



# PLACER CAMERA CLUB

## FEATURED THIS MONTH

- President's Corner
- For Sale
- North American International Exhibition
- Tanzania Photo Safari
- PCC Annual August Picnic
- Love is Blue-The Satin Bowerbird
- Exploring Macro Photography
- A Great One Day Trip
- A Birthday Treat
- Faces In The Trees
- Jason Lanier



THE NEWSLETTER THAT FOCUSES ON PHOTOGRAPHERS IN THE FOOTHILLS

# PLACER COLOR

The Placer Camera Club meets the third Tuesday of each month except August in the Beecher Room of the Auburn Placer County Library,  
350 Nevada Street, Auburn CA.  
Visitors are always welcome.  
The meetings start at 6:30 PM.

## The President's Corner

This month we have Projected Image Critiques with judge Tal Lewis. We now have 9 categories. The new category is Theme and it will change every month. This month it is Macro / Close-up. Send your 3 images to [placercameraclub@gmail.com](mailto:placercameraclub@gmail.com).

Also this month Don Goldman will give a short presentation on how to photograph star trails. In addition, Tony Hallas will give a short presentation on selections in Photoshop.

Starting this month and lasting through the club year the board thought it would be fun to have one image (the same one) that is judged every month. The results will be tracked. The purpose of this is to show that judges' comments are really just one person's opinion and to show the focus of different judges. Judges focus on different aspects of an image and having our images critiqued really adds up as you listen to more and more critiques. It is a great learning tool. Also it will be fun and educational to see the different opinions of the judges. The club will know which image it is.

October will be Projected Image Critiques and November will be Print Image Critiques. October's Theme for the Theme category will be Scary. Club dues are due this month. See Mary Nunes, the club treasurer.

The club has a Facebook group page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/922657154461718/>

Our refreshment committee is Judy Hooper and Jim Gamble. We will need club members to bring goodies for our meetings. There is a signup sheet for this purpose. See one of the committee members.

Mike Schumacher  
President Placer Camera Club



## FOR SALE

### NIKON CAMERA/LENSES

Nikon D-90 body \$400.  
Nikkor Lens 24-85 f3.5 \$350  
Nikkor Lens 16-85 f3.5 \$350.  
UV filters Free with purchase  
Nikon D-90 SLR body plus one lens \$700  
Nikon D-90 SLR plus above 2 lenses \$1000.  
Tamron SP 150-600mm f/5-6.3 Di VC USD for Nikon mount \$ 700.

All above equipment in like new condition with manuals and batteries/charger.

Contact: Jim White  
530-823-1292  
[Padhorski@Wavecable.com](mailto:Padhorski@Wavecable.com)

## North American International Exhibition

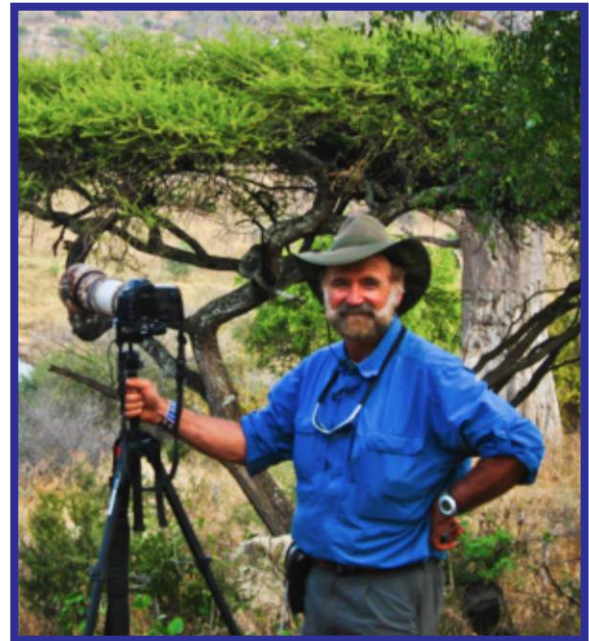
The closing date for the first annual North American International Exhibition through PSA hosted by Sierra Camera Club is September 30, 2016.

The website is  
<http://www.northamericaninternationalexhibition.com/>

There are 5 sections for competition. You may submit up to 4 images in each section. The cost is \$7 per section entered. The sections are Open color, Open Creative, Monochrome, Nature (nature) and Nature (wildlife).  
Bruce Gregory is one of the judges.

Jeanne Snyder  
Committee Member





Safari leader Barry Walton

**Barry and Crispen's Safaris are always awesome.  
Don't Miss Out...Sign UP Today!**

**People  
4**

**Net Prices per person**

**Price in US Dollars  
\$7700**

## INCLUDED

- All current government Taxes relevant to the itinerary (Kenya/Tanzania/Uganda/Rwanda/other)
- AMREF flying doctors insurance
- All accommodations and meals as described
- All entry fees for national parks, conservation fees, reserve fees relevant to this itinerary
- Internal flights as indicated in the itinerary
- All tips

**End of Services  
Prices may be subject to change.**

## EXCLUDED

- International air flights
- Alterations to this itinerary (i.e. If different accommodations and services are provided then the price will most likely vary up and down)
- Entry visas to Tanzania
- Airport taxes
- Hospital bills after basic cover (up to \$500 after evacuation)
- Drinks & Laundry at Hotels and Lodges
- Travel Insurance\*



**• Projected date will be around Mid February 2017.  
Final Date will be announced as soon as it is finalized.**



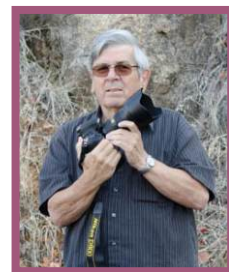


We all had a great time at the PCC Annual Picnic. Lots of good food, friendship, conversation and beautiful weather.

Thanks to everyone who attended and brought the great side dishes and desserts. The Turkey was supplied by the PCC and was delicious.

We also celebrated Judy Hooper's Birthday.

Hope to see you all there again next year.



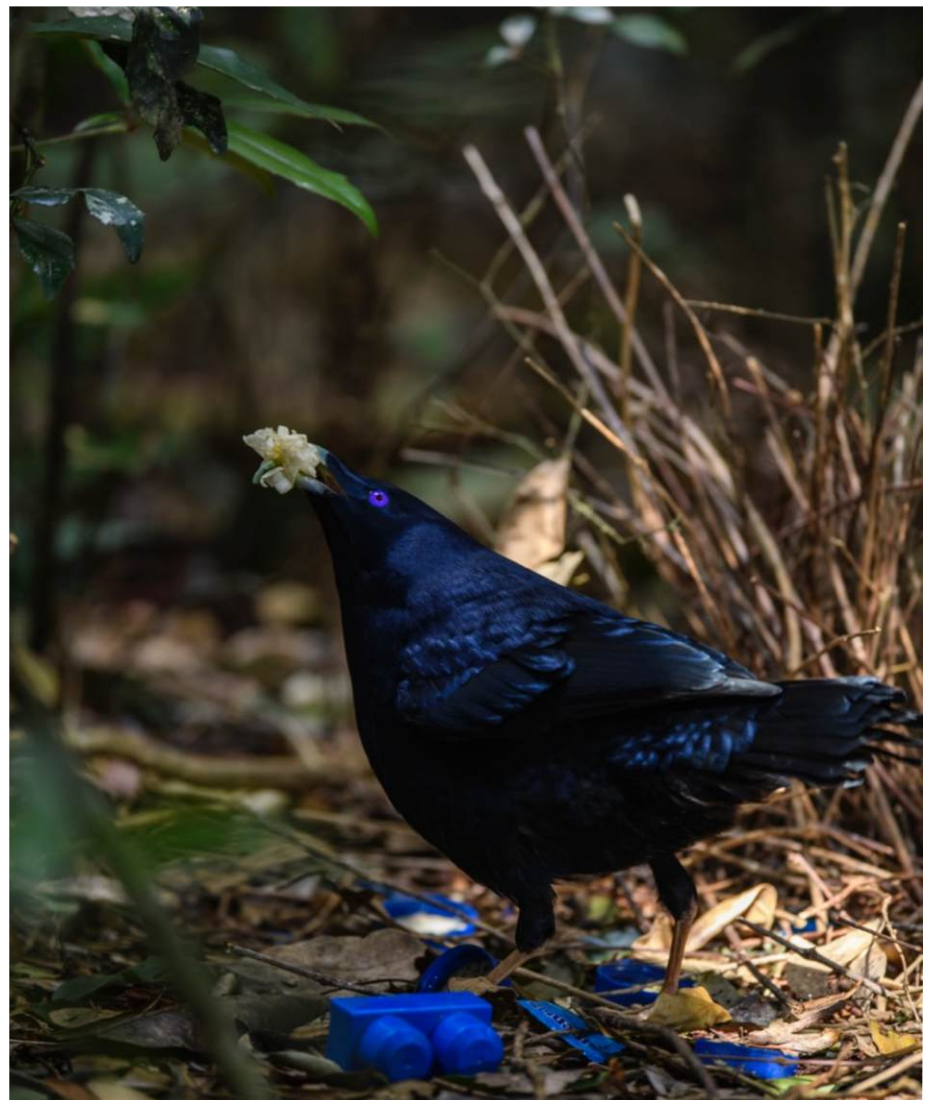


The most fascinating bird we encountered on our mid winter (August, 2016) journey in the Australian rainforest was the Satin Bowerbird. I first discovered this most intriguing creature, a bird about the size of a Western Scrub Jay, many years ago on a 1998 PBS documentary by Sir David Attenborough called *The Life of Birds*. Except for its eyes which at times appear lavender and at times, sky blue, the Satin Bowerbird isn't colorful (the male has shiny black feathers, the female's are olive green) but what it lacks in color, it makes up for in its mating behavior. The male tries to attract female Bowerbirds by building a structure on the rainforest floor, a sort of bower, made of thin twigs which he obsessively places one by one to create an arched framework with an avenue through it. He decorates the area around the bower with things he finds beautiful and, for the most part, are blue. I was amazed to discover that Sir David Attenborough's documentary about the Satin Bowerbird that caught my attention so long ago, was filmed on location at a bower at O'Reilly's in Lamington National Park, Queensland, Australia, where we were.

We visited the bower every day we were at O'Reilly's. The bird was persistent in maintaining the bower, moving twig after twig in an endless pursuit to satisfy some inner instinct that said the bower wasn't perfect enough. He rebuilt and repaired the bower when the carefully structured display was disrupted by the Australian Brush Turkeys rooting through the forest floor. Daily maintenance activities took place for long periods every few hours. We photographed the Satin Bowerbirds from the rainforest path or a few yards away among the trees. We used 600 to 800 mm lenses on tripods and gimbal heads with speed lights to help penetrate the darkness in the dense rainforest canopy. To avoid a "flashy" look, we reduced the flash output by minus 3 stops. We were close enough that teleconverters were not necessary.



Surveying the bower



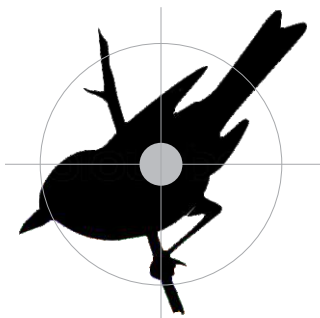
Deciding where to place a rare, white decoration



At one time, natural items like blue flowers and blue feathers decorated Satin Bowerbirds' bowers, but the current availability of blue plastic objects, disposable things like bottle caps, plastic forks, and straws, are now the decor of choice for Satin Bowerbirds. The Bowerbird has to place the object himself. If an object that he didn't put there appears in or near the bower, he promptly removes it from the area. He continually surveys his creation and constantly adjusts both the bower itself and the placement of blue attractants. One day, we heard a female Bowerbird answering the male's calls. He became quite agitated and started to scurry around but it was a false alarm and the potential mate quickly moved on so the male redirected his efforts at continuing to redecorate the bower for another.



View of the bower with its surrounding blue (and one white) decorations:



Repairing damage:





### Here's my text:

One of my favorite photo genera's is macro photography. Our upcoming September meeting has one additional theme category which is macro for this meeting. If you haven't already explored this type of photography, I highly recommend it. It's less expensive than birding photography using a 600mm lens, but it can be very challenging and does take a lot of practice. The upside is that you can do this in your own backyard. However, trying to get a small subject in focus with proper depth of field can be very frustrating. You have to be very steady. A tripod can help if your subject is stationary. Sometimes, I've resorted to manual focus. If you're shooting an insect, manual focus on the flower, or whatever they seem to be landing on, and then wait for them to return; be very still while doing this and be very patient. Crank up your ISO setting and shoot as fast as you can without introducing too much noise. Post processing helps correct this. Using telephotos that can focus somewhat close is another option, but you will have to do a bit more cropping to get the desired result.

You can try out macro photography without a lot of expense. Some point-and-shoot cameras have excellent macro capabilities with their built in lenses. You can also purchase diopter filters which can attach to a normal lens and increase its "close-up" capabilities. The most expensive option is to buy a macro lens for your DSLR.

For my photos, I have used a Canon G9 point-and-shoot, Nikon DSLR'S with diopters, and Nikon's with a Sigma 150mm prime macro lens.

I offer a few examples of my efforts at this type of photography; some of which will be entered in September's critique session. I hope to see efforts from other members of our club.



Just a butterfly (or moth) in my backyard



This spider photo was taken in my front yard with a Canon G9 point-and-shoot with its built in lens and macro capabilities.



A 1 inch Nudibranch; Kunie's Chromodoris. Taken with a Sony RX-100 point-and-shoot in an underwater housing and attached close-up diopter.



A 1 inch Spotted Porcelain Crab, also with the Sony RX-100.



Dragonfly's in my front yard. Taken with a Nikon D600 and a Sigma 150mm Prime Macro Lens.  
Manual focused on the reed the dragonfly's were landing on.



Yet another dragonfly using the same setup as before.



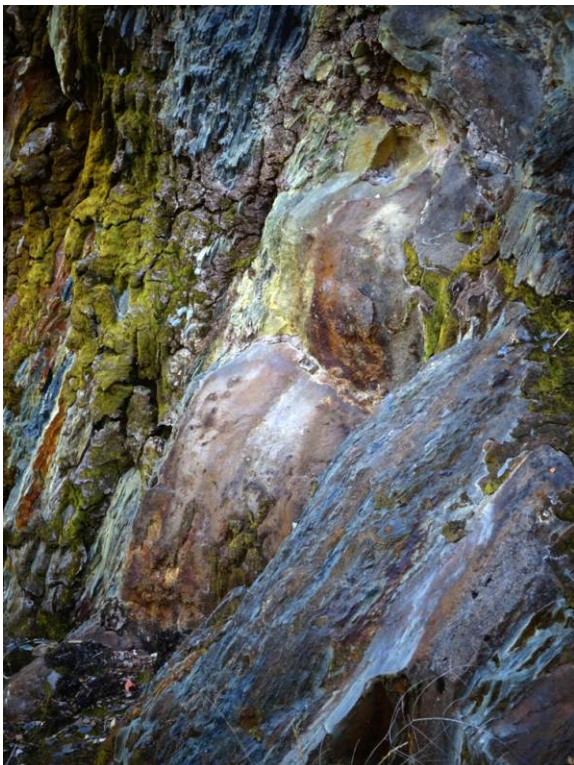


Map Of Big Trees.



Giant Redwood Tree.

This past week I took a drive to the Giant Redwood trees on Mosquito Ridge Rd out of Forest Hill. It's a great one day trip. The small loop goes directly to the big trees. I was surprised at the number of lightning strikes that they've had there. There were small blackened areas all over, and a lot of burnt trees. None of the flowers or dogwoods are blooming now, but in the spring they should be beautiful. When driving up the road to the park, stop and take a look at the road cuts. The rocks are beautiful.



Road Cut Rocks.



Three Redwoods.

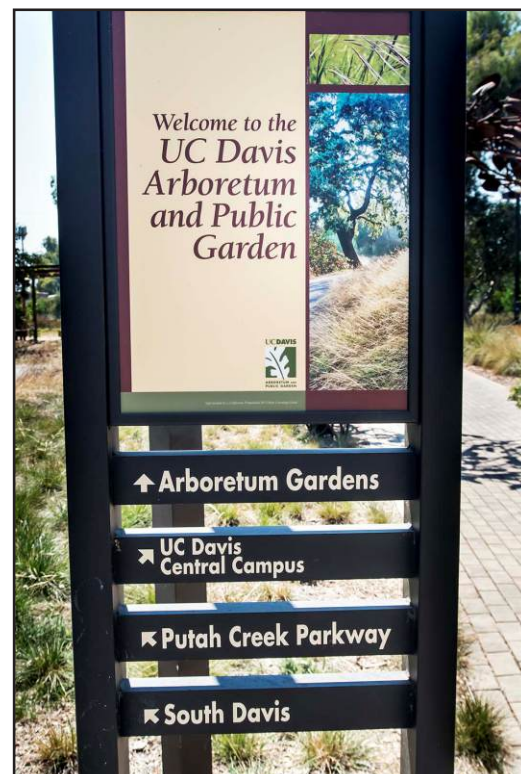


So what do you do for your 80 plus years old outdoor loving parents for a birthday treat? A few years ago it would have been a hike up Red Mt. or into 4<sup>th</sup> of July Lake in Alpine Co. The parents are photographers who shoot wild life and nature but also like a little adventure? My son Randy thought this over and decided a hike along the old north channel of Putah Creek in the UC Davis Arboretum was just the ticket for Shirley and I. What a fun day!

First it was crepes at the Crepetorium in Davis. With one hundred kinds of crepes to choose from, I settled on Apples and cinnamon. Shirley and my Granddaughter Elizabeth and Randy's crepe ingredients sounded like lunch to me. Then it was out to the trailhead, just a couple of blocks away. A small rucksack with just the right camera gear included my new Nikon D-500 and the Sigma 17-35 mm D f 2.8 Aspherical wide-angle lens. I had to be prepared for wildlife too, although I did not use it, I include my Nikkor 70-200 f2.8 just in case. Two bottles of water also since it was a really warm day.

Two paved walkways along either side of the creek with heavy tree cover and shrubs everywhere makes a walk on one side going and the other coming back possible. Almost all the plant life has a name plate posted nearby. Not a good time of day for wildlife but we saw a river otter, squirrels, turtles, mocking birds, scrub Jays, a and a few others birds too fast for me. I was able to use my new tilting LCD screen on the D-500 when I put the camera right on the ground and was able to view the shot from directly above. Both of the attached landscapes of the creek were done that way.

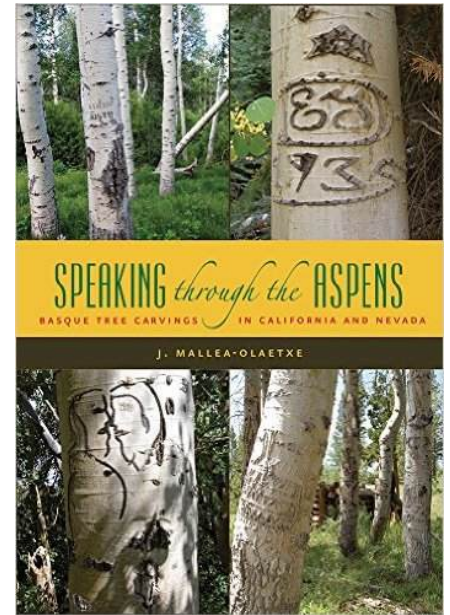
The "Whole Foods Market", right in our parking lot provided Mango Lemonade, popcorn and Pantene chips after our 2 hour hike. The really posh Japanese restaurant next to the market will be on our list for the next time we do this trip. We are planning on our next hike here in November, with cooler weather and more waterfowl in that season. Want to join us?





In the late 19th Century demand for lamb & sheepskin rose in the West. Bands of sheep began to appear in the mountainous regions of The Great Basin from Spring to Fall. In our region the high Sierra mainly east of the crest was home to these herds. The herders were frequently young men from the Basque region between France & Spain who were working for large sheep companies. Frequently they camped at the edge of meadows in large groves of Aspen trees. These men were alone for many months with their sheep & dogs. They had regular visits from camp tenders who brought them supplies.

These men left their mark on the trees. As a means of communication to other sheepherders they carved in the bark of the Aspen trees, what you're seeing is the scarring of the bark. The messages may contain their names, dates, statements, or drawings of the familiar and imagined. Sometimes it was a "Kilroy Was Here" message with simply a name, sometimes it's a name and a series of years of residency, at times there are political statements or a remembrance of home, you can encounter a portrait of a loved one or a public figure.



The Aspen has a lifespan of 125-150 years. the oldest of the carvings have been lost due to the trees dying and disintegrating. The oldest legible date I've come across lately is 1911 and it's on a dying tree whose bark is peeling off, that date will be lost soon. The location of the tree and it's particular circumstance of growing conditions can affect how long it will last. There are a lot of 1920's-1950's and newer inscriptions left, the book below cites herders into the 1970's-1980's. As the trees age the carvings become less legible.

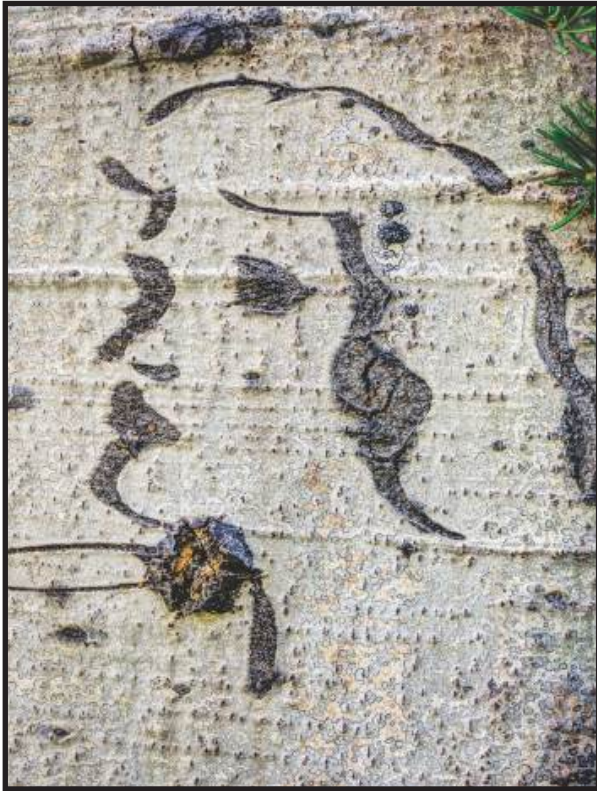
The ones I'm presenting here are portraits. The one attributed to D. Borel is purported to have been carved in about 1925. It is in amazing shape. It's such a fine example that at a later date someone carved a self portrait near her shoulder just to be her companion. An example of a public figure is the boxer, one of the portraits has been defaced, it's unknown if it was done by the original artist who was jilted or a later occupant of the same camp. Jani is the portrait of a prostitute who visited the camps known by her 20's style cloche hat. The women's portraits are cropped to headshots because they seem to have forgotten their clothing in the carvings. We do have a man in a beret who was carved as only a headshot. (There are some sexually explicit carvings in the trees, so some discretion may be necessary on family outings.)

J. Mallea-Olaetxe, a scholar at University of Nevada, Reno has written a book on the subject, ***Speaking Through the Aspens: Basque Tree Carvings in Nevada and California***. It's available on Amazon and elsewhere. It's very interesting reading about the Basque herders and has illustrations of some carvings. It's very satisfying to photograph a carving then find it referenced in the book.

In recent weeks Mike & I have visited sites on Treasure Mountain Rd off Highway 89 above Truckee and Peavine Mountain northwest of Reno, in previous years we've visited groves at the top of Monitor Pass on Highway 89 South of Markleeville. There are other sites from Oregon through the Sierra and East across Nevada & West at higher elevations.







D.Borel's Woman



D.Borel's Woman Companion



Boxer In The Trees



Defaced Portrait







Jani



Man In Beret

## BASQUE TREE CARVINGS IN NEVADA AND CALIFORNIA

Jason Lanier Sony Artisan of Imagery

Submitted by Jim Cormier



I have been following Jason ever since he was shooting with a Nikon D800. He has now switched to SONY and I still follow him. He is always willing to share his knowledge through his You-Tube Videos. Search him out on You-Tube.



WORLD TRAVELED, AWARD WINNING  
SONY ARTISAN OF IMAGERY

# PCC Members Websites

We are starting a list of Placer Camera Club member websites. I am gathering a list of member websites and will email the list out as soon as it is ready. When the list is complete we will link to member websites from the Placer Camera Club website. If you would like your website or blog to be included send the website to me at [radioman@sebastiancorp.net](mailto:radioman@sebastiancorp.net) If you can, put a link from your website to the Placer Camera Club website. This is what I have so far:

Jim Cormier	<a href="http://www.squareonegraphics.com">http://www.squareonegraphics.com</a>
Jim Bennett	<a href="http://www.youtube.com/user/lookydude">http://www.youtube.com/user/lookydude</a>
Bill Stenwick	<a href="http://bill-stenwick.smugmug.com/">http://bill-stenwick.smugmug.com/</a>
Sande Parker	<a href="http://windsongphotographytoday.com">http://windsongphotographytoday.com</a>
David Keyes	<a href="http://davekeyesphotography.com">http://davekeyesphotography.com</a>
Mike Schumacher	<a href="http://morningstarimages.com">http://morningstarimages.com</a>
Truman Holtzclaw	<a href="http://www.abiphotos.com/">http://www.abiphotos.com/</a>
Ardath Winterowd	<a href="https://www.flickr.com/photos/ardathsartisticenterprises/">https://www.flickr.com/photos/ardathsartisticenterprises/</a>
Ron Parker	<a href="http://www.photographybyronparker.com/">http://www.photographybyronparker.com/</a>
Rod Bonser	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/rods-photo-sets">http://tinyurl.com/rods-photo-sets</a>
Sue Barthelow	<a href="http://www.suebarthelow.com/">http://www.suebarthelow.com/</a>
Tony & Kristi Middleton	<a href="http://tony-and-kristi-middleton.artistwebsites.com/">http://tony-and-kristi-middleton.artistwebsites.com/</a>
Barry Walton	<a href="http://www.barrywaltonphoto.com/">http://www.barrywaltonphoto.com/</a>
Carol Smith	<a href="http://infocusdaily.com/">http://infocusdaily.com/</a>
Steve Aldridge	<a href="http://www.stevealdridgephoto.com/">http://www.stevealdridgephoto.com/</a>
David Howland Potter Photography	<a href="http://www.davidhowlandpotter.com/">http://www.davidhowlandpotter.com/</a>
Marc Kessman	<a href="http://www.mellowtoxin.com">http://www.mellowtoxin.com</a>
Jim & Shirley's Blog	<a href="http://www.padhorski.blogspot.com/">http://www.padhorski.blogspot.com/</a>
Bruce Gregory	<a href="https://www.flickr.com/photos/17178767@N05/with/13636856793">https://www.flickr.com/photos/17178767@N05/with/13636856793</a>
Dennis Morgan	<a href="http://www.morgansphotos.net">http://www.morgansphotos.net</a>
Jack Bachelder	<a href="http://www.deathvalleyjacksphotography.com/">http://www.deathvalleyjacksphotography.com/</a>
Don Goldman	<a href="http://astrodonimaging.com/gallery">astrodonimaging.com/gallery</a>
Tony Hallas	<a href="http://astrophoto.com">astrophoto.com</a>



## From Your Editor.



When the next PCC Newsletter comes out how about if all the members send me their favorite places to shoot so I can include them in upcoming PCC Newsletters.

I am always looking for a new place to shoot.

Remember this is your Newsletter and without your contributions we wouldn't have a newsletter.



When you submit an article for the PCC Newsletter please try to keep it at 150 words in length and if you have photos that accompany your article please try and send no more than three photos. If your article warrants more than three photos to maintain the impact I can make exceptions on a case-by-case basis. Please put "PCC Newsletter" in the subject field when you make your submissions.

Jim Cormier  
Your PCC Newsletter Editor



## PCC Board Members



<b>President</b>	Mike Schumacher
<b>Vice Pres.</b>	Dick Bosworth
<b>Secretary</b>	Liz Staats
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mary Nunes
<b>Member at Large</b>	Judy Hooper

### Committees

**Web Master** Dennis Morgan

**Publicity** Sue Barthelow

**Education Committee** Mike Schumacher

**Equipment** Mike Schumacher  
Richard Myren

### Judge Selection

Bruce Gregory

Mike Schumacher

### Image Critique Data

Judy Hooper, Liz Staats

### Placer Color Newsletter Editor

Jim Cormier

### Annual Awards

Debbie Cabrera

### Refreshment Coordinator

Judy Hooper, Jim Gamble

### Greeters & Badges

Jim Bennett

Visit our website

[www.placercameraclub.org](http://www.placercameraclub.org)

Placer **Color** Newsletter Editor

Jim Cormier

916-409-5237

[jim@squareonegraphics.com](mailto:jim@squareonegraphics.com)

We have a great selection of  
Tutorials on our website...

### Huey Monitor Calibration

The club has a Huey Monitor Calibration System  
for use by the members.

### TO CHECK IT OUT

Contact Judy Hooper • [530-888-8308](tel:530-888-8308)

### Members who contributed articles and photographs for this months

PCC newsletter.

Mike Schumacher

Barry & Crispin Walton

Carol Smith

Jeanne Snyder

Dennis Morgan

Judy Hooper

Jim White

Bruce Gregory

Jim Cormier

