



# the Galleon



The Santa Maria Camera Club Newsletter December 2021

## President's Message

Thinking of our members who have had or will have medical procedures .... Greg, Tony, Dave, wishing you the best and hoping to see you soon online or in person.

Have you started your photobook? I prepaid for mine with a black Friday coupon. Now the real work must begin. This is a crazy busy time for me but editing photos is a meditative thing that keeps me centered. Wishing all of your wonderful holidays full of photography opportunities.

*Cheryl*

## Editor Message

Christmas holidays are close and New Year Eve is approaching extremely fast. What an amazing future is in front of us? New photo, new opportunities, probably new gear. Our club in December and January has different schedule: in December there is no competition, in January there is only the competition meeting but, what exciting activity we have so soon: a) Photobook competition as the year competition, b) Award banquet to close the year. We will celebrate all together another beautiful year at the club that, also in these difficult moments, is full of energy and creativity. I take advantage of this moment to wish everyone my best wishes of Happy Christmas and a beautiful New Year.

Last but not least. For the January Galleon, due to the no competition in December, I like the idea to enter some photos from everyone: the perfect choice is a memory of your holidays so has not to be for competition (classical family photo next to the Christmas tree is perfect).

*Flavio*

# NOVEMBER COMPETITION RESULT

Judge: Joyce Wilson

## Digital Monochrome

1ST PLACE	Scotty's demise	Elaine Calvert
2ND PLACE	Curlew	Frank Tromp
3RD PLACE	All elbows	Cheryl Decker
HONORABLE MENTION	Locked out	Tony Martindale

## Digital color

1ST PLACE	High surf	Chuck Uebele
2ND PLACE	Opolo	Chuck Uebele
3RD PLACE	Descending spiral	Cheryl Decker
HONORABLE MENTION	Elegant dining	Jeanne Sparks
HONORABLE MENTION	Sand Shadows	Penni Powell

*Congratulation to everyone*



By Elaine Calvert



By Chuck Uebele



By Frank Tromp



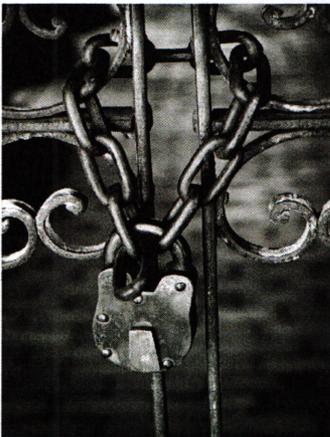
By Chuck Uebele



By Cheryl Decker



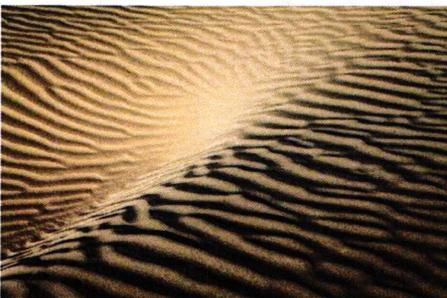
By Cheryl Decker



By Tony Martindale



By Jeannie Sparks



By Penni Powell

## **SMCC Field Trips for December 2021 and Beyond** by Penni Powell

*Please note: Rain or severe weather can cancel outdoor activities. Contact the leader if you are in doubt. Check your email for any updates.*

### **Dec 4<sup>th</sup> (Sat 3:50pm) An Evening in Solvang: Holiday Photo Walk**

**For vaccinated members wanting to carpool, meet at the entrance to Panera Bakery on Betteravia and College (SM) at 3 pm.**

At 3:50 pm, we will meet at the Wilding Museum to check out the exhibits, including “Sharing the Light: Ansel Adams & Alan Ross.” (\$5 admission) Sunset is at 4:51pm with twilight ending at 5:17pm, so we can walk and photograph the town’s holiday lights and displays till dark. We can regroup at a time and location decided by the group, perhaps at an outdoor restaurant? Dress in layers as it will be chilly as the light fades and having a picnic will be brisk! Covid protocols for Santa Barbara County will be observed.

*Thanks to Elaine for the field trip idea!*

**Why go? – Get yourself into the Holiday Spirit  
and take some photos for the 2022 January Galleon!**



**Dec 18<sup>th</sup> (Sat 2-4pm) Las Posadas Celebration at La Purisima Mission, Lompoc**

***\*\*Please note: NEW CORRECTED DATE\*\****

*Recommended by Bob Mihelic, thank you!* It is possible that the event will be cancelled but I hope for the best. Be sure to check your email for updates.

From the Mission's website:

"Join costumed docents as they lead the Las Posadas procession though the mission grounds with songs in Spanish and English. The tradition dates back over 400 years in Mexico and reenacts the biblical journey of Mary and Joseph seeking shelter in Bethlehem. This free event is open to the public and we invite you to celebrate afterwards with refreshments in La Sala. Celebrate with us in festive attire! Contributions will continue to support this program."

Contact Penni 805.363.1931/cell for more info [penpowell2020@gmail.com](mailto:penpowell2020@gmail.com)

***Why go? – Those kids are cute and maybe a donkey will be involved!***  
**and Beyond...**

Jan 2022 – Penni is taking a Winter Pause for field trips. Check email for impromptu events!

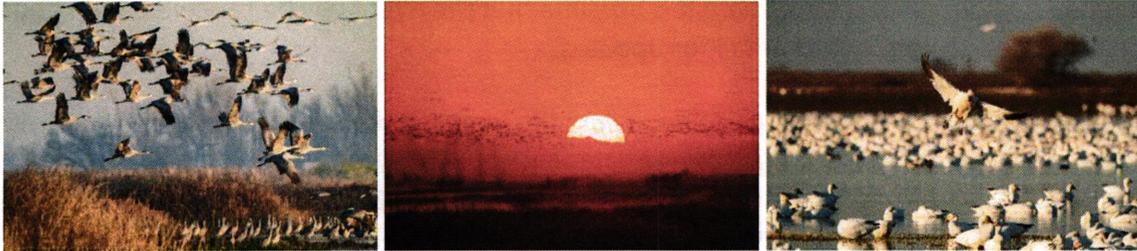
Feb 14-19 – Yosemite in Winter: Horsetail Falls and a full moon. Hotel in El Portal/camp Upper Pines Campground, Yosemite Valley.

Contact Penni 805.363.1931/cell for more info [penpowell2020@gmail.com](mailto:penpowell2020@gmail.com)



## PACIFIC FLYWAY BIRDING FIELD TRIP POSTPONED TO JANUARY OR FEBRUARY

Due to the lack of rainfall, we have postponed this trip until further notice. Our tentative plans follow. We will modify and reschedule when conditions look better. We appreciate any input members have. Contact Jeanne at [Jeanne.sparks@icloud.com](mailto:Jeanne.sparks@icloud.com). Photos by Richard Russ.



### Monday

#### MERCED WILDLIFE REFUGE

7430 W Sandy Mush Rd, Merced

<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/merced/>

Leave Santa Maria by 7 a.m. to get to Merced Wildlife Refuge. Takes about 3.5 hours to get there. Sandhill cranes return to MWR around noon. Spend 2-3 hours there as cranes leave again around 2-3 p.m. Get lunch. Get room at Best Western in Los Banos. Go back two hours before sunset to see cranes return again. Spend night at Best Western or dry camping at Walmart Supercenter or Best Western parking lot.

INFO FROM ONLINE: The Merced National Wildlife Refuge encompasses 10,258 acres of wetlands, native grasslands, vernal pools, and riparian areas. It was established in 1951 under the Lea Act to attract wintering waterfowl from adjacent farmland where their foraging activities were causing crop damage. In the last few decades, changes in local agricultural practices and Refuge management activities have reduced these wildlife/crop issues. The Refuge plays host to the largest wintering populations of lesser Sandhill cranes and Ross' geese along the Pacific Flyway. Each autumn more than 20,000 cranes and 60,000 arctic-nesting geese terminate their annual migrations from Alaska and Canada to make the Refuge home for six months. Here they mingle with thousands of other visiting waterfowl, waterbirds, and shorebirds – making the Refuge a true winter phenomenon. The Refuge also provides important breeding habitat for Swainson's hawks, tri-colored blackbirds, marsh wrens, mallards, gadwall, cinnamon teal, and burrowing owls. Tri-colored blackbirds, a colonial-nesting songbird, breed in colonies of more than 25,000 pairs in robust herbaceous vegetation. Coyotes, ground squirrels, desert cottontail rabbits, beaver, and long-tailed weasels can also be seen year-round.

### Tuesday

#### MERCED WILDLIFE REFUGE,

7430 W Sandy Mush Rd, Merced

Get up before sunrise, spend morning at Merced Wildlife Refuge to photograph sandhill cranes taking off. See snow geese, American white pelicans, sometimes tundra swans and raptors.

#### COSUMNES RIVER PRESERVE, 13501 Franklin Blvd,

#### Galt

Go to Cosumnes River Preserve.

INFO FROM ONLINE: The Cosumnes River Preserve is 46,000 acres that protects oak trees, savanna, riparian forest, and habitat. Located on the Pacific Flyway bird migration route, the

preserve is designated an Important Bird Area by the American Bird Conservancy and Audubon Society. The preserve provides critical habitat for Sandhill Cranes and other migratory birds. It is a birdwatcher's paradise and is visited annually by tens of thousands. On a given day you can see more birds than people.

**STATEN ISLAND, N. Staten Island Road**

Go to nearby Staten Island to see the sandhill cranes leaving.

INFO FROM ONLINE: Located in the heart of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, Staten is 9,200 acres located between the North and South Forks of the Mokelumne River. Staten Island has been a wintering destination for Sandhill Cranes moving along the Pacific Flyway for more than 40 years; 15 percent of all Greater Sandhill Cranes in the Central Valley winter on Staten, and more than half of Greater and Lesser Sandhill Cranes in the North Delta winter on Staten.

Spend the night in Sacramento. Can couch surf at Jeanne and Ken's house, Donner Way, Sacramento, or sleep in camper in the street.

**Wednesday**

**SACRAMENTO WILDLIFE REFUGE**

**752 County Road 99 W, Willows**

<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Sacramento/about2.html>

A place for sandhill cranes, tundra swans, bald eagles, and raptors. Spend the night in Willows.

(Harvest Host? Hotel?)

INFO FROM ONLINE: The refuge supports over 250 species of birds. Most notable are the huge wintering concentrations (November - January) of 500,000 to 750,000 ducks and 200,000 geese. Raptor numbers swell as the waterfowl numbers increase, including bald eagles and peregrine falcons. Waterfowl viewing is good between October and March. In addition, shorebird numbers peak in the spring and fall, while some waterfowl and numerous migratory songbird species nest here during the summer. Many birds and mammals provide year-round viewing.

**Thursday**

**SACRAMENTO WILDLIFE REFUGE AND NEARBY AREAS**

**752 County Road 99 W, Willows**

Get up early and go to Sacramento Wildlife Refuge, spend 2-3 hours. Go 20-30 miles north to see sandhill cranes and tundra swans around 10a-11am. Visit other nearby sites depending on what looks promising. Drive home or stay overnight in Sacramento. Can couch surf at Jeanne and Ken's house, Donner Way, Sacramento, or sleep in camper in the street.

**Friday**

**DRIVE HOME**

Make stops along the way home?



## USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLUB

<b>Meetings</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month at 7:00 pm
<b>Location</b>	Via WebEx due to the Covid problem If you want to participate, please send an email to <a href="mailto:santamariacameraclub@gmail.com">santamariacameraclub@gmail.com</a> You will receive a Join the Meeting invitation email shortly after 6:45 pm the evening of the meeting. Simply clicking on <b>Join Meeting</b> will connect you to this virtual video program meeting
<b>Membership dues</b>	\$ 30 per person; \$ 45 Family; \$ 20 to participate in the competition meeting. All the due are per year
<b>2022 Club officers</b>	President: Cheryl Decker Vice President: Allan Upshaw Secretary: Frank Tromp Treasurer: Bob Ginn
<b>At-large Board Members</b>	Elaine Calvert, Nyla James, Harold Litwiler, Tony Martindale, Flavio Parigi, Penni Powell
<b>2022 Competition Rules</b>	Each member may submit a maximum of 3 total image submissions in any category per competition.
<b>Categories will be:</b>	Digital Color Digital Monochrome
<b>Immediate Past president</b>	Jeanne Sparks
<b>2022 Special Subjects</b>	March – Water June – Architecture September – Still life
<b>Submit your images for digital competition to:</b>	All the digital images can only be submitted by email at this email address <a href="mailto:santamariacameraclub@gmail.com">santamariacameraclub@gmail.com</a> All the digital images <b>MUST</b> be received no later than the Sunday prior to the Wednesday competition. Images not received in time, will not be entered in the competition
<b>Galleon Director</b>	Flavio Parigi <a href="mailto:fparigi@aol.com">fparigi@aol.com</a>

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRS & CLUB VOLUNTEERS**

<b>Webmaster</b>	Greg Doudna
<b>Digital Projectionist</b>	Greg Doudna & Chuck Uebele
<b>Slide Projectionist</b>	Ed E. Powel
<b>SMCC Directory &amp; Calendar</b>	Rosie Brancacio
<b>Historian</b>	Nyla James
<b>Judge Recruitment</b>	Tony Martindale
<b>Saturday Chat</b>	Jim McKinniss
<b>Point Tabulator</b>	Richard Russ
<b>Print Coordinators</b>	Flavio Parigi & Jim Snodgrass
<b>Slide Coordinator</b>	Elaine Calvert
<b>Image scoring</b>	Elaine Calvert, Ramona Cashmore, Penni Powell
<b>Program Recruitment</b>	Alan Upshaw
<b>Refreshment</b>	Joyce Bolivar
<b>PSA Representative</b>	Nyla Janes
<b>Library Coordinator</b>	Larry Decker
<b>Meeting room setup</b>	Everyone !!
<b>Membership recruitment</b>	Richard Russ
<b>Field trips</b>	Penni Powell, Bob Mihelic, Rosie Brancacio, Bonnie Adams, Alan Upshaw, Greg Doudna
<b>Name Tags</b>	Nyla James & Amaya Rangel

### **Treasury Report**

We have in our bank \$ 1.760.38

- “It is not enough to just own a camera. Everyone owns a camera. To be a photographer, you must understand, appreciate and harness the power you hold!”  
— **Mark Denman**