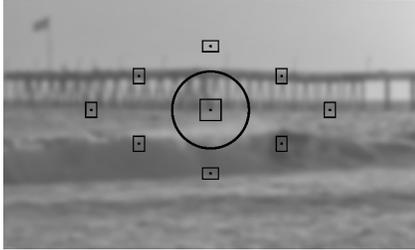


Through the Viewfinder



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From the Prez's Pad

Sal Santangelo

October 2016

I was going to say welcome back to all of you but just realized that it has been me who has been away! In my absence I would like to thank Bernie Goldstein and John Ferritto, Ken MacGregor and JP Watson for holding the fort. I was informed that the print meeting went well. Judging/critique by Van Webster and Tom Gamache was described as tough but precise and informative.

Those who were able to make the workshop meeting at Image Source, I think, were surprised by the vast array of services and the accounts to whom they provide print services. It was heartening to learn they provide image print assistance and the same quality of service to us even though we only may be ordering a print or two. Renee and Theresa provided an entertaining as well as informative program. I hope some of you are able to patronize Image Source for your printing needs. It has been where I have had most of my images printed.



Ed Ruckle



Prez Pad (cont'd)

I was sorry to see that we conflicted Wednesday evenings with our fellow members who are taking Greg Cooper's class at Ventura College. There has been a nice fallout from this, however. For the first time, Ventura College is giving the club support and exposure thanks to Greg. He is an advocate for people interested in photography to join photography clubs. He joined the Ojai club when he was 12 years old. He has also given an assignment to his students that they must attend a local camera club meeting (not just us), submit an image if they are allowed, and make networking connections with members and officers. We are allowing the students who attend our November meeting to submit one image for critique! Should be fun to see their creativity and even help improve their photography skills. That might be all wrong. They may actually have something to show us and that would be an even better benefit in this new found relationship!

As you may remember, we and the Ventura Breeze are co-sponsoring a photo contest. So far there has been less than a stellar response of entries. If you have the opportunity, I urge you to talk up the contest and encourage submissions from your non-member photography friends and acquaintances.

A reminder that our October meeting assigned topic is "Black & White". We will be welcoming a new judge/teacher, Dan Nelson, literally a teacher. Dan teaches in the Ventura high school district and also moderates/teaches photography there. I met Dan at our Jaimie Tarris – Theo Allofs event. He then joined our club. We have sort of a unique state of affairs in which our regularly scheduled judge is one of our members. I am looking forward to some fresh insights and perspectives as I hope you are.

See you Wednesday night October 12th at 7:30 PM and also note our compositional workshop with Nancy Lehrer on Wednesday, October 26th, 2016.

Sal



Musings with Photobakobob

The Old is New Again – The Joy of Going Back to the Basics

Many of us photographers are gearhounds. We love new stuff, especially if it's a mechanical and optical thing of beauty. Well, I acquired some of that stuff recently, and it was new to me: a Leica M3, made in 1955, with f/2 50mm Summicron and f/3.5 35mm Summaron lenses (Shown on the right.) The M3 is considered by many as the epitome of the rangefinder design. Jason Schneider, one of the foremost camera collecting experts, rated it as his "all-time favorite user-collectible" in a December 2015 *Shutterbug* article and placed it among the top 20 cameras of all time in July, 2008.



What is it about this camera that sets it off from the thousands of others that have been made and sold throughout the years? Todd Gustafson in his book, *Camera*, cites improvements over previous Leicas – bayonet rather than screw mount lens for faster lens changing, easier shutter speed changes (single dial), parallax compensating viewfinder, a single lever which advanced film and cocked the shutter (two strokes for the earlier M3 versions), and a back door which made film loading easier (but it is still awkward compared to later cameras). In addition, the M3 adopted a longer rangefinder base and very bright viewfinder, along with auto-indexing framelines for 50mm, 90mm, and 135mm lenses.

But I think it was the overall package, including its operation and physical makeup that made it so successful. It was, as Steve Jobs might have said, a cool design. It looks great, feels good in the hands, and works smoothly and well. It was a pleasure to use. And it still is because a lot of people continue to use it in spite of its shortcomings. Yes, it does have some – a few of which include: (1) The idea of high eyepoint/long eye relief viewfinders apparently had not occurred to Leitz (or many other camera manufacturers) back then, so if you wear glasses, you can't see the whole frame at once through the viewfinder. You have to look around. Some, like me, find that annoying. (2) Film is easier to load than previous models, but, as noted above, still a pain. (3) There is no frameline for a 35mm lens. Instead, you have to use either an auxiliary viewfinder (earlier models) or "goggles" over the regular viewfinder when using a 35mm lens. Another pain. (4) No film rewind crank. That's not a big deal, but it became a standard convenience later.

But there is a good side. It doesn't need batteries.

Although this camera is 61 years old, I didn't acquire it solely as an artifact. I wanted to use it, to relive those days when we made the decisions for the camera, not, as it sometimes seems today, the other way round, as well as to experience using one of the all-time classics of photographic technology.

I started by digging out one of my old exposure meters that still worked, loaded the camera with color negative film (ASA - oops, ISO - 400), and with a friend set out on a photographic field trip.



Musings with Photobakobob



It took a while for me to remember that I had to meter each exposure, set the aperture and shutter speed, compose, and then use that great Leica rangefinder to focus. My digital cameras do this a lot faster, but the process, by slowing you down, allows – even compels – you to think more about the image you are making. Film is expensive, too, so you do a lot less experimenting. I like my results, some of which are shown here, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of using that great camera. Further, I felt that a frayed connection to the process of photography was re-established, one that had slipped away a bit as our equipment

has become increasingly automated and powerful. I like that power, so I won't be selling my digital gear and canceling my Creative Cloud subscription, but I'll be continuing to use film – and the Leica - on occasion, too.

You might want to try film again, and you won't even need a Leica. It's the latest new old thing.

Photobakobob



Club Merit Awards

Results of September 2016 Meeting

Judges: [Tom Gamache](#) and [Van Webster](#)

Prints Only: (7)

“Thats Bull” by John Ferritto

“The Bird” by John Ferritto

“Sands of Time” by Albert Huen

“Hairy Polka Dots” by Mat Leedholm

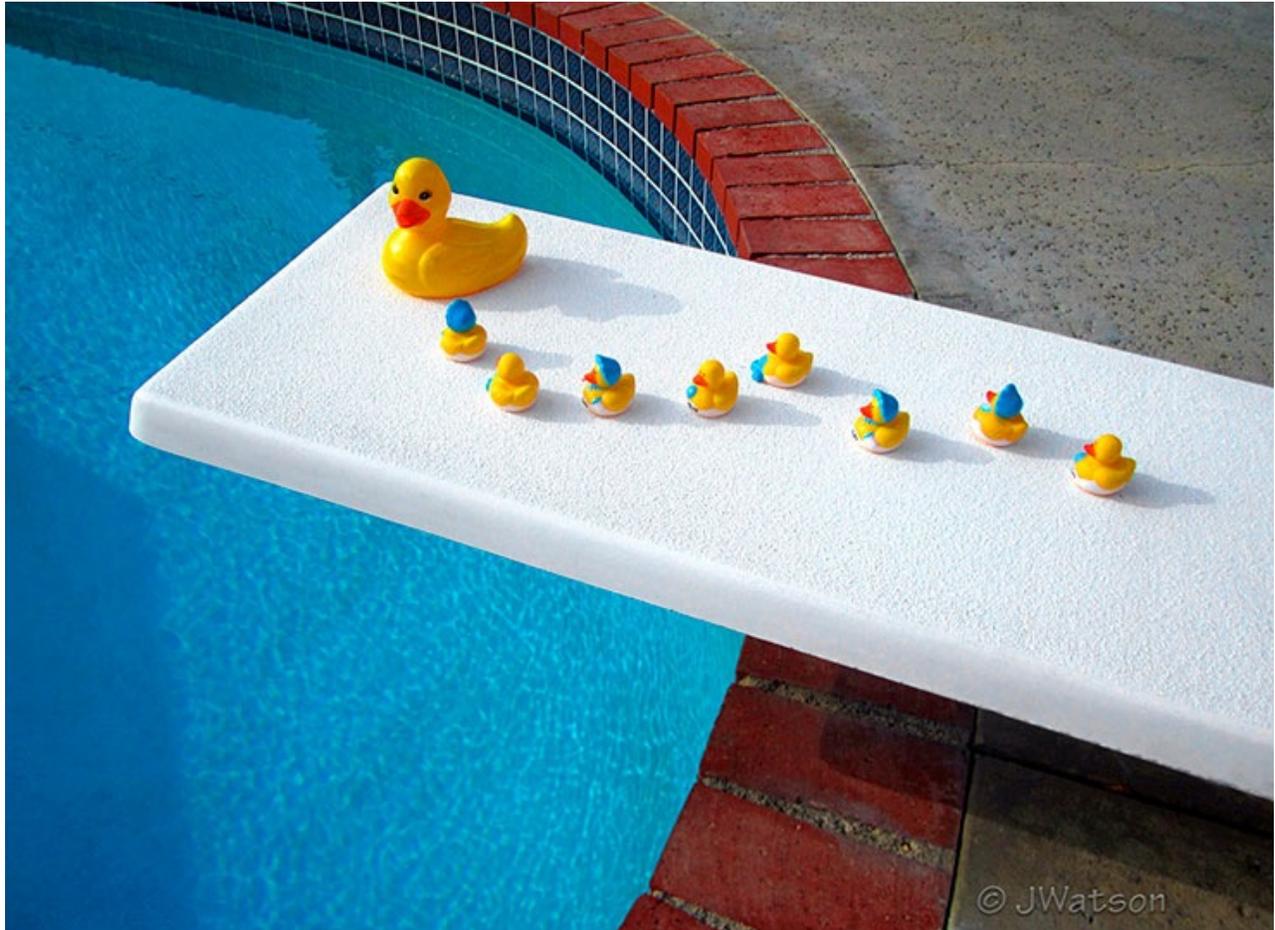
“Bridging the Creek” by Roy Patience

“White Sand” by Bruce Schoppe

“Diving Lessons” by JP Watson



Club Merit Awards



“Diving Lessons” by JP Watson



Club Announcements

Club Meeting:

Wednesday, October 12th, at 7 pm, Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd, Ventura CA 93003.

Please come to the *next* meeting of the **Ventura County Camera Club** on the second Wednesday of the month. Digital entries must be submitted by 6pm on Monday October 10th.

Our Scheduled Professional Judge for 12 October is: [Dan Nelson](#)

<http://www.dan-nelson.com/resume>

Club Nominating Committee:

The Ventura County Camera Club is fortunate to have a number of members who serve us as club officers or task managers. At the last leadership meeting, Albert Huen, Ron Brubaker, and John Ferritto were selected as a nominating committee officers for the year 2017. The purpose of the nominating committee is to identify members who would like to serve as an officer or assist in any of the other supporting positions. We must have a slate of 2017 officers by October 12th of this year so we can vote at the November meeting. The positions requiring a vote each year are: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Anyone interested in being considered for one of these offices, or to volunteer in some other capacity, email any one of the nominating committee members shown below. Nominations will be closed on 12 October 2016.

Albert Huen at alberthuen@yahoo.com
Ron Brubaker at bruz102@gmail.com
John Ferritto at ferritto@roadrunner.com

We owe a debt of appreciation to our current officers and hope that they continue to assist the club.



Club Announcements (cont'd)

Club Photo Contest:

The Club is sponsoring a photo contest open to the public (club members are not eligible). Co-sponsoring this and also getting the word out is the Ventura Breeze. First, second, and third place prizes will be offered with all three winners receiving a year free membership in VCCC, and 11x14 prints supplied courtesy of Image Source of Ventura. Additionally, the winning images will be printed in the Ventura Breeze. Entry submission dates will be Sept 15th thru Oct 30th. It is already listed on our website. This is only for amateurs and no VCCC members are eligible, although we expect other club's members would probably submit entries...only one image per entrant. The club will perform the judging and determine the results.

Rules:

- Only one image per entrant
- Image to be in jpeg format less than 1.5 MB file size (preferably 1920 pixels wide x 1080 pixels high)
- Image File name should contain at minimum your **Lastname, Firstname**
- Email to: **VCCC2020@gmail.com**; email to contain attached image file and the following: full name, address, email address, phone number and image information including title and location
- Entry period September 15 through October 30, 2016; images submitted after the closing date will be excluded

Judging Criteria:

- Artistic Merit
- Originality
- Impact
- Composition
- Technical Excellence



General Announcements

Ojai Photo Club:

The Ojai Photography Club will host a presentation by photographer and master teacher **Christopher Broughton** on October 18, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in Help of Ojai's Kent Hall, 111 West Santa Ana Street, Ojai, CA.

Broughton's theme, "Practicing Seeing," is based on his experiences in Paris over the past five summers teaching a ten-week study abroad program in photography to Brooks Institute students. Inspired by great Parisian photographers such as Henri Cartier-Bresson and Robert Doisneau, he was quickly drawn to the allure of street scenes in the City of Light.

Street photography offers unique opportunities for honing your craft, Broughton discovered. He calls it "a master's course in anticipation, prediction, speed and your skill to capture the moment," and elaborates:



"Shooting on the street is possible anywhere. You don't have to go on a trip because you are already there. It keeps you looking. It allows you to practice seeing anytime."

After completing his BA and MS in photography at Brooks Institute, Broughton joined the faculty at Brooks and taught there for twenty years until the recent closure of the school. Visit his website at: <http://www.christopherbroughton.com>





Club Announcements (cont'd)

Annual Membership Renewal:

Only members in good standing may submit images for judging. If necessary, please talk to **Joyce Schoppe**, our Membership Chairperson, or send an email to Joyce at:

membership@venturacountycameraclub.com

It is requested that you send your annual dues (Regular \$60, Student \$30) to:

Joyce Schoppe
4875 Mascagni St.
Ventura, CA 93003

Annual dues for new members will be prorated on a quarterly basis if joining after the first quarter. Make your check out to: "[Ventura County Camera Club, Inc.](#)" We are an incorporated nonprofit.

Instructions for Digital Projection Entries:

Please **ensure** your files are correctly labelled in accordance with the required format:

Required: **LastnameFirstname_IMAGE TITLE_month-year_category.jpg**

example... **SmithJohn_ENTER AT OWN RISK_03-16_Assigned.jpg**

Images must be emailed to: digitalentries@venturacountycameraclub.com no later than 6:00 pm by the Monday prior to the Club meeting. All images submitted for projection must be in jpg format with pixel dimensions **not to exceed: 1920 width, and not to exceed 1080 height, total (1920w x 1080h).**

JP's Reasons to Submit Images:

1. We pay membership dues so we can learn from having our photography critiqued. Take advantage of it!
2. It doesn't cost anything to members to submit digital images.
3. If a digital image does not earn a merit, nobody knows who it belongs to, so it's not embarrassing.
4. We hope to view a broader variety of artistry to be critiqued.
5. Images don't have to be of the **assigned topic**. You have the choice to submit a total of 3 images in the **"Open"** category, if you want.

Club Announcements (cont'd)

2016 Assigned Topics List:

January:	Textures
February:	Eyes
March:	Macro (of anything)
April:	Bridges
May:	<i>No Assignment - Print Only Competition</i>
June:	Landscapes
July:	Night Lights
August:	Shadows
September:	<i>No Assignment - Print Only Competition</i>
October:	Black and White
November:	Architecture
December:	<i>No Assignment - No Meeting - Year End Comp</i>

2016 Refreshment Schedule:

January:	Sal Santangelo
February:	Ron & Sally Brubaker
March:	Bernie Goldstein
April:	Joyce Schoppe
May:	Ed Nailor
June:	Wally Olsen
July:	Albert Huen
August:	Don Hoffman & Sharon Kolsch
September:	Art Leseberg
October:	Ken MacGregor
November:	Ed Pinsky



2016 Suggested Photo Opportunities

Individuals can use this information as suggested ideas/destinations for doing their own photography. There are people in the club that have been to most of these destinations in the past few years, and can advise you on what you should expect to see if you go there...

Within 45 miles:

Loons Beach (Summerland)
El Matador Beach (Malibu)
Ventura Mission
Local Ventura Beach - Sunset

Local Ventura Surfers (waterfront promenade)
Local Downtown Ventura Architecture
Leo Carrillo State Beach Malibu
[Nite Shooting Downtown Ventura Main Street area and Waterfront ***](#)
Ventura City Hall
Butterfly Grove - Santa Barbara (Nov-Feb)
Santa Barbara Zoo
Getty Museum/Center
Anacapa Island (Island Packers Ventura Marina)
Topanga Park
Santa Barbara Mission
Santa Barbara Botanical Garden

*** [High Interest](#)

Less than 100 miles:

Hollywood at Night
Griffith Observatory at Sunset
Morrow Bay
Montana de Oro State Park

More than 100 miles:

Pt Lobos State Beach (Monterey/Carmel)
Mono Lake
Huntington Beach
Yosemite National Park
Kings Canyon
Sequoia Park
Big Sur!



Professional Support

Below are some of the local professional photographers that have been gracious in providing their free time as judges to attend and critique member's images at our recent Club meetings. Thank you all for supporting our Club!

Sherron Sheppard:

<http://www.sherronsheppard.com> <http://www.sheppardphotography.com>

Dan Holmes Photography Workshops, Tours, and Photo Adventures:

<http://www.danholmesphoto.com/Danholmesphoto.com/Workshops.html>

Robert Fields Fine Art Travel Photography

<http://www.robertfields.com>

Mark Jansen (& Holly Higbee-Jansen) Photography and Expedition Workshops:

<http://www.jansenphotoexpeditions.com/Pages/default.aspx>

Sam and Patricia Gardner - Medici Portraiture Studio

<http://www.mediciporraiture.com/about-medici-portraiture/meet-the-artists-sam-patricia-gardner-fine-art-photographer>

Gary Moss Photography - (Gary is Photographer and Photo Editor of 805 Living Magazine)

<http://www.garymossphotography.com>

Chris Zsarnay - Z Studios

<http://www.zstudios.com>

Greg Cooper - Ventura College (ex-Brooks Institute)

email: gcooper@brooks.edu

Bill Hendricks - Ventura College

<http://www.hendricks-studios.com>

Matt Haines

<http://matthainesphotography.com>

Ines Roberts

<https://sites.google.com/site/ccccangle/bios/ines-roberts>

Ann Hutton

<http://www.annehuttonphotography.com/>



For Sale:

Large Intuos 3 "Tablet",
excellent condition. \$100

Contact Susannah Kramer
805/445-1090 or noonumk@gmail.com



2016 Club Officials

President:
Sal Santangelo

Vice President:
Ken MacGregor

Treasurer:
Susannah Kramer

Secretary:
Bruce Schoppe

Judge Coordinator:
Bernie Goldstein

Memberships:
Joyce Schoppe

Website:
Sal Santangelo

Newsletter:
Ken MacGregor

**Digital Image Entries and
Projection:**
JP Watson/Susannah Kramer/
Albert Huen

Publicity:
John Ferritto

Photo Opportunities:
Ron Brubaker