

Dennis Barnes Biography

I received my first camera from my mother when I was ten. It was a hand-me-down from my mother, a Kodak box camera that took 116 roll film. I enjoyed taking pictures of family members and parades in my neighborhood. When I started high school in 1966, I took a beginning photography class and got hooked with not only taking pictures, but with the creativity in the darkroom where you can make or break a picture. I did four years of yearbook and newspaper. Yes, I was the geek on the football field taking pictures pushing Tri Ex film to 1000 ASA. I went to Long Beach State University and improved my craft taking photo classes for two years. Then marriage and kids came along with a bigger house and no more space for a dark room at home. I still processed my own slides until I realized it was faster and cheaper to send them out. I did some wedding photography on the side for a while, but decided that it was not for me. Now that I am retired I enjoy traveling with my wife. I enjoy nature, wildlife, and action photography. There are so many great photographers out there to learn from, two of my favorites are John Sexton and Richard Garrod. One of my favorite places to photograph is the Eastern Sierras and every time I go there I see something different to photograph. I am active in the Photographic Society of Orange County. Judging your camera club pictures has been challenging as I am impressed with the quality of the work, and it was hard to choose the winners in each category.