



placer color



Volume 45 Number 5 **Newsletter of the Placer Camera Club** May 2007 **Since 1952**

<http://www.placercameraclub.org>

Member Delta Council,

Placer Camera Club meets the third Tuesday of each month, except July and August, at 7:00PM in the Beecher Room of the Auburn Placer County Library, 350 Nevada Street, Auburn, Ca. **Visitors Welcome!**

This months meeting will be Tuesday, **May 15, 2007**. Informal gathering at **6:30** with the meeting starting **promptly** at **7 PM**.



This month we will have our **May competition**. Our judge will be Jeff Burkholder and he will have a short presentation on scenic photography.

If at all possible please **email** your **digital entries** for the May competition to me before the meeting. This will allow me to preload your images on my laptop saving the big rush at the meeting. Email them to radioman@ftcnet.net. See the club webpage for competition guidelines.

Your **annual entries** are due at the **May** meeting. Eligible entries are photos that have been entered in our competition from Jan 2006 to May 2007. Same

categories and you can enter 4 per category so bring your best. Photo's entered in the May competition are also eligible. Entries may be turned in to **Judy Hooper**.

Annual awards from our competitions will be presented at the **June** meeting.

At the **June** meeting we would like to have **photo essays** either slide or digital. It can be 20 to 30 pictures on any topic you wish. Presentations should be short, 10 to 15 minutes.

Also happening at the **June** meeting is **election of club officers**. This is the time to nominate someone for club office.

Sue Barthelow has volunteered to take over the club **webpage**. She is in the process of re-designing it. She will be posting the digital entries from our competitions as time permits. Members can list photographic items wanted or for sale. If you have input or content for the webpage contact Sue or Mike. <http://www.placercameraclub.org>

A Long Delayed and Much Anticipated Trip to Juneau

Text and photos by Walt Carnahan

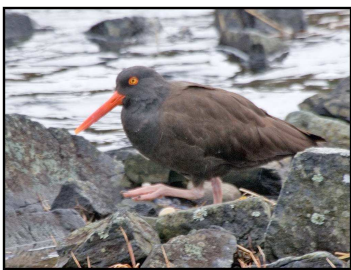


The Juneau radio station announced, “Welcome to rain country” as Barb and I headed out to the harbor. After a day at home with our grandsons, we headed off ticket less to try and get aboard the Juneau Audubon Society’s sold out trip to Berners Bay aboard an enclosed catamaran. Fortunately, there were a couple of unclaimed tickets and we got aboard.

The cold overcast weather gave me some challenges when I’d go outside the cabin to take some pictures. Juneau had two and a half times its average hundred inches of snow this year.

Some humpback whales were on the surface of the Lynn Canal. We got some good pictures as they rolled around. There were some local photographers trying to get some pictures and keep their lenses from frosting up. We paused near a small island for a pair of mature bald eagles, virtually a yard bird in southeast Alaska. I passed on a photo of two soccer players from Cheyenne who had stripped to the waist to see who could outlast the other in the drizzle.

A large group of Seller’s Sea Lions had hauled onto Benjamin Island. They were grunting loudly while protecting their social order. The huge bulls were protecting their harems, the mothers were nursing the young and all of them putting out a tremendous din.



The Glacier Highway runs north along the coast from just south of landlocked Juneau for about forty miles. At St Theresa’s a small chapel about seventeen miles north resides a population of finely marked harlequin ducks who resemble wood ducks. The caretaker informed us that the →

previous visitor had been a man named Brad from Grass Valley. We missed Brad but got the ducks and close-up looks at a couple of oystercatchers with their long red bills and the black-capped Bonaparte's Gulls, one of the smallest gulls in North America.



Towards evening of the next day, something unusual happened, sunshine! We headed out Douglas Island, connected to the mainland by a small bridge and watched groups of surf and black scoters. They would advance as a group towards some herring near shore then in synchronization one after the other dive to catch the fish. After surfacing swallowing their food they would regroup and repeat the process. A few goldeneyes, both common and barrows were also in the area.

Just before packing up for the day, a bald eagle flew over and above the eagle flying in the opposite direction was a pair of snowy owls. Snowy owls are rare in southeast Alaska, though not as rare as in California. This pair had been seen in the area for the past week according to postings on the local Internet group Eaglechat.

The sun shown on our last day as well and we returned out Douglas Island. This time I wanted to get into the rainforest reserve, a mature rainforest, which was much different than during my previous visit a year and a half earlier in October. Almost immediately as I climbed over some remaining snow, I heard the police-whistle call of the varied thrush. A couple of them popped out of the brush for a quick look. A song sparrow made an appearance along with a brown creeper.

I was enjoying myself wandering around the rainforest and didn't pay attention to the time. When I finally emerged the battery on my son's new car had run down as Barb tried to stay warm. Juneau residents have a "we're all in this together attitude" and it wasn't much trouble to get home and jump-start the car.

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Firefighter's Memorial

Text and Photos by Wes Schultz



Right after I got home from Australia, I was asked by Cal Fire (CDF) to photograph a Firefighter's memorial. The day of the memorial was a rainy, sad day. I tried to bring out the fact of both in my images. I have shot 6 memorials or funerals of firefighters in the last 12 months and it can work on a person's raw emotions. You see things thru a long lens that others may not - or want to avoid. Some of the images of the family and friends are so very sad and 'out there' emotionally I have to try and get some images that

while represent the event get me away from the intensity of it all. I never use the family images for my use - at all. They go to the agency I am shooting for and their use. These are some of the 'get away' images and of public people doing things in a public way.



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Seeking the Summit

Text & Photos by Sue Barthelow

If you like to hike and take nature shots, check out the Summit Lake hike. This



approximately 4 mile round trip leads you through quiet forest, across an open wildflower meadow, over several streams and up an alpine slope to end at a peaceful lake that sits near the base of Castle Peak. You can shoot everything from dramatic vistas to rushing streams to tiny wildflowers growing out of rock faces.

The hike is rated easy although it has several short steep sections. My favorite time to go is late spring to early summer after the snow has melted and before the trail gets too dry and dusty. The various

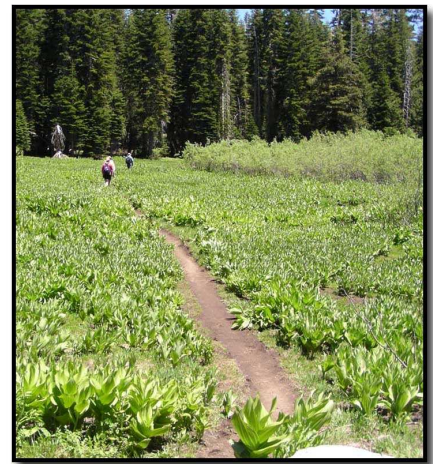
wildflowers normally come into bloom over a couple of months from May through August depending on when the snow melts.

You'll want to take plenty of drinking water and a picnic lunch. I always take a walking stick to help me ford the streams. There are no facilities available once you start this hike.

The easiest parking is at the I80 rest stop for the westbound traffic at Donner Summit. To get there, you drive up I80 in the eastwards direction and go over the summit. Exit at the first interchange and return westbound to head back up to the summit. Pull into the rest stop, and in consideration of others, park as far away from the restrooms as you can.

A sign states that the rest stop is not a parking lot for hikers. The problem is, the other trailhead is across the highway and requires passage under the highway through a huge culvert pipe that is usually running with snowmelt during the spring and early summer weeks. Since the rest stop has plenty of parking spaces and we want to use the facilities before and after our hike, we disregard the sign.

You'll find the trailhead just east of the restrooms past the picnic tables. At about a quarter mile, the trail links up with the Pacific Crest Trail at a large sign that →



displays a map of the area. It's important to watch for sign posts since there are several places where the trail splits. Follow the signs for Summit Lake.

You'll walk through the forest, crossing several streams using rocks and logs. Having a walking stick helps. You'll find wildflowers and picturesque scenes all along the trail. After the final trail split, you'll enter an alpine slope. This open area is mostly granite rocks and offers grand views. You'll find numerous alpine plants here too. The trail tries to hide itself as it wanders over and around the rocks before it reenters the forest.



There are numerous boulders and logs near the lake that work well for sitting and for laying out your picnic. Those who want to search for additional photo opportunities can walk around the lake using a sometimes hard to find and follow trail. It's too wet to fully negotiate early in the season, but you can always stroll part of it. The ridge at the back side of the lake may provide you with some additional vistas. You can spend a couple of hours relaxing and snapping pictures before heading back down the trail.

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Beginner's Corner

“Walking With Experience...”

By Tony Middleton

Or being a sponge? As a beginning photographer I looked for any way to gain insight as to what I was trying to accomplish. I sought out friends who were into taking photos, and bought books and magazines by the arm load, finally I came upon the Placer Camera Club.

Last September I joined and began my walk. Since that time I have improved as a photographer with the help of everyone in the club. Some have given insight with their talks to the group, others with the beautiful photographs that they share. Mostly for me it has been the patience of all of the veterans who have been willing to share their time and knowledge in order to help me improve.

Since joining the club I have really begun to appreciate what it takes to get a good photograph. Most weekends I can be found on day trips with my camera in search of that special photograph. Alas, most of my shots are still pictures, but I have had a few good ones. Even the way I see things as I drive down the road is different. Is that a shot (turn around, go back, look again)? Maybe, maybe not, but it has added an element of excitement to an otherwise regular if not uneventful task not to mention a few extra miles on the odometer.

Of late I have had the privilege to be mentored by Mike. His patience has been unlimited, and his help even more valuable. We have been going on shoots in all types of conditions, sun, rain, and the night shoot in Old Towne this past month. I may have even caught that elusive photograph somewhere along the way.

I guess the point of all this is to say Thank You to all of the club members who want to see the art continue on and progress by teaching those of us who want to learn. I as well as many others appreciate all you do.

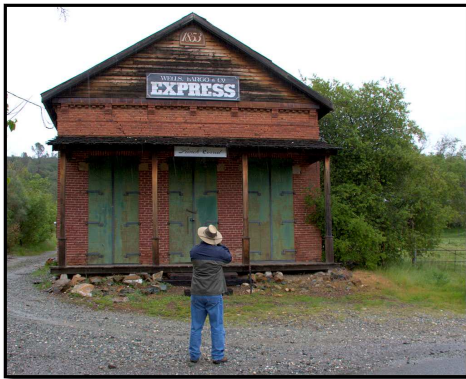
If you are looking for a place to learn how, people who are willing to share, and just a generally great way to look at the rest of your day, drop by and check out the Placer Camera Club. As history shows, all sponges are welcome, and there is always the opportunity to go “walking with experience.

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Bridgeport – A Local Covered Bridge

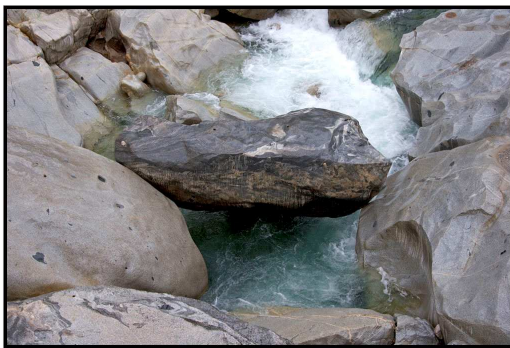
Text & Photos by Mike Schumacher



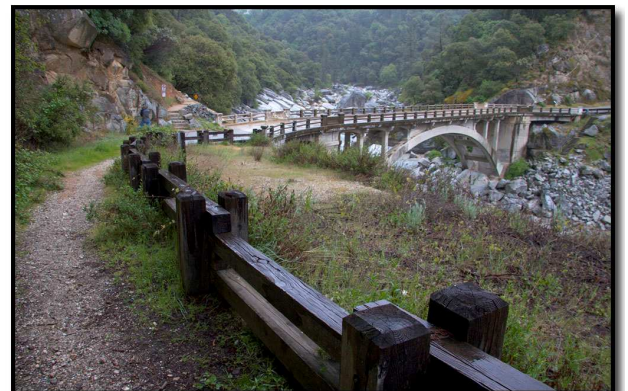
Here's a nice day trip, a trip to South Yuba River state park to see the Bridgeport covered bridge. Built in 1862 it is the longest single span covered bridge in the United States. When you're done at Bridgeport continue



up the road a few miles to French Corral. There you will find an old Wells Fargo building. Continuing up the road a few miles you will cross the Yuba River. There is a parking area along with a trail that runs by the river. At the bridge over the river you will see rocks the size of small cars. Continue up the road and it will connect with highway 49 a few miles north of Nevada City.



To get there take highway 49 to Grass Valley and take highway



20 towards Marysville. About 7.5 miles from Grass Valley turn right (north) on Pleasant Valley Road. Continue up Pleasant Valley Road for about 7 miles and you will come to the Bridgeport Covered Bridge. As mentioned above, when you're done at →

Bridgeport continue up the road to French Corral and the parking area by the Yuba River. The road will connect with highway 49 north of Nevada City.

Tony Middleton and I made this trip on a recent rainy Saturday. It's a very scenic drive and close by. More info: http://www.ncgold.com/Museums_Parks/syrrp/Bridgeport/

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Wanted... Tony Middleton is looking for a set of tripod legs. Each leg should have independent movement and low to the ground capable. Contact him at 530-346-8665

If you want to sell or are looking for photography related items you can list them in the newsletter or on the club website. Email or call me. Listings are free for members.

Mike 530-367-4505 radioman@ftcnet.net

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Huey Monitor Calibration

The club has a Huey monitor calibration system for use by club members. Contact Judy Hooper to 'check out' Huey. 530-888-8308.

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2007 Placer Camera Club Officers

President – Mike Schumacher	530-367-4505	radioman@ftcnet.net
Vice President – Richard Myren	530-268-3475	rgjk@earthlink.net
Treasurer – Judy Hooper	530-888-8308	
Secretary – Jane Flickinger	530-885-0714	jfk@infostations.net
Judges – Karen Wyatt	530-878-0556	kwyatt@softcom.net

Volunteers

Webpage – Sue Barthelow	sue_barthelow@yahoo.com
Newsletter – Mike Schumacher	

Internet Web Sites of Interest

<http://www.placercameraclub.org>

Placer Camera Club Webpage – lots of links!

<http://www.jumbogiant.com>

Palco - Large Prints - Local here in Auburn

<http://www.luminous-landscape.com>

Photography Info

<http://www.luminous-landscape.com/forum/>

Photo Forums - questions & answers

→ *Please feel free to contact me with items for the newsletter!*

Mike Schumacher (Newsletter) 530-367-4505 radioman@ftcnet.net

See you at the meeting May 15th at 7:00 PM!