



# Placer County Photography Club News Blast

May 2026

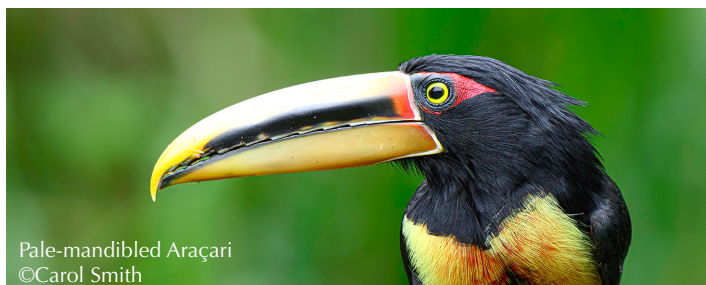
## *Got Camera Gear to Sell?*

We've all got some camera gear that we are no longer using. Don't let it languish in a closet. Sell it! You'd be surprised what gear somebody else wants even when you no longer want or need it. And, it's easy to sell your used camera gear.

### *Selling Options*

- Let photographer friends and colleagues know you have gear to sell including the PCPC. We'll alert the membership.
- Sell through a local camera store like Action Camera when they sponsor outside entities to buy used gear on site.
- Sell through an on-line market place like eBay, Reddit, even Facebook.
- Sell to an on-line photography store or used gear specialist like B&H, Adorama, KEH, or MPB.

The first option might sound the easiest because they're local but that restricts your prospects and it might take some time to get offers, if at all. Option 2 is local, too, but, it might not be available when you want to sell and if you haven't done your homework, you won't know if you're getting the best price. Option 3 will also take time to get offers, shipping is a negotiable item, and payment may be a hassle.



Pale-mandibled Araçari  
©Carol Smith

### *Selling Online*

You might be surprised at how easy it is to sell gear on line to a used gear specialist. They pay for shipping so the only thing you have to do is box it up and send it via the courier they designate. They will assess the quality of your gear and make you a final offer. If you accept their offer, all you need to do is to let them know your preferred payment method and that's it. Your check is in the mail or, better yet, your money is already in your bank account. If you decide not to accept their final offer, they will return your gear at no charge.

I've sold my used camera gear using all of the above means except an on-line market place, because I am not comfortable doing that. But, I've recently had two great experiences selling gear to a used gear specialist called MPB and I want to share those experiences.

### *Getting Started*

- Make sure the gear you're selling is in good condition, clean and functioning.
- Try to have everything that came with the product, e.g., caps, bags, accessories, hot shoe cover, cords, and chargers before you begin the process.
- It is not necessary to have the original box.

## ***What to Expect***

- Understand that the best you can expect to recoup is between 40% and 60% of what you paid, assuming your gear is in good condition and desirable.
- Realize that older gear with less demand and gear that is not in good condition will bring much less, if anything. But there still can be a market for it.

## ***Shopping for the Best Deal***

- Shop several online camera stores that have used gear departments for estimates to compare.
- To get a ballpark idea of what to ask if you're selling gear yourself, visit several online camera stores that have used gear departments to see what similar gear is selling for. You'll see a range of prices due to condition of the gear and what accessories it has.
- Remember, the retailer will sell used gear for more than they paid for it. So, if you want to get top dollar, and you don't mind the hassle or uncertainty of selling it yourself, then go for it. Otherwise, try selling to an on-line used gear specialist.

## ***Getting an Estimate Online***

- Identify the gear you're selling and assess the condition of the gear. The buyer will want to know its condition, i.e., like new, excellent, fair, etc. Be honest, objective, and truthful. They'll see your gear in person before making you a final offer. Once you give them your e-mail address, they will give you a preliminary offer based on what you tell them.
- Get a preliminary offer from several places, read the fine print, and select the buyer that best meets your needs

## ***Selling to an Online Dealer***

- Determine which offer to accept and notify the dealer.
- The dealer will provide boxing and shipping details, including free shipping.
- Box your gear, taking care to box it as specified by the buyer (i.e., proper packaging).
- Drop off box(es) at specified shipper (e.g., FedEx or UPS).
- Track shipment to ensure it is received.
- Dealer will notify you via e-mail when shipment is received and give you additional instructions.
- Dealer will appraise the gear.
- Once you receive notification of dealer's assessment, accept (or reject) dealer's final offer.
- Provide additional requested information, e.g., providing banking information for direct deposit.
- Wait for payment (with direct deposit, it should appear in your account within 1 to 3 days.)



Masked Trogon  
©Carol Smith

# My Experience Selling Online

by Carol Smith

I have recently sold several cameras, lenses, and tripod heads I no longer used or needed. After doing what I discussed earlier in this News Blast, I sold it all to MPB. My experience was painless and I got what I considered to be fair offers.

Because I got several offers, I was confident I got the best price. Realize that you can usually ask more for something when you are selling it directly to an individual. If you're selling to an on-line company, there is a difference between the offer you get to buy your gear and what they will then sell it for. If the offers are lower than you expected, you have two choices: don't sell and wait, or take the best offer you get. Just remember, the longer you wait, the less desirable it will become and the price will continue to drop.

What I liked about MPB was that they quickly e-mailed me a quote. I was still looking and comparing offers but they followed up a couple of times via e-mail to see if I was still interested. They gave me the name of someone to discuss the offer with so I could ask questions. When I finally decided that MPB had made the best offer, I gave them the OK and they immediately sent me a prepaid shipping label. I used two boxes and labels and dropped

them off at the local Fedex office at no charge to me. MPB notified me when they received the gear; they assessed it the day they received it; and on two items, they changed the original estimate based on their assessment, actually raising the initial offer. They sent me the revised offer, I accepted with a click, submitted my direct deposit information, and the next day, the money was in my account. It was quick and painless. If I had decided not to go with their offer, they would have returned my items to me at no charge.

Here is the specific information about the gear I sold. Some of the gear was more than ten years old. In the end, even selling items over ten years old, I averaged a 50% return.

| Item                  | Year bought | Price Paid | Year Sold | Sold For | % of original |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|----------|---------------|
| Nikon Z9              | 2021        | \$5497     | 2025      | \$2810   | 51%           |
| Nikon Z9              | 2022        | \$5497     | 2025      | \$2805   | 51%           |
| Nikkor Z100-400mm     | 2021        | \$2760     | 2025      | \$1440   | 52%           |
| Nikkor 10.5mm Fisheye | 2014        | \$779      | 2025      | \$71     | 9%            |
| Nikkor Z70-200mm      | 2021        | \$2597     | 2026      | \$1620   | 62%           |
| RRS BH-40 Ball Head   | 2016        | \$390      | 2025      | \$140    | 36%           |
| RRS BH-55 Ball Head   | 2015        | \$455      | 2025      | \$180    | 40%           |
|                       |             | \$17975    |           | \$9066   | 50%           |

Here are four links to places you can consider selling used gear to. This list is not all-inclusive but I have sold used gear to all of these over the years and have not had any problems dealing with them.

<https://www.mpb.com/en-us>

<https://www.bhphotovideo.com/>

<https://www.adorama.com/>

<https://www.keh.com/>

## Club Details

**Website:** <https://placerphotoclub.org>

**Email:** [placercameraclub@gmail.com](mailto:placercameraclub@gmail.com)



### PCPC Board Members (2026):

President ----- Dick Bosworth

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**Newsletter Editor:** ----- Carol Smith

Do you have questions about photography or suggestions about what you want to see blasted out or in the regular newsletter? Please send them to:

[pcphotoclubnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:pcphotoclubnewsletter@gmail.com)

Editor's note: I had some blank space and needed to fill it up, so I added a few images I took in Ecuador last week. Please enjoy!



White-booted Racket-tail  
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