

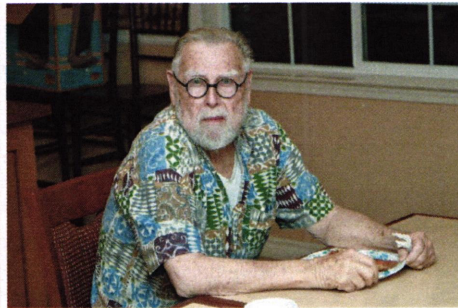


# the Galleon



## The Santa Maria Camera Club Newsletter May 2026

This issue is dedicated to Bob, a very good friend, a great photographer and member of our club.



### President's Message

Hope you all are enjoying springtime!

My husband Ken and I visited Dublin April 24-26 and are in Rotterdam as I write this.

The highlight of the Dublin adventure for me was taking the Literary Pub Crawl. Two professional actors, Frank and Finnbar, not only entertained us, but made us feel special. Today is April 26, and it's King's Day in the Netherlands. People wearing Orange everywhere and flea markets lining the streets with music playing here and there. Cool.

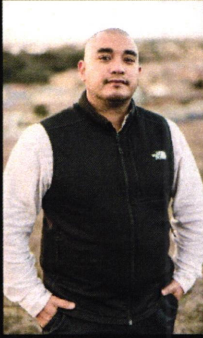
Hope you enjoy these photos!

See you May 6 for our program meeting!

Jeanne Sparks



## RANDY DE LA PEÑA



### TO SPEAK ABOUT HIS JOURNEY INTO PHOTOGRAPHY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026  
7:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

"I discovered a newfound passion. Beginning as a mere hobby, it quickly evolved into a pursuit of capturing compelling stories through my lens. My dedication caught the eye of Len Wood at the Santa Maria Times, leading to my first foray into professional photography in 2020. This experience has not only honed my skills in digital photography and journalism but also enriched my interpersonal connections. My unique approach lies in consistently surpassing my previous work and seeking unconventional perspectives. Engaging with the community, reflects commitment to showcasing local impact. My journey in photography and videography is more than a career; it's a path to inspire others that with passion, anything is achievable. As I continue to explore this art form, I look forward to capturing the diverse beauty of our world."



Merrill Gardens 1350 N. Suey Rd.  
Must RSVP to  
[SantaMariaCameraClub@gmail.com](mailto:SantaMariaCameraClub@gmail.com)  
[www.SantaMariaCameraClub.org](http://www.SantaMariaCameraClub.org)

# APRIL COMPETITION RESULT

Judge: Dan Holmes

## Digital Monochrome

1ST PLACE	Layers	Ed E Powell
2ND PLACE	Here or nowhere	Cherryl Decker
3RD PLACE	They came from the sea	Ron Calvert
HONORABLE MENTION	Woman wearing a white hat	Jim McKinniss

## Digital color

1ST PLACE	Winter Aspen	Elaine Calvert
2ND PLACE	All a blur	Frank Tromp
3RD PLACE	Pinto basin sunrise	Jeanine Bognuda
HONORABLE MENTION	The wave	Alejandro Preciado
HONORABLE MENTION	Lesser goldfinch	Frank Tromp

*Congratulation to everyone*



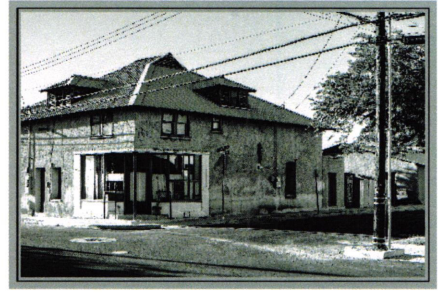
Elaine Calvert



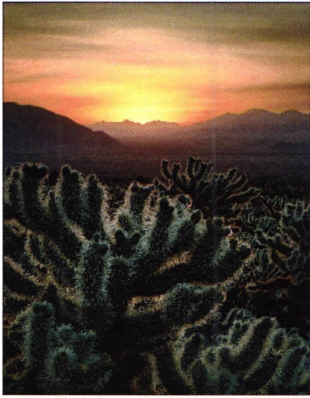
Ed E Powell



Frank Tromp



Cherryl Decker



By Jeanine Bognuda



Ron Calvert



By Alejandro Preciado



Jim McKinniss



By Frank Tromp

## SMCC Field Trips for May 2026 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.*

### **May 2nd (Sat 7:15 am – noon?) Early Morning at the Embarcadero and the Cruisin' Morro Bay Car Show**

First, we'll do a shoot at the T Pier (1185 Embarcadero), on the hunt for the sea otters so bring a telephoto lens. The Show and Shine at the car show starts at 9am at the intersection of Main & Harbor Blvd.

Meet in Nipomo for carpool/caravan at the Miners/Starbucks parking lot at Tefft and Mary Street at 7:15am or at the T Pier on the Embarcadero about 8am.



Questions? Contact me [penpowell2020@gmail.com](mailto:penpowell2020@gmail.com) or cell phone.

**Why go? Otter cuteness + shiny classic automobiles! How can you resist?**

**And Beyond...**

**June – I'm going to take a break.** If anyone would like to lead a field trip, this is your chance to shine!

# USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLUB

## Meetings

In May there will be a program meeting (May 6th) and the competition meeting (May 20<sup>th</sup>)

## 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](mailto: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: Heidi Gruetzemacher

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 – Landscape.

June – Macro Photography.

September – Still Life

## Submit your images for digital competition to:

All the digital images can only be submitted by email at this email address [santamariacameraclub@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:fparigi@aol.com)

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRS & CLUB VOLUNTEERS**

<b>Webmaster</b>	Greg Doudna
<b>Digital Competition Projectionist</b>	Frank Tromp & Jim McKinniss
<b>Program Projectionist</b>	Ron Calvert & Frank Tromp
<b>SMCC Directory &amp; Calendar</b>	Rosie Brancacio
<b>Historian</b>	Nyla James
<b>Judge Recruitment</b>	Harold Litwiler
<b>Saturday Chat</b>	Jim McKinniss
<b>Point Tabulator</b>	Richard Russ & Flavio Parigi
<b>Print Coordinators</b>	Flavio Parigi & Jim Snodgrass
<b>Slide Coordinator</b>	Elaine Calvert
<b>Image scoring</b>	Elaine Calvert, Penni Powell
<b>Program Recruitment</b>	Heidi Gruetzemacher
<b>Refreshment</b>	Everyone
<b>PSA Representative</b>	Nyla Janes
<b>Library Coordinator</b>	Ed E Powell
<b>Meeting room setup</b>	Everyone
<b>Membership recruitment</b>	Richard Russ
	Penni Powell, Bob Mihelic, Rosie Brancacio, Alan Upshaw, Greg Doudna
<b>Field trips</b>	
<b>Name Tags</b>	Nyla James

"For me, the camera is a sketch book, an instrument of intuition and spontaneity"

— Henry Cartier-Bresson