

COLOR NEWS

What's happening at Photochrome in August

August 2— Field Trip, 8:00am

Golden Gate Park

Burr Preston Leads

Early is best for these beautiful flowers and for parking. Special treat: our member, Carol Hemingway, an expert dahlia photographer will be with us between 8:00-10:00am. The Dahlia

Garden is adjacent to and just east of the historic Conservatory. It's in an enclosed plot at the end of a little-known, dead



-end street called "Conser-vatory Road". There are street closures in Golden Gate Park on Saturdays, but this little road to the Conservatory can be reached by approaching it from the east. JFK Blvd closes to vehicles at the de Young museum turnoff. If you visit the Conservatory (butterflies, tropical plants) there is a modest fee, but the garden and grounds are free.

August 7 —Theme Night,7:30pm

Burr Preston Moderates.

Members may enter up to four projected images. Two for Textures and two for Silhouette/Shadow.

Textures are all over the place. Finding an interesting example is the puzzle. Then find a couple of images representing Silhouette(s) or Shadow(s). It may be more difficult than you think! The group comments on each image

giving constructive criticism. In return, the maker, if s/he wishes, tells of techniques that make the picture unique. Truly a 'win-win' situation.

August 14— Board Meeting, 7:30pm Fireside Room (upstairs)

All members are invited to attend this meeting. Photochrome is being kept alive by a small, dedicated group of volunteers who have been at it for a number of years now. One or two are looking forward to retiring from the Board. Replacements are needed.

If you'd like to get involved, your help would be welcome.

August 21—DAM, 7:30pm

Enrique Aguirre Moderates

DAM = Digital Asset Management. or who/ what to shoot, edit, backup and share in the digital world without losing your mind or your shots! This is how Enrique describes the evening he has planned for Photochrome at our last meeting in August. We all know Enrique's extraordinary professionalism and his superb imagery. Now, we get to find out how he does it. This meeting is not to be missed.

AUGUST 2008

Volume 63, Issue 8

AUGUST

August 2, 8:00am

Field Trip

Dahlia Gardens,
Golden gate Park

August 7—7:30pm

Burr Preston
moderates

Theme Night, featuring:

Textures

Silhouettes/Shadows

Up to two images may be submitted for each theme by members.

August 14—7:30pm

Board Meeting
Fireside Room

You're welcome to join these meetings to help plan the future of Photochrome.

August 21—7:30pm

Enrique Aguirre pre-
sents DAM.

**Save meeting time.
Send your digital images by midnight Wednesday(s)
to:**

photochromeprojectionist@gmail.com

Mark your images:

Category* - First Name - Last Name - Title. Jpg

**categories are:*

PicSix (up to six images taken on Field Trips)

OP (Open Pictorial) two images

TN (Theme Night) two images per theme.

Stories My Mother Shouldn't Be Told

Story & Photos By
Rebecca Jackrel



I pulled my eye from the viewfinder when I realized I could no longer focus. I had a full frame view of a black bear nose and she was still moving toward me. I was a bit startled to see how close this female had wandered until I remembered I was shooting with my 300mm, not my 600. I took a calm step backward and watched the bear closely for any sign she might become aggressive. So far so good, she was staying calm, her cubs were safe in a tree at least 150 feet behind her in the forest. My only trouble was that she was advancing toward me again... I swear I had not dipped my tripod legs in honey. Regardless, she seemed determined to get a good sniff.

I took another step backward and caught sight of Chas moving steadily toward me from my left. He was still a long distance away and moving slowly so as not to alarm the bear. I took one more step backward and I hit a solid object... I had been certain I had more room between me and the wooden stairs that lead to the viewing platform

reserved for the general public. My immediate thought was, "Oh sh**! I've let a bear get behind me and now I've run into it! This is going to hurt." I glanced over my shoulder quickly and almost burst out laughing. Another photographer was peering over my shoulder, his face ghost-white. The bear took another step toward me, her face now snuffing my tripod - if she stood up she would be two inches from my face. Habituated or not this was still a wild bear - I couldn't let her remain that close. I took a deep breath and said in my most commanding voice, "That's Close Enough. Go Away Bear." I stomped my feet as I spoke and raised my arms slowly above my head. The bear looked startled to see me behind the tripod... She looked right at me, then shook her head and turned around and walked back to the tree where she had stashed her kids. I went back to photographing her.

From behind me a voice quavered, "I..." then stronger; "I *wasn't* hiding!" I just grinned to myself and kept shooting.

The Vince Shute Bear Sanctuary is located in Orr, MN. Every summer Black Bears congregate there to take advantage of the environment safe from hunters and food placed by researchers. Most visitors view the bears from the safety of a high platform above the meadow but it is possible to arrange to photograph the bears from beneath the platform. It's a great experience walking among the bears. To learn more visit <http://www.americanbear.org/>.



SEPTEMBER Scheduled Activities

September 4

Open Pictorial
Judge's Favorites Night.
Pic Six (Dahlia Garden)
Outside Judge will critique members images and pick several 'favorites'. Members bring two images.

September 11

Board Meeting
Everyone welcome

September 18

Fall in California
Members may bring up to six images of fall color taken in California. Tell us details of your shoot.

Next Theme Night

Will be November 6

Themes will be

Motion

Geometric Forms

Selective Focus—*Alice Steele*

Interest in Photochrome continues to be lively with good attendance at meetings and field trips. **It is important now** that some of our newer members volunteer to help with running meetings, chairing field trips and otherwise helping run the club.

As alluded to on the front page, a few who have been involved with Club affairs for long periods of time are ready to step down. Willing replacements are needed now.

So, if you enjoy Photochrome, please help it thrive by helping.

Many thanks to Enrique Aguirre, who, when our digital projector went on the blink, took over the repair details; sending it to Canon,

negotiating prices, and herding it through the process. It's back and working just fine. **Thanks also go** to Jim Silva who lent his projector until the Club machine made it back. Deborah Hall supplied the necessary cable on short notice. (like, thanks for going home to get it, Deborah).

Speaking of projectors (and why not, they are an important tool in our Club activities) Gary Chu, who was our digital guy for quite a while has stepped down. Connie Louie, Alan Heald, and Stacy Boorn are projectionists-in-training and are doing a super job. Nick Silva is among those helping in the training process. And where would we be without

Chris Kibre, our faithful slide projectionist. Always there, always helpful.

Gary Larsen has made new name badges for all our members. They are good looking and easy to read. Thanks, Gary. Do wear them on meeting nights and return them to the box, frequently found on the stage, at the end of the evening. Then you'll have your badge next time.

***Invite a friend
to a
Field Trip
or a Meeting***

Have you made the switch to paperless? Your Color News looks terrific on the screen, and it gets to you faster when you subscribe by email. Email SFAlice@aol.com to make the change

**Plan Ahead
Image-Fest 2008
Saturday,
November 15
9:00am-1:00PM
with lunch**

All Member Competition

Find details in the June issue of the Color News and on-line at ***Photochrome.org***.

Image Fest—2008

For those of us who just love competition, and lets face it there's a little of the competitor in just about all of us, in June, we gave a first call about our gigantic annual competition—*Image Fest 2008*—to be held on November 15, starting at 9:00am

Stacy Boorn is chairing the event. It will be an all day affair with many categories for you to enter. The usual ones: Pictorial, Nature, Travel, PhotoJournalism and Creative will be there. These will follow N4C guidelines. (*If you're unsure about those guidelines, check out the N4C.org website for complete details.*)

There are other contests that have been endowed by Photochrome members. All these contests were listed in the June Color News and will be on our website (if they are not there already.) Please check them out and give them a shot.

Some of these contests actually involve cash prizes. Others earn some pretty fancy medals and bragging rights. All the details you need are in the June issue. You have the chance to enter up to 49 images on that November day, so you might want to get started now!

Welcome New Members

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*Stacy Boorn, a Photochrome past president, and published author, has given us permission to reprint excerpts from her story: **California Gold—It Grows on the Trees, the Living Icons of the Eastern Sierras**. It first appeared in *Nature Photographer*. While this particular excerpt discusses aspen photography, it could apply to just about any project.*

ASPEN ALONE:

Look for a tree that stands apart from the dense grove, and then look at it from every angle. I literally move all around the tree and look from different perspectives. A few possibilities include eye level, straight up from the trunk, from a distance, from the ground. One photographer once made one thousand different stunning images with one tree. If you have more than one lens, try using everything you have on this one tree. Imagine your frame divided into thirds. Place that tree on spots where the thirds meet. Don't just view aspen from a distance—walk into the grove and look around. Most of all, don't forget to look up.



Coming in September

“Reflections on My Journey”

An All-Day Presentation by

John Isaac

September 20, 2008

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Lark Theater, Larkspur, CA

Registration fee:

\$65 per person • \$25 student fee

Register at: *N4C.org*

Sponsored by the Northern California
Council of Camera Clubs

Journalism • Travel • Nature

Program

John will cover three areas of photography important to us: Journalism, Travel, and Nature. Those, who have heard him, comment on his great sense of humor and teaching ability. He prefers “not to do my lecture in a very structured way, because I do not believe in such structures. I want it to be free-flowing. I do believe that neither life nor photography can be executed in a rigid way. It is a philosophical thought and that is how I approach photography.”

The session begins at 9 am; there will be a 1 1/2 hr. break for lunch at 12 pm.

There will also be two 15 minute breaks.

FLYING DEVILS OF THE FALKLANDS

Story & Photos By Enrique Aguirre

I first heard of the Striated Caracara (*Phalacrocorax australis*) through a National Geographic documentary titled "Flying Devils" (you can see part of it here:

http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/player/animals/birds-animals/birds-of-prey/caracara_johnnyrook.html

or just search for it on YouTube).

These birds are the boldest raptors on the planet. Ever since they were discovered by sailors exploring the southern oceans they have been known for their fearlessness... and I decided to use that trait to my advantage.



During my first visit to the Falkland Islands I had a chance to photograph a beautiful adult bird surrounded by red sorrel grass bathed in golden evening light. Adults tend to be solitary or live in mated pairs with a territory that encloses a penguin rookery. On the other hand

juveniles, after being expelled from their parent's domain will congregate in 'gangs' and roam the islands looking for food until they become sexually mature and find their own territory for nesting. This was the behavior that I was looking to portray, the bold, gang-like young birds... and it turned out to be easier than I expected!

On Sea Lion Island I located a group of young birds on a beach, maybe 8 or 9 and made my way towards them. As I got closer I discovered that the group was larger, maybe 13 or 14 young caracaras 'hanging out' near a driftwood log (there are no trees on the Falklands). When I got within their 'you have my attention' distance I sat on the beach and set up my camera with a wide angle zoom (24-70mm) pointed in the direction

of the birds and with the sun to my back and right. At this angle the birds could approach me in direct sunlight but my shadow would stay out of the shot. I set up low and wide, down at the level of the birds, I wanted to show the last thing their prey would see.

It took less time than I expected, even before I had finished setting up the first young birds had started surrounding me.



13 young thugs had me totally surrounded with the main group of 7 approaching from the front, curious about the strange contraption that I had in front of me. The circled me as if they were looking for a weak point (at this point you get the feeling that they might even try to 'have a go' at you) while I waited with my finger on the shutter release cable, the camera ready set to a small aperture (f16) and hyper-focal distance so I wouldn't have to keep looking through the view finder or refocusing. By selecting f16 I maximize my depth of field, then I adjust the focus manually using the depth of field preview button on my camera to include as much of the scene that I hope to capture with in the area of apparent focus that the small aperture provides. This is a technique used for landscape photography that also works very well for shots when you can't look through the viewfinder all the time, such as with remote triggers or even infrared photo traps.

As the birds inspected me they got closer and closer, bolder and bolder, moving in like a pack of velociraptors from the movie 'Jurassic Park' and I started taking shots. I knew the area covered by my camera and I knew that anything from 1ft to almost infinity would be in focus, the ISO setting on the camera was high enough to provide a reasonable shutter speed but low enough to avoid excessive sensor noise so I just had to concentrate on pressing the button when I saw that the birds had the right head angles and attitude.

After a few minutes of this an adult bird with an established territory nearby came to investigate what was going on and proceeded to disperse the young birds and I carefully packed up my gear as this even bolder bird tried to snatch loose items such as lens caps and straps from my camera bag. At one point it even tried to drag my tripod away by pulling on one of the leg covers... This is a beach where you would not want to take a nap on a beach bed.

Meetings are held the First and Third Thursdays of the month, except for November and December. They begin at 7:30 and are held at the Fellowship Hall, Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 678 Portola Drive, San Francisco, CA 94127. For meeting details check: www.photochrome.org

Board of Directors—2008

Enrique Aguirre
Mary Asturias
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Dan Friedman
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Burr Preston
Alice Steele
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.Waiting for the Right moment

- “13 young thugs had me totally surrounded with the main group of 7 approaching from the front, curious about the strange contraption that I had in front of me. The circled me as if they were looking for a weak point “
Enrique Aguirre

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Member of:
The Photographic Society of America (PSA)
since 1943

2008 International PSA Conference
Portland, Oregon 8/31-9/6

and the Northern California Council of Camera Clubs (N4C)

