope you have! After competing and coming in 3rd in the Council & Chapters division in the 2020 PSA Newsletter Contest, I made note of the judges feedback and, henceforth, made some changes. A huge thank you to everyone who has also supported and contributed to enhancing Foto Fanfare, from article submissions, layout advice, everything down to font style. A special thank you to Marcy Zimmerman of the DiabloValley Camera Club who has been instrumental in helping me spruce up the newsletter. I entered Foto Fanfare in the PSA Newsletter Contest again this year. It placed 2nd! I'm happy for the advancement and hope to continue in that direction. As part of the contest, judges vote on the best articles, e.g., technical, how-to, motivational, etc. Santa Rosa Photographic Society and Marin Photography Club member Tamara Krautkramer, in conjunction with Marcy Zimmerman, won best How-To article for *Insider Tips on African Safaris*. Congratulations Tamara and Marcy!

I've enjoyed hearing your stories! I'm a traveler, so I always love travel articles, but I've grown to embrace opinion pieces, musings, field trips, how-to's, judge's advice, technical articles, and I could go on. Thank you, thank you and *please keep those articles coming!* They must be written by you (not borrowed from the internet), but you don't have to go it alone. We can help you write an article if you don't know how or don't know how to get started. Don't be afraid to ask.

It's obviously been a topsy-turvy couple of years, but hopefully we'll be back to our regular routines soon. I don't know about you, but I can't wait to hit the road again...or the air, as the case may be. Keep on clicking! 📷



Vicki Stephens after a Victoria Falls helicopter tour; taken by Jack Stephens.



Victoria Falls during low water season, by Vicki Stephens, 2018



Photo by Tamara Krautkramer



Photo by Tamara Krautkramer

Notable Photographers and Their Images

By Mark Brueckman

No. 13 - August, 2021

Paul Strand and the Birth of Modernism

The artist's world is limitless. It can be found anywhere, far from where he lives or a few feet away. It is always on his doorstep. - Paul Strand

Paul Strand was born as Nathaniel Paul Stransky in Brooklyn in 1890. At the time of his birth, the hometown baseball team was called the Brooklyn Bridegrooms. This name occurs to me as quite strange. Did Brooklynites cheer - "Huzzah Bridegrooms, Get Married!"

By 1895, the team was nicknamed The Trolley Dodgers due to the number of trolleys in Brooklyn and the need for pedestrians to "dodge" them. In 1913, the team officially adopted the name the Brooklyn Dodgers. They moved to Los Angeles in 1958 and kept the Dodger name. By this time, trolleys and their dodgers had disappeared from the streets of Brooklyn and Los Angeles.

Apparently, getting hit by a trolley was a relatively frequent occurrence. My dad was told one of his great grandfathers was run over and killed by a trolley in Buffalo. He isn't sure if that is a true story or just a remnant of wishful thinking by a disgruntled spouse. But adapting to new technology was a reality of the modern world. One still has to watch where you walk - now we are dodging electric scooters that zip through crosswalks.

I mention modern technology because Strand would be a key player in championing the Modernist movement in photography. Modernism started in the early twentieth century and appeared in force in the 1920s, I suspect as a reaction to the carnage of The Great War. The inhumanity of The Great War, much of which was informed by photography and painting, caused many artists to reject the traditional romanticized art movements. As such, Modernist photography displaced Pictorialism.

Pictorialism was romantic, often studio images of people in posed fanciful and idealized situations. Here is a photograph of my father's grandmother, Harriet "Hattie" Harris, with her two sisters, Ella and Viola, from about 1894. I think she is the one on the far right.

This is a typical Pictorialism photo, most of which were shot in a studio, in one's Sunday best with a soft focus lens. Note the characteristic white vignetting which frames the subjects and the classic Greco-Roman posing.

The photographer's name is at the bottom of the image. It was taken by Roy E. Palmer at his studio in Buffalo. A Google search reveals a notice in a 1917 Bulletin of Photography -- Palmer is selling his studio and moving to California for "health" reasons. Was he really sick or running from someone? Either way, like many of us, he was off to a new start in the Golden State. I followed his lead 74 years later.

OF BULLETIN OF PHOTOGRAPHY.

SITUATION WANTED—Permanent position wanted by first-class retoucher and operator of good habits and appearance; married. Address 843, care of BULLETIN OF PHOTOGRAPHY.

DO YOU WANT TO BUY OR SELL A STUDIO?

FOR SALE—Studio in city of 14,000 in Western New York. Established five years. All new equipment; second floor; good prices. Address N. I. Smith, 8 Jackson St., Batavia, N. Y.

FOR SALE—Gallery doing a good business. Because of poor health must move to California. For information, apply to Roy E. Palmer, 1088 Genesee Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE—Wollensak Velostigmat lens, Series II, f4.5; 8x10. Particulars for the asking. A. B. Deane, Wellsboro, Pa.

FOR SALE—Eastman four-man printer, complete with Cooper Hewitt Light, extra tube and extra shutter; almost new; cost \$153.30—present cost \$215—will sell for \$115. Will ship C.O.D., with privilege of examination. Clinton Gilbert, 215 Broad Street, Elizabeth, N. J.

name, Mr. Ekund will continue in the Gibson Studio of which he is proprietor.

Harry Weeks, formerly 2305 Boardwalk, Atlantic City, N. J., has opened a new studio on one of the new amusement piers at Miami, Florida, for the winter months, returning to the Atlantic City studio as usual next summer. He reports business good for the southern territory.

DEATHS

William Hall Walker

William Hall Walker, inventor and philanthropist, died on November 29th at his home in New York City after a long illness, at the age of seventy-two.

Mr. Walker devoted much time to the development of photography and was the inventor of many devices which helped bring the art to its present degree of perfection. He became the European representative of the Eastman Kodak Company, with headquarters in London, where he was a prominent figure for twenty years, until his retirement twelve years ago. He was a member of the Camera Club and the Royal Institute of London and India House in this city.

Mr. Walker was likewise active in the American Red Cross, to which he had donated \$50,000 since the commencement of the war.



Back to Strand. Strand was a photographer and early cinematographer. He was a member of his high school camera club and was taught and influenced by Lewis Hines. Strand was one of the founders of *The Photo League*, a group of photographers advocating for social and political awareness with their cameras. Compare Strand's 1916 Blind Woman image to another Pictorialistic image of my great grandmother Hattie when she was about twenty in 1904 (the photographer is unknown).



One could see how Strand's Blind Woman image could be provocative and maybe even disturbing to a viewer accustomed to stylized Pictorialistic photos. Poverty and the Poor were no longer out-of-sight and out-of-mind.

Here is another classic Strand photo.



This image has a foreboding feel to it -- mankind's existence is small as compared to the towering power of Wall Street. This image reminds me of that tremendous Apple Macintosh commercial from the 1984 Super Bowl -- <https://youtu.be/VtvjbmoDx-I>.

As one sports reporter said, "...it wasn't much of a game, but did you see that commercial!"

Strand's affiliation with social justice and the communist party forced him to emigrate to Europe in



1949. The Red Scare was in and he was out. He settled in France with his third wife and never returned to America. He travelled and remained creatively active. Here is a picture he took of his wife's hands.

Strand died in Orgeval, Yvelines, France in 1976.

Here is a good article from the Metropolitan Museum of Art with some more of his photos - https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/pstd/hd_pstd.htm

Have a great August and watch out for those hooligans on their new fangled scooting machines!

FEATURED PHOTOGRAPHER:**Laura Stansfield, Santa Rosa Photographic Society***By Marcy Zimmerman*

Working as a bookkeeper and small business advisor, Laura Stansfield modestly describes herself as “the least creative person you will meet.” Yet within a year of joining the Santa Rosa Photographic Society, she won Best in Show in the N4C June Travel category for her image (below) of rice paddies in Sa Pa, Vietnam.

Laura had not spent much time on photography until 2020, when she commented on a facebook photo she admired and eventually connected with two members of the Santa Rosa Photographic Society. That fluke encounter resulted in her joining the club and enthusiastically embracing this new hobby.

Laura is one of those patient people who can sit quietly watching birds and animals in their natural habitat, taking a photo only when and if something interesting happens. Being in the moment is her reward. As a result, her image library was dominated by animal shots when she started out.

She expanded her skills and explored new genres by reaching out to fellow club members, asking lots of questions and tagging along or initiating local photo excursions two or three times a week. She also spent many hours at her desk learning how to effectively edit her photos.



Shout out to Tony, Steve, Mike, and others in the Santa Rosa club for inspiring her and showing her new techniques to develop her creative muscles, enabling her to compete in multiple categories.

Laura had to postpone her dream trip to New Zealand due to the pandemic, so she went back to some photos taken a few years ago in Vietnam. This award-winning image was taken while on a walking tour between mountain villages after an overnight train trip from Hanoi.

Laura also carefully crafted her caption to give viewers a sense of place and time--another useful tip from her mentors. Obviously a fast learner, Laura has worked steadily and gone from enthusiastic newbie to a role model for all of us!



Sa Pa is located in the Northwest region of Vietnam. Rice is a staple of the ethnic residents and terraced fields cover the mountain slopes surrounding this village that sits at 4,921 feet elevation.



The Northern CA Council of Camera Clubs and Hunt's Photo & Video
proudly present

MARIE ALTENBURG

in two NEW FREE Zoom presentations:

TEXTURES - Wednesday, August 4, 5:00 PM and an

Image Review Session

Wednesday, August 18, 5:00 PM

Don't miss Part 2
on Aug. 18th,
even if you
couldn't attend
Part 1! Register
below.

Textures

A texture can transform a simple snapshot into a work of art. In this presentation, you will learn how to apply textures to your photographs for creative and artistic results. While it works beautifully with flower images, it's also a great way to hide distracting backgrounds on any image, as you will see during this program.

Image Review Session

An image review session will allow participants the ability to have their own work on using textures shown and reviewed, with suggestions made when necessary. Since questions often arise while participants are actually trying the techniques on their own, this would allow any additional questions about techniques to be answered - almost like a mini-course with the instructor there to help.



REGISTER NOW

There is no charge for these webinars, but we ask that you register in advance for each webinar by clicking on these links. After registering you will receive a confirmation email with the login details. Since each registration is unique, it is important to save the registration link to your calendar or some other safe place for reference at the time of the meeting.

Wednesday, August 4, 5:00 PM, (PDT) TEXTURES.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZUldOCurD8tE9Ha7LgU1sTKp2zGtImpfafP>

Wednesday, August 18, 5:00 PM, (PDT) Image Review Session

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZAodeupqjsiEtdP6KSozGuEu1ag9Zo1qx5k>



About Marie

Marie Altenburg is an award-winning photographer, competition judge and instructor with an excellent reputation for delivering inspiring presentations and how-to webinars at photography clubs, conventions and conferences throughout the country. Learn more at her website:

<https://www.mariealtenburg.com>



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
COUNCIL OF CAMERA CLUBS
PROMOTING PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPRESSION AND EDUCATION

Hunt's
PHOTO & VIDEO

Fun with Fisheye

Part 2: Post Processing

by Douglas G. Stinson

In part 1 of this article, I discussed some of the characteristics of fisheye lenses and some ideas about how to compose images with them. The large depth of field, close focus capabilities, and wide angle of view of fisheye lenses provide a unique perspective that can be used to exaggerate the relationship between subjects.

Fisheye lenses exhibit extreme barrel distortion which causes the center of the image to appear to bulge out. The visual impression of this distortion may not be significant if your subject does not contain obvious straight lines. The distortion can be disguised if the composition is amenable to having the major straight lines pass through or converge on the center of the field of view. And, the barrel distortion can be a feature to be used creatively to produce a unique image.

However, in many cases the barrel distortion is undesirable and cannot be disguised. An example of this would be architectural photography. A fisheye lens can be very useful for working in cramped spaces, but the final image needs to be as realistic as possible. It is here that post-processing comes in.

Lens Profiles

One of the ways to correct for distortion is to apply a lens profile. Many raw converters, such as Adobe Camera Raw and Lightroom (I will call both “ACR”) include lens profiles. Of course, this only works if the raw converter has a profile for the fisheye lens you are using. I have previously recommended DxO PhotoLab for their extensive library of lens profiles, but now they seem to have fallen significantly behind Adobe. While ACR allows you to select a lens profile from a list, both DxO and Affinity Photo determine the lens profile from the EXIF data. This is a problem if there is no lens information in the EXIF data, which is often the case for manual lenses, such as the Rokinon 12mm f/2.8 I am using.

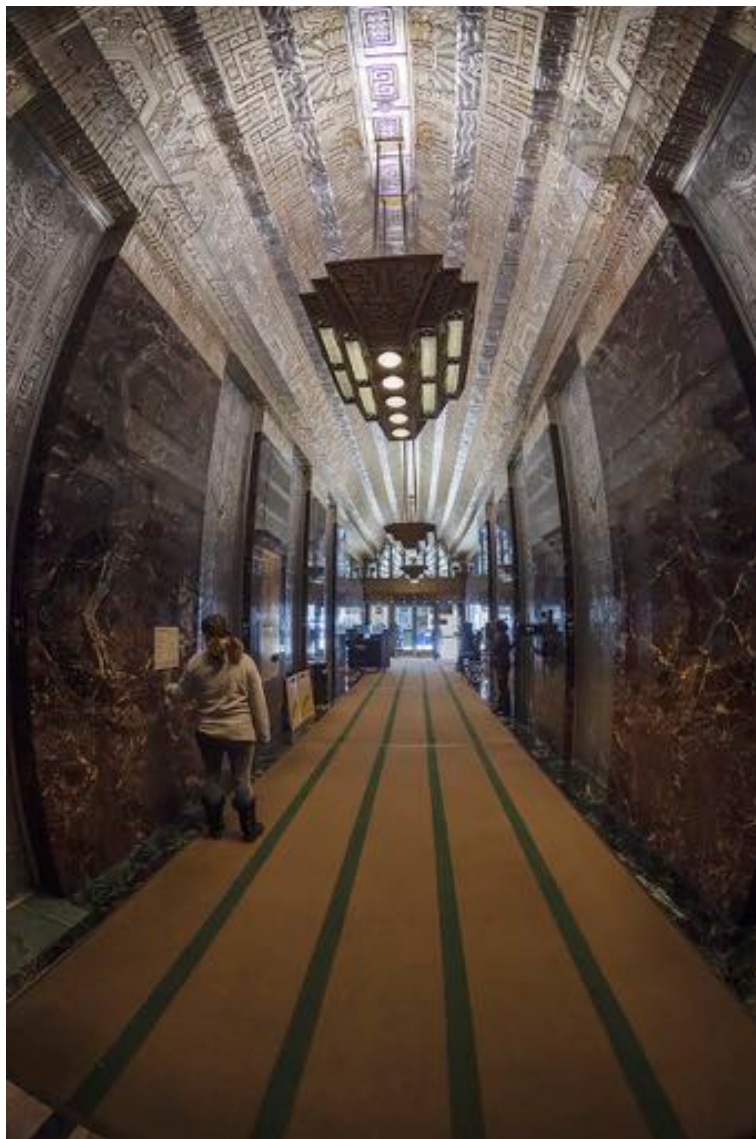


Figure 1. The lobby of the 450 Sutter Street Building as captured with a Rokinon 12mm fisheye lens on a Canon 5D Mark II full-frame DSLR. The camera was tilted up to include as much of the ceiling as possible. I attempted to center the corridor in the frame but was not completely successful. Both of these factors will impact how the image is processed.

Figure 1 shows the straight from the camera image of the lobby of the 450 Sutter Street building in San Francisco taken with the Rokinon 12mm fisheye lens. The left side of Figure 2 shows the panel from ACR used to apply the lens profile correction while the right side shows the result. The barrel distortion has been removed. What remains is mostly perspective distortion resulting from the camera not being held perfectly level (intentionally in this case – I was most interested in the ceiling). These distortions can be removed by applying the *Edit>Transform* functions. Transformation will likely result in the image being cropped and/or empty areas created which can be filled with the *Edit>Content Aware Fill* function. The result is shown in figure 3. Careful observation will reveal that some lines are still not perfectly straight and not all lines are horizontal that should be. This is not a problem when using a more advanced technique that will be discussed later in this article.

In some cases, the lens profile will create images which may be mathematically correct, but aesthetic disasters. See for example figure 4. Fortunately, the advanced technique mentioned above will generally work in these situations as well.

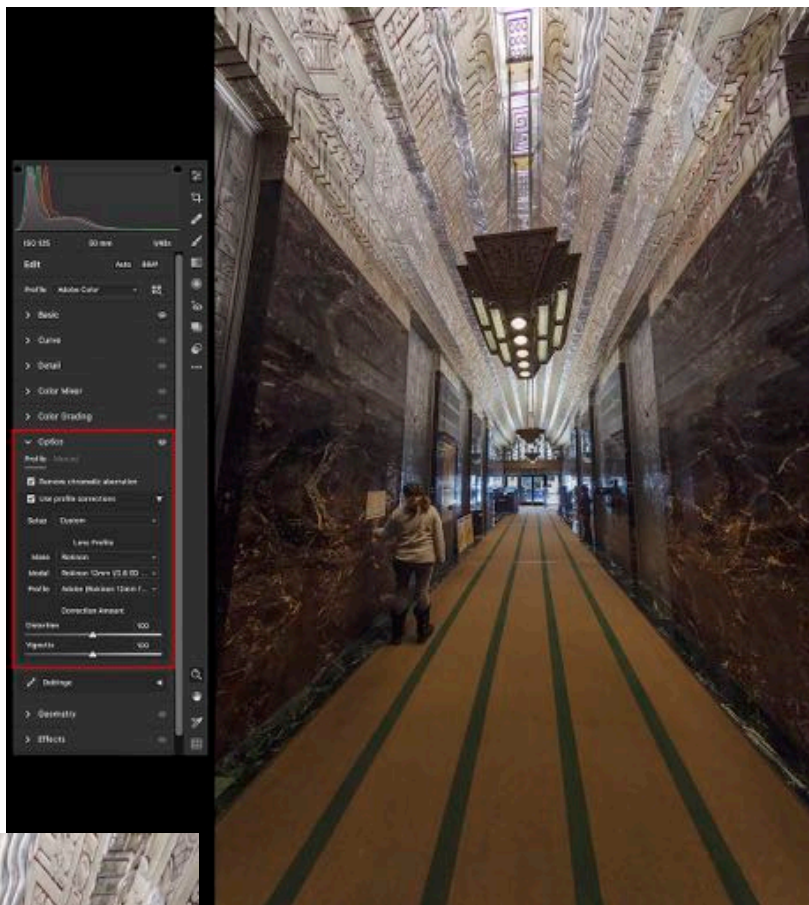


Figure 2. The image of figure 1 after applying the lens profile provided by Adobe Camera Raw, as shown in the panel on the left. A similar panel is available in the Develop module of LightRoom. Note that the lens-induced barrel distortion has been removed but now perspective distortion introduced by the fact that the camera was tilted becomes evident.

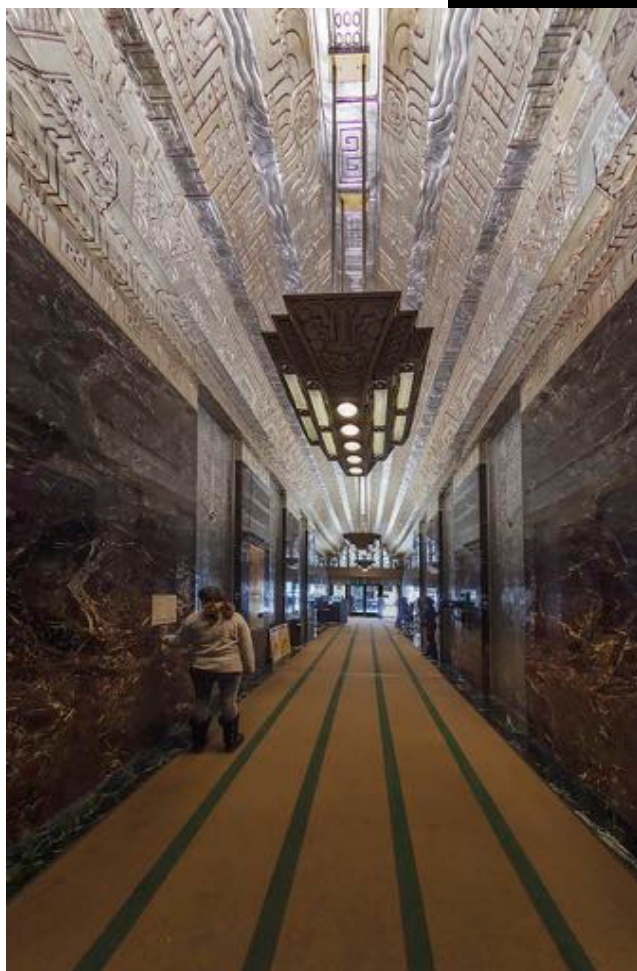


Figure 3. The *Edit>Transform>Distort* function in Photoshop was applied to make converging vertical lines parallel and reduce horizontal tilt. Note that even with these distortions removed, the image retains the wide angle of view and feeling of immense depth that only a fisheye lens can produce.

Third-Party Programs

Third party programs are particularly useful when no lens profile is available, or the profile produces results as seen in figure 4. In general, these programs use some mathematical transformation to map the fisheye image to an image that is more “correct” in some sense. One such program is *Imadio* which is available as a Photoshop or Lightroom plug-in for ~\$30. Imadio is unique in that it doesn’t try to make all lines that should be straight perfectly straight, rather it attempts to make people look as realistic as possible. It does a reasonable job of making *either* vertical lines vertical *or* horizontal lines horizontal; the choice is user selectable.

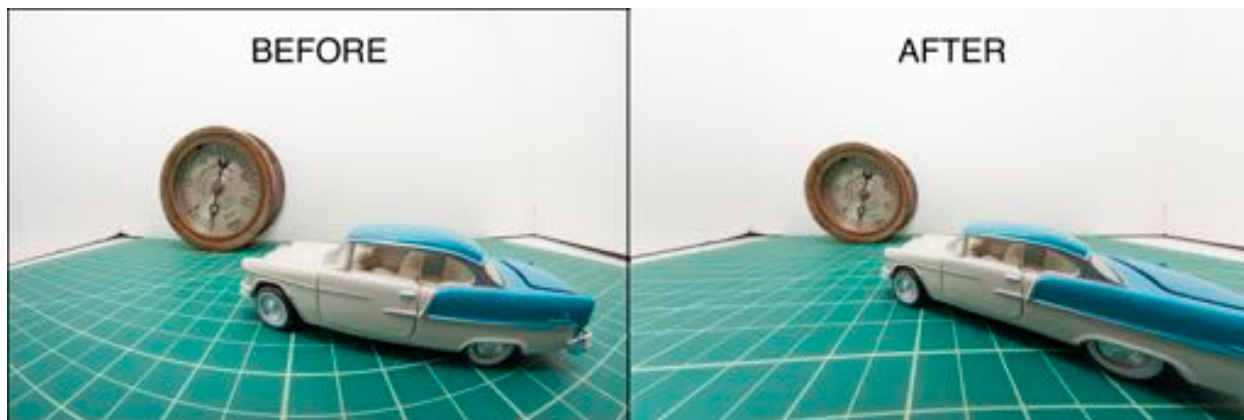


Figure 4. The “as shot” image (left) and the image corrected by the lens profile (right). It is tempting to conclude from the fact the horizontal grid lines are not horizontal that there is a fault in the correction algorithm. But this is not the case. This results from the angle at which the camera is pointed at the subject. Likewise, the stretching of the rear of the car is an example of the extreme perspective provided by fisheye lenses, a perspective far outside our ordinary experience. It is this extreme perspective that can be used to produce creative images.

Figure 5 compares “as shot” vs processed by Imadio with default settings. The person is less distorted and vertical lines are vertical. Essentially no pixels have been cropped out in the transformation, which is not the case with many other programs. The original image had some straight lines that, if extended, would pass through the optical center



Figure 5. The left image shows the “as -shot” image of my evil twin, as discussed in Part 1 of this article. After processing using the default setting of the Imadio plug-in filter, he looks less evil.

and so appeared straight. These have been sacrificed. Imadio appears to be most useful for scenes with people but few important straight lines – which is pretty much how the program is advertised.

The Imadio program has many adjustable parameters. Only the default preset was used here. It is possible the result could be improved. Perhaps the parameters would make sense to someone who understands the details of projection transformations. For me, they were highly unintuitive and frustrating.

The Ultimate Tool

For me the ultimate tool for fixing distortion in images can be found in Photoshop's *Filter* menu: The *Adaptive Wide Angle* filter. The interface is intuitive: just trace a line (the blue line in figure 6) along any edge that should be straight, then tell Photoshop the orientation the line should be. The filter will distort the image so that the edge is straight and in the specified orientation, as seen in figure 7. The line is now purple because I told Photoshop the line should be vertical. Repeat the process for as many lines as you like until the image looks as you intend. You can see a video of the whole process from start to finish here: <https://youtu.be/vBwdpDaAsEs>. Figure 8 shows the final result.

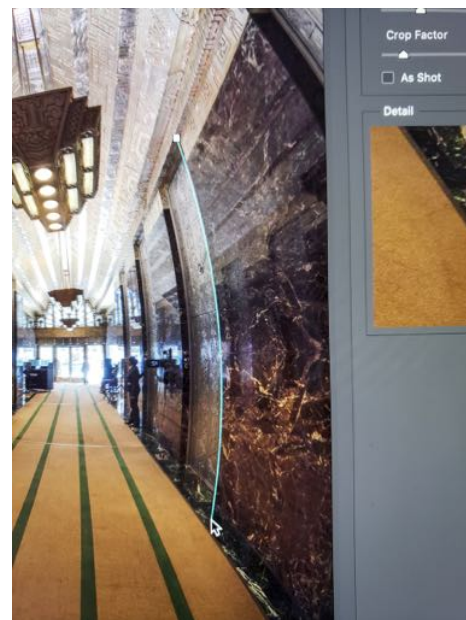


Figure 6. When using the Adaptive Wide Angle filter, one draws “constraint lines” along curved lines that should be straight. In this screen shot of part of the filter’s workspace, one such line is shown in blue.

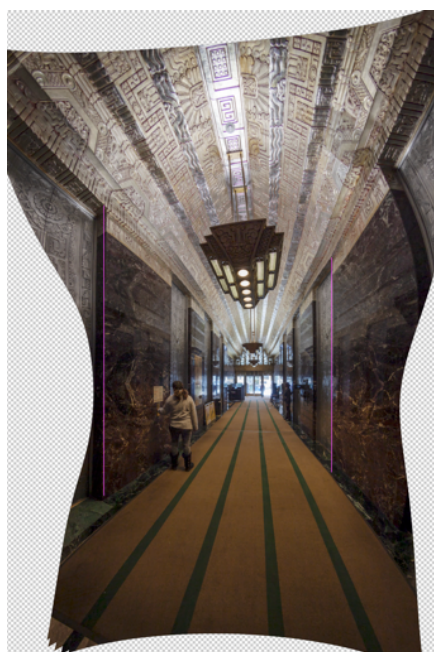


Figure 7. A screen shot of part of the Adaptive Wide Angle filter’s work space after two constraint lines have been drawn and marked as “vertical”. Vertical constraints are colored purple, horizontal constraints yellow.



Figure 8. The final version of figure 1 after application of the Adaptive Wide Angle filter and appropriate cropping. Compare to figure 3.

The nice thing about the Adaptive Wide Angle filter is that you are in complete control. You decide which lines get straightened. You decide the final orientation of each line. The transformations the filter applies can correspond to objective reality or your internal vision. An example of this is figure 9, where I processed the as-shot image of figure 4 using the Adaptive Wide Angle filter. While not the “technically correct” version of figure 4, it is more in line with my vision of the scene. Another example is figure 10. The right side of the figure is a fisheye view of part of the

doorway wall and part of the ceiling of the 450 Sutter Street building lobby. I processed it using the Adaptive Wide Angle filter to make it seem like the wall and ceiling were all of one piece, the result is shown on the right.

You don't need to stop there. There is nothing preventing you from telling Photoshop that two lines that are parallel in reality are supposed to be perpendicular! Remarkably, Photoshop does not crash. Instead, it strives mightily to create an extreme non-Euclidean universe in which parallel lines *do* cross. For example, figure 11!



Figure 9. An interpretation of the as-shot image in figure 4 using the Adaptive Wide Angle filter.



Figure 10. On the right is “450 Sutter Street Fantasy” which received an Honorable Mention in the June 2021 Monochrome – Advanced N4C Interclub Competition. It was derived from the as-shot image on the left using the Adaptive Wide Angle filter.

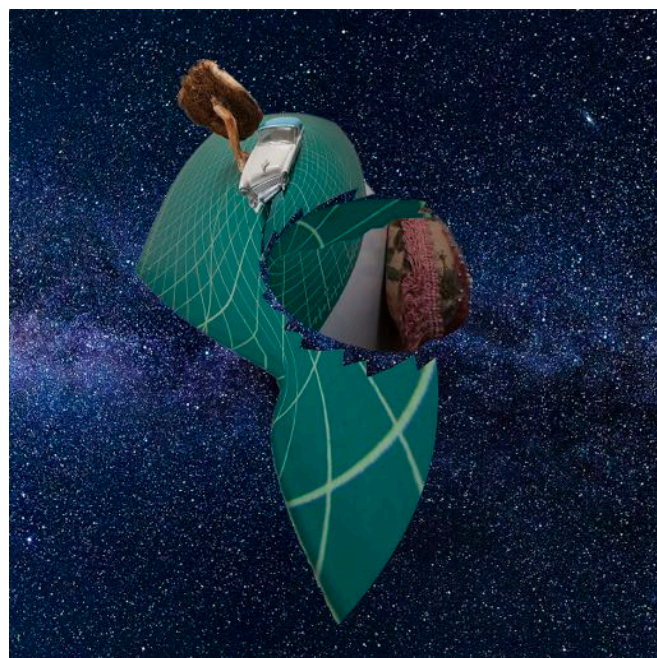


Figure 11. A universe with non-Euclidean geometry accidentally creating by breaking the rules of the Adaptive Wide Angle filter.

Stab from the Past

By Doug Stinson

An occasional informal history of the Northern California Council of Camera Clubs, ripped from the pages of Foto Fanfare

The Northern California Council of Camera Clubs (N4C) was incorporated as a non-profit social club on November 12, 1952. However, the Council existed before that date as an unincorporated organization.

1959

This is the earliest issue of Foto Fanfare to which I have access, however it was the second year of publication. The business office of Foto Fanfare and the meeting place of the N4C Board was what is now the Harvey Milk Phototography Center at 50 Scott Street, San Francisco. Foto Fanfare was published monthly and mailed directly to subscribers. Subscriptions cost one Dollar.

N4C consisted of the following clubs: Alameda Photographic Society, Albany Camera Club, Berkeley Camera Club, California Camera Club, Concord Camera Club, Contra Costa Camera Club, Mission Pictorialists (SF), Oakland Camera Club, Petaluma Camera Club, Peninsular Color Club, Photochrome Club of San Francisco, Pleasant Hill Camera Club, Portola Camera Club, Retlaw Camera Club (SF), Ross Valley Camera Club, Richmond View Finders, San Carlos Camera Club, San Leandro Camera Club, San Lorenzo, Sunset Camera Club (SF), and the United Camera Club (SF).

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 Camera Clinics—your photo questions answered

DEMONSTRATIONS: Manufacturers will demonstrate new equipment. **CAMERA CLINICS**—your photo questions answered. Demonstrations start each day at 10 a.m. and continue 'til closing.

Sat. Feb. 14 LINCOLN-MERIDON ARTIST DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!	Thurs. Feb. 19 STEREO PEARLY A KODAK DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!	Wed. Feb. 25 BARSON & LOMB EDMUND DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!	Mon. Mar. 2 BOLLE DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!
Mon. Feb. 16 MILADISO WITTMAUER DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!	Fri. Feb. 20 MIDOLTA-VSB DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!	Thurs. Feb. 26 WICKLANDER HARRIS DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!	Tues. Mar. 3 ALPH-MIRION & BROCKWAY DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!
Tues. Feb. 17 GRAPHIC DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!	Sat. Feb. 21 LEIGH DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!	Fri. Feb. 27 ZEISS DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!	Wed. Mar. 4 KEYSTONE AND REKON & MAMMA DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!
Wed. Feb. 18 ROLLE AND FARFA DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!	Tues. Feb. 24 CRAIG-AROUS SYLVANIA DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!	Sat. Feb. 28 BELL & HOWELL DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!	Thurs. Mar. 5 RESOLER & BUSH- NELL & ATOOR DAY Donorize \$100 merchandise!

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Full page advertisement on the back cover of the February 1959 issue of Foto Fanfare.

Parents Magazine lauded San Francisco for the creation of the Photography Center “a beautiful modern facility” that opened December 1958. In describing the Center, *Parents Magazine* notes “More serious amateurs, usually camera club members, often bring models” to the Center’s studio. The magazine credits N4C for co-sponsoring with the center the *San Francisco Annual Photography Day* each May at the Sigmund Stern Grove. Between 10,000 and 11,000 people attend for a day of lectures, exhibits, demonstrations and opportunities for picture taking.

April 4th and 5th was the occasion for the second Oakland Town Meeting of Photography, sponsored by the Photographic Society of America. The conference was held at the Hotel Leamington. Over 1,000 people attended the first Town Meeting in 1956. Registration was \$1.50 per person. The banquet cost \$4.00 each (about \$37 in 2021 dollars). A single hotel room went for between \$6 - \$10. The event was hosted by the Oakland Camera Club and the organizing committee included representatives from the Delta Council and 6C.

In the February issue of *US Camera*, a columnist states “One of the best council bulletins coming to me each month is Foto Fanfare”.

In an editorial Jerome Koch of Auburn writes “If it were not for competitions the camera would still be a two or three week vacation companion, except for the occasional family snapshot ... without competition there would be very little creative photography today.” But warns “the newcomer to camera club ... does not enjoy being told that his record shots are not competitive material. ... The chances are if we can keep him coming, the new member will soon decide for himself that creative photography will bring him greater satisfaction and reward than any other hobby he could possibly imagine.”

N4C Interclub Competitions consisted of two divisions, the Black and White Print Division and the Color Slide Division. The Color Division had three levels, B, A and AA. The Black and White Division had three levels, Amateur, Advanced and Salon, and one “Special Competition”. The special competition was called “miniprint”. Entry in the miniprint competition was restricted to members at the Amateur level and the mount size was 8x10 inches. All other competitions required the prints to be on 16x20 inch mounts. A member club was allowed to enter two prints in miniprints and one print in each of the other competitions. A member club was allowed to submit

two slides to each Color competition. Points were awarded to the club for images that places 1st through 5th and club standings reported each month.

At the end of 1958, N4C had a balance of \$406.77 (\$3,762.90 in 2021 dollars) and the coffee kitty showed a balance of \$19.62

Photochrome, which is exclusively a color club, averaged entries from 60 members each month.

In January, 900 copies of Foto Fanfare were mailed out.

The Oakland Camera club, reported to be one of the largest in the west, celebrated its Silver Anniversary. It had four divisions: Black and White Prints, Stereo, Movies, and Color Slides. The Movies Division made a film for the Civil Defense office, “Pill Hill”, which was shown all over the country.

N4C organized an exhibit of Ruth Bernhard’s photography, on exhibit at the Photography Center from January 30th through March 7th.



Hand in Hand by Ruth Bernhard

Judge's Surveys

By Gary Oerhle

Earlier this year, clubs and judges were polled for their practice and experience with the questionnaires used to provide feedback to judges. In summary, the clubs are inconsistent in the use of surveys and in the dissemination of data to the judge and also to club members. Judges, in summary: 1. Seldom received written feedback, 2. Preferred written comments, which provided specific examples, 3. Found generalized critiques or scale response of little value, 4. Desired questions focused on the judging and not the judge, and 5. Preferred questions be consistent across clubs.

A group of three judges and two N4C board members was convened to develop new questions to be used by members for providing feedback to the judge. The panel concluded to implement the first six questions with their own comment boxes as well as a multiple-choice response. The last question was implemented without a multiple choice response.

The updated core set of questions to be asked of judges with their respective written comment prompts are:

1. N4C: The judge taught me something new, or reminded me of something I'd forgotten, or provided a helpful suggestion. Please give an example.
2. N4C: The judge consistently and correctly applied N4C category definitions. Please comment.
3. N4C: The judge spent the appropriate amount of time on each image. If not, why?
4. N4C: The judge provided specific feedback concerning the most important strengths and weaknesses of the images. Provide a feedback example or comment.
5. N4C: The judge was objective and open to images of different styles, techniques and subjects. What gave you that impression?
6. N4C: The judge tailored comments and critique to each competition level. How or in what way?
7. N4C: Comment on one or two strengths and/or one or two weaknesses in the judge's performance.

Note: Multiple choice selection is the same for the first six questions with none associated with the 7th.

Despite some initial pushback on the option of written feedback per question, all understand a judge's comment that having specific actionable feedback outweighs numerous "below average" or "disagrees" or "strongly agrees" responses.

N4C is asking all clubs to implement the preceding feedback questions with comment boxes and that individual clubs be encouraged to add any questions that they feel important and necessary. Furthermore, N4C requests that the results of at least the first seven questions and comments be made available to all judges and that judges start requesting feedback (following a judging) so they might be afforded the opportunity to build on the information provided by the club members.

In closing, the *N4C questionnaire is ready to be implemented using Google Forms* and can be shared to any club for their club's use and added questions.

July Competition Results

Pictorial Projected Basic (Judge - Doug Stinson)

Basic Level (25 entries)

Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Sonoma coast	DJ Leland	Marin
2	An Evaporating Photo	Tony Curto	Livermore
3	Brooklyn	Liz Salen	Rossmoor
4	Kyoto, Japan: A Vintage Tram, returning to Central Kyoto from Arashiyama, stopped beneath an enormous web of power and telephone lines.	Bob Levy	Marin
5	Early evening blossoms	Mike Oshima	Santa Clara
HM	Crescent moon over Walton Lighthouse at sunset	Yemay Hsieh	Peninsula
HM	Milky Way above a Sierra pond	Fritz Carlson	Santa Rosa
HM	Spider in petals	Daisy King	Santa Clara



Pictorial Projected - 1st Basic

Sonoma Coast

DJ Leland

Marin Photo Club

Pictorial Projected Intermediate

Intermediate Level (33 entries)

Award	Title	Member	Club
1	PI	George Ziser	Contra Costa
2	Digby Pines, Nova Scotia	James Chambers	Alameda
3	Still Life with Fruit and Flowers	Ronnie Rosenbach	Santa Rosa
4	Almost Still Life	Richard Haile	Diablo Valley
5	Looking for nectar	Carolyn Rodriguez	Santa Clara
HM	Cool morning run in a Montana pasture.	Suzanne Grady	Marin
HM	Green, Blue, Grey	Paul Hampton	Alameda
HM	Tie Down	William Newton	Berkeley



Pictorial Projected - 1st Intermediate

PI
George Ziser
Contra Costa Camera Club

Pictorial Projected Advanced

Advanced Level (36 entries)			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1B	Three Yuccas, Snow on the Dunes; White Sands, New Mexico	Matt Ross	Berkeley
2	Abandoned Motel in the Nevada Desert	Frank Menkel	Contra Costa
3	One hummingbird frolics in the spray of a fountain.	Maurice Krumrey	Fremont
4	Early Morning Light-	David Morse	Contra Costa
5	Tangle	Jeff Cullen	Alameda
HM	Flying Home	Sean Duan	Fremont
HM	Racing the Devils	Herbert Gaidus	Santa Rosa
HM	Spine	Stefan Schafer	Contra Costa

Best of Division - Pictorial Projected



Pictorial Projected - 1st Advanced

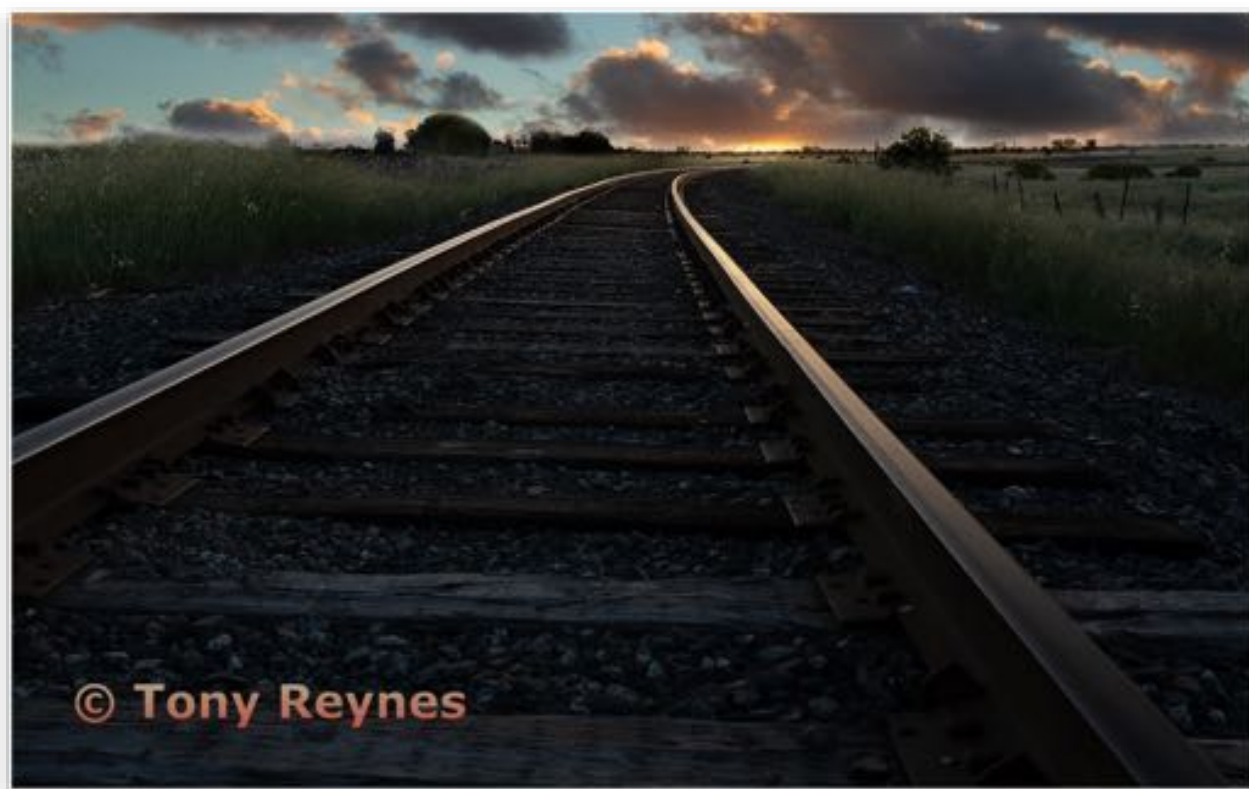
Three Yuccas, Snow on the Dunes; White Sands, New Mexico

Matt Ross

Berkeley Camera Club

Pictorial Projected Masters

Masters Level (34 entries)			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Lone railroad tracks can draw me in like a good intro to a book.	Tony Reynes	Santa Rosa
2	Floral flow	Edward Mestre	Livermore
3	Sunna	Claudia Peterson	Santa Clara
4	Appalachian Spring	San Yuan	Contra Costa
5	Color Splash	Bruce Paul	Livermore
HM	A Little Help	Ron Shattil	Berkeley
HM	Mission Bay, SF	Steve Disenhof	Marin
HM	Until the last petal drops	Charles Ginsburgh	Peninsula



Pictorial Projected - 1st Masters

Lone railroad tracks can draw me in like a good intro to a book.

**Toni Reynes
Santa Rosa Photographic Society**

Monochrome Projected Basic (Judge - Doug Stinson)

Basic Level (24 entries)

Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Homeless Man in the Crosswalk	Kenneth Mark	Berkeley
2	Old St Hilary, Tiburon CA	Marshall Gross	Marin
3	Rushing in the night	Soubhagya Parija	Contra Costa
4	El Capitan just after fresh snow fall, Yosemite	Gary Hromada	Marin
5	Museum patron seated in plush chair	James Chambers	Alameda
HM	Mist at Shoreline park	Mike Oshima	Santa Clara
HM	Sidewalk Shadows	Rod Lucich	Contra Costa



Monochrome Projected - 1st Basic

Homeless Man in the Crosswalk

Kenneth Mark
Berkeley Camera Club

Monochrome Projected Intermediate

Intermediate Level (32 entries)

Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Lacy Flower	Ronnie Rosenbach	Santa Rosa
2	From the Series Submerged: In the Still of the Night	Barbara Brundage	Santa Clara
3	Birthday	Susan Wong	Contra Costa
4	A Look Into the Future	Debbie Lindemann	Livermore
5	Oakland Cathedral with Bible Passage	Hetta Malone	Rossmoor
HM	Artichoke	Carolyn Rodriguez	Santa Clara
HM	Indian Holy Man	Hetta Malone	Rossmoor
HM	The Bee and the Sunflower	Richard Finn	Livermore



Monochrome Projected - 1st Intermediate
Lacy Flower
 Ronnie Rosenbach
 Santa Rosa Photographic Society

Monochrome Projected Advanced

Advanced Level (31 entries)			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Big Dune White Fire Sunrise	Steve Gibbs	Santa Rosa
2	Portrait of a New Delhi Worker,India (Version 1)	Jane Postiglione	Contra Costa
3	Aldeyjarfoss, Iceland	Matt Ross	Berkeley
4	Barrel Racer Turning Toward the Finish Line	Paul Kessinger	Fremont
5	Lifting Fog, Redwood National Park	Bill Stekelberg	Livermore
HM	Abandoned Tug Polaris in the Moonlight	Paul Kessinger	Fremont
HM	At the end of the day	Jim Cutler	Millbrae
HM	We're more than just a vivid color	Bob Alwitt	Santa Rosa



Monochrome Projected - 1st Advanced

Big Dune White Fire Sunrise
 Steve Gibbs
 Santa Rosa Photographic Society

Monochrome Projected Masters

Masters Level (32 entries)			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1BIM	Spellbound	Bruce Paul	Livermore
2	Winter	San Yuan	Contra Costa
3	Walking to the clouds	Rob Gendreau	Rossmoor
4	Peacock Plumage	Sharon Storchak	Peninsula
5	Waiting for a ride to church in the slum of Kibera, Nairobi Kenya	Tamara Krautkramer	Santa Rosa
HM	Bracketing is always necessary in a slot canyon	Tony Reynes	Santa Rosa
HM	Little Girl in a Straw Hat	Claudia Peterson	Santa Clara
HM	Portrait of a New Delhi Worker, India	Jane Postiglione	Contra Costa

Image of the Month

Best in Division - Monochrome Projected



Monochrome Projected - 1st Masters

Spellbound
Bruce Paul
Livermore Valley Camera Club

Nature Projected Basic (Judge - Doug Stinson)

Basic Level (29 entries)

Award	Title	Member	Club
1	[Seq] Mating Avocets	Luke Lang	Santa Clara
2	Bee Fly (Bombylius, Geron Subspecies) Punta Mita, Mexico - This fly is a bee mimic, helping it to ward off predators. The long proboscis (beak) allows it to access nectar where other insects can't.	Mark Hullinger	Santa Rosa
3	These acorn woodpeckers are ready to place acorns in their "harvest tree." These birds live in colonies and store acorns in trees for food in the winter.	Bruce Lescher	Livermore
4	Great Blue Heron has just caught a vole for a meal. In addition to fish (which is their main diet), Great Blue Herons will eat snakes, salamanders, rodents and birds.	Michael Carpenter	Peninsula
5	[Seq] Ducks	Jim DuPont	Alameda
HM	Dragonflies (Anisoptera) spend most of their lives under water. They emerge out of the water by climbing the stems of pond plants, such as water lilies.	Luke Lang	Santa Clara
HM	In the Serengeti, the immense power of this crocodile shook the wildebeast apart in just two shakes of its head	Sandy Eger	Contra Costa
HM	Mammoth Hot Springs in Yellowstone Natl Park is the source of calcium carbonate for these North American Elk.	Debbie Bergvall	Contra Costa



Nature Projected - 1st Basic

Mating Avocets

Luke Lang

Santa Clara Camera Club

Nature Projected Intermediate

Intermediate Level (28 entries)			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	This Flower Crab spider (Genus Misumena) waited in the Blue Dicks wildflower (<i>Dichelostemma capitatum</i>) for the unsuspecting Bumble Bee (Genus <i>Bombus</i>) to become a meal.	Sherri Oster	Santa Rosa
2	[Seq] Juvenile Bald Eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>), born 2021	Sue Griffin	Livermore
3	[Seq] Working alone	Zina Mirsky	Rossmoor
4	A long-tailed weasel (<i>Mustela frenata</i>) bounds up the road with its prize gopher catch at the Devil's Slide trail, Pacifica, CA.	Tessa Burt	Peninsula
5	Crowley Lake (CA) columns were created in a complicated process from hot volcanic ash from a cataclysmic explosion about 760,000 years ago.	Steve Ziman	Marin
HM	[Seq] Duck Attack	John Liebenberg	Livermore
HM	The Acorn Woodpecker is the only species that drills its own holes in trees and poles, caching acorns for later feeding. The sites are called granaries.	Harvey Abernathey	Marin
HM	The California Bumble Bee is a large hairy bee with black and yellow bands. Pollen is carried in baskets called corbiculae which is made of hairs blended to form a concave shape	Tracy Lussier	Contra Costa



Nature Projected - 1st Intermediate

This Flower Crab spider (Genus *Misumena*) waited in the Blue Dicks wildflower (*Dichelostemma capitatum*) for the unsuspecting Bumble Bee (Genus *Bombus*) to become a meal.

**Sherri Oster
Santa Rosa Photographic Society**

© Sherri Oster

Nature Projected Advanced

Advanced Level (35 entries)			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1B	[Seq] Salt Creek Pupfish	Herbert Gaidus	Santa Rosa
2	An Oak titmouse leaves the nest with a fecal sac. Nestlings of some bird species produce a mucous membrane (the fecal sac) to allow easy removal of fecal material for improved nest sanitation.	Kathy McMullen	Millbrae
3	[Seq] Death of a penguin	Sharon Thorp	Santa Clara
4	A Crab Spider traps a cucumber beetle with his pincer like claws and injects a toxic venom to paralyze and liquify his prey.	Karen Gideon	Marin
5	[Seq] Great Horned Owl Nest 2021	Steve Rentmeesters	Livermore
HM	At 4:18 in the early morning of May 26, 2021, the maximum "Super Blood Moon" lunar eclipse began, and was visible in San Francisco Bay Area skies.	Michael Isola	Peninsula
HM	[Seq] Lunch	Jennifer Marano	Santa Rosa
HM	Sumatran tigers (<i>Panthera tigris sumatrae</i>) are the smallest of the six tiger subspecies and are among the most endangered – only about 370 remain on the island of Sumatra.	Dan Simpson	Contra Costa

Best in Division - Nature Projected



Nature Projected - 1st Advanced

Salt Creek Pupfish
Herbert Gaidus
Santa Rosa Photographic Society

Nature Projected Masters

Masters Level (30 entries)			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Female Allen's And Anna's Hummingbird Face Off Over A Food Source	Bruce Finocchio	Peninsula
2	[Seq] Black Phoebe	Irene Bergamini	Diablo Valley
3	[Seq] Newborn Zebra	Cindee Beechwood	Marin
4	[Seq] White Pelican	J.R. Hsu	Contra Costa
5	[Seq] Salt Point Salt	Jeff Dunn	Alameda
HM	Chiton are mollusks with magnetite teeth. They travel to feed and return to their home site, using ability to sense polarity and the Earth's magnetic field. Pinnacle Gulch, Sonoma Coast.	Anne Abrams	Santa Rosa
HM	Gila Woodpecker picks a moth from a saguaro cactus in the cool early morning near nest. 6/13/2020 Scottsdale Arizona (Melanerpes uropygialis)	Andy Neureuther	Rossmoor
HM	Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) — aka sea hawk is a top predator.; Its diet consists almost exclusively of fish. It possesses specialized physical characteristics to assist in hunting and catching prey	Mansoor Assadi	Marin



Nature Projected - 1st Masters

Female Allen's And Anna's Hummingbird Face Off Over A Food Source

**Bruce Finocchio
Peninsula Camera Club**

Creative Projected Basic (Judge - Doug Stinson)

Basic Level (27 entries)

Award	Title	Member	Club
1	New York City: Rainy Afternoon, reflected in the underside of the canopy at Macy's Herald Square.	Bob Levy	Marin
2	Help Me	Jim DuPont	Alameda
3	An Guava Leaf all lit up	Tony Curto	Livermore
4	From the Series Submerged: The Red Flower Escapes	Barbara Brundage	Santa Clara
5	Bangkok Flower Market	Laura Stansfield	Santa Rosa
HM	Have we reached warpspeed jet	Frank Menkel	Contra Costa
HM	Poppy magic.	Elizabeth Springs	Santa Rosa



Creative Projected - 1st Basic

New York City: Rainy Afternoon, reflected in the underside of the canopy at Macy's Herald Square.

Bob Levy
Marin Photo Club

Creative Projected Intermediate

Intermediate Level (32 entries)

Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Coming and Going at River Crossing	Kazuko Hamano	Santa Clara
2	Fantasy Flight Begins	Al Ludwick	Livermore
3	Flight of the sandhill cranes.	Cindee Beechwood	Marin
4	Who says actors are cattle	Richard Haile	Diablo Valley
5	Tucking in for the night - Watch your step please	Tracy Lussier	Contra Costa
HM	Beneath the Flaming Sky	Lyrinda Snyderman	Berkeley
HM	Flying with reflection	Debasish Raha	Millbrae
HM	Whirling Dervish	Ronnie Rosenbach	Santa Rosa



Creative Projected - 1st Intermediate

Coming and Going at River Crossing

Kazuko Hamano
Santa Clara Camera Club

Creative Projected Advanced

Advanced Level (21 entries)

Award	Title	Member	Club
1B	DSC00758 reprocessed colors collide for second submission	Sharon Anderson	Contra Costa
2	Breaking free	Marina Grabovskaya	Fremont
3	I take these to help keep myself leveled out.	Susan Gerber	Livermore
4	Celestial bodies as depicted when the earth's shadow falls on the moon to create a blood moon lunar eclipse	Sree Alavattam	Peninsula
5	Scumbled Cabin	Bill Stekelberg	Livermore
HM	Behind the fence and beyond	Abby O'Rourke	Diablo Valley
HM	Exposure	Leonard Stanton	Alameda
HM	OLÉ!	Ron Shattil	Berkeley

Best in Division - Creative Projected



Creative Projected - 1st Advanced

DSC00758 reprocessed colors collide for second submission

Sharon Anderson
Contra Costa Camera Club

Creative Projected Masters

Masters Level (32 entries)			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	The water maiden	Bruce Paul	Livermore
2	After encountering a strong cross wind the Disco Bird dance craze was created	Charles Ginsburgh	Peninsula
3	Diving at the MOMA	Vadim Mikulinsky	Contra Costa
4	Falls of Trees	Sherry Grivett	Contra Costa
5	Turned	Timothy S. Allen	Santa Rosa
HM	Extreme Hang Glider	John Erve	Millbrae
HM	No Exit	Terry Connelly	Santa Rosa
HM	Spring Bulbs	Peter Nicholls	Villages

Creative Projected - 1st Masters

The water maiden
Bruce Paul
Livermore Valley Camera Club



Northern California Council of Camera Clubs



N4C

<http://www.n4c.org>

<http://n4c.photoclubservices.com>

PSA

<http://www.psa-photo.org>

Yerba Buena Chapter of PSA

http://www.psa-yerbabuenachapter.org/Home_Page.html

N4C Camera Clubs		
AL	Alameda Photographic Society	https://alameda.photoclubservices.com/default.aspx
BK	Berkeley Camera Club	http://www.berkeleycameraclub.org/
CC	Contra Costa Camera Club	http://contracostacameraclub.org
CT	Chinatown Photographic Society	http://chinatownphoto.org/wordpress/en/
DV	Diablo Valley Camera Club	https://diablovalley.photoclubservices.com
FR	Fremont Photographic Society	http://fremont.photoclubservices.com/
LV	Livermore Valley Camera Club	http://livermorevalleycameraclub.com
MR	Marin Photography Club	http://www.marinphotoclub.com/
ML	Millbrae Camera Club	https://millbraecameraclub.photoclubservices.com/
PE	Peninsula Camera Club	http://www.peninsulacameraclub.com/
PH	Photochrome Camera Club of San Francisco	http://photochrome.org/photochrome_club
RO	Rossmoor Photography Club	http://rossmoorcameraclub.photoclubservices.com/
SC	Santa Clara Camera Club	http://www.sccc-photo.org
SR	Santa Rosa Photographic Society	http://www.santarosaphotographicsociety.org/
VC	Villages Camera Club	https://villages.photoclubservices.com

N4C Officers & Committee Chairs

President	Doug Stinson	Fremont	douglas-stinson@comcast.net
Vice President	Gary Oehrle	Livermore	goehrle@comcast.net
Treasurer	Jon d'Alessio	Marin	dalessiojon@comcast.net
Secretary	Mark Brueckman	Alameda	markbrueckman@gmail.com
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Print Chair	Joan Field	Contra Costa	joan421@comcast.net
Judges Chair	Stephen Hinchey	Alameda	shinchey@barbary.com
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Special Programs Chair	Joan Field and Vicki Stephens	Contra Costa Livermore	joan421@comcast.net vjs.1194@gmail.com
Foto FanFare Editor	Vicki Stephens	Livermore	vjs.1194@gmail.com
Webmaster	Open		

N4C Mission Statement



To promote a spirit of voluntary cooperation among the camera clubs of Northern California. To sustain and increase an interest in the science and art of photography among photographers of said area. To promote social and educational programs for the benefit of member clubs. To create and maintain a representative body which will serve the best interests of all member clubs and groups and attempt to provide workable solutions to their individual and collective problems. To provide services and facilities for the use and benefit of the member clubs.

N4C is a proud member of



N4C Inter-club Competition

2021 Competition Year

Month	Club	Print	Print	Print	Print	PI	PI	PI	PI
Jan	Millbrae	P	M	N	C	P	N	C	M
Feb	Contra Costa	P	M	T	J	P	T	J	M
Mar	Livermore Valley	P	M	S	J	P	N	C	M
Apr	Diablo Valley	P	M	N	C	P	T	J	M
May	Fremont	P	M	T	J	P	N	C	J
Jun	Millbrae	P	M	N	C	P	T	J	M
Jul	Santa Clara	P	M	T	J	P	N	C	M
Aug	Rossmoor	P	M	S	T	P	T	J	M
Sep	Marin	P	M	N	C	P	N	C	T
Oct	Light & Shadow	P	M	T	J	P	T	J	M
Nov	Peninsula	P	M	N	C	P	N	C	M

* No competitions scheduled in December. *NOTE new schedule for 2022 on following page.

*Monochrome Projected competitions will be held every month while we hold Zoom meetings.

*Go to n4c.org/competitions for more information regarding N4C inter-club competitions.

P = Pictorial

M = Monochrome

N = Nature

T = Travel

C = Creative

J = Journalism

S = Sequence

N4C Board Calendar

Board Meetings

August 9 12 at 7:00pm (Zoom Mtg.)

September 13 at 7:00pm (Zoom Mtg.)

Competition Judging Schedule

On/around the 3rd Saturday of each month

PI judging location - contact Gene Albright
(genea.genea@sbcglobal.net)

Print judging location - contact Joan Field
(joan421@comcast.net)

New Schedule for 2022!

N4C Competition Schedule for 2022								
Month	Print				Projected			
Jan	P	M	J	C	P	J	C	
Feb	P	M	N	T	P	N	T	M
Mar	P	M	S	J	P	J	C	
Apr	P	M	J	C	P	N	T	M
May	P	M	N	T	P	J	C	
Jun	P	M	T	C	P	N	T	M
Jul	P	M	N	S	P	T	C	N
Aug	P	M	J	C	P	N	J	
Sep	P	M	N	T	P	J	C	M
Oct	P	M	J	C	P	N	T	M
Nov	P	M	N	T	P	T	C	J
Dec								