



the Galleon



The Santa Maria Camera Club Newsletter September 2020

President's Message

Well...last month I did not have good news about the pandemic, but September brings a better report! We have fewer cases in California and more importantly, we have better tools and knowledge to treat the virus so there are fewer deaths (and my hairdresser is open again!!!).

I learned some sad news concerning Roger Hawkins, a longtime member of the club. His son called to tell me that he died at home in August from a heart attack. I am grateful to those of you who have written about him in the newsletter this month and I will forward the Galleon to his son.

Larry and I fled the state when the air quality here was awful due to smoke from the fires. We obtained Covid tests required by Alaska and flew to Fairbanks for 4 days. It rained a lot, but we had a relaxing time. Away from distractions, we watched hours of PHlearn Photoshop videos. We had hoped to see the Northern Lights, but it was too cloudy for our vision. To our surprise we were able to see auroras with 15 second camera exposures!

I am anxious to see the results of the scavenger hunt organized by Penni for our program meeting this month. She is so creative. With limited field trip capabilities, it is not easy to think up things for us to do. Some of you embraced the challenge and photographed specifically for the scavenger hunt...kudos to you! I admit to using about 50% old and 50% new images for this.

Our open (no theme) competition this month is Wednesday September 16 at 7:00pm. Jim McKinniss recommended our judge, Bernard Fallon (he pronounces 'Bernard' as in San Bernardino, with accent on the first syllable). Bernard is both a painter and photographer. He was born in Liverpool and earned a BA at Liverpool School of Art, followed by post-grad at the Leicester Polytechnic School of Photography. He resides in Los Angeles now and teaches classes and workshops. His website is www.bvfallon.fineartstudioonline.com. I paint a bit also and love his colorful pastels and oils! His photography style seems different from his painting, the website has quite a few street scenes in B&W. Check it out and sign up for his free newsletter. I think we will need Tony to give us the "British accented "Call to order" in Bernard's honor.

Stay healthy...see you on Webex soon,

Cheryl

Editor's Message

Few days ago, we receive the sad news that one of our friends, Roger Hawkins, a member of this Club died. It was a sad news and if I do not have a long history of moments with him, he was part of this club, he was a photographer and, for this reason, he was an incredibly good friend. I decide that this Galleon is dedicated to him and it will be a way to remember him, his smile, his friendship, his photos. You will find on this issue some memories of him from many of us and the first thing that everyone remember of him is his humanity and happiness. Thank you Roger for your friendship, thank you to be part of this club, we will be miss you every single day and we imagine you now in the heaven, with your camera making millions of picture and everyone is happy that you take their portrait.

Flavio

September 2, 2020 Program Meeting

This month we will be presenting the results of our August **Photo Scavenger Hunt**. Penni Powell, our field trip coordinator, came up with the following clues:

1. **Something/someone that helps me get through this pandemic**
2. **Something soft**
3. **A favorite food**
4. **Toilet paper**
5. **Something round**
6. **Something that smells nice**
7. **Something that reminds me of someone I would like to hug right now**
8. **Something red**

We will ask each member to comment as their images come up. If you were able not get them sent in in time, you can share your screen and show them that way. It will be fun to see what everyone has come up with. Penni will award virtual hugs to the winners!

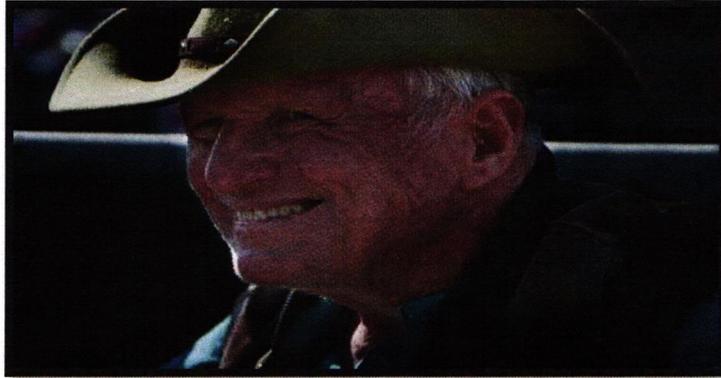
Following the **Scavenger Hunt**, we will have a **Show & Tell** of whatever anyone would like to show, or feel free to talk about anything photographic. Anyone get Perseid meteor shower photos, or butterflies? **Show & Tell** images should be sent to Greg gndoudna@gmail.com at least one day prior to the meeting, or you can share your screen during the meeting. Please join us for our monthly program, *now online with Webex*.

You will receive a **Join the Meeting** invitation email from Greg shortly after 6:45pm the evening of the meeting. Simply clicking on **Join Meeting** will connect you to this virtual video program meeting.

In October, Tony Martindale will present a special program entitled "**Historic Photographic Processes**".

Alan

Remembering our friend Roger



By Rosie Brancacio

I met Roger in 2010. I had relocated to Santa Maria 2 years prior and only knew one person here. I figured I needed to meet people and thought the best thing was to take up a hobby and try to meet people who also liked what I liked. I loved taking pictures so decided to take up photography. I saw a photo editing class put on by Parks and Rec and decided to take the class. That class was taught by Roger Hawkins. He was deeply knowledgeable, and I really loved the class. In one of the sessions, he mentioned the Santa Maria Camera Club and asked if anyone would like to go and be his guest, so I said I would and I went to the next competition meeting as Roger's guest and joined the Club. And I am so glad I did! So, Roger was instrumental in me joining the Club.

By Ed Powell

I cannot say that I knew Roger well, but I was acquainted with him and enjoyed his company. When I think of Roger, I picture a guy with a smile on his face. He was a pleasant fellow and tried to help others. If the world were full of people like Roger, most of humanities problems would go away

By Lynda Snodgrass

As a fledging photographer with little knowledge of the intricacies of photography, let alone Photoshop, I was fortunate that Mary Goodspeed (long time SMCC member) asked Roger Hawkins to become my photography tutor/mentor. Every Monday evening for approximately four years, Roger and I sat behind a computer examining, evaluating, processing, and enhancing my photos.... using every trick in the Photoshop book. Roger was a founding member of the Santa Maria Camera Club when film cameras were the norm and digital camera were not even imagined. He (and the club) made the transition to digital but retained the basic rules of good photography. Roger provided me with lessons in "depth of field," the use of differing apertures and shutter speeds, and lighting. Roger truly provided a base of knowledge that improved and enhanced my photography. I am grateful to Roger for sharing his knowledge and giving freely of his time. It truly was an honor to learn from Roger and to be his friend.

August competition result

Judge: Theresa Jackson

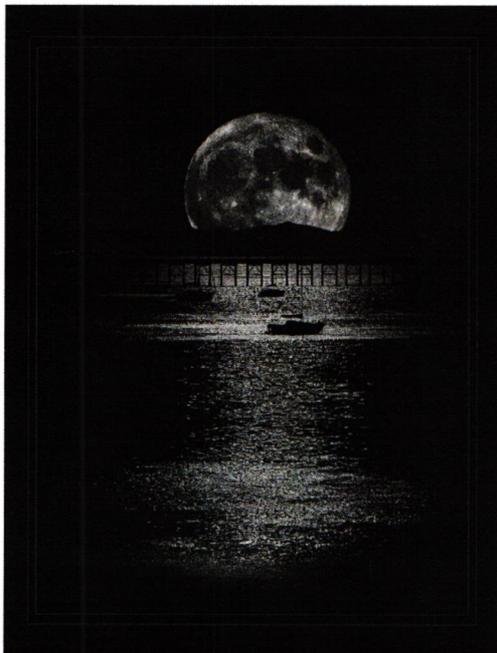
MONOCHROME DIGITAL IMAGES

1ST PLACE	Moon rising	Jeanne Sparks
2ND PLACE	Rainy evening at Santa Barnaba	Jim McKinniss
3RD PLACE	855 North main	Ed Powell

COLOR DIGITAL IMAGES

1ST PLACE	Feel the power 3	Jeanne Sparks
2ND PLACE	Coffin cabin	Chuck Uebele
3RD PLACE	San Ramon moonrise	Larry Decker
Honorable Mention	Port San Luis pier	Chuck Uebele

Congratulation to everyone



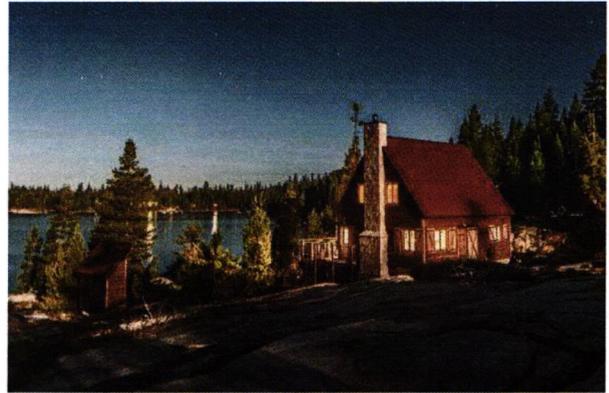
By Jeanne Sparks



By Jeanne Sparks



By Jim McKinniss



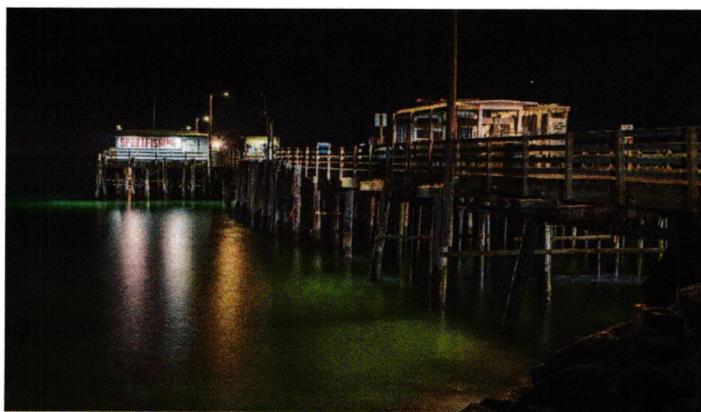
By Chuck Uebele



By Ed Powell



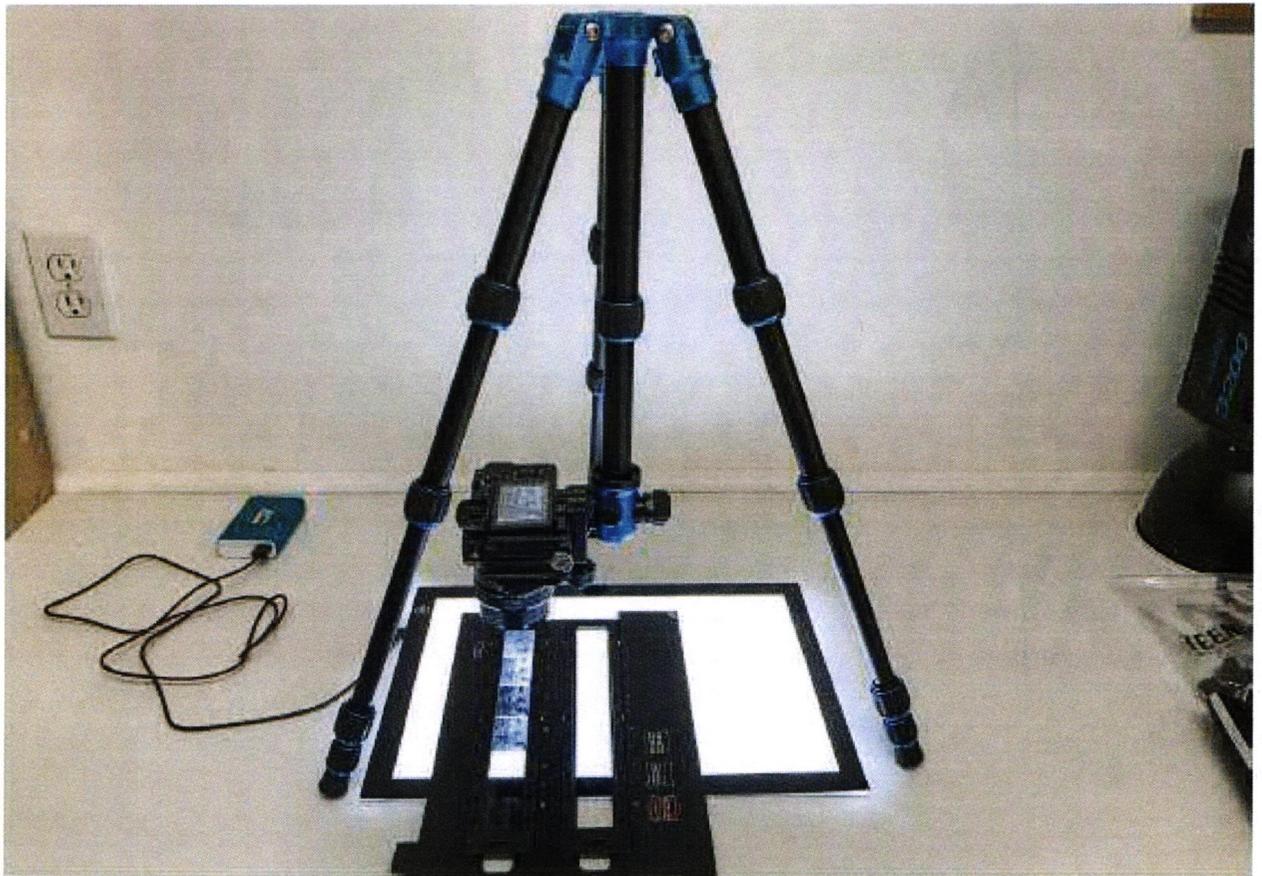
By Larry Decker



By Chuck Uebele

SCANNING NEG'S

Making negative scans using a camera



I have recently undertaken a project to scan some of the thousands of negatives that I have accumulated over the 50 plus years that I have been loving photography.

Let me start by saying that I have a perfectly good and capable, all be it old, flatbed scanner. The problem with using this though are numerous from being very slow to needing a lot of work to clean up the scan and the resulting scan at max resolution is disappointingly small.

The dirty scan from this device is mainly due to the fact that there are so

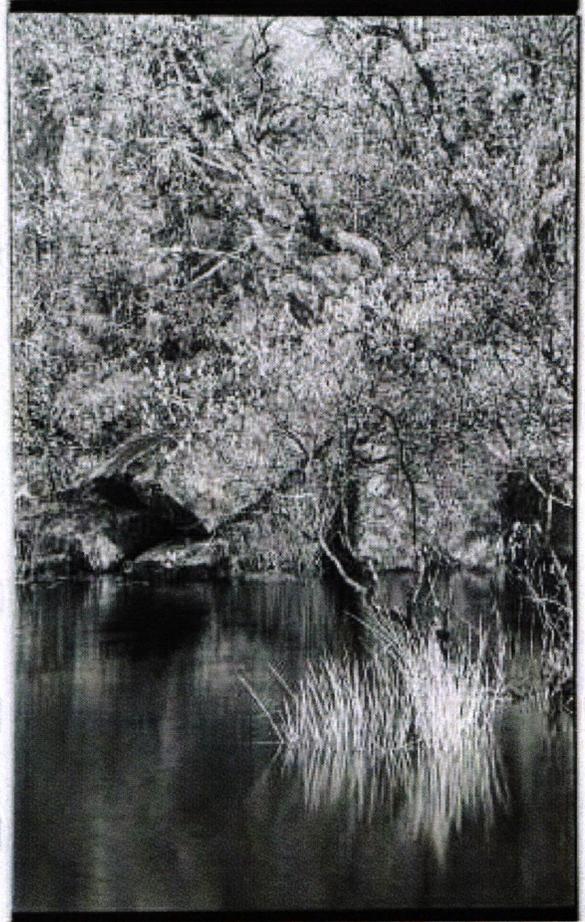
This is how I set up my equipment for scanning negatives using my Sony mirrorless camera. The Lightbox is being powered by a USB power bank.

Excuse the mess in my darkroom.

many faces of glass to try to keep clean on the scanner whereas so long as the dust is removed from the negative using the camera method the result is amazingly clean.

There are surprisingly few items needed to practice this method.

- 1) A sturdy tripod where you can hang the camera from underneath.
- 2) If available a macro lens is preferable but I don't have one so I use a standard kit lens with an extension tube.
- 3) A Lightbox. Modern versions of these are cheap and very thin being LED and powered via a phone charger. I paid about \$14 on Amazon.
- 4) A negative holder. Mine belongs to the scanner but you could use one out of an old enlarger.



I make sure the Lightbox is level and set up the tripod above it. Set the camera on the tripod and ensure this is also level. Adjust the tripod and lens to fill the frame in the camera with the negative. Use your camera's magnifying view to get the largest preview and focus on the grain of the negative. Set your exposure and shoot the negative.

A positive from a negative scanned from Konica Infra Red film using the method in this handout.

If shooting B&W negs you simply have to take them into Photoshop and invert the image, you can then make any adjustments you want to the image.

This can be done in Lightroom by reversing the tone curve in the develop module. Simply drag the left side (darks) to the top and the right side (lights) to the bottom. Why I like to do this in photoshop is when this procedure is done in Lightroom this way it reverses all the adjustment sliders, for instance moving the highlights slider to the right makes the highlights darker rather than lighter.

For Color negs there is a good method shown in this video. <https://bit.ly/2Hn7bii> This guy offers his Photoshop action for free. There is also a plugin for Lightroom which looks very good but costs \$99. It's called Negative Lab Pro. Here is a link to a video review of this software. <https://bit.ly/2Lb7Ep4>

This is an excerpt from online Gobe Magazine (mygobe.com) from Australia, submitted by Penni Powell.

See Photography in a New Light with These Mindful Practices by Hudson Brown

Photography as a practice has changed a lot over the last few years. Whether you are talking about social media, gear envy using these tips or the endless hunt for more pixels, sometimes it feels like the enjoyment of taking a photo gets forgotten. In 2020, we are to rediscover the joy of picking up a camera.

With high-quality cameras and smartphones more accessible than ever, there is an ever-increasing number of photographs hitting the web. But quantity does not equate to quality, and many photographers are turning their backs on the race to create, instead diverging down a path that has been coined as 'mindful photography'.

In the past few years, this movement of slowing down has been credited with the re-emergence of film photography. But an even more topical change is the release of cameras like the [Fujifilm X-Pro 3](#). Packaged in a sleek retro design, the main feature is an LCD screen that is purposefully hidden away, directly encouraging photographers to pay more attention to their surroundings. For a big industry player, it is an interesting development.

But you do not need to buy a new camera to find more pleasure in the simple art of making photographs. We have put together a list of mindful photography exercises to help you find more satisfaction in the process of creating photography, rather than the outcome.

Turn off your screen

Help make yourself more present within your environment by hiding your LCD screen. Whether that means switching it off in your settings or covering it up completely, this simple change will shift your focus away from getting caught up in the details. When you do not have the option of constantly reviewing your work, you will not be so concerned with hitting the mark every time. Instead, you will be able to visualize the image you want to create and develop your understanding of composition and light.

Walk and compose

Like meditation, the practice of mindful walking has been recognized as one strategy to engage more with the world. Pay attention to the rhythm of your stride and let your mind relax as you pass the world by. When you combine this practice with a camera, it offers a fascinating change of pace as you reflect on your area and the images you want to capture.

During a mindful photo walk, as your surroundings transform from one type of setting to the next, consider composition and how you might capture the emotion behind a certain place or

landmark. Once you pull out your camera, you should also think about how you would position your body to create a great photograph. But do not get too lost in the photographic outcome, as this is a mindful photography exercise to simply appreciate the world around you.

Limit how many photos you take

Across social media, we are constantly being reminded of how many images are created every day. One way to escape this grind and make each shot count is by limiting the number of photos you take.

If you only allow yourself to capture five images a day, you are bound to try and make each one as impactful as possible. In the same way that people are attracted to film photography because they only have a finite number of shots on a roll, you can impose a similar limit with digital photography. It is an effective way to improve your skills and be more mindful of your work.

Appreciate the small triumphs

It is easy to be disappointed when you do not reach technical perfection. But you can learn a lot from finding appreciation for the things you did get right, which become helpful lessons for your next shoot. When you are reviewing your photographs after a shoot, pick your favorite photo of the day and spend some time reflecting on what you like about it, and how you achieved it.

You should also consider the fact that many great photographers do not actually aim for perfection. Consider the work of [Nan Goldin](#) and [Todd Hido](#). Even if their work is blurred or breaks the rules of composition – it has an emotive quality that is unmistakable.

Avoid the photographic arms race

A common trap for many photographers is getting sucked into an arms race with the latest photographic gear. It is a tempting distraction, because buying new equipment is easy, while improving your skills is challenging.

When cultivating an approach to mindful photography, focus on using the gear you already own to achieve your photographic goals. And remember – most photographers are not ever going to need 120 megapixels.

INTERESTED IN A MINDFUL PHOTOWALK? Join the September 26th field trip at SLO's Mission Plaza, 9am, to learn more about mindful photography and practice it around downtown SLO. Your leader is Penni Powell 805.363.1931 or penpowell2020@gmail.com See this month's Field Trip Report for more info.

SMCC Field Trips for September 2020 by Penni Powell 805.363.1931 penpowell2020@gmail.com

Please note: Bad weather or Covid 19 can cancel outdoor activities. Contact the leader if you are in doubt.

Check your email for any updates.

Sept 26th (Sat 9am-11am): Mindful Photo walk in SLO – An Introduction to Mindful Photography (Read the article in this Galleon, “See Photography in a New Light with These Mindful Practices” to get a gist of what this field trip is about.)

COVID-19 guidelines are followed: Social distancing, masks, hand sanitizer, etc.

Meet at 9am in San Luis Obispo Mission Plaza by the mission steps/fountain. Parking is currently free in the parking garages (closest is at 842 Palm Street), otherwise the meters are running now. Wear comfortable walking shoes and be aware of the weather forecast.

Optional: Bring your camera with the LCD screen switched off in settings or cover it up completely. If you are shooting with a film camera, you can disregard this 😊

I will start the field trip with an explanation of mindful walking and guide you through two short mindfulness lessons in Mission Plaza. This will take about 15 minutes. Now that we are relaxed and more tuned into our surroundings, we will fan out and practice mindful photography in the SLO downtown area.

We will regroup at 11am in Mission Plaza.

When you are reviewing your photographs from the field trip, pick your favorite photo of the day and write down what you like about it, and how you achieved it. We will share & tell our images at the October program meeting on Webex.



Why Go? Rediscover the fun in taking photos and improve your powers of observation using mindfulness – Namaste!

and Beyond...

October – Solo Field Tripping: Tony’s Creative Challenge

Watch Tony’s presentation at the October program meeting Webex for inspiration to try a new photo technique (or one of your choice) and share at the November meeting.

Nov 1st – 6th Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks See the flyer in the Galleon for this camp/motel adventure for Fall color and landscapes.

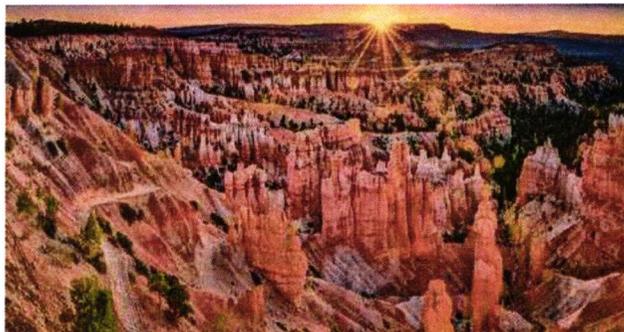
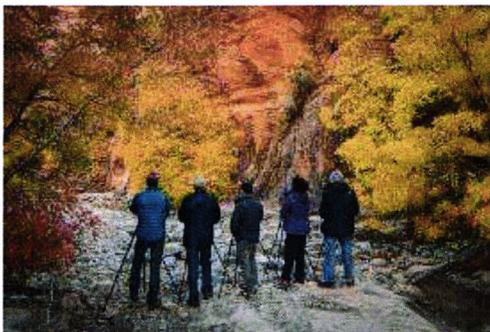
December – Solo Field Tripping: “Warm Glow” An idea for holiday shooting.

March 19TH, 2021(Fri 5:45 – 8:45pm) Point San Luis Lighthouse Sunset Photo Shoot - Rescheduled due to COVID-19. Thank you to Bob Mihelic!

ZION AND BRYCE CANYON

November 1 (Sun) – 6 (Fri), 2020

(These dates do not include travel time on either end...)



The month of November is an incredible time to visit Zion National Park. Autumn colors provide a sight that is sure to inspire you—the cottonwoods turn a dazzling yellow, and there are pockets of maples that become an enchanting red. Though it may seem late in the season for Fall Color, leaf peepers should be pleased if the trees are on schedule.

The crowds of summer are gone and the temperatures reasonable in Zion, 60s high and 30s low. The full moon is October 31 so there will be options for moonlighted photos. Plan to camp/lodge/b&b in Zion NP or Springdale UT November 1-4 (3 nights leaving on the 4th). Ed and I will be camping in our truck camper.

Bryce Canyon is another story – it is higher in elevation so those sunrise shots (as shown above) could be very cold! We are talking 40s high and 20s low. Plan to camp/lodge/b&b in Bryce NP or outside the park November 4-6 (2 nights leaving on the 6th). Ed and I will be camping in our truck camper if we have the heater working 😊

What the COVID19 status will be in these parks in November is anyone's guess. Right now, the shuttle buses are running up Zion Canyon with 50% capacity and you will need to purchase shuttle tickets as soon as they are released online for the dates you want. As with any activities during the pandemic, you must take precautions to keep everyone safe. Also be aware of the cancellation policies for any reservations you make.

Interested? Please let me know your questions about this trip by email: penpowell2020@gmail.com or phone me at home, 805-929-2420.

I am keeping an eye on the national park's websites for alerts and changes. If I know that you're interested or plan to go already, I'll send you emails or text messages so we get shuttle tickets at the same time, etc., and start planning our itinerary based on our interests.

Ed and Penny Powell

<https://www/nps.gov/webcams-zion/camera.jpg> to see current conditions

USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLUB

Meetings	1 st and 3 rd Wednesday each month at 7:00 pm
Location	Via WebEx due to the Covid problem If you want to participate, please contact Greg Doudna gndoudna@gmail.com You will receive a Join the Meeting invitation email from Greg shortly after 6:45pm the evening of the meeting. Simply clicking on Join Meeting will connect you to this virtual video program meeting
Membership dues	\$ 30 per person; \$ 45 Family; \$ 20 to participate in the competition meeting. All the due are per year
2020 Club officers	President: Cheryl Decker Vice President: Allan Upshaw Secretary Rosie Brancacio Treasurer: Bill Hood
At-large Board Members	Patty Blyte, Elaine Calvert, Nyla James, Tony Martindale, Flavio Parigi, Penni Powell
2020 Competition Rules	Each member may submit a maximum of 2 total image submissions in any category per competition.
Categories will be:	Digital color Digital Monochrome
2020 Special Subjects	August – Night shots October – Intentional blur
Submit your images for digital competition to:	Greg Doudna gndoudna@gmail.com Digital images can only be submitted by email. All the digital images <u>MUST</u> be received no later than the Sunday prior to the Wednesday competition. Images not received in 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 & Chuck Uebele
Slide Projectionist	Ed E. Powel
SMCC Directory & Calendar	Rosie Brancacio
Historian	Nyla James
Judge Recruitment	Cheryl Decker
Saturday Chat	Jim McKinniss
Point Tabulator	Richard Russ
Print Coordinators	Flavio Parigi & Jim Snodgrass
Slide Coordinator	Elaine Calvert
Image scoring	Elaine Calvert, Ramona Cashmore, Penni Powell
Program Recruitment	Alan Upshaw
Refreshment	Joyce Bolivar
PSA Representative	Nyla Janes
Library Coordinator	Larry Decker
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 & Amaya Rangel

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

- “We are making photographs to understand what our lives mean to us.”
— Ralph Hattersley

Treasury Report

We have 44 members in our club and in our bank there is \$ 1,803.32