



South Bay Camera Club

NEWS & VIEWS



June 2009

www.sbccphoto.org *A sure winner!*

The South Bay Camera Club is a non-profit social club providing for its members activities involving photography and continuing education in all types of photographic technique. Regular meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month (unless otherwise noted) at the Zamperini Field (Torrance Airport) Administration Building Meeting Room, 3301 Airport Drive. at 7:30 p.m. President: Phil Cohen (310-212-7200, phil@absolute.net); VP and Membership Chair: Lou Schutzenberger (310-377-1342, sschutzenb@verizon.net); Treasurer: Jim Bardos (310-378-7655, jbardos@verizon.net); Secretary: Lou Schutzenberger (310-377-1342, sschutzenb@verizon.net); News & Views Editor: Bill Berry (310-378-9511, wh.berry@verizon.net). Mailing address: South Bay Camera Club, P.O. Box 1213, Torrance, CA, 90505: Web site: www.sbccphoto.org.

SERVING THE SOUTH BAY SINCE 1944

End of SBCC Year:

The current 2008/2009 SBCC year will end on June 30. The new officers and board members will then be in charge of activities for the new season. All memberships will lapse and will need to be renewed. However, there will be a grace period for renewal --- all e-mail and this newsletter will continue to be sent to "old" members even though they have not yet renewed, until the end of September. There will be no News & Views Newsletter in July.

MEETING SCHEDULE: Here is the schedule of meetings for the remainder of the fiscal year and into the next year as far as planned so far. All meetings are on a Monday at 7:30 PM at the Torrance Airport Meeting Room (Zamperini Field), unless otherwise noted.

Date	Program	Description/Background
Jun 8	Digital Evaluation, Election of Officers	Kelli MacDonald of Silvio's Photoworks will be the evaluator. Officers for the coming year will be elected. Submit digital images (up to 3) via our website.
Jun 22	Awards Banquet	Install new officers, present awards, eat, socialize, enjoy program. See below
July	No meetings	Summer break
Aug 10	Meeting	Program is to be determined (TBD).
Aug 24	S4C Image Review	Diane Racey will bring a show of "the best of the year images from S4C competitions."
Sep 14	Photo Technique Demo	Eric Curry has been an industrial photographer for over 28 years. He is working on a series of images called "American Pride And Passion." He will talk about and demonstrate his light painting techniques. Visit the web site at www.americanprideandpassion.com

Upcoming Meetings:

June 8 Digital Image Evaluation Night; Election of Officers

Our evaluator will be Kelli MacDonald, a professional studio photographer and retouching and printing specialist at Silvio's Photoworks. Kelli is well known to SBCC members. Send in your images over the SBCC web site. Limit 3 images per member. We will also elect the new officers for the 2009/2010 season.

The nominees for office are: president --- Phil Cohen; vice president --- Lou Schutzenberger; treasurer --- Jim Bardos; secretary --- Lou Schutzenberger. No other nominations were placed from the floor at the May meeting.

June 22 Awards Banquet

This year's Awards Banquet will be held on Monday, June 22, at the Sizzler Restaurant in Torrance, 2880 Sepulveda, 310-539-1617. We will all meet in the large banquet room, the same room as for the Holiday Banquet last December. Each person will be responsible for their own meal at the Sizzler buffet. We will start around 6 PM, but if you are late, don't worry, just go through the line to get your meal at the buffet and come in to the banquet room and join us. Informality and flexibility are the rules. However, to attend, each person must have an SBCC dinner ticket. These tickets cost \$5 --- they will pay for tips, raffle prizes, and decorations. Any funds left over from these expenses will be applied to the digital projector fund. You may purchase your dinner tickets from Marge Robinson at the June 8 meeting or at the Sizzler the evening of the banquet.

At the banquet the newly elected club officers will be introduced and sworn in. Awards will be given to the annual print and digital image voting winners, as well as the Scavenger Hunt winner. We will also acknowledge donors to the digital projector fund. In addition, there will be digital slide shows (photo montages) submitted by members. If you have a show, please let Marge know about it. Try to limit shows to about 5 minutes or less.

Looking Back --- the May Meetings:

May 11: Print evaluation with Catherine Balcom. A big crowd came out to welcome Catherine and listen to her comments on a fine selection of SBCC prints. Thank you Catherine. The Nominating Committee announced that all officers for the current year had agreed to be nominated to continue in their current posts for the upcoming year.

May 25: There was no meeting --- Memorial Day.

Mark Your Calendar! Club Picnic --- Saturday, August 15

Mark this date on your calendar. The SBCC will hold it's first annual mid-summer pot-luck picnic for all members, relatives and friends. The event will be held in Wilson Park, Torrance. More specifically, the picnic will be held in the Live-steamer area at the east end of the park, over past the pool. This area has shade trees, picnic areas with benches and BBQ grills. No alcoholic beverages allowed! We will have the picnic area all to ourselves but will share our pot-luck with a few of the live-steamer crews who will be operating trains for us and for the public. Approximately 10 trains will be operating. Live-steamer train rides will be free for all (children and grown-ups too). We will start at 11 AM and go for as long as we like. It will be "Run Day" for the public from 12 noon to 3 pm. There will be more information on the pot-luck part as plans are drawn up. Bring your children, bring your grandchildren --- bring your cameras!

SBCC Photo Exhibit at Paul's Photo Gallery, May 1 through May 31

Forty-two gorgeous prints done by SBCC members were on display at the Paul's Photo Gallery during the month of May. I have heard several positive comments about the exhibit from the gang at Paul's. Thank you all who participated in this great exhibit.

Outings and Field Trips:

For Reference: our outings and field-trip coordinator is Betsy Treyner. For questions, or to reserve a place on a tour, call her at 310-375-6348, or send an e-mail to btreyner5@gmail.com

No more outings or field trips are scheduled this year (through June). Plans are in progress for another terrific year in 2009-2010.

Board Meeting, May 20

The SBCC board held a meeting on May 20. It was reported that the treasury stands at \$3075 in the general fund and \$1497 in the digital fund. There are currently 70 members in the SBCC. Several possible outings for next year are being examined, including an overnight trek to Joshua Tree, and military reenactments at Rancho Dominguez and a First Thursday artists stroll in San Pedro. The initial slate of programs for the 2009/2010 year was presented.

Upcoming and Current Photo Exhibits:

Below are listed some current and upcoming exhibits at local museums. Descriptions were given in the March News and Views. You can also visit the web sites for more information.

C & D Welcome Cafe and Gallery

ECC Advanced Photography Students (June 5-June 30)

The C&D Welcome Cafe is located at 1808 South Pacific Coast Highway, Redondo Beach. There will be an artist reception on June 5, 6-8 pm.

Getty Center

Paul Outerbridge: Command Performance (March 31–August 9, 2009)

Jo Ann Callis: Woman Twirling (March 31–August 9, 2009)

In Focus: Making a Scene (June 30–October 18, 2009)

Annenberg “Space for Photography”, through June 20

The Space for Photography is a new venue devoted to photography. It is located in Century City at 2000 Avenue of the Stars, where the old Shubert Theater once stood. The opening was held March 27. The initial exhibit features the work of Los Angeles based photographers. It will continue through June 20. For more information check the website at annenbergspaceforphotography.org. I have seen this --- it is really good.

The Curmudgeon’s Corner

By John Bohner

Everyone Has Dandruff

Another writer put it this way... ‘like dandruff, most people do have a religion and spend time and money fooling with it.’ The same can be said of photography.

In the last curmudgeon’s corner Gustave Rejlander was quoted as wishing that future artists would care less about how an image is made and more about what the image presents. We are not at that point yet but we may get there someday. It is clear that there will likely be a continuing divide within the photographic community for some time to come. That divide will separate artists who make ‘straight’ photographs and those who ‘tweak’ their images, sometimes in major ways. As a both a curmudgeon and a ‘tweaker’ I have sometimes lost my patience with straight photographers for two reasons. First, there are times an image which has been otherwise very well crafted needs some loving care to bring it up to what the artist first imagined but the technology failed to produce. Despite this weakness, the artist does not want to ‘change the image’. You know, burn or dodge, color correct or just adjust the contrast. Those are all the sorts of things that traditional wet chemistry photographers did. Even if you are not lying it still bothers most of those people. Seriously folks, if Saint Ansel did it, you can do it also. Your prints demand it! I demand it!

Secondly, I get frustrated with people who can’t stand tweaking. You know, we remove the tree limb coming out of the bride’s head in the wedding picture. Or how about when we add in uncle Al ‘cause he was off taking care of a prostrate issue when everyone else lined up for the family portrait. You know –we lie!

After struggling with this for over 5 years, I think I have a better understanding of this now. I’m still right but at least I understand the rest of you! Some of you are photographers and others are photo-painters!

In the beginning all that artists had were soot covered sticks from the campfire. Then came pencils and finally brushes and paint and a blank canvas. So they painted in trees and flowers and ladies with parasols

walking amongst the picnickers. They had to because the canvas was blank. They had to ADD stuff to make the art.

Then came photography. You pressed the shutter and voila, you got everything that was in front of the lens. Sometimes it was too much. So photographers learned to see the world in more abstract ways and took images that simplified the image so the viewer was forced to look at what the photographer wanted them to. They learned to SUBTRACT stuff. And that's the way it's been ever since in photography. You fight to make it simple, direct and uncluttered within reason.

"But the times they are a changing." We have a new photographic process now. Digital Imaging. And for the first time we have a tool, which lets us take a standard photograph and paint it! So now we can add to the image in just the same creative way that painters did. We can also remove anything in the image we don't want - just like the great photographers who did it by posing their shots.

With this new freedom comes new responsibility. The artist and their viewers must learn how to guide the creative process as it evolves. Now THAT will take some doing! To illustrate my point I stole an image of SBCC's Tony Maffei. The one I took was one that everyone who saw it said it reminded them of something by the painter Degas. I also stole a Van Gogh. (see Tony, I only steal from the BEST!). Then your curmudgeon subtracted from Tony's image and then added it to Starry Night. You be the judge. It's a brave new world. I have probably made BOTH groups mad at me now! The point is that we are seeing a new art form evolve. There will be difficulty adjusting, just as it was with Cubists or Surrealists or Pop Art.

The question is – what will you do with all this creative potential?

John Bohner
SBCC senior curmudgeon and art thief



"Princess Among The Stars"
by Tony Vincent Van Bohner

links to topics touched on:

<http://www.angelfire.com/or/sociologysshop/lazlong.html> Robert Heinlein
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Starry_Night Vincent Van Gogh
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Edgar_Germain_Hilaire_Degas_069.jpg Edgar Degas
<http://www.rleggat.com/photohistory/history/rejlande.htm> Rejlander
<http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/a/anseladams161832.html> Saint Ansel
<http://www.bobdylan.com/#/songs/times-they-are-changin> Times Are A Changing
http://www.sbccphoto.org/Show_Photo_Details.asp?ID=1235 Tony Maffei
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cubism> Cubists
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surrealism> Surrealism
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pop_art Pop Art

Bill Berry
SBCC News & Views Editor