



COLOR NEWS

What's happening at Photochrome in October

Oct. 2 — Open Pictorial

Burr Preston Moderates.

Each member may enter two projected images.

Also—Pic Six, Zoo

Each member brings up to two images, digital or slide. 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.

This will be a "Pic Six" night as well, when members who went on the field trip to the Zoo will present up to six images each from that expedition. The early entry to the Zoo provided special opportunities for natural behavior from the animals that live there.

Please note special instructions below for marking your digital entries.

Oct 9— Board Meeting

As the year winds down, member participation becomes more and more important. We urge all interested members to attend this meeting.

Oct. 11 —Field Trip

This is your chance to photograph more than 25 species of butterflies as they flit from flower to flower. The Conservatory also houses almost two thousand plant species Excellent images can be captured in the Lowland Tropics, Aquatic Plants, Potted Plants and Highland Tropics galleries. The building itself extends fine interpretive opportunities.

Remember: NO Tripods inside.

Admission: \$5 adults, \$3 seniors.

E-mail Gary Larsen if you will attend. ge.larsen@sbcglobal.net

Oct. 16—Print Night

Moderator: Alan Heald

Yes, it's the last Print Night of the year. Usually, certain categories are listed and members bring prints that fit. This time, the sky's the limit. Bring your best new work in whatever category you like. Pictorial, PJ, Creative, Nature, Travel. Monochrome and/or Color.

Oh, yes. An audience is invited. Even if you don't submit work, come and en-

OCTOBER 2008
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OCTOBER Scheduled Activities

Oct. 2—Open Pictorial, 7:30
Moderator: Burr Preston
Members present two images for critique.
PicSix—Zoo

Oct. 11—Field Trip, 9:30am
Conservatory of Flowers
Meet at the front door.

Oct. 9—Board Meeting, 7:30

Oct. 16—Print Night, 7:30
Moderator: Alan Heald
Printmakers to bring new examples of their own favorite topics on this last print night of the year.

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.

Please note: digital images should be re-sized so that the longest side is no more than 1024 pixels. That is how they fit properly on our projection equipment.

September Field Trip to the Zoo

by Gary Larsen



Front row kneeling, left to right: Garrett Griffin, Richard Stacks, Gail Secchia Dan Taylor. Back row sitting, left to right: Burr Preston, Sylvia Chiari, Weronika Patena, Laura Fairbanks, Patricia Taylor. Standing, left to right: Gabe Sheen, Gary Larsen, Jim Elliot, Alan Heald. Not shown: Wilson Yee. (photo by Gail Secchia)

On September 6, Photochrome members ventured on a photo-shoot safari led by Richard Stacks and Gail Secchia to the San Francisco Zoo in the outer Sunset District of San Francisco. The weather was warm without a cloud in the sky.

Richard Stacks presented suggestions of best opportunities for photographing several animals within their natural appearing environments. He also explained to the group techniques used to obtain ideal images of preferred subjects. Gail Secchia who is head docent at the zoo, generously arranged for our trip to begin before doors opened to the public. We were able to walk in and immediately begin shooting in the African Savanna area taking great photos of giraffes, zebras, kudus, ostriches and other animals common to that area. After about 40 minutes we proceeded to the Gorilla Preserve to capture images of these magnificent endangered species who had just been let out of their "sleeping quarters" to wonder around outside. With

the low morning light we were able to get good detailed photos. After shooting gorillas, we started dispersing throughout the zoo to several locations indicated by Richard Stacks. We visited the penguins, baby tigers, grizzly bears, koalas, flamingos, etc. Some of us even visited the children's and insect zoos.



©G. Larsen

At 11:00 we took a break at the Terrace Café and enjoyed some refreshments before hitting the trail again for more photographic excitement with hippos, rhinos, blackbucks, warthogs, etc. In all, it was a wonderful day at the zoo! I guarantee there will be a magnificent collection of photos coming from this field trip. You'll see them at the October 2nd meeting.

NOVEMBER Scheduled Activities

Nov. 1
Field Trip
Point Bonita Lighthouse

Nov. 6
Theme Night:
(2 images each theme)

Motion
Geometric Forms

November 13
Board Meeting

Nov. 15:
Image Fest

Dec. 7:
Awards Banquet

PSA Yerba Buena Chapter— 2008 Salon Competition Closing Date Extended to October 12, 2008

This competition is for Pictorial electronic images in Color or Monochrome which have not been obviously manipulated. Obviously manipulated images will be disqualified. This means that something may be removed or added as long as it cannot be easily detected by the Judges. All entrants must be current members of PSA and the Yerba Buena Chapter. Up to four images may be entered at a fee of \$10.00. AWARDS: Grand Prize \$500; 2nd Place \$200; 3rd Place \$100—Complete details at: .psa-yerbabuena.org

6-Session Nature Course Available

Lawrence Naiman of the Palo Alto Camera Club announces that they, in conjunction with the City of Palo Alto are presenting a six-session evening course in Digital Nature Photography at the Baylands Nature Center starting Thursday, October 2. Complete details at: Pacamera.com

IMAGE FEST 2008
Saturday, Nov. 15th
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

REFRESHMENTS!

Members attending are asked for help in bringing refreshments on this day.

What are especially needed are salads and desserts.

Help make this a good day for all.

*The Silvas,
Refreshment chairs.*

FIRST CALL
Annual Awards
Banquet
Sunday, December 7
6:00pm
Irish Cultural Center
2700-45th Ave.
San Francisco
\$28

Fillet of Sole
Chicken Marsala
Vegetarian Pasta

and
Awards
plus

A review of the Club's
best work during
2008

A chance to renew old
friendships and make
new ones.

Selective Focus
by Alice Steele

First, the very good news. Enrique Aguirre has stepped up to be President of Photochrome in 2009. Now, members, it's up to us to fill the jobs that make his job an easy one. More next month.

Lots to do as we move into the last three months of 2008. Field trips, Meetings, gathering 49 images for the Image Fest, and finally the Annual Awards Banquet.

With a bit of a chuckle I'm going to tell you that twice now, I have submitted an issue of the Color News to the annual PSA newsletter contest—and either this is easier than it looks, or you've been giving me terrific material. The first time, in 2005, the Color News took a Director's Award, this year it took a nice Best Newsletter Honorable Mention (in our class). How 'bout that!

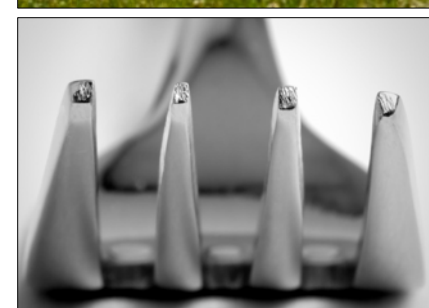
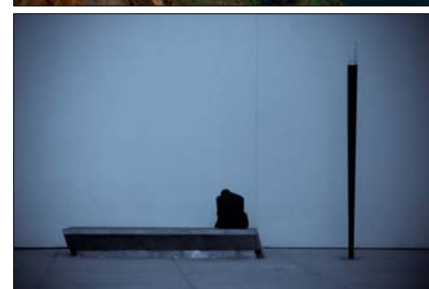
I'm not alone, Joan Fields, who does a fabulous job on the N4C publication, *Fanfare*. consistently takes home an award and she did it again this year. Way to go, Joan!

Speaking of people who do a great job, Richard Zimmerman has been faithful about posting articles to our website (*Photochrome.org*). He deserves a big thank you from the Club. (And maybe a little help.)

Now, before I forget again, have you looked in the bookcase just as you enter our meeting hall? It has books on photography and travel, donated by Photochrome members. You're welcome to browse, take them home, and eventually, bring them back. Of course, you're also welcome to contribute! It's a nice resource.

Finally, this newsletter looks fantastic on the web. If you don't subscribe electronically, at least go to *Photochrome.org* and take a look. The pictures are splendid.

RESULTS—
Judge's Favorites,
September 4th meeting.
Not shown but also a Favorite:
Jackie Lantheaume's fine architectural abstract (Slide)



From top: Martin Taylor - Covent Garden, Enrique Aguirre - Colorado River; Jim Kelly - Solitude, Patty Taylor - Puppies can fly; Martin Taylor - Fork You

Fooling with Filters

Story and Images by Jim Silva

I would venture to guess that over 90% of Photoshop users do not fully explore the wide capabilities of the Filter options supplied.

In all probability the average user would occasionally use Gaussian Blur or Liquefy or any other familiar mastered option. Perhaps this would be time to see what some other filters can do. Two sample images are shown here.

On opening Photoshop one is faced with the menu which includes Filters. This is what is available:-

Extract; Filter Gallery; Liquefy; Pattern Maker; Vanishing Point.

Also under Filters we have a further set which in turn have their subcategories. We have:-

Artistic; Blur; Brush Strokes; Distort; Noise; Pixelate; Render; Sketch; Stylize; Texture; Video; Other.

The subcategories for Texture are:- Craqueline; Grain; Mosaic Tile; Patchwork; Stained Glass; Texturize.

The subcategories for Brush Strokes are: Angled Strokes; Crosshatch; Dark Strokes; Ink Outline; Spatter; Sprayed Strokes; Sumi-E.

Try visiting some of the others- especially Artistic which can produce a Watercolor effect- amongst other things.

Two things are relevant when trying out filters:-

1) Choose the right image. Try a few. Macro flowers as well as still life (sometimes described as landscapes on a table top) work well. Try a variety of flowers and scenes, invariably some will work better than others.

2) Tweak those settings further with the sliders that appear with these filters. One, two or three sliders can be manipulated. Stop when you see what you want.

I have made these two images:



NASTURTIUMS: Filter to Brush Strokes to Sumi-e (Sumi-e is Japanese for a form of classical painting style).

FRUIT BOWL: Filter to Texture to Patchwork. Play around with the sliders. A black background in the original image can take on new colors. You can also darken or lighten on Photoshop Curves later. A filtered image can also work under another filtered image.

Experiment and do something original and new.



Photochrome Members are winners in the 2008 International Conservation Photography Awards Show

Photochrome Club Members Enrique Aguirre, Jim Goldstein and Rebecca Jackrel were honored by inclusion in the 2008 International Conservation Photography Awards show (ICP) in Seattle, Washington.

The competition is sponsored by Art Wolfe. The competition attracted more than 1,000 entries. Seventy-seven were selected for the final show. We knew we had some good photographers in Photochrome, but really—this is pretty exciting.

Enrique Aguirre has four images—in Wildlife, two in Flora, & Landscape, Rebecca Jackrel has two—both in the Wildlife category, and Jim Goldstein has a Landscape image on display among those seventy-seven. Congratulations!

The special exhibit is on display in the Seattle Museum of History and Industry until October 12, 2008. If you can't make it up to Seattle, you can still view the collection online at icpawards.com. Look for the 2008 winners gallery.

Image-Fest 2008,
Saturday, November 15
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM with lunch!
All Member Competition

\$\$Cash Prizes\$\$
For all 1st place and special categories, awards
for 2nd-5th places and
Runners ups in the special categories.

Are you missing regular competition for your images? If so, you will be able to get your fix at our end of the year competition, Saturday, November 15. Mark your calendars now.

Although you may simply submit your images, you are encouraged to attend the competition which will be judged by outside officials. Three judges will be assigned for each category. All images will be projected. No comments from judges, just viewing and ranking. This event will be a feast for your eyes!

Each member of Photochrome may enter five images (slide or digital submission) in each of the following **categories***: Pictorial, Nature, Photo Travel, Photo Journalism, and Creative. These images must not have placed in Photochrome or N4C competitions prior to January 1, 2008. Awards for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th places will be given out at the end of the year for each of these competitions.

Also, each member may submit four images in each of these special categories:

All winning images, and the image of the year will be presented in a slide show at the banquet. Start putting your best in a folder. If you submit the maximum number of images allowed we are talking 49 images each. Go for it!

Jack Cannon Perpetual Trophy –
Best image of a recognizable San Francisco Subject

The Walter F. Sullivan Memorial Award –
Best Landscape or Seascape

The Jules H Strauss Memorial Award –
Best image of a Floral Subject

The Dr. J. Humberto Arrieta Memorial Award
Best Portrait

The Roy Humphries Memorial Award –
Best image containing a Rose

The Jaques & Margot Segal Award –
Best image of a National Park or Monument

Naming conventions—All Entries:

Category-First Name-Last Name-Title.jpg

Categories are:

P—Pictorial; **N** —Nature; **C** —Creative;

PJ —Photojournalism; **T** —Travel

Specials:

Recognizable San Francisco subject —**SF**

Landscape or Seascape —**LandSea**

Floral Subject —**Floral**

Portrait —**Portrait**

Rose — **Rose**

National Park or Monument —**NatPark**

Deadline (no exceptions)

Submit digital images by **NOVEMBER 12** to
photochromeprojectionist@gmail.com

Submit slides by November 6 Meeting

Special Rules—For Pictorial, Nature, Photo Travel, Photo Journalism, and Creative—
Image-Fest uses N4C definitions. They may be found on the **www.n4c.org** website.

If you have questions feel free to ask the coordinator of the Image-Fest:
Stacy Boorn. sboorn@aol.com, 415-731-6470.

The Short Happy Life of Francis Macphotochromer

*Text and images by
Garrett Griffin*

Unlike Hemingway's fictional Francis Macomber who traveled to Africa to hunt game, Francis Macphotochromer has only to go out the rear door of his house where his backyard Serengetti lies before him. It beckons Francis, tempting him with opportunities for wild life photography without all that dust, heat, pestilence, bad water, strange languages and real dangers



In Francis' backyard, he has only to turn over a rock to discover a large Wolf Spider still cold and sluggish in the weak morning sunlight. With little movement from the spider, Francis aims and takes several shots, not with a .30-06 rifle with 220 grain bullets, but a digital Nikon camera and close up lens. He turns, and there hovering before him is a beautiful butterfly. It lands on a geranium, and Francis pounces with his Nikon, capturing an image of the brown beauty. He looks up in time to spot a mature Red-shouldered Hawk lift off the branch of a eucalyptus tree. Francis snaps three shots in quick succession, capturing the raptor

pumping his great wings on take-off. Pleased with his kill, Francis moves on. A Vilnius bumblebee hovers near a purple Madeira bush. Francis drops to a knee and shoots again, freezing the bee in mid-flight as it approaches the Madeira. A little further, a red dragon fly poses for Francis, who takes advantage of the moment, getting a beautiful closeup of the slender red thread of an insect.

Francis Macphotochromer has taken more game in a couple of hours than Francis Macomber took in several weeks in Africa.

along another 30 feet where he spied Flower and her offspring Daisy, Maisy and Lazy the neighborhood skunks. They were next in line behind the raccoons. Francis took several more shots, being quite careful, aware of their powerful defenses. The animals all acted very polite, letting whoever was eating finish before taking their turn. It's all very civil and orderly. Occasionally, the pecking order changes, but seldom is there a conflict.

Bigger and more dangerous game lurks not far off. Three feral cats named Grandma, Daddy and Big Brother circled their food dish. Francis crept nearer, hiding behind a rose bush and deftly shot all three of the showboating wild felines. Farther on, waiting for the cats to finish their course at the food dish, Bandit and her offspring Pick and Pocket, the resident raccoons hungrily looked on from under a lilac bush. They were next in line at the feed trough. Francis took out all three with one shot. He stealthily crept

Francis rapidly fills his SD chip with trophy shots. On the way back to the house, he spots Opie the elusive opossum. Opie is high in a plum tree, so Francis quickly goes into the house, runs up the two flights of stairs and out onto a deck above the marsupial. He takes careful aim then blasts away at Opie, taking him from above. He looks at the LCD screen and smiles, happy with his day's hunting.

Francis Macphotochromer has taken more game in a couple of hours than Francis Macomber took in several weeks in Africa. He wasn't uncomfortable and didn't spend any money. Sure, the animals weren't as big, scary or glamorous as African game, but with a little forethought, care and a touch of Photoshop, his backyard trophies can look just as impressive in an 8 X 10 inch frame.

Next time Francis goes on an (almost) real safari and shoots African (and other) animals at the San Francisco Zoo.





Elkhorn Slough; a Photographic Adventure

Early in September, Photochrome members Jim Goldstein, Rebecca Jackrel, and Alice Steele, along with Bruce Finocchio and Eliya Selhub, embarked on a sturdy flat-bottomed boat from the harbor at Moss Landing in pursuit of otters, seals, and birds. It was overcast, (alright, it started foggy) and the wild creatures were in their element. There was room to shoot and lots of subject matter. Both Rebecca and Jim gave helpful hints, including ideal camera settings. jmg-galleries.com has more images of the day.



Gentoo Penguins at the Beach

Text and images by Enrique Aguirre

I was born and raised by the sea, I spent my summers cooling off in the temperate waters of the Mediterranean surrounded by hundreds of thousands of tourists that would travel thousands of miles just to bake in the sun.

On my fourth visit to Saunders Island (Falkland archipelago), while leading a photo tour of the islands, I found a spot high up on a cliff from where I could photograph the black-browed albatross as they returned to the colony.

Perched on my lookout for hours tracking the large birds I started to notice other things happening around me. Rockhopper penguins smashing against the rocks as they tried to reach the safety of dry land, caracaras stalking the albatross nests and when, late one afternoon, I decided to follow one of my own rules that I try to teach my workshop students... "always look behind you"... I noticed that the beach was filling up with gentoo penguins returning to the colony.

I was instantaneously transported half way around the world to the small town in Southern Spain where I grew up. From my distant observation point the penguins resembled people and the beach at The Neck. Saunders Island looked more like warm Torremolinos, Venice Beach, Daytona Beach or Ipanema rather than the remote sub polar beach bathed by 45°F waters that it is.

For a moment I could hear kids playing and teenagers listening to 'techno', men playing Monday morning soccer coach and ladies

discussing the coming fall fashions... it was just the penguins braying.

I remembered the stories in the local newspaper about the new record that we had set... 12 million visitors had passed through our airport that year, I remember the aerial photos of the sea of people and sunshades on the beach. Peppered on the sand they looked like ants.

I turned back to my group and told them to forget about the albatross, they would be there tomorrow, right now the shot was behind us not in front.

Over the next hour or so the light got lower and warmer and shadows got longer making the resting birds stand out even more. I selected a vertical portion of the beach with a 200mm lens on a tripod, a small aperture of f22, and framed a wavy section of the shore line that had combination of sand and water that created a diagonal split of the scene. The gold sand and the blue water complemented each other perfectly and the multitude of penguins looked as anthropomorphic as they ever had.



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
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Enrique Aguirre

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**Member of:
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since 1943**

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

**and the
Northern Califor-
nia Council of
Camera Clubs
(N4C)**

