



COLOR NEWS

Volume 63, Number 2

February 2008 Meetings

Photochrome changed its meeting format at the beginning of 2008. So, be prepared for some fun. No judges, except for special competitive nights, and lots of learning, camaraderie and understanding are on the agenda. Our first non-competitive evening in January was a great success; we expect some terrific images in February as well. Here's what's happening this month.

The first Tuesday of this month, February 7, is a Theme Night. The first theme of the new year is "Water." While members are welcome to bring one or two projected images from your files, you are encouraged to take this opportunity to look at water in a new way. See how you can interpret this substance differently, perhaps by experimenting with a new composition, a new approach, like stop action or a long exposure.

The 2nd meeting of the month, February 21, will begin with a short program on Still Life Photography using that handy gadget called a light tent. Alice Steele will show examples of the technique and exhibit the simple equipment needed.

Then the evening will be turned over to B. K. Srinivas and Alan Heald who will take you on a photo safari to Africa. On this evening each of them will be showing the highlights of their respective trips to Kenya and to South Africa.

Each will illustrate their adventures photographing wild game in their natural habitat. It is one thing to see a lion sleeping peacefully in the zoo. It is another thing entirely to witness a group of male lions snarling at each other around a freshly killed giraffe.

Both B.K. and Alan plan to bring in the camera bags they took with them on their adventures. It should be interesting to discuss the process of deciding which lenses they chose to bring with them, and which lenses they left at home.

If there is time, they will discuss how to find the company that will work with you to plan that trip of a lifetime. Travel to Africa is expensive, so this is a big decision. Hint: the Internet is the place to look, and the process is a bit daunting.

We hope you come to this meeting with lots of questions. Both B.K. and Alan will do their best to come up with the answers. It should be an interesting evening.

February 2008

February 7, Projected Images

7:30 *Theme Night—Water.* Submit one or two projected images for critique.

Alice Steele, moderator

Save meeting time by submitting digital images in advance to: photochromeprojectionist@gmail.org
Non-competing nights, you may mark your images: *First Name_Last Name~title.jpg*

February 21:

7:30...*Exploring Photography* Alice Steele
 "Tips on shooting a still life"

Special Presentation B.K. Srinivas & Alan Heald, "Africa"

Deadline for March Color News Copy: February 21

Selective Focus—by Alice Steele

Congratulations to Jim Goldstein who made it onto the press boat this time for the just concluded Mavericks. He's gotten some spectacular shots while clinging to the rocks in previous years. This year's images surpass any previous years. We'll soon say "we knew him when..."

The website—we are getting some good comments from people who found our website at www.photochrome.org. . One inquirer even wants to copy our design for their camera club over in Nevada City. Of course they would adjust it for their audience. Our webmaster, Jim Kelly, sent them the facts they need to get started. Nice. It's also good to know that Craig's List is a great contact. We've received many 'hits' from this source. **We will get more** material on the site soon. The Website Committee (Jim Kelly, Dan Friedman, Richard Zimmerman and yours truly) expect to have coordinated procedures by the time you receive this Color News.

Do you have a website? Let me know. Perhaps we can link to it on the new *Photochrome.org*.

Competition. Our first competitive night will be the first meeting in March and by that time rules will be formulated for entering images under the new N4C standards. The March Color News should have all the information you need.

Congratulations to Stacy Boorn who took Image(s) of the year with her Elephant Seal series at the N4C Annual Awards Luncheon. Mary Asturias, Gladys Clary, Alan Heald and yours truly were there to applaud mightily as several more Photochrome members took prizes. (Gladys & Alice took home some of the door prizes).

There are so many photo ops in the next few months that it's difficult to know where to start. Besides the ones written up elsewhere in this issue, the Mustard Festival is on in February so look to Napa for good images. Chinese New Year with its

colorful celebrations is almost upon us as well. And these are just the highlights.

Now some not so happy news: Our secretary, Bill FitzGerald, who's kept the records of our Board Meetings so very accurately for the past three years and who has welcomed each new member to the club during that time finds that his work schedule takes him away from the City so much he cannot continue. (remember, we located him in Butan not too long ago?) In any event, we need a volunteer. Can **you** help?

Also, Gary Chu, our member who greatly assists us with digital projection is not going to be available to help after mid-year. Have **you** ever wanted to learn to run a digital projector? Now is your chance. Please volunteer to help the club.

I suppose it's obvious, but I'll say it anyhow.

"You get out of your club what you put into it."

Saturday, March 1, 2008

First Field trip of the year

Where: Cayuga Playground

301 Naglee at Cayuga.

Meet at the Playground

When: 10:00am

Directions: From Alemany Blvd, (near Daly City), turn north onto Foote Ave. Left on Cayuga Ave one block to Naglee.

("Google Maps" is your friend for more detailed instructions)

Carpooling can be arranged.

This is a tiny but special place with lots to interpret and photograph. Read the write-up on page six of the January Color News for complete details of this interesting venue. If your January issue has gone walk-about, check it out on line in the Color News archives, at

www.photochrome.org

Depending on time and weather, we can find a nice spot for lunch and perhaps more photography nearby in the afternoon.

This would be a good opportunity to invite your friends and fellow photographers to a Photochrome event.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR-MEMBERSHIP?

?

**TODAY IS A GOOD TIME.
BE PART OF THE NEW
PHOTOCHROME!**

Coming Attractions

March 1—Saturday

10:00am, **Field Trip**—Cayuga Playground
Meet at the Playground: 301 Naglee at Cayuga

March 6

7:30...**Competition: Open Pictorial**
with outside judge.

Moderator, Richard Zimmerman

March 20

7:30...**Print Night**

Moderator: Alan Heald, *Exploring Photography*

Special Presentation: Richard Zimmerman,
Training on “Soft proofing”

Sunday, March 2, 9:00 to 5:00

The first weekend in March will be a busy weekend, because the Yerba Buena Chapter of PSA is sponsoring a great workshop by Barry Haines the very next day after our Field Trip.

Working with Problem Images, is the title of the workshop. It's a full day of Photoshop treats, including:

Essential Photoshop techniques for Photographers
* **Image Processing with Bridge** (CS2 & CS3) and
Compositing Bracketing Photos. He'll conclude with **Taking and Combining Images for Pano-**

ramas. Haines will sign his latest book, *Photoshop Artistry* at the conclusion of his program.

The price is right;

\$12—members;

\$20—guests of Yerba Buena Chapter;

lunch included. It's at Rossmoor, and full details are available at the Yerba Buena Chapter website:

<http://www.psa-yerbabuena.org/> or in the flyer available at Photochrome on meeting nights.

Saturday, April 19 brings another workshop of note. Photographer Lewis Kemper will conduct an all-day digital workshop under the auspices of the Marin Camera Club, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Details on where and cost will follow.

Lewis will cover topics including **Getting the Most out of your Digital Camera * Light and Composition * Expanding the Dynamic Range of Your Images * Post Processing your Digital Files * Histogram and Highlight warnings * Custom White Balance * Light and Composition * working in HDR**. He will demonstrate many of the tried and true techniques he teaches in his Photoshop classes. “This program is a must for any level photographer working in today's digital world.” the organizers say.

A photographer with impressive credentials, Kemper is one of 78 photographers nationwide that Canon has invited into the Explorers of Light program.

Photo Op

Total Eclipse of the Moon

February 20

By Bing Quock, California Academy of Sciences

Weather-permitting, a lunar eclipse will be seen on the evening of Wednesday, February 20th. A lunar eclipse is what happens when the full moon slowly creeps through Earth's deep-red shadow and turns a glowing copper-to-brick-red color. Whether the eclipse is total or partial depends on whether the Moon passes through the exact center of the shadow. This time, the eclipse is total, and, in fact, it's the last total lunar eclipse visible until December 2010.

For observers in San Francisco, the eclipse is perfectly timed for early-evening viewing. The Full Moon will rise 8 minutes before sunset, with the partial phase of the eclipse just underway. Earth's shadow actually has two parts: a faint, outer halo called the “penumbra,” which is barely-perceptible

on the Moon's face, and a darker central portion called the “umbra,” which is what most people will be seeing. By the time the total phase is over, the Moon will still be less than 40 degrees high in the eastern sky.

Here are the exact timings, from NASA's Eclipse Home Page (<http://sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov>), with sunset & moonrise times from the Astronomical Data Service's Photographer's Almanac of the Sun & Moon:

Start of partial eclipse (Moon begins to enter the darkest part of Earth's shadow): 5:43 pm PST

Moonrise: 5:46 pm PST

Sunset: 5:54 pm PST

Totality begins (Moon is completely immersed in the red umbra): 7:01 pm PST

Middle of totality: 7:26 pm PST

Totality ends (Moon begins to exit the umbra): 7:51 pm PST

End of partial eclipse (Moon completely exits umbra): 9:09 pm PST

Photo Ops

Palace of Fine Arts Lagoon



Alice Steele

This is a good time to get nice detailed pictures of Black Crowned Night Herons as they perch in the tree at the north end of the lagoon. The deciduous tree, leafless in December, has been their home for years. They look like candles as they sit upright on the bare branches. Later in the year, they will be camouflaged by thick greenery. Reflections from the lagoon can add to the fun. But late afternoon brings shadows to the tree. Majestic swans are a bonus. There is usually good parking on Baker Street.

Don't forget Santa Cruz!

Yes, there is still time. The Monarch Butterflies are in Santa Cruz, and on warm afternoons they often are fluttering around in their colorful and spectacular fashion. You might grab a camera and a friend and wander down there to see what your lens can capture. They usually stick around until March. If the waves are up, you might surf Steamer Lane, also in Santa Cruz. If not, there's always the Arboretum. Worthy of a field trip someday?



Alice Steele

Spring's a *great* time for a Field trip!

Do YOU have a favorite place for photographs? Tell the members about it in this space next month.

*Keep this feature going.
Tell of your
favorite places here.*

**Sign up for email delivery of your
Color News!**

If YOU would like to receive your copy of the Color News by email, make a note on your renewal and we'll put you on the list.

Or email SFALice@aol.com

**You get it faster & the pictures
look lots better!**

Color Management and Printing

By Richard Zimmerman

The previous article covered the basics of color theory and color spaces. Now it's time for the ink to hit the paper. How can you get accurate prints the first time?

Devices, such as your monitor and printer, use a profile to determine how to render a color. A profile is simply a table that indicates what mixture of primary colors should be used to obtain a certain color.

Generating a custom profile for your monitor is a necessary - but not sufficient- step on the path to print nirvana. Without a custom monitor profile, it is unlikely that you will be able to print accurately without a lot of trial and error. Profiling your monitor requires a hardware/software package. It's true you can generate a profile by eyeballing the monitor but using a hardware device to generate the profile is far more accurate. Such devices cost on the order of \$100 and up.

Is profiling your camera possible? The short answer is yes, you could. But the longer answer is "it depends." This would only work if you shoot RAW. Another problem is that Adobe does not provide for custom camera profiles in either Photoshop or Lightroom. Some other RAW convertors do support a custom camera profiles; Capture One from Phase One, for example. There is a work around possible in Adobe Camera Raw and Lightroom. (See <http://fors.net/chromoholics/>) The software to do the profile is free but it requires that you have a GretagMacbeth 24-patch ColorChecker.

The color management problem can become even more challenging when printing. If you have profiled your monitor you might still have prints that are color inaccurate. Why?

Printer manufacturers base the profile included with your printer on an average printer, not on your printer. If you print by letting the "printer determine colors" in Photoshop, you are using the profile sup-

plied by the manufacturer.

While this may be a reasonable way to proceed - the price is right - for more accurate color you need to generate a custom profile. This is a profile for your printer with the ink and paper that you want to use. It will, in general, be more accurate than the profile included with the printer. And it's not free.

There are several ways to obtain custom profiles for a printer. One, buy the hardware required to do it yourself. This is the high priced method; typical hardware/software packages to do the profiling start at \$750. For

most, this is not a realistic option unless you are running a print shop.

The second option is to have a lab generate a profile. Googling custom printer profiles will give 1.5 million results. So there are some options to consider.

The process for generating a custom profile is straight forward. First, download a target from the company selected. Depending upon the company and the paper you are profiling, there are different targets.

Next, make sure your printer is printing without any artifacts. Then, print the target(s) on the paper you want to profile following the profiler instructions. After it dries, snail mail it to the profiler. In a few days you will receive, via email, a profile. It will have the extension .icc and needs to be installed on your machine. On a Mac, it should be placed in the folder /Library/ColorSync/Profiles/ In Windows(XP and Vista) the profiles are in \Windows\system32\spool\drivers\color.

To use the profiles (You may have to restart your machine) just select that profile when printing. That means you will have to use "Let Photoshop determine colors..." in the Print Dialog. Soft Proof should work also.

The price for the custom profile varies but can be as low as \$25 per profile. You might save that much in ink and paper in a few days. I used InkJetArt(1) to generate profiles for Epson Matte and Brilliant Luster papers for my Epson 2200 printer. The results were very good for the Matte paper but only slightly better with the Brilliant paper. The canned Epson profile that came with my printer had always been unsatisfactory with matte paper. Green, in particular, was so bad that with certain prints I was forced to use luster or semi-gloss papers. The custom profile was very good and fixed the problem. See <http://rezphotos.smugmug.com/gallery/3932956/1/228343258/Large>

If you want to move to the next step in printing, consider a custom profile. It can be an inexpensive way to improve your prints.

1. <http://www.inkjetart.com/profiles/profiles.html> (I have no connection with InkJetArt other than as a customer.)
2. An illustrated version of this article is at: <http://rezphotos.smugmug.com/gallery/3932956>

The final article in this series will appear in the March issue of The Color News

Competition Groups, 2008 Information

While Photochrome focuses this year on education and critique rather than competition, the Board still established 2008 competition levels. The club expects to do some competitive evenings, and some of our members may wish to compete separately in N4C competition.

A list of members and levels in which they may compete has been compiled. . The list is on page 7. If you feel you should compete at a different level than that in which you are listed, please contact Burr Preston who will reassign you. Please keep this list and refer to it during the year. If you happen to misplace your list, you can find it on our website www.Photochrome.org in this February 2008 archived newsletter.

Competition.

Our first projected images competitive night will be the first meeting in March. .

Print makers will compete at the second March Membership Meeting.

The next Color News should have all the information you need to compete using new N4C standards and naming conventions.

Alan Heald, Print Chair, gives more details on the upcoming Print Night competition:

I figure that it's about time to discuss what's in store for us in 2008. This year is definitely one of change.

After gathering the information from the club questionnaire, it was clear that the Board needed to change many things. Among them was the number of times that the print makers will meet in 2008. Last year we met eleven times, sometimes with sparse attendance. This year we are planning on meeting just four times! While this may still be up for some discussion, this is pretty much the way it will be this year.

Print Makers - New 2008 Competition Levels

Beginning (B)	Intermediate (I)
Yuki Choi	-none-
Jim Elliot	
Gene Hsu	
Jim Kelly	
Arthur King	

Advanced (A)	Masters (M)
Enrique Aguirre	Deborah Hall
Viktor Gruber	Gene Morita
Oscar Soriano	Jim Silva
Alice Steele	
Richard Zimmerman	

During the evenings that we do meet, however, I really hope to make our Print Nights very interesting, informative, and fun!

Our first Print Night will be **Thursday March 20, at 7:30 PM**. At this meeting, in addition to showing our prints, Richard Zimmerman will make a special presentation on "Soft Proofing".

To start out the year, the categories of prints featured this night will be: Color Pictorial, Monochrome Pictorial, Travel, and Creative. So, start thinking about the images you want to blow up and mount for this evening. Also, write this date down in your calendars!

I also thought that it might be interesting for me to bring in the old lap top and hook it up to my Wacom tablet and let any of you who wish to.... sit down and give it a try. Personally, I can't stand to use a mouse any more with CS3! This is a great tool.

Something to look forward to: Alan Heald has an article ready to serialize in the MARCH edition of the Color News. Stay tuned... We'll also have the conclusion of Richard Zimmerman's fine article on Color Management next month.

Projected Images Competition Groups

Pictorial Groupings,

Beginner

Bruening, Oscar
Choi, Yuki
Eyre, Steve
Friedman, Dan
Heald, Alan
Kelly, Jim
Secchia, Gail
Song, Keith
Soriano, Oscar

Intermediate

Chu, Gary
Gallagher, Carol
Griffin, Garret
Gumbel, Martin
Jackrel, Rebecca
King, Arthur
MacDonald, Margie
Zhoe, Willis

Advanced

Aguirre, Enrique
Asturias, Mary
Lantheaume, Jackie
Louie, Connie
MacDonald, Kaye
Silva, Jim
Stock, Janet
Vanman, Joyce

Masters

Boorn, Stacy
Goldstein, Jim
Hall, Deborah
Huey, Bing
Jefferson, Dennis
Kibre, Chris
Morita, Gene
Preston, Burr
Stacks, Richard
Steele, Alice

Nature

Groupings,

Beginner

Choi, Yuki
Chu, Gary
Friedman, Dan
Gallagher, Carol
Griffin, Garret
Gumbel, Martin
Kelly, Jim
King, Arthur

Song, Keith

Soriano, Oscar

Intermediate

Heald, Alan
Jackrel, Rebecca
Lantheaume, Jackie
MacDonald, Kaye
MacDonald, Margie
Secchia, Gail
Srinivas, BK
Stock, Janet
Vanman, Joyce
Zhoe, Willis

Advanced

Aguirre, Enrique
Asturias, Mary
Boorn, Stacy
Goldstein, Jim
Hall, Deborah
Huey, Bing
Jefferson, Dennis
Kibre, Chris
Louie, Connie
Morita, Gene
Preston, Burr
Silva, Jim
Stacks, Richard
Steele, Alice

Travel

Groupings,

Beginner

Bruening, Oskar
Choi, Yuki
Chu, Gary
Eyre, Steve
Gallagher, Carol
Heald, Alan
Jackrel, Rebecca
Kelly, Jim
Secchia, Gail
Song, Keith
Soriano, Oscar

Intermediate

Friedman, Dan
Goldstein, Jim
Griffin, Garret
King, Arthur
Louie, Connie
MacDonald, Kaye
Macdonald, Margie
Srinivas, BK

Steele, Alice

Advanced

Aguirre, Enrique
Asturias, Mary
Boorn, Stacy
Hall, Deborah
Kibre, Chris
Lantheaume, Jackie
Morita, Gene
Preston, Burr
Silva, Jim
Stacks, Richard
Stock, Janet
Vanman, Joyce
Zhoe, Willis

Creative Groupings,

Beginner

Choi, Yuki
Chu, Gary
Eyre, Steve
Friedman, Dan
Gallagher, Carol
Griffin, Garret
Gumbel, Martin
Huey, Bing
Jackrel, Rebecca
King, Arthur
Louie, Connie
Secchia, Gail
Song, Keith
Soriano, Oscar
Vanman, Joyce

Advanced

Aguirre, Enrique
Asturias, Mary
Boorn, Stacy
Goldstein, Jim
Hall, Deborah
Heald, Alan
Jefferson, Dennis
Kibre, Chris
Lantheaume, Jackie
MacDonald, Kaye
MacDonald, Margie
Morita, Gene
Preston, Burr
Silva, Jim
Stacks, Richard
Steele, Alice
Zhoe, Willis

Journalism Groupings,

Beginner

Bruening, Oscar

Choi, Yuki

Chu, Gary

Gallagher, Carol

Griffin, Garret

Heald, Alan

Jackrel, Rebecca

Kelly, Jim

King, Arthur

MacDonald, Margie

Secchia, Gail

Song, Keith

Soriano, Oscar

Srinivas, BK

Vanman, Joyce

Advanced

Aguirre, Enrique

Asturias, Mary

Boorn, Stacy

Friedman, Dan

Gallagher, Carol

Goldstein, Jim

Hall, Deborah

Huey, Bing

Jefferson, Dennis

Lantheaume, Jackie

Louie, Connie

MacDonald, Kaye

Morita, Gene

Preston, Burr

Silva, Jim

Stacks, Richard

Steele, Alice

Stock, Janet

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Meetings are held on the first & third Thursdays of the month (Except Nov. & Dec.) At 7:30pm.
The Fellowship Hall, Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 678 Portola Drive, San Francisco, CA 94127
Check our website Photochrome.org for meeting details.

Photo Op



Alice Steele

Elkhorn Slough meets Highway One at Moss Landing State Park .

This is a great hangout for sea otters—oh yes, and harbor seals too. On a sparkling clear day, take the longest lens you have

and try for cavorting otter pics. If you are lucky, and I was twice in December, you can get close-ups of the otters at the entrance to Moss landing where there is a small boat harbor. In December, four of them, including one mom with baby, were there along with a battery of cameras manned by staff members of the nearby Marine Laboratories and lucky passersby.

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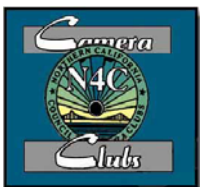
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