



South Bay Camera Club

NEWS & VIEWS



March 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

MEETING SCHEDULE: Here is the schedule of meetings for the remainder of the fiscal year. 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
Mar 9	"Photographing Nature"	This will be an illustrated presentation by Joanne Stolte, president of S4C and membership chairman for the PSA. Joanne was our evaluator for digital images on November 10.
Mar 23	Gallery Night	Member run program. This will be an open show-and-tell evening. Every member may bring prints to show and explain for the membership to comment on. See below for more details.
Apr 13	Digital Evaluation	Evaluator, Mark Comon of Paul's Photo. The theme will be RAW MATERIALS. Maximum of 3 images per person. Submit all Scavenger Hunt entries.
Apr 27	Scavenger Hunt Judging	Judge will be announced later
May 11	Print Evaluation	The evaluator is scheduled to be Helen Weinman, a well known and outstanding photographer from the South Bay area. Maximum of 2 prints per person.
May 25	No Meeting	Memorial Day --- go enjoy your family
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.
Jun 22	Awards Banquet	Install new officers, present awards, eat, socialize, enjoy program

Meetings:

Gerry Imura and Paul Comon Served As Evaluators in February

Many thanks to Gerry Imura and Paul Comon for their astute advice and comments regarding photographs at regular meetings during the month of February. Gerry evaluated projected images on February 9, and Paul talked about our prints at the February 23 meeting. Your efforts were much appreciated.

March 9: Photographing Nature

Joanne Stolte, President of the S4C (Southern California Council of Camera Clubs, of which SBCC is a member) has agreed to come all the way down from Glendora to give us an illustrated presentation on "Photographing Nature." Joanne was our evaluator earlier in the year (Nov. 10, 1908) and showed us some of her photographs of Cuba. She is an expert photographer --- check out some of her work on <http://www.phase.com/joannestolte>. This should be an entertaining and instructive meeting. Joanne is also Membership Chairman for the PSA (Photographic Society of America) and may say a few words about membership in that organization. Let's give Joanne a warm welcome.

March 23: Gallery Night

Gallery Night will be an informal evening of prints, talk, and socializing. There will be tables for the display of your prints. Bring as many as you like to show to other members and answer questions such as "how did you get that deep rich red?" or "did you try cropping it this way?" or "why did you take this picture at all?" Or don't bring any prints --- that's OK too. Everybody can wander the floor and view other people's work, and you can even ask them "why on earth did you take that picture?" Matted prints are best. Please avoid frames --- they are too bulky and may be damaged. We will try this meeting format and see how we like it. It has worked well for the club in the past.

Outings and Field Trips:

For Reference: our outings and field-trip coordinator is Betsy Treynor. For questions, or to reserve a place on a tour, call her at 310-375-6348, or send an e-mail to bgtreynor5@gmail.com

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, March 13-15, 2009

This trip is fully booked --- the participants know who you are. We will meet on Friday at approximately 3 PM at the Borrego Springs Resort (our headquarters for the outing). We will meet guide Paul Johnson at 4 PM to begin a two hour scenic sunset excursion. Paul reports that the flowers are outstanding. Our contact at the hotel is Margaret Wade. See you all at Anza-Borrego.

Abalone Cove Tidepools Photo Shoot, Saturday, April 4, 2009, 11 AM to 1 PM

Abalone Cove is on the south shore of the Palos Verdes Peninsula. There will be a -0.7 tide on Saturday at 1 pm. This is about the lowest tide normally occurring. We will meet two hours earlier at 11 AM and plan to stay until 1 PM. Afterward we will lunch at the Asaka sushi bar at the Golden Cove Shopping Center nearby. Maps and directions on how to get there will be sent later..

SBCC Photo Exhibit at Paul's Photo:

Photographs prepared by SBCC members are going to be displayed during the month of May in the gallery space at Paul's Photo on Hawthorne Blvd. Approximately 42 photos will be displayed. Paul Comon remarked at the February 23 meeting that he had seen enough excellent photographs that evening to populate the entire exhibition. So now is the time to select your 2 or 3 prints you want to show to the world. This is an excellent opportunity to gain experience in gallery exhibiting. A few rules apply: prints must be high resolution (300 dpi or so), proper density and color balance, and worthy of display at Paul's Photo. Content must be appropriate for a retail store (we don't want to scare away customers). All prints will be framed behind glass or plexiglas. Frames will have wire hangers with wires installed. All prints must be signed and titled on the mat or print. Maximum framed image size is 16x20 inches. Minimum size is 8x10 inches. Simple black frames with white mats are strongly suggested. More information about print submittal and logistics will be forthcoming in the near future. In the meantime however, you can go ahead and get your prints ready and get them matted. This will be fun --- stay tuned.

The News & Views staff is pleased to bring you another chapter of comments by our club curmudgeon, John Bohner:

The Curmudgeon's Corner **By John Bohner**

What do nearly 400 year old paintings have in common with some of your photographic prints and images?

You have a marvelous resource not far away. I am speaking about the Getty Center in Los Angeles just up the hill from Santa Monica. Entry is free and you can split the \$10 parking fee with your carpoolers. I took some family up there recently and had a great time. The two exhibitions we saw were;

“Captured Emotions: Baroque Painting in Bologna, 1575 – 1725,” and
“Dialogue among Giants: Carleton Watkins and the Rise of Photography in California.”

Carleton Watkins ‘did’ Yosemite between the 1850’s and 70’s. He did it starting with Daguerreotypes and eventually very large format wet process collodion glass negatives. His ‘kit’ weighed over 2000 pounds. All of this some 80 YEARS BEFORE Saint Ansel would walk the valley. What your curmudgeon found most interesting was how the choice of subjects varied from today. Watkins was very taken with the rock forms and the view of the valley from the rim. There was very little work done with the spectacular waterfalls or from the valley floor looking up. Great stuff and all the more impressive when you read about what it takes to make, expose and develop an 18"X 22" wet glass negative, all of it on top of Union Point before they had roads.

In a separate exhibit there are also a fine series of portraits of Abraham Lincoln and Edgar Allen Poe up to Marlene Dietrich by everyone from Mathew Brady to Richard Avedon and Diane Arbus. Look and learn folks.

We now return you back to 1620. On the one hand we have Giovanni Lanfranco painting a series of works around about 1621–24. The other hand holds Guido Reni painting in 1620. Subject matter for both is still royalty, religious leaders or Biblical/classical Roman/Greek themes. The issue is one near and dear to the heart of any good photoshop skilled photographer of today.

“The Ideal versus the Real”

Should painters represent objects exactly as they appear, or should they aim to enhance the natural world in order to depict timeless perfection and ideal beauty?”

Giovanni was a realist and his paintings are full of human feelings such as fatigue, annoyance, motherly care for a child and the clutter of our lives. Guido was an idealist and his paintings have a subject and almost nothing else to set them into a real world context.

So, in your post processing do you clone out clutter and pick the one shot that everyone is doing what you want or... do you leave in the other stuff that may draw attention away from the center of your attention? The question is over 400 years old and the answer is always up to the artist. What is your choice?

I suggest you visit the Getty Center before May 3rd and compare the results Giovanni and Guido produced and then make up your mind.

Annenberg Foundation will open “Space for Photography”

The Space for Photography is a new venue devoted to photography. It will be located in Century City at 2000 Avenue of the Stars. The opening will be on March 27. For more information check the website at annenbergspaceforphotography.org.

Upcoming and Current Photo Exhibits and Photo Ops:

South Bay Orchid Society show, Sat/Sun, Mar 7 and 8

The show will be held at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center from 10 to 5 each day. Admission is \$5. As in the past, SBCC members with cameras and tripods will be welcome Sunday at 9 AM for an hour of photography before the doors open.

Below are listed some current and upcoming exhibits at local museums. Descriptions are from the museum web sites.

Getty Center

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

Paul Outerbridge Jr. (American, 1896–1958) burst onto the New York art scene in the early 1920s with photographs that were visually fresh and decidedly Modernist. He applied his talent for the formal arrangement of objects to the commercial world and was a visionary for his use of color. This exhibition brings together nearly one hundred photographs from all periods of Outerbridge's career, including his Cubist still life images, staged magazine photographs, and controversial nudes.

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

In 1977 Susan Sontag's now-classic collection of serious criticism, *On Photography*, brought photography to center stage. That same year, Jo Ann Callis, an art student at the University of California, Los Angeles, who had learned to draw, paint, and photograph, received her master of fine arts degree. Her mentor, legendary art professor Robert Heinecken, taught that photographs should be made, not found, and Callis has been constructing photographs, as well as paintings and sculpture, in her studio ever since. Over the past 30 years, she has borrowed inspiration and imagery from the best of Los Angeles's traditions in film, fashion, and design. Fabricated tableaux of the 1980s and 1990s dominate this photographs exhibition selected from the Getty's holdings, gifts from the photographer Gay Block, and the artist's own archive.

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

Photography, despite its association with truth, has been used to create fiction throughout its history. Staged photographs—from casually directed scenes to elaborate *tableaux vivants* made with props, costumes, and posed actors—embody many styles, techniques, and subjects. Drawing inspiration from art, literature, and cinema, the photographs in this exhibition include early daguerreotypes, bromoil and platinum prints as well as contemporary Polaroids and chromogenic prints. Comprising more than twenty-five photographs from the Getty's collection, it features works by Henry Peach Robinson, Julia Margaret Cameron, Man Ray, Ralph Eugene Meatyard, Lucas Samaras, and Eileen Cowin.

Huntington Library

The Last Full Measure of Devotion: Collecting Abraham Lincoln (Feb. 7–April 27, 2009)

Library West Hall

Mounted in celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865), "The Last Full Measure of Devotion: Collecting Abraham Lincoln" will present the letters, manuscripts, printed works, photographs, and ephemera of Lincoln as objects of deep reverence, relentless pursuit, and varying and often hotly contested interpretation. The exhibition will showcase The Huntington's significant Lincoln holdings, which rank with the collections of the Library of Congress and the Presidential Library of Illinois as the most important in the nation. "The Last Full Measure of Devotion" also pays tribute to those whose deep love of Lincoln made them indispensable in preserving his legacy, tracing the history of collecting and interpreting Lincolniana from 1865 to Henry Huntington's times. The exhibit not only offers a unique chance to view Lincoln materials, but also provides an insight into the way Lincoln collecting inspired popular reverence for the American past. The exhibition will include such iconic pieces as the Strohm copy of the 13th Amendment signed by Lincoln; his notebook on slavery; and a pass that was issued to Lincoln's bodyguard, Ward H. Lamon, sending the U.S. marshal to Richmond, Va., and making him famously absent the night Lincoln was assassinated...

Bill Berry
SBCC News & Views Editor