

Bits & Pixels

September 2017

Volume 2, Number 12



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

www.padretrailsc.org

August Review

by Ken Jones

We began the month with a special presentation by PTCC member and street photographer, David Clarkson: Street Photography 101. At our



David Clarkson on street photography - Images by Ken Jones

August 2nd meeting, David shared his experience gained over decades photographing on the streets of major cities across the country. Many of the myths about street photography were dispelled and the allure of this often controversial genre was brought home to the packed house. David's



passion for street photography became contagious and it's a good bet that his program inspired more than a few of those in attendance to grab their cameras and hit the streets.

On August 16th, we enjoyed a short presentation of images from our July 15th BBQ and Group Shoot at PTCC life-member, Jane Black's rustic ranch in San Benancio Canyon. Members who were there contributed their favorite shots from the day. It was fun to see how many folks photographed the same subject from different angles and who shot a unique image.



Jane and Connie
Image by John Drum

See page four for more images. Thanks again to Jane and her family for their hospitality.

{See August, page 2}



September is

Membership Renewal Month (Online renewal is available)

Our Club Year ends on **September 30, 2017** and now is the time to renew your PTCC membership for next year. This year we've introduced a new and simple way to renew your membership. PTCC now accepts quick and easy online payment via PayPal direct from the Membership or Member Resources pages of our website: <http://www.padretrailsc.org/ptcc/ptccmembership.html>

You do not need to be a PayPal user to pay your 2017-2018 dues online. The system allows you to pay with any credit or debit card via their secure site and the transaction is fully documented for your records. It's quick and easy and it's the preferred method of renewal. You may, of course, still renew by check, either delivered to a meeting or mailed to: PTCC Renewal, P.O. Box 51154, Pacific Grove, CA 93950. Annual dues remain unchanged at \$30.

The growth and vitality of our Club is generated by its members. Whichever way you opt to renew, we sincerely hope you'll choose to remain a part of Padre Trails Camera Club.



Upcoming Submission Dates

- Midnight, Sunday, August 27th, Travel
- Midnight, Sunday, September 24th, Pictorial #1



Inside

September Look Ahead	Page 2
Shots and Spots	Page 3
PSA Snapshot	Page 3
A Very Special Group Shoot	Page 4
PTCC Info	Page 5
My Two Bits	Page 5
Favorite Photo	Page 5
2017-18 Competition Plan	Page 6
Photo Event Calendar	Page 6
Editor's Corner	Page 6

August: Nature Returns

{August Review from page 1}

The main event on the 16th was the presentation of the results of our Nature #3 competition with transcribed comments and awards by our judge, *David Rosen*. Although only a handful of Group AA and Group AAA members submitted to this one, the images they did submit were outstanding! The Group A members also submitted some beautiful nature images and, even though we'd like to have seen more from the AAs and AAAs, this was a very successful competition. Most of the submitted images may be seen at the Club's Facebook page. The winners in each group have been posted to the Image Gallery section of our website. Here are a few of the images that did not win a judge's choice, but are outstanding nonetheless. Congratulations to all who participated.



*Snowy Plovers (Charadrius nivosus) on Carmel River Beach in February
Image by William Brown*



*Beetle, New Mexico
Image by Nicole Asselborn*



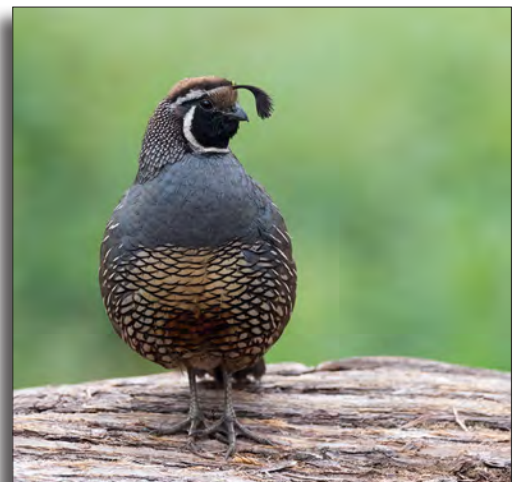
*Sand Dollar (Clypeasteroidea)
Image by Jerry Heisel*



*Vervet monkey suckles baby while older daughter waits
Image by Joni Zabala*



Pond Frog - Rana ridibunda - Image by Elke Ikeda



*California Quail (Callipepla californica)
Image by Christene Johnson*

September Look Ahead

Our first meeting this month, **September 6th**, will be an **Open Projector** night. Our Open Projector nights allow members the opportunity to share their work and benefit from open discussion. Works in progress, problem images, triumphs, epic "learning experiences," or simply images they're proud of for whatever reason are welcome. Projection or prints. Individual presentations are usually limited to ten minutes to allow time for everyone. A sign up sheet will be at the door to govern the order of presentation.

On **September 20th**, we'll see the results of our **Travel** competition. Travel images submit on August 27th. Our judge is *C Jo Gough*. Whether we see images from San Juan Bautista or Timbuktu, this competition is always, as the saying goes, a trip.



Shots and Spots

Bean Hollow State Beach

by Chris Johnson

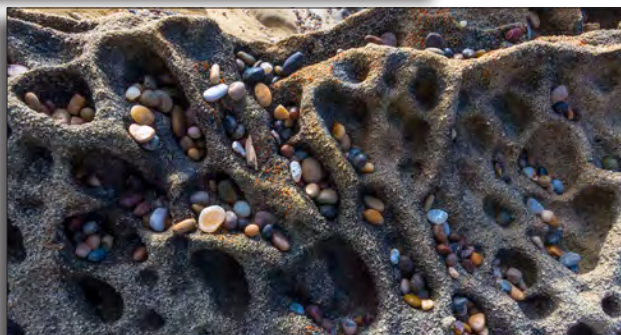
Bean Hollow State Beach is along Highway 1, about three miles South of Pescadero. It is a nice day trip and the beach has many interesting formations. The stone there has been sculpted by a weathering process that creates some



amazing formations. Geologists have named those formations "tafon," plural "tafoni." Tafoni are created by a process called "cavernous weathering." This is the interaction of salt spray and wind on the rock.



Bean Hollow Images by Chris Johnson



Hackberry, Arizona

by Carol Fuessenich

On our way to a Road Scholar program in New Mexico, *Chris Johnson, Carol Silveira, Jeff Hobbs*, and I spent hours in Hackberry, Arizona. Hackberry is a tiny village of about 68 residents in central Mohave County, on Route 66, in the northwestern region of Arizona. The old gas station provides hundreds of photographic



Step into the Past on Route 66 by Carol Fuessenich

opportunities - old cars, tools, buildings, and landscapes. Inside the gas station there are souvenirs and a replica of an old fashioned cafe. And women, visit the restroom. There are interesting things to photograph in there, too!



by Carol Fuessenich

Have you ever planned a trip, but wondered what there might be to photograph along the way or even at your final destination?

It's the *Photographic Society of America* (PSA) to the rescue! *PSA* can provide travel information to its members. Member volunteers from around the world will respond to requests for information about the area in which they live. Are you thinking about going to Philadelphia or El Paso? If there are volunteers in those areas, *PSA* can provide you with their names. You contact them and they respond. When planning a journey, it's nice to learn about an area from someone who lives there and not just from a book! Happy planning!

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



A Very Special Group Shoot

by Ken Jones

The Club has enjoyed many Group Shoots over the years to various locations. Our July 15th gathering at *Jane Black's* ranch will go down as one of the best. The importance of PTCC's periodic, non-competitive outings (we call them Group Shoots) shouldn't be underestimated. Getting together with other members in a relaxed, non-meeting setting and seeing how others approach a subject and set up their shots provides an easy learning environment and often quantum leaps in understanding can result. All our members are open and willing to share ideas and techniques.



Jane and Horse
Image by Jim Lambert

This experience teaches us that it's not, after all, all about the equipment. It's the seeing that makes the difference. Anyone who has been in the Club a while knows that on all our outside adventures, be they informal Group Shoots or our annual Competitive Field Trip, a close second to photography in the collective consciousness is... food. On occasion we've been labeled an eating club that takes pictures. Really not true, but we



Ken at Work
Image by Jared Ikeda

have to eat, right? *Jane Black* was our gracious host for a BBQ spread that added to everyone's enjoyment of the day.

The slideshow is up on our website (Thank you, *Jared!*). Click on "In the Field," in the right column of the home page. Here are a few images from the shoot, which should give you an idea of why this day was such a special one.



Black Ranch Overlook - Image by Dale Thies



Lunch Time - Image by Jared Ikeda



Scenic - Image by Frank Penner



Dusty Road - Image by Carmay Knowles

(See **Group Shoot**, page 5)



Group Shoot

(from page 4)



Saw Handle - Image by Jeff Hobbs



Two Feathers
Image by Carol Fuessenich



Wooden Door
Image by Mary Ann Avera



Bent - Image by John Avera



Padre Trails Camera Club

Meetings: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Hilltop Center, 871 Jessie Street, Monterey
831-646-3975

www.padretrailsc.org

•
2016-2017 Officers:

President - Ken Jones
Vice President - John Drum
Secretary - Shelley Nemeth
Treasurer - Cath Tendler-Valencia

•
Activity Chairs:

Awards - Chris Johnson
Competitions - John Drum & Joni Zabala
Greeter - Carmay Knowles
Hospitality - Chris Johnson
Judges - Judi Clayton & Bill Shewchuk
Membership - Shelley Nemeth
Newsletter - Carmay Knowles
Points Accounting - Carol Fuessenich
Programs - Margret Cordts
Submission Review - Brooks Leffler
& Jared Ikeda

Member Club
since 1948



My Two Bits...

About taking your lens cap off...

by Ken Jones

So where did this saying come from and why do I sign off all Club emails with it? The easy explanation is that obviously, you can't make a photograph if the cap is still affixed to your camera's lens, and as such, it's an apropos slogan for a camera club. But there's more to it. For me, the root of the phrase goes back to the early 1970s when my sole photographic focus was on one, extremely cute, squirmy and giggling subject, our baby daughter. Carl Sagan would have had trouble imagining the number of photographs I made of this kid back then. A great many of those early images contained not only the main subject but, somewhere in the frame inevitably, my lens cap. You have to move fast photographing young humans and my tendency was to slip the cap off and set it down, anywhere. The bottom line is that over those early years I was trained by my photo-critic and editor wife to take my lens cap off — the table, chair, crib, counter, blanket, floor... wherever. So, when I use the phrase to close an email, know that I'm encouraging you all to get out and do it, but also because it's a conditioned response on my part. With that said...

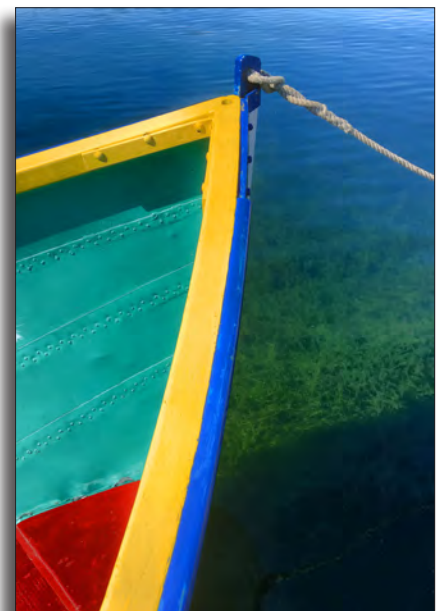
~ Take your lens cap off.



Favorite Photo

by Bill Shewchuk

As you may know, I retired in April and since then I've been on the road a good bit and photographing more than ever. I think the more photographs you take, the odds of capturing something special increase. I am very happy with a number of recent images, but this one is my favorite. I found the boat tied up to a pier while exploring Washington Island, Wisconsin.



Moored Boat
Image by Bill Shewchuk



2018 Competition Plan

The PTCC Board met on Saturday, August 12th to finalize our 2017-2018 Competition Plan. After reviewing the results of our recent member competition preference survey and an analysis of the past three years of submission history, a plan was crafted that offers more of what members want and adds some diversity into the mix as well for next year. The Board thanks everyone who shared their thoughts on this survey. Thanks to all of you, it's going to be another fabulous year!

Competition	Submit	Return
Pictorial #1 (Open)	9/24/17	10/18/17
Nature #1 (Open-PSA)	10/29/17	11/15/17
B&W #1 (Open)	12/31/17	1/17/18
Pictorial #2 ("Reds")	1/28/18	2/21/18
Field Trip (FT-18)	2/25/18	3/21/18
Photojournalism	3/25/18	4/18/18
B&W #2 (Architecture)	4/29/18	5/16/18
Creative	5/27/18	6/20/18
Pictorial #3 (Open)	6/24/18	7/18/18
Nature #2 (Backyard)	7/29/18	8/15/18
Travel	8/26/18	9/19/18



Photo Event Calendar

For local photo events go to:

<http://mpenphotoevents.blogspot.com>

Last Day - Sunday, September 3rd
CPA Members' 2017 Juried Exhibition
 Center for Photographic Art



The Sunset Center
 San Carlos at 9th Avenue
 Carmel

Last Day - Monday, September 4th
What We See:
Photographs by Women Without Shelter
 Monterey Museum of Art
 Pacific Street, Monterey

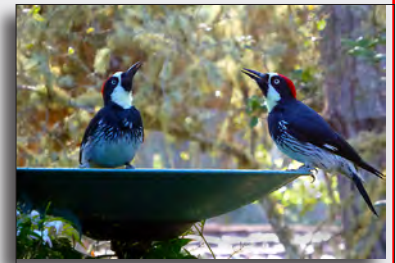
Saturday, September 9th
8x10 Exhibition + Raffle
 Center for Photographic Art
 The Sunset Center



Editor's Corner

As some of you may know, quilting is one of my other hobbies and I belong to the *Monterey Peninsula Quilters Guild* (MPQG). Every year they have a "challenge quilt," which is kind of like one of our directed competitions. This year the challenge was "A Touch of Red!" The quilt could be made by any quilting method, but it had to be 18" x 18" and use a little (or a lot) of an assigned piece of fabric: Kona Red.

Immediately, I knew what my quilt subject was going to be! Acorn woodpeckers visit my feeders all the time and a couple of years ago I took a photo of two of them at the birdbath, one with a drop of water hanging from his beak. That inspiration photo is actually one that I



Two Woodies
 Image by Carmay Knowles



Acorn Woodpecker Takes a Drink
 Quilt by Carmay Knowles

submitted to the PTCC Pictorial - Rule of Thirds competition in February 2015. My quilt, along with a wonderfully whimsical one that Carol Silveira did, will join the other MPQG *Touch of Red* quilt submissions at this year's Monterey County Fair.

Remember, for the October issue of B&P, I'm looking for your spookiest or most interesting Halloween photos. The deadline is September 20th. For November, I'd like to see images that evoke thankfulness or harvest. Please don't be shy about submitting! Please share. We want to see your images!

~ Happy capturing, everyone!

Carmay Knowles, Editor

Send your comments, photographic news items, images, and suggestions, to info@padretrailsc.org or click on "Letters to the Editor" at the bottom of our *Bits & Pixels* Newsletter website page.