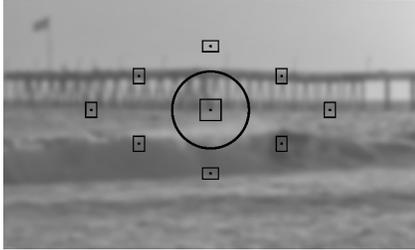


Through the Viewfinder



IN THIS ISSUE:

Prez's Pad: This Page!

Musings with Photobakobob: Page 2

VCCC (Club) Awards: Page 5

Other Announcements: Page 10

VCCC (Club) Announcements: Page 11

Professional Support Links: Page 16

Club Officials: Page 17

From the Prez's Pad

Sal Santangelo

May 2017

Sal is out of town and was unable to provide an article. Hopefully we will hear from him next month.

Recap:

Join us on [Wednesday May 10th at 6:30 pm](#) for [Albert Huen's](#) presentation on Printing. The critique and judging meeting will start after that at 7 pm.

Our guest professional this month is [Gary Moss](#), Photo Editor of 805 Living Magazine, he will return to critique and judge the assignment he gave us back in March - [Environmental Portraiture](#). ([Alternative - Self Portrait](#)). For details, see Page 11. This should be a very interesting and informative meeting.

[This month we will only accept, display, and judge Gary's Assigned Portrait category digital images and prints](#), hold any Open category prints you have until the following Print Only meeting in June, and Open category digital images and prints may be submitted in July.

Once again, congratulations to Club Member [Chris Borel](#), one of his images was selected by National Geographic Senior Photo Editor Kathy Moran for the article "Saving Our Oceans". This is the second time NATGEO has selected one of Chris' images for online publication. His newest image is the third one shown in the below link, it was chosen from over 40,000 images submitted:

http://yourshot.nationalgeographic.com/stories/saving-our-oceans/?utm_source=NatGeocom&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=SelectedStoryNotification&utm_campaign=Membership

- Ken



Musings with Photobakobob

“On Weighty Matters”

I’ve done it again. Yes, I am talking about photography gear.

As I have mentioned previously, a few years ago I bought an Olympus OMD EM5 four thirds camera. It had excellent reviews for image quality, rivaling larger formats, and, being small and light, totaling only about a pound with the excellent Olympus 14-150 mm zoom I use on it, it is really easy to carry. And I did carry it a lot of places, including Israel and Jordan. Got some nice images, too.

But I still liked my full frame. Why? One reason is that that I find the Olympus is operationally sort of quirky, and I never have quite got used to it, as I have my Canon. Others include such matters as the vast array of lens and accessory selection available for Canon (and Nikon). Most important, to me, are the higher ISO/with lower noise capability of my full frame Canon, along with better dynamic range.

But the four-thirds world is evolving. Both Olympus and Panasonic (the only players as far as I know) just introduced new, sophisticated cameras, as well as faster, high quality lenses. One of the really attractive features of



these new lenses is that they are lightweight, particularly when compared to their full frame counterparts. They are not inexpensive but still cost less than comparable Nikons or Canons. Back in January 2015 I suggested that it would be great if there were a four-thirds version of a lightweight 14-150 f/4, “pro” quality lens available. We are not quite there yet, but both Panasonic and Olympus now offer fast, high quality zooms that are pretty impressive. I should point out that, in principle, all micro four-thirds lenses should work on all micro four-thirds cameras. That usually is the case, but sometimes certain lenses don’t work well on the other manufacturer’s products, and/or some advanced features only work if the manufacturer’s lens is attached. So read reviews and fine print before you buy.



Musings with Photobakobob (Cont'd)

Let's look at some examples of what is available now. My three top cameras include the Panasonic Lumix G85, the Olympus OMD EM1 Mark II, and the Panasonic GH5. They are not inexpensive, particularly if you thought that these little cameras should be cheap. The latter go for \$2000, the former for \$900 (plus lens). They have some incredible capabilities, particularly when used with their own brand of lenses, and the Olympus is extremely fast – if that's what you need. However - and it is a big "however" – their sensors are still four-thirds size, and their noise characteristics, while not bad, still do match those of full frame sensors. After looking at image quality charts, I concluded that ISO 3200 is generally the upper useable limit (maybe 6400 in a pinch), and that is no significant improvement over my older four-thirds OMD EM5. I can do much better with my Canon 6D. Within their range, though, they all produce excellent image quality, and all three have intriguing features. (For details, including some reviews, see www.dpreview.com. I think it's the best source around for such information.)

I put together hypothetical Nikon D750 and Panasonic G85 kits, using comparable gear, to see what would happen in terms of total weight and cost. Here are the results:

Nikon kit

Nikon 750D	750g	\$2400
Nikkor 24-120mm f/4 lens	670g	(incl.)
Tamron 28-300mm f/3.5-5.6 lens	540g	600
Nikkor 16-35mm f/4 lens	685g	1100
Nikkor 80-400mm f/4.5-5.6 lens	1340g	2600
Total kit	3985g	\$6700

Panasonic kit

Panasonic Lumix G85	505g	900
Panasonic/Leica 12-60mm f2.8-4 lens	320g	1000
Panasonic/Leica 8-18mm f2.8-4 lens	315g	1100
Panasonic 14-140mm f/3.5-5.6 lens	265g	700
Panasonic 45-200mm f4.5-5.6 lens	370g	450
Total kit	1775g	\$4150

Not that you would always carry the whole thing all the time, of course, but if you did the Nikon kit would be a bit more than 8 pounds and the Panasonic one about four pounds. But wait, there's more. Panasonic/Leica has a new lens, 100-400mm f/4-6.3, an "effective" focal length of 200-800mm. The lens is relatively compact and lightweight (about two pounds) and could be handheld, although use of a tripod always is better when using a long telephoto. It does have image stabilization, and coupled, with the camera IS could work well. But nothing like that even exists in the Nikon/Canon world – unless you go a lot heavier, bigger, and way more expensive.

So I plan to take advantage of these great new cameras and lenses and give myself a break when I walk around with camera gear all day. However, I won't be abandoning my full frame stuff, either, because there are times when I will want to use it.



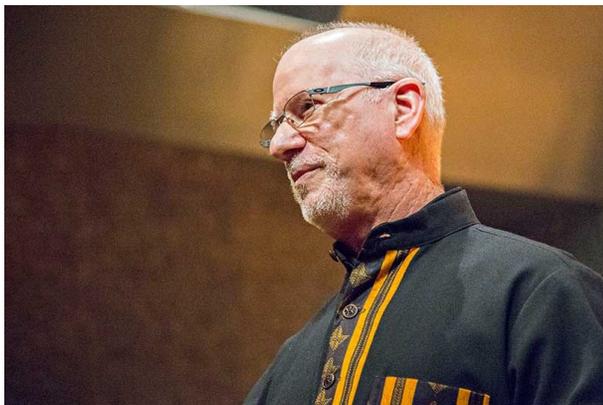
Musings with Photobakobob (Cont'd)

For example, I photographed a choir event recently using only theater lighting. The results were very nice, but I don't think I could have done it (or at least as well) with four-thirds equipment, even the real expensive stuff, unless I was using one of the new very fast prime lenses now available, including some which go to $f/.95$! But then I would not have had the versatility of my Canon $f/4$ zoom.

Some might be wondering about APS as an option, particularly Sony and Fuji. I looked at them, and they are great, but generally I found that lens choices were limited for mirrorless and lens weight savings not always that impressive. As for the issue of high ISO noise, it was better than four thirds, particularly for Fuji and



for such cameras as the Nikon D500 (but not mirrorless), and still not as good as for full frame.



Technology moves on, and I fully expect that four-thirds will improve, both in resolution and in signal to noise ratio. Then I could be saying a permanent farewell to my full frame DSLR – maybe.

Photobakobob



Club Merit Awards

Results of April 2017 Critique & Judging

Judge: Bill Hendricks (Ventura College)

Digital Assigned:

“Oxidane” by James Hart
“A Lens” by James Hart
“High Density” by Kevin Ikeda
“Abstract” by Ron Lindsay
“Quantum Entanglement” by Robert Rose
“Alternate Reality” by Robert Rose
“Crevasse” by JP Watson
“Inside Curve” by JP Watson

Digital Open:

“Two Company Three a Crowd” by Les Collier
“Pot Potpourri” by John Ferritto

Print Assigned:

“Shadows and Light” by Bernie Goldstein

Print Open:

“Raindrops” by Bernie Goldstein
“Incoming Tide at Spooner’s Cove” by Susannah Kramer
“Morro Rock at Sunset” by Susannah Kramer



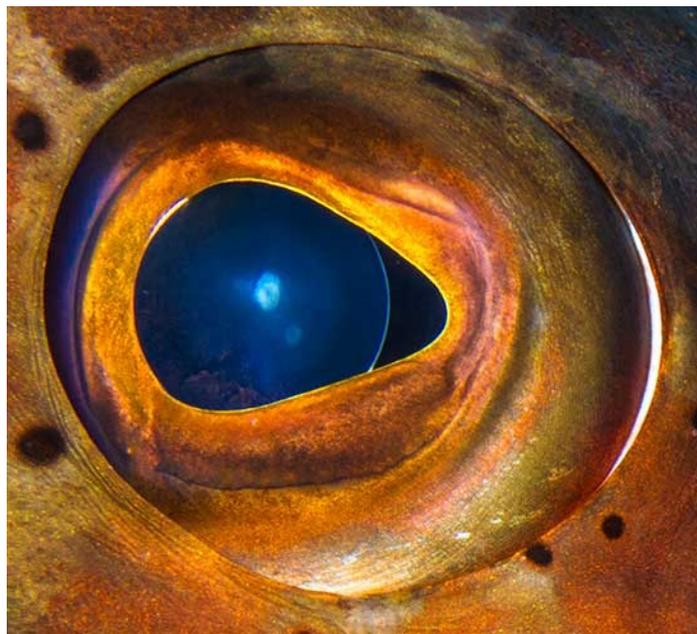
Club Merit Awards

Results of April 2017 Critique & Judging

Judge: Bill Hendricks (Ventura College)



“Two Company Three a Crowd” by Les Collier



“A Lens” by James Hart



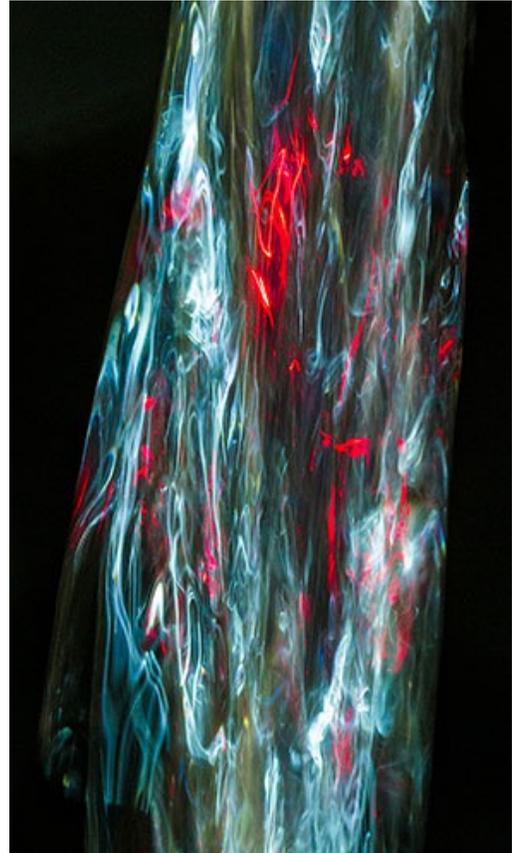
Club Merit Awards

Results of April 2017 Critique & Judging

Judge: Bill Hendricks (Ventura College)



“Pot Potpourri” by John Ferritto



“Oxidane” by James Hart



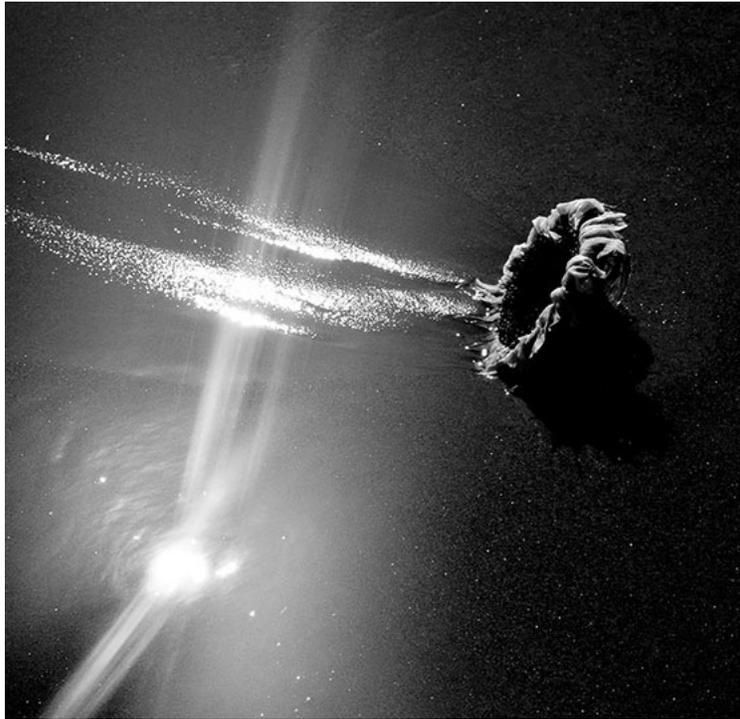
“High Density” by Kevin Ikeda



Club Merit Awards

Results of April 2017 Critique & Judging

Judge: Bill Hendricks (Ventura College)



“Alternate Reality” by Robert Rose



“Abstract” by Ron Lindsay



“Quantum Entanglement” by Robert Rose



Club Merit Awards

Results of April 2017 Critique & Judging

Judge: Bill Hendricks (Ventura College)



“Crevasse” by JP Watson



“Inside Curve” by JP Watson



Other Announcements

From Ojai Photo Club --

Ojai, CA: The Ojai Photography Club welcomes Ojai-based photographer and educator, **Greg Cooper**, as its May presenter. Cooper, Director of Community Outreach for the Humane Society of Ventura County, instructor at Ventura College, and previously Visual Journalism Professor at Brooks Institute, will bring together volunteering and photography in his presentation, **“Volunteerism: Putting Your Photographic Skills to Use in the Community.”** The event will take place **Tuesday, May 16**, at 7:00 p.m. in Help of Ojai’s Kent Hall, 111 W. Santa Ana St., Ojai, CA.



Cooper’s presentation will cover the multiple ways that photographers can volunteer their time and skills in community groups. In addition to the focus on volunteering, Cooper will present strategies for creating successful pet portraits based on his experience with shelter animals and his own HSVC rescued dog, Biskit.



For additional information please visit: www.ojaiphotoclub.com/.

Ojai Art Center’s Annual Photo Show -

Held in June. VCCC members have won awards and sold from this exhibit. For more info go to:

<http://ojaiacphoto.org/2017-exhibit.html>

For Sale By Club Member -

Gently used Sony a7 full frame mirrorless camera in Excellent + or even like new condition. It comes with a battery, charger, strap and an Arca Swiss style quick release L bracket which allows you to change from landscape to portrait aspect without re-framing. The screen has always had a protector on it and is in perfect condition. Asking \$800. For more pix or information call Susannah at [805/445-1090](tel:8054451090) or email noonumk@gmail.com



VCCC Announcements

Gary's assignment for May is "**Environmental Portrait**", as explained further below.

Since everyone does not have access to required subjects, an alternative assignment for May, is ... "**Self Portrait**"... *No cell phone Selfies, no boring Mugshots, you must get the creative juices flowing as described below! Think dynamic! Go do it!*

What is an environmental portrait?

It's a photo that tells a visual story of the subject's workplace, home, or anywhere they like to spend their time. It conveys a moment that captures who the subject is and what the subject does.

Is subject choice vital to the success of this assignment?

Absolutely. Your choice of content in the environmental portrait should create a visually engaging photograph. The subject's environment is just as important as the subject. Try to choose a subject who comes with a visually interesting environment.

What should I look for?

I'd like all members to really think about this assignment (visually) and select the right subject/environment.

I understand some have more setup time to find the right subject, while others may choose an existing photo taken on vacation or photo tour. My advice: Give yourself time to think about your photo shoot. Ask yourself, what is it you're interested in photographing? Do research wherever and whenever it feels right - it may be online or while you're driving around. Look for places in your neighborhood that you see repeatedly, but have never thought about for a photo assignment. Get the most out of these assignments by shooting ORIGINAL photography (not from old catalog). In the long run, you will be rewarded by your efforts.

It's detrimental for me to play creative director and tell you what to shoot because creativity comes from within. However, I understand we all hit creative roadblocks at one time or another. So, for those who need a visual push for inspiration, use these words to get your creative juices flowing:

MOODY STRIKING TOUGH OPEN QUIET ATHLETIC BUSY OUTDOOR WIDE BUSINESS
CONFIDENCE EYE CONTACT SIMPLE PROUD TALENT FUNNY EXTREME



VCCC Announcements (Cont'd)

Finally,

Most of you know my approach to assignments and my constructive critiques. For those who need a refresher here's the skinny...

1. **Research for inspiration.** *Know* what you're going to shoot and how you'll shoot it and it *will* show in the final product.
2. **Take chances.** Please show creativity! Don't just shoot the same old "knee jerk" response to assignments.
3. **Styling, Makeup, Grooming, Wardrobe.** Make sure the subject looks camera-ready and groomed. Pay attention to these details by communicating with your subject. Tell the person what to wear. Make sure clothes are pressed, hair looks good, and facial make-up removes any shine.
4. **Technical skills.** Must be spot on. Even if your assignment falls short on creativity, you must still show off your skills as a photographer. Lighting, composition, styling, processing, color correcting, retouching, cropping, printing and display of final work are vital to a successful shot.
5. **Have fun -- I look forward to seeing your final heroes!**

Gary's Assignment: If you absolutely cannot do an Environmental Portrait of someone, then do a Self-portrait! The advice still stands, no cell-phone Selfies, no boring Mug-Shots, etc, include the following consideration in taking the image:

MOODY STRIKING TOUGH OPEN QUIET ATHLETIC BUSY OUTDOOR WIDE BUSINESS
CONFIDENCE EYE CONTACT SIMPLE PROUD TALENT FUNNY EXTREME

~ **Gary Moss**



VCCC Announcements (Cont'd)

Club Meeting:

Wednesday, May 10th, at 6:30 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 Monday, **8 May**, at 5 pm.

Our scheduled professional Judge for critique on 10 May 2017 is: Gary Moss

Photo Editor - 805 Living Magazine: www.805living.com/

Before the general meeting and critique session at 7:00 pm, Albert Huen will make a presentation at 6:30 pm on: **Printing**.

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

Regular \$60, Student \$30, or send 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 CA 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_Assigned/Open.jpg**

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

Images must be emailed to: digitalentries@venturacountycameraclub.com no later than 5:00 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)**.



VCCC Announcements (cont'd)

2017 Assigned Topics & Judges List:

January:	Portraits	Chuck Place
February:	Panorama	Tim Meyer
March:	Bad Weather	Gary Moss (see May)
April:	Abstracts	Bill Hendricks
May:	Environmental Portrait	Gary Moss
	<u>or</u> Self Portrait	

(Assignment Category only, no Open Category for May)

June:	<i>None - Print Only Competition</i>	Donna Granata
July:	Speed	Chris Zsarney
August:	Reflections	"Hutch" Hutchinson
September:	<i>None - Print Only Competition</i>	TBD
October:	Street Photography	TBD
November:	Silhouettes	TBD
December:	<i>No Assignment - No Meeting - Year End Comp</i>	

2017 Refreshment Schedule:

January:	Sal Santangelo
February:	Ron & Sally Brubaker
March:	David Paumier
April:	James Hart
May:	Joyce & Bruce Schoppe
June:	Bob Rose
July:	Wally Olsen
August:	NEED A VOLUNTEER!
September:	Gregg Gillman
October:	Ken MacGregor
November:	Albert Huen



2017 Suggested Individual 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

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 on a repeating basis 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 Instructor)

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:

The Club received the donation of an excellent condition large back pack type camera bag and is making it available to any Club member for an asking price of \$50. This bag originally sold new for about \$200.



Tripod Not Included

Details:

Model - Kata HB-205

Weight - 5.5 lb

Size - 13" x 10.5" x 20"

Accommodates 2 or 3 DSLR bodies and up to 8 lenses. Advanced harness system, 6 point adjustable waist belt. More info:

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B000H3OD0S/?tag=reviewsfo0a-20>

If interested, talk to Ken MacGregor at the Club meeting. Thanks JP!



2017 Club Officials

President:

Sal Santangelo

Vice President:

Ken MacGregor

Treasurer:

Bruce Schoppe

Secretary:

Ron Brubaker

Judge Coordinator:

Bernie Goldstein

Memberships:

Joyce Schoppe

Website:

Sal Santangelo /Susannah Kramer

Newsletter:

Ken MacGregor

Digital Image Entries and Projection:

JP Watson/Susannah Kramer/
Albert Huen/Ken MacGregor

Publicity:

John Ferritto

Photo Opportunities:

Ron Brubaker