



the Galleon



The Santa Maria Camera Club Newsletter March 2025

President's Message

Hey you all,

Hope you have been enjoying your participation in the Santa Maria Camera Club. If you can think of any of your friends that might like to join us, invite them to a meeting! We expanded our membership last year. Let us continue to grow this year! I may have recruited a new member when I bought Girl Scout cookies a few days ago. I was telling the woman I talked to about how our camera club members loved the Thin Mints I gave during our awards reception last year, and she asked, "Camera club?" She had not heard from us. So of course, I enlightened her and gave her our website address. I hope she signs up to get our emails and comes to our meetings! In case you are interested, the free annual Photoshop Creativity Virtual Summit will be held March 23 to 26. There are 19 instructors and artists teaching 32 classes over 4 days. Training sessions are designed for those who are new to Photoshop to those who have years of experience. More information is at www.pscreativitysummit.com. May the light be with you!

PS I bought more Thin Mints. I will bring some to the next meeting.

Jeanne



2025 SMCC dues will soon be due!

Individual Membership: \$35 Family Membership: \$50 Competition Dues (per member, including each person in a family membership): \$30.

Make checks payable to: Santa Maria Camera Club

Please mail your check to me, Alan, or give it to me at any in-person meeting.

****Remember to pay the due or you are not allowed to continue to participate in competitions!***

Alan

SMCC March Program March 5, 2025

For our March program meeting we will have a few short presentations, "5 Minutes of Fame" from three of our members. This will be a wonderful way for us to get to know each other just a little better and hopefully a segway for some future meetings where other members might volunteer for their own 5 Minutes of Fame. Our first 3 members in the spotlight will be: Allan Upshaw, Flavio Parigi, and Bob Ginn. After these short presentations everyone is invited to share some of their work with the club. As a suggestion our theme for this month's image sharing will be "Your Favorite Season." These do not necessarily have to be landscape images, this could be your favorite season to travel, an event that is seasonal etc. Of course, it is not required that you stick to this subject, it is only a suggestion, and we welcome any images that you would like to share. Let us limit the images to 12.

Please remember that the competition meeting in March has the subject "Altered reality."

In case you are wondering what "Altered Reality" is, I found this piece on the internet that helps to define it.

From their website: The PSA (Photographic Society of America) definition of Creative is "Altered Reality." The image must obviously display a change in natural color, form, shape, or any combination of these three. Creative images are often montaging (a blending or composite of multiple images). In other words, an image that fits the creative or altered reality guidelines as set by PSA might appear realistic in a very unrealistic way, or not look realistic at all. The original images used are taken, the final image is created.

FEBRUARY COMPETITION RESULT

Judge: Dan Holmes

Digital Monochrome

1ST PLACE	Rochelle # 2	Jim McKinniss
2ND PLACE	Istanbul late night dinner	Harold Litwiler
3RD PLACE	Ox and anchor	Allan Upshaw
HONORABLE MENTION	Hat shop	Allan Upshaw

Digital color

1ST PLACE	Ferndale church	Rosie Brancacio
2ND PLACE	Grandma's tulip	Jeanine Bognuda
3RD PLACE	Nature's art	Jeanine Bognuda
HONORABLE MENTION	Daffodil days	Elaine Calvert
HONORABLE MENTION	Grater yellowlegs	Frank Tromp
HONORABLE MENTION	Launch over Cal Poly pier	Chuck Ubele

Congratulation to everyone



By Jim McKinniss



By Rosie Brancacio



By Harold Litwiler



By Jeanine Bognuda



By Allan Upshaw



By Jeanine Bognuda



By Allan Upshaw



By Elaine Calvert



By Frank Tromp



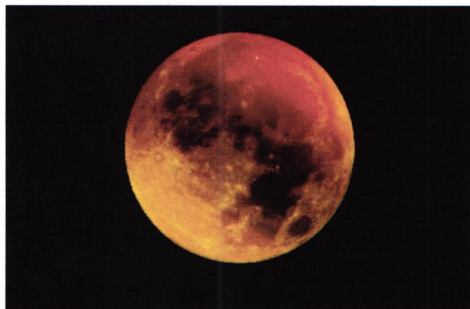
By Chuck Ubele

SMCC Field Trips for March 2025 by Penni Powell

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

March 13th-14th (Th 11:26p – Fri 12:31a) – Total Lunar Eclipse (Blood Moon)

The full moon turns red in a total lunar eclipse this evening as long as clouds do not spoil the show. The height of the eclipse occurs 2 minutes before midnight.



This is a DIY field trip as you are likely to be in pajamas and slippers out in the driveway...Bring your photos to Show & Tell. **Why go? – It is as easy as stepping out your front door. Clouds, stay away!**

March 18-20th (Tues-Thurs) - San Juan Capistrano by Rail **SEE THE FLYER FOR THE TRIP LOGISTICS**

As of Feb 27th, Tim Towne, Rosy Brancacio, Alan Upshaw, and Ed and I are planning to go on this trip. Please let me know of your interest by **MARCH 5TH**.

Contact Penni for more info penpowell2020@gmail.com

Why go? – “All the mission bells will ring, the chapel choir will sing, the happiness you’ll bring, will live in my memory, when the swallows come back to Capistrano...”

And Beyond...

April 26th (Sat 7:30a) – Photo Shoot at the Turtle and Tortoise Rescue of Arroyo Grande

We visit the home of a diverse family of animals from turtles and tortoises to a wide array of fish, birds, and mammals.

Got an idea? Contact Penni at penpowell2020@gmail.com

Santa Maria Camera Club Field Trip
San Juan Capistrano by Rail
March 18-20, 2025 (Tues–Thurs)

Photo Ops: The Train Ride
Mission San Juan Capistrano
St. Joseph's Day and Return of the Swallows Festival
Los Rios Historic District



THE TRAIN Tuesday March 18th catch **the Pacific Surfliner #774** at the Guadalupe Amtrak station at 6:47 and arrive in San Juan Capistrano at 1:24p.

To return on Thursday March 20th catch **the Pacific Surfliner #777** from San Juan Capistrano at 1:34p. It arrives back at Guadalupe at 7:55p.

LODGING **Best Western San Juan Capistrano** (27174 Ortega Highway) is 0.6 miles from the train station and “2 blocks” from the Mission San Juan Capistrano.

COSTS As of Feb 5, the costs are approximately:

- Train Round Trip (per person) ranges from \$55 to \$74 depending on the discounts. When we *travel together*, we can lower the cost. Get your ticket through Penni for this reason.
- Lodging at Best Western is approximately \$160 per night (with taxes) X 2 = \$320. Again, there are discounts or deals so talk with Penni about it before you reserve a room for March 18-20.
- Festival tickets are \$17-20 and available online. Food and Uber if you need it are other costs to consider.

It is a unique trip with your photography-minded friends! Sign up with Penni penpowell2020@gmail.com



ST. JOSEPH'S DAY & RETURN OF THE SWALLOWS CELEBRATION

Wednesday • March 19, 2025
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

*Join us for the world-renowned tradition celebrating
the annual return of the famous swallows
at historic Mission San Juan Capistrano.*

**FREE
MEMBER
EVENT!**



FEATURING:

- Mariachi Performances • Flamenco Dancers • Renee Bondi, Performer •
- Journeys to the Past ~ Native American Story Telling •
- History of St. Joseph's Day and Swallows Legend • Station Tours (10AM – 2PM) •
- Swallows Information Videos with Swallows Expert, Dr. Charles R. Brown •
- Serra Chapel Tour with Mechelle Lawrence Adams, Executive Director • and More!

ADMISSION:

Members: FREE for Mission Preservation Society Members with active ID card

Non-Members: \$20 for Adults • \$17 for Seniors • \$14 for Children (ages 5+)

Veterans and Active Military with ID: \$17 (with valid ID; buy onsite on the day of the event)

VENDORS:

Bakery 3:16 Shop (Sweet Treats)

“Swallows Nest” Cotton Candy (proceeds support the Historic Mission)

Crafty Cruiser by AR Workshop (Kids Crafts)

Purchase tickets today at www.missionsjc.com/swallows

Save the Date!

Swallows Parade Day • Saturday, March 22, 2025 • 11:00 a.m.

Reserve Free Member Tickets

Renew Your Membership for This Event

26801 Old Mission Road | San Juan Capistrano
www.missionsjc.com (949) 234-1300



USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLUB

Meetings

In March there will be a program meeting (March 5) and the competition meeting (March 19)

Location

Our first meeting of every month will be held at Merrill Garden Retirements Center at 1350 N. Suey Road, Santa Maria. The second meeting will be via Webex.

If you want to participate, *please send an email to* santamariacameraclub@gmail.com

Membership dues

\$ 35 per person; \$ 50 Family; \$ 30 to participate in the competition meeting. All the due are per year

2025 Club officers

President: Jeanne Sparks

Vice President: Elaine Calvert

Secretary: Frank Tromp

Treasurer: Alan Upshaw

At-large Board Members

Nyla James, Harold Litwiler, Jim McKinniss, Flavio Parigi, Penni Powell, Diane Thomsen

2025 Competition Rules

Each member may submit a maximum of 3 total image submissions in any category per competition.

Categories will be:

Digital Color, Digital Monochrome

Immediate Past president

Cheryl Decker

2025 Special Subjects

March – Altered reality.

June – Celebrate what is right in the world.

September – Intentional camera movement

Submit your images for digital competition to:

All the digital images can only be submitted by email at this email address santamariacameraclub@gmail.com

All the digital images **MUST** be received no later than the Sunday prior to the Wednesday competition. Images not received on time will not be entered in the competition

Galleon Director

Flavio Parigi fparigi@aol.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS & CLUB VOLUNTEERS

Webmaster	Greg Doudna
Digital Projectionist	Greg Doudna
Slide Projectionist	Ed E. Powel
SMCC Directory & Calendar	Rosie Brancacio
Historian	Nyla James
Judge Recruitment	Harold Litwiler
Saturday Chat	Jim McKinniss
Point Tabulator	Richard Russ & Flavio Parigi
Print Coordinators	Flavio Parigi & Jim Snodgrass
Slide Coordinator	Elaine Calvert
Image scoring	Elaine Calvert, Ramona Cashmore, Penni Powell
Program Recruitment	Elaine Calvert
Refreshment	Everyone
PSA Representative	Nyla Janes
Library Coordinator	Ed E Powell
Meeting room setup	Everyone
Membership recruitment	Richard Russ
Field trips	Penni Powell, Bob Mihelic, Rosie Brancacio, Bonnie Adams, Alan Upshaw, Greg Doudna
Name Tags	Nyla James

"I am not interested in rules or conventions. Photography is not a sport."

— Billy Brandt