

THE NEWSLETTER THAT FOCUSES ON PHOTOGRAPHERS IN THE FOOTHILLS

PLACER COLOR



Volume 75 September 2017 PO Box 4990, Auburn, CA. 95603 est.1952

PLACER COLOR

The President's Corner

The meeting this month is Sept 19th, 6:30 pm at the Auburn library.

This month we will have Projected Image Critiques with Byron Hindman. Send your 3 images to placercameraclub@gmail.com before Sept 19th. This year the Theme category for Image Critiques has been renamed 'Assigned Subject' to avoid confusion with Theme Night. There is no Assigned Subject for Sept. The Assigned subject for October will be 'Orange'. Entries in the Assigned Subject category will be eligible for the year end competition so name your entries with the usual naming convention for other categories using 'AS' as the category header in the title.

We have been invited to hang our photos in the Beecher Room of the Auburn library. They will be on display November and December. Hang date is Oct 31st. Your photo should be no wider than 20 inches and ready to hang with a wire on the back. I will provide more information as we get closer to the date. We have been asked by the library to put the chairs against the wall when we are done with the meeting. If you can help us do this it would be appreciated. Club dues are due this month. \$25 for single membership and \$40 for couples. See our treasurer Mary Nunes at the meeting.

Our webmaster Dennis Morgan has done quite a bit of upgrading to our website and he has more work planned. Check it out at <http://placercameraclub.org/>. Our refreshment committee is Ardath Winterowd. If you would volunteer to help Ardath setup at the meeting it would be greatly appreciated. We will need club members to bring goodies for our meetings. There is a sign up sheet for this purpose. See one of the committee members.

The club has a Facebook group page:

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

Mike Schumacher
President Placer Camera Club



Featured This Month

- **President's Corner**
- **Mezger Zinnia Farm**
- **Total Eclipse Of The Sun**
- **PSA Gold Rush**
- **Placer Camera Club Yearly Picnic**
- **Leonard James Art Exhibit**
- **Leonard James Photo in KVIE Art Auction**
- **Photographing Humming Birds**
- **Tokina Lens For Sale**
- **PROSHOW 9 Producer & Gold Released**

Come To The Next PCC Meeting



The Placer Camera Club meets the third Tuesday of each month except August.

The meetings are held in the Beecher Room of the Placer County Library. 350 Nevada Street, Auburn, Ca.

Visitors are always welcome.

The meeting starts at 6:30 PM.

**The Next PCC Meeting
will be on Tuesday September 19th.**

“SEE YOU THERE”



Mezger Zinnia Farm

By Bruce Gregory

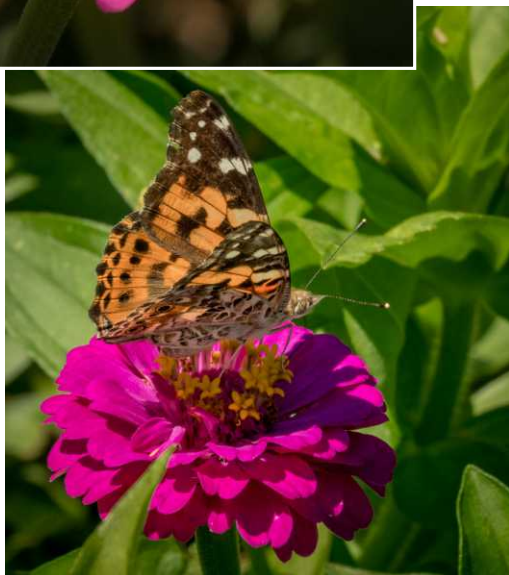
In July Jeanne Snyder presented a member slide show on the Mezger Zinnia Farm. A place I hadn't heard of before her show. Many thanks to Jeanne for introducing us to this marvelous place.

Intriguing concept, free flowers, free photos, free admission... As a way to give back to the community Mark Mezger plants & cares for 2 acres of Zinnias which bloom from June to September. They are open to the public 24-7. You're welcome to pick flowers for non-commercial use as long as you also pick a bouquet for someone who can't come out & pick their own. There's a program that regularly delivers flowers to convalescent hospitals in the area. Of course I had to check out the place.

The flowers are at 12410 County Road 99W, Woodland, CA. It's right off I5 north of Woodland, almost to Zamora. Parking at the north end of the field. Take exit 542 off I5 turn right then almost immediately turn left on Co. Rd. 99W It's a few miles north on the left.

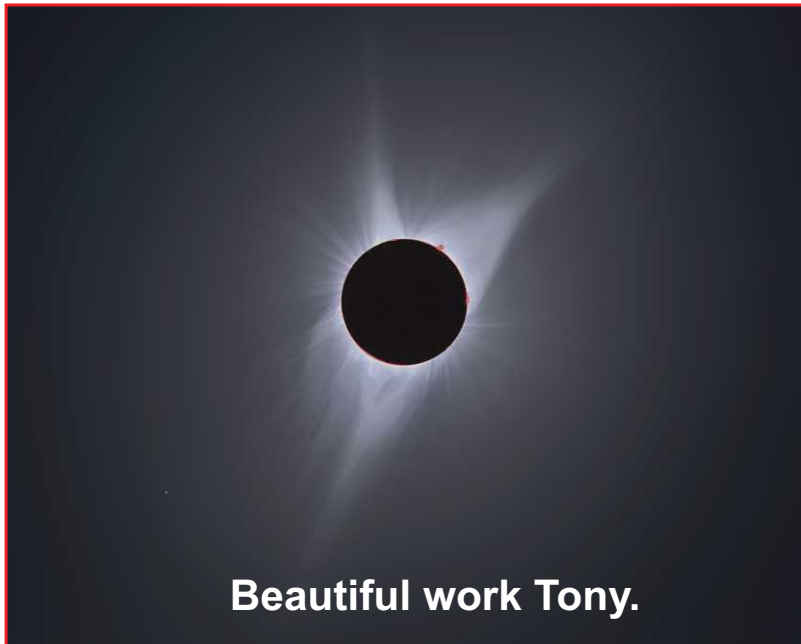
Lots of people come & go, from kids in day care groups, senior citizens, and of course photographers. You're free to wander the rows & photo, there are flowers in all stages of bloom & tons of insects flitting about. Some of my better results were with a 24-240 mm tele-zoom with a 10 mm extension tube for closer focus capability. If you need infinity focus the tube comes off easily.

[Farmers pay it forward with FREE Flowers](#)



Total Eclipse Of The Sun

By Tony Hallas



Beautiful work Tony.



PSA Gold Rush

By Mike Schumacher

PSA Gold Rush, you've probably heard of it, but what exactly it is?

PSA is the Photographic Society of America. It has chapters all over the world and Gold Rush is the local chapter. PSA Gold Rush meets 4 times a year, usually in Sacramento.

The meetings are on Sunday, from 9 am to 3 pm. They have guest speakers and varied programs. At the last meeting Elizabeth Carmel was the speaker. In the past Gold Rush has had many very interesting speakers on various photography topics. I can say that at each Gold Rush meeting I take away a grain of inspiration or knowledge. And I am introduced to new methods and ways of thinking about photography, at every meeting.

PSA membership offers tutorials, online training, study groups and much more. Check out the PSA website for more information. <https://psa-photo.org/> If you want to see what PSA Gold Rush is all about you can attend a meeting as a guest. A small fee of \$5 is charged. If you want to take your photography to the next level, PSA Gold Rush is a good choice.

I will be forwarding information about PSA Gold Rush meetings to our club. I will let you know when the next meeting and agenda is.
Mike



Placer Camera Club Yearly Picnic

By Jim Cormier



Thanks to all of you that came to the picnic on Sat. 26. A special thanks to Crispen and Barry Walton and Karen Wyatt, they came extra early, brought a lot of things and helped set up everything.

For all who came and enjoyed the good eats and the good company, I hope you had a good time. I hope to do it again next year. Till then keep shooting, and enjoy yourself. Looking forward to seeing your images at the meeting.

To all of you who couldn't make it, we missed you.

JUDY HOOPER



HAPPY BIRTHDAY JUDY



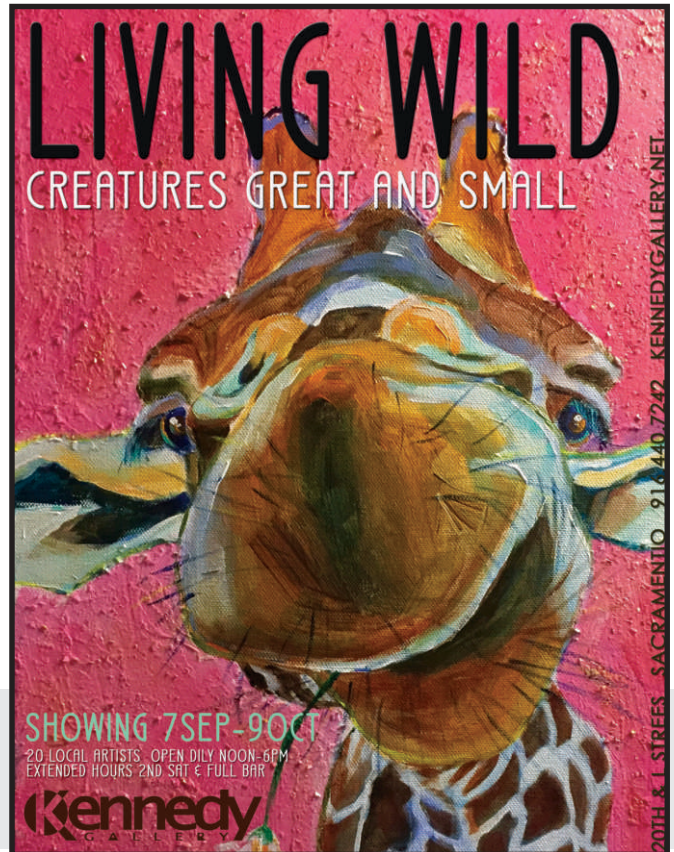
PLACER COLOR

KENNEDY GALLERY EXHIBIT

By LEONARD JAMES



I have an exhibit at the Kennedy Gallery on the corner of 20th and L Streets in Sacramento from Sept 7th thru October 9th.



KVIE ART AUCTION

By LEONARD JAMES



Also, one of my images is currently scheduled to be auctioned on public television on October 8, 2017 at 5:30 PM at the KVIE juried Art Auction in Sacramento. Visit this [LINK](#) to see the artwork being offered on the auction.



SEE LEONARD'S WEB SITE HERE



ART
Auction



LIVE: On-Air & Online
OCTOBER 6-8, 2017

kvie.org/artauction

PHOTOGRAPHING HUMMING BIRDS

By CAROL SMITH

Photographing hummingbirds is one of the most challenging and frustrating photographic endeavors to undertake. Hummers are so fast that if you can manage a click before they dart away, you're ahead of the game but that doesn't mean you'll get an in focus shot. The great thing about hummers, though, is that they hover. And, sometimes they will hover long enough to give you a chance to capture some marvelous images.



You don't have to travel all the way to Costa Rica where there are fifty known species of hummingbird or even to Madera Canyon, AZ where fifteen of the eighteen known North American species can be seen. There are six species seen in Northern California and while most migrate to warmer climes in the winter, the Anna's Hummers that live in and around the Sacramento Valley often stay year-round. You can keep them in your yard by hanging feeders (sugar to water ratio of 1:4 - no food coloring) and offering a moving water feature. They'll fly right into a bubbling fountain and if the water's not too deep, they'll settle down for a long bath. It's a wonderful sight to witness. Various sages and other flowering plants will attract hummingbirds and make a great backdrop for a photograph.

When I photograph hummingbirds, my goal is to capture them in flight without distractions like feeders or busy backgrounds. It is not easy. I photograph hummingbirds in my backyard as often as I can. I use my 600mm lens as well as my 300mm lens. With the 300mm lens, I often hand hold. But, during my trip to Madera Canyon, AZ with Moose Peterson in late June, I discovered the most effective way to photograph hummingbirds that I've tried to date. Here is the technique I learned and am practicing to perfect in my own backyard.

You will need a good tripod with a sturdy head. I use a Really Right Stuff BH55 ball head. You will also need two TTL flashes, two flash arms, a plate to hold the flashes on either side of the camera, and two small Rogue Flashbenders. Fasten the Flashbenders together in the middle so that they form a continuous reflector in a U shape over the camera to better direct the light. The Nikon SB 5000 speed lights that work with both my Nikon D5 and D500 cameras use wireless technology. If you don't have flashes that use wireless signals, you can connect them by wires so that they will fire when you depress the shutter release.

PLACER COLOR

PHOTOGRAPHING HUMMINGBIRDS

By Carol Smith Cont.

You'll need to adjust the flash output so that the light from the flash illuminates the hummingbird's colorful gorget but doesn't overwhelm the scene. The lens I use is a medium telephoto lens, 300mm but up to 400mm works well. I also usually add a 1.4x teleconverter. I discovered that the lightweight, exquisite Nikon D500 is perfect for this kind of photography. It's a crop sensor camera so my 300mm lens with the 1.4x teleconverter means that my effective focal length is 620mm.

Set the shutter to single release, not burst mode. This will give the flash a chance to recover between shots, but that means you will get fewer shots. With the lens wide open and the ISO set as low as light levels will permit (for me, the lower the better and I lower the ISO as the light changes) in Aperture Priority, I try for a shutter speed of 1/250 and adjust exposure compensation accordingly. For me, a little wing blur tells a better story of the hummingbird than wings frozen in flight. But that is a personal preference. You'll need to have a much higher shutter speed to get in focus, tack sharp wings.

Set up your rig fairly close to the feeder, maybe 5 to 6 feet away. Hummers are tolerant of people and will return to the feeder if you remain still and silent, although you might get buzzed if you're too close. Use the Auto Area AF setting so that the camera will recognize the closest object to the camera and focus on it. Make sure that the background is pleasing, with no distractions. Having the telephoto lens wide open and ensuring some space between the subject and the background, creates a smooth uncluttered backdrop. Depress the shutter release halfway continuously while keeping focus on a tiny part of the feeder in the lower corner of the frame. If there are lots of hummingbirds visiting the feeding area, you'll need to look through the viewfinder continually in anticipation of a bird coming into view. Holding down the shutter release continuously while focused on the edge of the feeder drained my D500 battery quickly so be aware of that and keep a spare handy. However, because the advanced focusing system will quickly grab onto the bird as it flies into the frame, your chances of achieving the goal of hummingbirds in flight with no distractions is pretty good...but by no means assured. It takes practice, practice, practice.



FOR SALE

By MIKE SCHUMACHER

Tokina

For Sale: Tokina at-x pro 100mm f/2.8 macro lens for Canon. It is a very sharp lens and is in good condition. \$225. Contact Mike Schumacher @ 530-367-4505 or radioman@sebastiancorp.net

PHOTOGRAPHING HUMMINGBIRDS

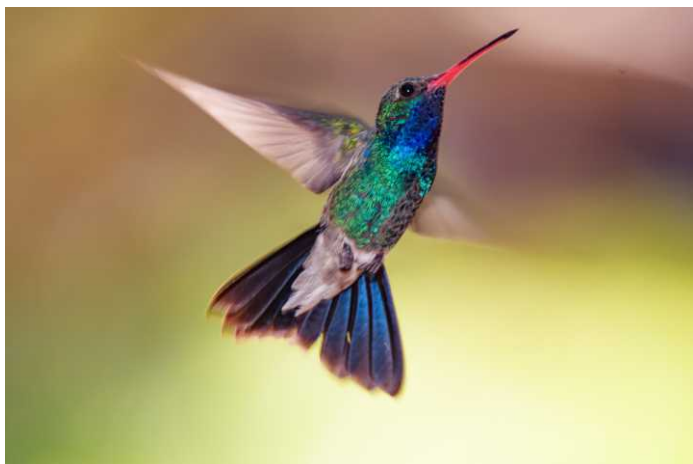
By Carol Smith Cont.



Camera with Flash Setup.



Broad-billed Hummingbird, male
Madera Canyon, AZ



Broad-billed Hummingbird, male
Madera Canyon, AZ



Broad-billed Hummingbird, male
Madera Canyon, AZ



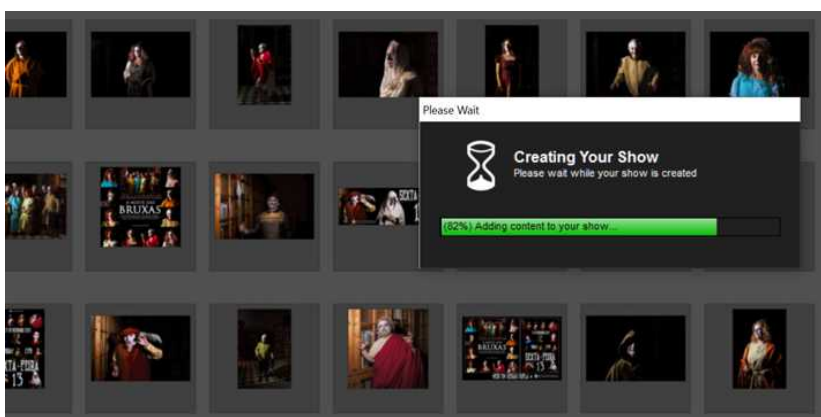
Anna's Hummingbird, male
Madera Canyon, AZ



Black Chinned Hummingbird, male
Madera Canyon, AZ

PROSHOW VERSION 9

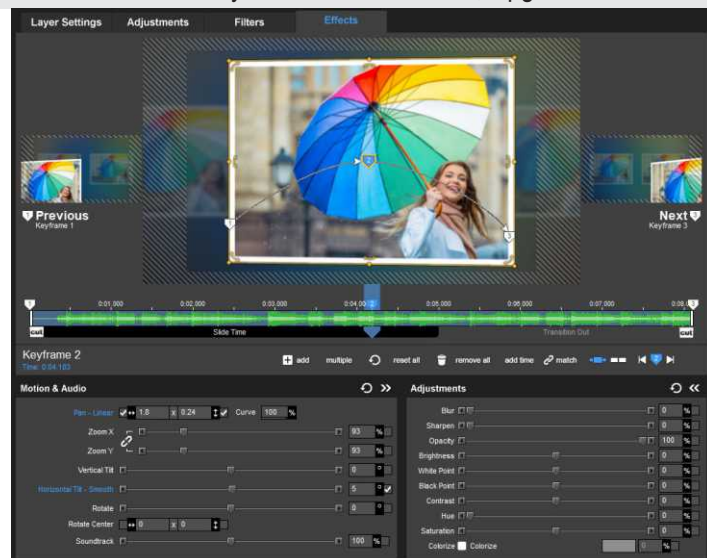
By Jim Cormier



PROFESSIONAL SLIDESHOWS MADE EASY
SOFTWARE FOR WINDOWS PCs

Pro Show Producer & Pro Show Gold

Turn your photos, videos and music into totally custom, professional video slideshows for clients, friends and family. With ProShow Producer there are no limits...use unlimited photos, videos and effects to turn your creative ideas into reality. Full Version **\$249.95**, Upgrade **\$89.95**.



I LOVE SHOOTING BIRDS

By Jim White

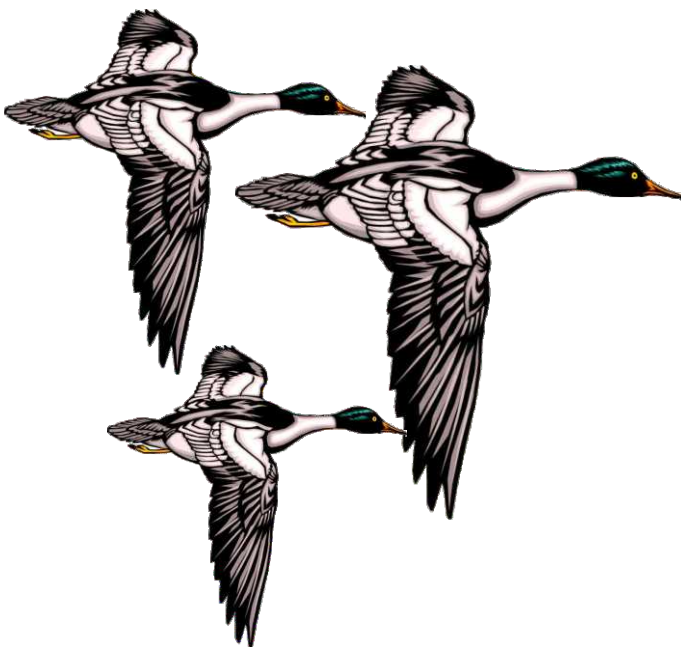
When I was 10 years old I lived in Hawaii and I loved shooting birds. That is I did until my mother caught the neighbor kid and I cooking a pile of them in a stew pot over a campfire in his backyard.

I read an article in the Honolulu Star Bulletin that the Eastman Kodak Co. was opening huge new photographic building on next Saturday and that any child that turned in their BB gun would get a new camera and two rolls of film, with free processing. My mother had let me buy the BB gun because I wanted to hunt mongoose in the woods around our house, since there was a \$.50 bounty on each one turned in. I could not find any mongoose but there sure were lots of birds to shoot. Mom thought trading for the camera was the way to go.

I used my new Kodak Bullet camera for years when I became a member of Boy Scout troop 10 in Kaimuki, where I lived. You see our Scout Master was the professor of photography at the University of Hawaii. He built us a complete darkroom with an enlarger, film tanks and all the modern photo equipment you could want.

Ww2 started and I ended up in the U.S. Navy stationed on a seaplane tender in the Philippines. My family had moved to California and on my way home from the Philippines my ship stopped at Pearl for a few days and I had a chance to walk down the street in Kaimuki looking in all the store windows, when I saw in one of the bigger store windows, a photo display of Boy Scout Troop 10 which featured a picture of mine of one of our camp-outs at Hanamo Bay. The guy in the store was amazed to meet me and up-date me all about troop 10. I guess that hooked me on photography since I was so proud of my photo in the window of that store, after all those years.

I still shoot birds, with my Nikon of course, and I know I made my mama proud.



PLACER COLOR

From Your Newsletter Editor



All PCC members if you haven't contributed to the **PCC Newsletter** now is a good time to do it. Let's hear from those of you who have yet to contribute to your newsletter. I need material submitted to me in order to produce a quality newsletter that all the members can be proud of.

I would like your feedback on the new PCC Newsletter layout. I thought it was time for a change. Drop me an [e-mail](#).



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

Our Members Websites

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

PLACER COLOR

PCC Board Members



President	Mike Schumacher
Vice Pres.	Dick Bosworth
Secretary	Liz Staats
Treasurer	Mary Nunes
Member at Large	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 (Proof Reader Vesta Cormier)

Annual Awards

Debbie Cabrera

Refreshment Coordinator

Ardath Winterowd

Greeters & Badges

Jim Bennett

Visit our website

www.placercameraclub.org

Placer Color Newsletter Editor

Jim Cormier

916-409-5237

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

**Members who contributed articles
and photographs for this months
PCC newsletter.**

Mike Schumacher

Bruce Gregory

Tony Hallas

Leonard James

Carol Smith

Judy Hooper

Jim Cormier

Jim White

