

# Bits & Pixels

December 2015

Volume I, Number 2



P.O. Box 51154, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

[www.padretrailsccl.org](http://www.padretrailsccl.org)

## Our Successful Holiday Food Bank Effort

At our meeting on December 2nd, forty plus members and guests took part in the Club's third annual print donation and drawing to raise money for the **Food Bank of Monterey County**. Through the talents and generosity of our participating members and friends, we raised \$735 dollars for the cause. According to the Food Bank's website, [www.foodbankformontereycounty.org](http://www.foodbankformontereycounty.org), they are able to distribute \$8 worth of food to hungry people for every \$1 received in donations. That works out to almost \$6,000 worth of food for hungry Monterey County residents this Holiday Season! Many thanks to those who donated prints and who contributed and took one home. Special thanks to **Jerry Takigawa**, President of the Center for Photographic Art, for his contribution of a print from his collection, "False Food" inspired by the displays of ocean debris at the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

From the [EdibleMontereybay.com](http://EdibleMontereybay.com) website: "Jerry Takigawa, a fine art photographer and designer whose firm Takigawa Design is located on Cannery Row, became inspired to make (this) series ... when he saw an installation of colorful plastic trash gathered by the nearby Monterey Bay Aquarium. All of the refuse was collected from the bellies of dead albatrosses. Takigawa has photographed assemblages of this very same material, turning the killer garbage into beautiful, consciousness-raising art."

"Aesthetics keep the story alive. One can only look so long at documentary images of dead birds with plastic," Jerry says. "There is irony in creating art out of garbage, yet through its beauty or aesthetic we can at least stay with it long enough to get the story and appreciate the subtext. You have to find a way to inspire people in order to motivate them to do something. That's where art comes in."

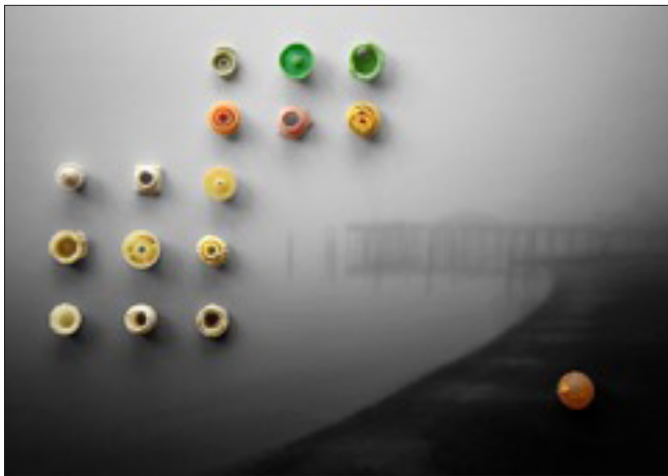


### Black & White Submissions

Our Black & White submissions are due right after Christmas, midnight, **Sunday, December 27th**. Our judge for this competition is **Rachael Short**. Rachael is a Carmel resident and a noted fine art photographer with a gallery in Carmel Square. Her work can be seen at her eye-popping website: [www.rachaelshort.com](http://www.rachaelshort.com).

You enjoyed our special guest **C. Jo Gough** at the **December 16th** meeting and his strong B&W work. Go to <http://imageevent.com/estrump/finart> to see more of his photography. To build on that experience, it would serve us all well to spend time at Rachael's site studying her fabulous Black & White images before we hit the "Send" key to submit our three winners. Awesome!

To help in this process we've found some good Black and White photo information from a couple of different websites that might be helpful to review. Check out the **Tips & Tricks** article on page 4.



*False Food by Jerry Takigawa*

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## Capitola Field Trip (FT16)

On Sunday, January 17, 2016, we're heading around the Bay to Capitola for this year's competitive field trip. An event fact sheet presenting the particulars and the required acceptance of responsibility waiver form were sent to members on Sunday, December 13th. Our mission, should we choose to accept it, is to capture the essence of six categories plus a wild card "Photographer's Choice". The specific categories as described on the fact sheet were extracted from those used for our very successful trip to Capitola back in 2006 and should create a rewarding challenge for you.

Our competitive field trips are informal and relaxed. That said, **ALL submitted images must be captured on January 17th, 2016!** (Remember, there are twenty-four hours in a day.) You may shoot on your own, use the buddy system or hang with a group. You can share a particularly good find with the others or keep it for yourself. You may capture as many images as you like but may only submit one (1) image in each of the categories. It is not necessary to submit in all categories, so if one of them just won't cooperate, no worries. You can skip it and still be in the running for the overall prizes.

We're gathering for lunch at 11:45 am at the **Stockton Bridge Grill**, 231 Esplanade. **Bill Shewchuk** has worked with the Grill's management to build a special and broad menu for us to select from for an all inclusive \$24 each. Beer and wine is not included, but may be purchased individually. Details on page 3.

Images will be judged based on their technical merit and how well they capture the idea of the category. All submissions will be judged within your Competition Group as usual. The submission deadline is midnight, **Sunday, January 31st, 2016**. The returns will be presented at our **February 17th** regular meeting.



*Wharf by Mary Ann Avera*



*Venetian Court by Galyn (Doc) Hammond (past member, deceased)*

**Category Awards:** Per usual, 1st & 2nd place will be awarded in each category within each group, however, no competition points will be awarded.

**Overall Awards:** Again as customary, 1st, 2nd, 3rd & two HMs will be awarded for images judged as overall winners regardless of category. Competition points will be awarded as usual: 4 points for 1st, 3 for 2nd, 2 for 3rd and 1 for HMs.



*Capitola Wharf by Richard Bucich*

The photos shown here were all taken in 2006 at the last PTCC group field trip to Capitola.



### In the Spotlight

**O**ur own *Fernando Batista* and *Barbara Moon Batista* were featured in the Dec. 11 issue of *The Carmel Pine Cone*. The *Great Lives* article by Elaine Hesser, page 29, is a fun and interesting look into how Fernando and Barbara met and fell in love. For Fernando it was pretty much love at first sight; it took Barbara a little longer. Now they've pursued and shared their passion for photography for over 40 years. Their first full time photography job was shooting for real estate listings, but their varied clients have included the *Monterey Jazz Festival*, *Rice-A-Roni*, *Royal Viking Lines*, *Ocean Mist Farms*, and photographing the food for the *Shake Family Cookbook*. A tasty life!



Photo by Claudia Kenyon



### Group Lunch in Capitola

Lunch plans are set for our field trip to Capitola on Sunday, the 17th of January 2016, at 11:45 a.m. Location:

**Stockton Bridge Grill**  
Phone 831-464-1933  
231 Esplanade, Capitola, CA 95010  
<http://www.stocktonbridge.com>

#### Menu:

**Appetizer:** Fried Calamari

**Main course** from these options:

- Grilled Salmon Salad
- Fish & Chips
- Cajun Chicken Sandwich
- Greek Salad
- Turkey Club
- BBQ Bacon Burger

**Drinks:** Water or Ice Tea  
(beer and wine available, but not included)

**Cost:** \$24 all inclusive (meal, tax & tip)

**Payment:** The restaurant will provide a single check for the group. *Bill Shewchuck* will be collecting individual payments from us. Please bring exact amount (\$24) in cash for Bill. Pay separately for beer/wine, if ordered.



### Winter Photo Class Schedule at PG Adult School

The Pacific Grove Adult School winter session begins on **January 4, 2016**. The following classes focusing on photography are open for registration:

1. **Basic & Intermediate Photography**, Mondays, 1-4 PM, 10 weeks, January 4, 11, 25, February 1, 8, 22, 29, March 7, 14, Plus a Field Trip. Fee: \$150.
2. **Lightroom 5 & 6**: Tuesday, 1:30 - 4:30 PM, 10 weeks, textbook by Scott Kelby, January 5, 12, 19, 26, February 2, 9, 23, March 1, 8, 15. Fee: \$150.
3. **NIK for Lightroom Users**, 5:30-8:30 PM Thursdays, 10 weeks, January 7, 14, 21, 28, February 4, 11, 25, March 3, 10, 17. Fee: \$150.
4. **Mac Overview 2**: Thursday, 10-12:30 PM, 10 weeks \$75. Learn more about your new or old Mac, Yosemite OSX.

You can register online at: [www.pgusd.org](http://www.pgusd.org).



### My Two Bits

... a note from Ken

Anne and I joined Padre Trails in 2002, brand new arrivals to the Monterey Peninsula. We were attracted to PTCC by an article in *The Herald* about a field trip the club had taken, including several of the winning photographs. We were impressed as neither Anne nor I were thoughtful photographers at that point, having taken basically record shots of family and vacations. At that time the Club met at the Monterey Public Library's community room on Pacific Street, showed 35mm slides and consisted of about twenty people, most of whom were long-term members. We came to a meeting and felt immediately welcomed. Today we have over sixty members and the Club has evolved and changed dramatically in many ways. One thing that hasn't changed, however, is the open and welcoming personality of Padre Trails Camera Club. It's generated by our members. It's the reason the Club has survived and generally thrived for the last sixty-seven years, and it's what will keep PTCC strong into the future.

~ Take your lens cap off.

*Ken Jones*







## **Padre Trails Camera Club**

Meetings: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 7-9 pm  
Hilltop Center, 871 Jessie St., Monterey  
831-646-3975

### **2015-2016 Officers:**

President - *Ken Jones*  
Vice President - *John Drum*  
Secretary - *Janet Beaty*  
Treasurer - *Shelley Nemeth*

### **Activity Chairs:**

Awards & Hospitality - *Chris Johnson*  
Competitions - *John Drum & Joni Zabala*  
Judges - *Silke Laetz*  
Membership - *Shelley Nemeth*  
Newsletter - *Carmay Knowles*  
Points Accounting - *Carol Fuessenich*  
Programs - *Bill Shewchuk*  
Submission Review - *Brooks Leffler & Jared Ikeda*

## **From the Editor...**

It was very rewarding to receive such positive comments on the inaugural issue of Bits & Pixels. Thank you for your kind words and encouragement. I'm having fun and enjoying being a more involved member of PTCC. I would love to have input from you, though! We need stories, photos, tips and tricks ~ anything you might be interested in sharing or ideas of what you'd like to see in Bits & Pixels. So, please, don't be shy. Come talk to me or Ken at a meeting or contact us at: [info@padretrailsc.org](mailto:info@padretrailsc.org). In the meantime, I hope you enjoy this issue and I wish you all holidays that are merry, healthy, and joyful!

*Carmay Knowles, Editor*



## **January 2016 Look Ahead**

On **Wednesday, January 6th**, our first meeting in the new year will bring *Peter Monteforte* to the front of the room for a **Skills Night** presentation and discussion about photographing people. Peter's candid portraits are emotionally packed and have been very successful on Club competitions. He'll share his approach to his subjects and hopefully some of his tricks to get the perfect shot.

On **Sunday the 17th** we're heading for Capitola; for more info see pages 2 and 3. We'll close out the month on **January 20th** with the returns of our Black & White competition. The FT 16 Capitola Field Trip submissions are due in your Group e-mail box by midnight, Sunday, **January 31st, 2016**.



## **Tips & Tricks**

Thanks to *Margret Cordts* for sharing another pointer to an interesting photo website. Just in time for our black and white competition, check out this January 2015 article on "black and white photography: how to make monochrome stunning" at: <http://www.digitalcameraworld.com/2015/01/26/black-and-white-photography-how-to-make-monochrome/>. It includes sections on (1) how to see in black and white, (2) good subjects for B&W photography, (3) bad subjects for B&W, (4) using graphic compositions in B&W photography, and more. (One small note of caution, the site does use cookies, just so you're aware.)

Ken found a site called **Improve Photography** and picked three of the 15 tips for good B&W image making. These hit on line, texture and pattern... all strong design elements and easy to remember.

- **Black and White Photography Tip #3:** To visualize in black and white, only pay attention to lines, shadows, and shapes. This trick is very helpful to aid photographers in pre-visualizing a black and white image even though we live in a color world.
- **Black and White Photography Tip #8:** Watch for texture. As long as texture is not front-lit, it will show contrast in fine details, which makes it a compelling subject for black and white. This is why B&W photos of old items such as barns or antiques are so compelling—they have a lot of weathered texture.
- **Black and White Photography Tip #10:** Look for patterns. Patterns are interesting because of their ordered repetition. Color merely distracts us from giving the pattern our attention. By using black and white, images of patterns are far more compelling. Once you start looking for patterns to shoot in black and white, you'll notice them everywhere: cars in a parking lot, the shoes of a wedding party standing in line, or a row of bushes.

For more, go to: <http://improvephotography.com/832/black-and-white-photography-tips>



*However you Celebrate, may  
this Season bring you and yours  
Peace, Joy, and Contentment.  
Happy Holidays, Everyone!*