

# the *LensPaper*

NORTH COUNTY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

APRIL, 2005

## April 2005 Meeting

Wednesday, April 27, 2005  
Quail Botanical Garden, Encinitas  
Ecke Building Meeting Room  
Enter Front Gate - **Exit Rear Gate**  
Front Gate is Locked at 7:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. - Front Gate Opens

6:15 p.m. - Sign-in & Refreshments

6:30 p.m. - Announcements & Member Greeting

6:45 p.m. - Member Share

7:15 p.m. - Break & Refreshments

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Presentation

Donations: First-time guests free/returning guests \$3.00

## APRIL'S PROGRAM by Barbara Royer

April's presenter had not been confirmed in time for this newsletter. Please check the Society's website ([www.nc-photo.org](http://www.nc-photo.org)) for information on April's program.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER by Mike McMahon

Have you had a chance to visit the online gallery that displays the entries for our NCPS Post Card project? Hugh Cox, leader for the project, was delighted to receive 55 entries representing a wide variety of work. The images are great and we look forward to the finished product. Hugh is working on the final design of the card and hopes to display a digital image of the card during the meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> of this month. To view the entries, find the link in the "What's New" area at the top of our home page ([www.nc-photo.org](http://www.nc-photo.org)).

After many years of service as the Secretary of the club, Craig Grow will be passing the torch to Nancy Telford at the April Board meeting. We express our sincere thanks to Craig for his fine help and look forward to his continued participation in other areas. We extend a special thanks to Nancy for her willingness to step up. She is a relatively new member of NCPS and we look forward to her perspective and enthusiasm.

We are still looking for a new Editor for our newsletter. Hugh Cox has done a terrific job for the past two years and would like to transfer the assignment to a new editor

with the June issue. See "Editor Position Open" below.

Did you know that this year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kodak's introduction of Tri-X film? For many of us, Tri-X has been a steady friend and important tool in our bag. It opened the door for us to explore the world of available-light photography for everything from portraiture to photojournalism. Happy Birthday, old friend.

That's it for this month. See you at the meeting and good shooting!

**WHAT A TERRIFIC PROGRAM ABE ORDOVER PRESENTED AT OUR MARCH MEETING. THE NCPS IS GRATEFUL TO ABE FOR SHARING SO MANY FINE IMAGES FROM ARTISTS WHOSE WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN IN HIS GALLERY.**

## MEMBER SHARE by Barbara Swanson

For April's member share, please bring one or two images done with the "painting with light" technique. Several of our speakers in the last year or two have shown images they have created using this technique. In general, this technique is done in low ambient light, with light sources used to selectively illuminate objects. For example, this is often seen with star trail photos, where a long exposure captures the star images, and light (either a strong flashlight or a flash) has been used during the exposure to illuminate foreground objects such as cactus or rocks. Indoor photos can also be made. A tripod is recommended for most pictures due to the long exposure times needed. Be creative, experiment and have fun with this!

May's topic will be "the decisive moment".

## DALEY RANCH PHOTO SHOOT by Carrie Barton

For those who like chaparral-covered hillsides, oak trees, ponds, grassy meadows, wildflowers, old barns, etc., the plan is to congregate at the Daley Ranch in Escondido on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. There is a free shuttle that runs from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on

Sundays – you can choose to either hike up or ride the minibus. The shuttle drops visitors off at the old ranch house, where the barns are located, and there is a 3-mile flat loop dirt road around a meadow. We will meet at the entrance to the park, and I will provide trail maps for everyone. I'm pretty familiar with the park and will go over the trail possibilities with anyone who'd like to have a little more adventure and exercise! I would recommend bringing a fanny pack with water and a snack. Also, it may be warm, so dress in layers, bring sunscreen and a hat (or if it's weird weather and raining, an umbrella and rain gear – rain WILL NOT cancel)! There is a nice picnic site, and those who are interested could all meet up at a restaurant for lunch afterwards. For more information, visit the following website: <http://www.ci.escondido.ca.us/glance/uniquely/daley/index.html>

The park is reached by taking the El Norte Parkway east off the I-15 freeway and turning left/north onto La Honda Drive (this is approx. 2-3 miles east of the freeway). Go up the steep hill and park in the dirt parking lot (3024 La Honda Drive), across from the entrance to Dixon Lake. If you're planning on joining, RSVPs would be appreciated – to do that or ask questions, call me at (858) 756-5231 or email me at [ouraydog@cox.net](mailto:ouraydog@cox.net).

Also, a photo contest is being held at the Daley Ranch. See article below for more information!

### **DALEY RANCH PHOTO CONTEST** by Carrie Barton

Check out the City of Escondido's website at <http://www.ci.escondido.ca.us/daley/index.html> for information and details on their 2005 Annual Amateur Photography Contest.

This contest is open to all amateur film or digital photographers. Entries are \$5 apiece, can be 4"x6" to 8"x10" images and need to be mounted (see application instructions). They can be submitted July 1 – Aug. 25, 2005 (Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> is the deadline). There are three color categories: "Scenic View," "Plants and Animals," and "People in Nature." One black and white category will combine all three color titles. And there is a youth division for those 17 and under. Awards (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and Honorable Mentions in each category and one Best of Show overall) will be given, and winning images will be on display in the Escondido Public Library, printed in

the *North County Times*, and used on the City of Escondido's website.

Entry forms are available online or at the Dixon Lake Ranger Station or the Escondido Public Library.

### **EDITOR POSITION OPEN** by Mike McMahon

Hugh Cox will "pass the baton" after two years of service as editor of our newsletter, "*the Lens Paper*".

The duties consist of assembling input from fellow Board Members and others into a MicroSoft Word template (4 to 6 hours a month), arranging for printing of same by an outside source (Kinkos), and attending monthly Board Meetings.

This, and all North County Photographic Society Board positions, are an interesting and rewarding experience for the participant.

Anyone interested in filling the Editor position should contact Mike (760) 207-9544 or Hugh (760) 436-4962 by phone, by e-mail (addresses on Page 4 of this newsletter), or in person at the next meeting.

### **PHOTOGRAPHY'S THIRD DIMENSION**

by Hugh Cox

The elements of creative photographic composition include: *camera angle* (shooting straight on, from the side, looking up or looking down), *perspective* (camera-to-subject distance), *framing* (what's in and what's out from top to bottom and side to side), and *depth of field* (the extent of apparent sharpness along an axis perpendicular to the image plane). Imagine framing (or subsequent cropping) as an image's width and height, and then imagine depth of field as the image's "third dimension".

There are three parameters that affect depth of field. They are camera-to-subject distance, lens focal length and lens aperture. Depth of field decreases as camera-to-subject distance decreases, and as focal length and aperture increase, and vice versa.

Generally, landscape and macro photography benefit from a greater depth of field which can produce an overall appearance of sharpness. Conversely, portraits (of people, of animals, of flowers, of vehicles, of sports, and of a myriad of other things that we photograph every day) often benefit from a shallower depth of field

to isolate the subject from its background.

In the case of "portraits", the photographer usually has a preconceived idea of how he or she wants the subject to be *framed*, i.e., a tight head and shoulders shot of a person. For the sake of discussion, such an image could be shot with a 100 mm lens at 8 feet, or with a 50 mm lens at 4 feet, or even with a 200 mm lens at 16 feet, achieving, in each case, exactly the same subject size in the frame. What changes, however, is *perspective*, i.e., contents and scale in the foreground and background, wide-angle distortion versus long lens compression, etc.

The interesting thing is that, since the depth of field in each of the above setups is very nearly the same, the only significant parameter in "selecting" *depth of field* in this, and in many instances, is aperture! In other words, if shallow depth of field is what you seek in creative photographic composition, pretty much your only option is a lens with a large maximum aperture.

Consider seeing how this works first-hand by shooting a couple of rolls of film or fill a portion of a digital media card with images shot using aperture priority and "bracketing" depth of field starting with the lens wide open. Try entering "depth of field" in a search engine and examine the fantastic array of online depth of field discussions and calculators. And maybe even find out what selective focus, hyperfocal distance, circles of confusion, and bokah are. It can be fun.

Happy shooting!

## **FAIR NEWS**

Information on the San Diego County Fair's Photography Exhibition is now available at their website ([http://www.sdfair.com/index.php?fuseaction=fair.competition\\_exhibits](http://www.sdfair.com/index.php?fuseaction=fair.competition_exhibits)).

It sure would be great to have another ic year of outstanding representation by NCPS photographers - let's better last year's 100 image record!

## **JIM RESPESS TO PRESENT TALK "DIGITAL DARKROOM: WIDE FORMAT PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINTING"**

"Digital Darkroom: Wide Format Photographic Printing" will be presented by Jim Respass of Green Flash Photography on April 20, 2005, between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m. at the Mission Valley Branch Library, 2123

Fenton Parkway, San Diego, CA 92108 (telephone: 858-573-5007). The library is located next to the Ikea Store in the Fenton Parkway shopping center.

Unlike the traditional photo finishing experience, the digital darkroom allows the photographer to sit with the print maker and participate in the proofing process. In this presentation, Jim Respass will describe the step-by-step collaboration between artist and print maker, and will discuss various solutions for producing exhibition prints from film and digital files. He will demonstrate various darkroom techniques that are used to enhance images for their best presentation and will show examples of finished images printed on canvas and fine art papers. Dr. Respass is an artist and the proprietor of Green Flash Photography, a company dedicated to fine-art printing.

Jim can be contacted at (858) 272-1926 and his website is [www.greenflashphotography.com](http://www.greenflashphotography.com).

## **PHOTO EXHIBITIONS/NEWS**

The Ordover Gallery presents "Impressions and Abstractions", original fine art photography by Abe Ordover. Ordover's powerful hues, along with blurred and blended abstraction, create impressionistic pieces with an emphasis on color, texture and pattern. There is an artist's reception on Thursday, April 21, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at Studio 172, 444 So. Cedros Ave., Solana Beach; (858) 720-1121. This exhibit runs from April 5 through May 14, 2005. Gallery hours are 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday,

The Photo Arts Group's show, "Eclectic Variations", at The Village Gallery runs through April 17. Fellow NCPS members, Tom Scott and Peter Gorwin, are among the 16 artists showcased. The gallery is located at 7932 Ivanhoe Avenue, La Jolla, and is open daily between 11:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Keep a lookout for past NCPS presenter and fellow member, Karl Grobl, in SanDisk's Ultra II adds appearing in a number current photographic periodicals.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

NCPS welcomes the following new members: Steve Bunyak of Cardiff, Bob and Rose Jacobson of San Diego, Kathy John of Carlsbad, Diana Dean-Nau of San Marcos, Patricia Schlehuder of Carlsbad, Marie Tartar of Cardiff, and Amy Willett of Carlsbad.