

the Lens Paper

*The North County Photographic Society...Inspired by Photography,
Powered by Volunteers!*

NOVEMBER 2007

PLEASE SEE BACK PAGE FOR MEETING SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER PROGRAM (Nov. 28, 2007)

A Top Marine Photographer Visits NCPS

by Carrie Barton

Programs Director Note: As you all know by now, our October meeting was cancelled due to fire, chaos, and Quail Gardens being closed! Barbara Swanson will be filling us in on how the extended member share may still come into play in the near future. But for now, hopefully we are all safe and sound and getting back in the swing of things, and we will be meeting as planned on November 28th (no date shift this Nov. because Thanksgiving lands in a more convenient placement for us this year!).

Following on the footsteps then of our rather unusual September presenter (forensic photographer, John Farrell) is another, out of the ordinary, speaker. Cpl. Ray Lewis, from the Camp Pendleton Marines, will be volunteering his time with us that evening. That, alone, is a special thing, but we are doubly honored to have THE Marine's "2006 Photojournalist of the Year" share his images and experience with us! He, and his fellow Marine photographers, have taken some outstanding images, which you can view by exploring this link:

<http://www.mcnews.info/mcnewsinfo/marines/gouge/marines.htm>

Cpl. Lewis is also the Press Chief for the Camp Pendleton Scout, which is the official weekly newspaper of the Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base.

And while this is again a departure from our normal venues (standard portraiture, landscape, wildlife, etc.), it is a continued foray into the extremely varied

worlds of photography. John Farrell gave us a good grasp of what his job entailed, and entertained us along the way. I'm sure Cpl. Lewis will do likewise. And one last note: This presentation is not a political forum but rather a glimpse at the experiences of a military photojournalist.

And from a story Marines Magazine wrote on Cpl. Lewis when he was deployed to Iraq:

Cpl. Ray Lewis sticks to one rule when performing as a combat correspondent: "Never limit myself to the last shoot. I'll get dirty if I have to. The riflemen do it, so why should I be exempt? If you don't take risks, you won't know how far you can go," said Lewis, who graduated from El Camino High School in Oceanside, Calif., in 2000 and attended ITT Technical Institute in San Diego.

After receiving his associate's degree in computer-aided drafting in 2003, he worked in fast food for a little while before deciding his life needed more discipline. So like any hard-charger, he went to his local Marine Corps recruiting office and signed up.

"I went home, told my mom, and she was horrified," said Lewis. "My mom thought, with all my education, I should have joined the Air Force." When telling the Marine Corps story, Lewis tries foremost to focus on the ground troops.

"A fellow combat correspondent once told me 'You got to tell their story, man. It's important because they might not come back,'" said Lewis, currently stationed in Iraq with 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5. "He was so passionate about it, and he was right. I didn't really understand what he meant until my battalion lost a Marine."

Lewis assumes his role in the infantry battalion with great relish: "Who in their right minds would dodge bullets and bombs just to take a picture? Me, that's who. I appreciate each crazy moment because some civilians would love to be this close to Marines in combat."

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MEMBER SHARE by Barbara Swanson

November's topic for Membershare is "Skies". Please bring up to two images to share.

This topic emphasizes how powerful a sky can be. Unusual lighting, fantastic clouds, or a mix of rain and light can be wonderful subjects. When seeing a sky that looks worthy of photographing, one of the first things to decide is whether the sky should be the whole subject or one of several important elements in the picture. What aspects of the sky do you want to emphasize--color, cloud texture, mood? Then decide what composition would best serve this. Is it a wide-angle scenic to show the clouds in the landscape, or a close-up of a cloud backlit by the sun at sunset? You can get very different compositions depending on what you choose to include or exclude.

Correct exposure can sometimes be difficult. If the sun is incorporated into the picture, you usually want to meter off to the side to get good tonalities from the sky. You also need to be aware of lens flare (prevent this by shading your lens). If there are white clouds, be careful not to overexpose them, which would result in a loss of detail in the clouds. If the sky is only part of the picture, to correctly expose the sky may mean the rest of the picture is underexposed. Sometimes this is effective, such as having a silhouette. Other times, you may either need to use a split-grad filter to bring the exposures closer together, or with a digital camera take several exposures at different settings and then blend them together in the digital darkroom, or take the picture in RAW and process it twice. Another time when exposures can be difficult is after sunset, when the exposures are very long. In general, bracketing your exposures in any of these situations is a good idea so that you can pick the best one.

Unfortunately, living along the coast in southern California often means having rather bland skies, but there are times, especially in the winter, when the skies here can be strong subjects. I notice that when I travel to other places, I am now quite fascinated by how many clouds there are. When I lived with constant clouds, I didn't appreciate them as much. This makes me more aware of them, and makes me think more on how to best incorporate them into a photograph. Some of my favorite places to have the sky be a major element in the picture are by water

(such as the ocean), where I can also get reflections from the sky, or in the mountains, where there can be so many clouds.

There is no formal meeting in December, so the following membershare will be in January. Because of the wildfires causing our October meeting to be only take-in of the pictures for the show, we were not able to share the presentations put together by our members. Instead, we will use those presentations for our January membershare. As we won't have quite as much time as planned, I would suggest that the presentations be a little shorter if possible.

Please send your pictures ahead of time as jpg files to our projectionist, Bill Barton <projectionist@nc-photo.org>, to give him time to organize everyone's presentation. Label each photo with your initials and a number which denotes the order in which you would like your pictures shown. If you have any questions, please ask the projectionist or me.

PRESIDENTS CORNER by Stan John

Our 12th Annual All Member Exhibition has been hung at the Solana Beach City Hall. The show will run until Nov 29th during the hours that the city hall is open. A reception was held on Nov. 8th from 5:30 to 7:30. If you have an image in the exhibition, please submit it to our web site so everyone can enjoy it. Please indicate the photograph's category in your submittal.

Once again we must remember that this is an all volunteer organization and thank our members who have given their time and energy to this and the other tasks that make the NCPS an enjoyable and interesting organization. Putting on a show of this size takes a lot of organization and labor. The process begins with planning and moves to registration, take-in, storage & transportation, hanging, reception, and finally take-down and cleanup of the facility. The prime movers throughout this effort were Carrie Barton, Jan Thompson and Mike McMahon. Many others contributed their time and effort for take-in, hanging, reception, and will be assisting with take-down and clean up.

Speaking of volunteers, we need an NCPS Archivist to maintain our historical records. The archivist will

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be a full member of the Volunteer Leadership Team (VLT) which serves as the NCPS management board. This group meets on the second Wed. of each month at a members home from 6:30 to about 8:30. If you are interested in volunteering please contact me at a meeting or via e-mail.

Al Schlegal, our Photo-Shoots chairman has served us well for the last year and would like to retire after the January meeting. I want to thank Al for his service over this past year. He has set up many interesting photo-shoot opportunities. Therefore, we need a new Photo-Shoot chairman. If you would like to volunteer for this position please contact me at the next meeting or via e-mail.

The recent fires in San Diego are still fresh in our minds. Many of our members were evacuated from their homes and spent several days with friends or relatives away from their homes. One of the effects of this was a disruption of our October meeting and take-in for the all member show. Some members were not able to bring their images to the scheduled take-in so the show managers agreed to accept images on the day of the hanging.

I don't know if any of our members were seriously affected by the fire but I received a letter from Steve Bundy telling me that Roy Toft, one of last years presenters, lost his home in the fire. Our thoughts go out to him. Hopefully he was able to save his library of photographs. We should all remember to maintain a convenient package of our negatives and backup disks for our digital images. Since we cannot be assured that we will be at home when the fire danger comes, we need to maintain a secure and remote place of storage for copies of our images. This is very difficult for film based images but quite easy for those captured digitally. This subject deserves a good deal of thought and planning by all of us.

Members' Exhibition Update by Carrie Barton

By the time this Lenspaper reaches you, the images will have been hung and judged, and the reception held - how time flies!! And all of this, despite the distraction/destruction and chaos of the fires. What teamwork from our members and the show coordinators! Also, many thanks to those of you who've signed up to volunteer in the various

capacities. We had another great hanging crew this year: Felix Bnomo, Hugh Cox, Paul Nyerges, Fred Rhodes, Sanford Sherman, Ed Stalder, Mike McMahon, Jan Thompson, and Carrie Barton.



And congratulations to those of you who've received ribbons (results are below and have already been posted on our website: www.nc-photo.org!) But also congratulations to all who entered period! I think we can all be proud of both our club in general, and of our individual members. Seems to me we've all come along way. We've had many fantastic photos go up each year, but I really think that each year, we've also raised the bar.

The reception was a very nice affair, with approximately 100 people attending (photos on page 4!). Many, many thanks to Patricia Stevens & her hubby for doing such a lovely job coordinating and provisioning for the event, and thanks to Kurt Lightfoot, Jan Thompson, Stan John, and Nancy Boyer for their help!

Congratulations to the winners of Viewers' Choice!

- 1st Place:** "Spire" by Carrie Barton
- 2nd Place:** "Vogelsang Reflection" by Mike McMahon
- 3rd Place:** "Icon Painter" by Stu Smith

And thank you to all who participated in voting!"

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Please remember to pick up your images on Thursday, November 29th, between 10am and 4pm. If you will not be able to do it yourself, please make arrangements now to have someone else pick them up for you (if you can't find a friend to help, please contact Mike mikemc500@gmail.com, or Carrie ouraydog@cox.net, or Jan jthompson1777@roadrunner.com asap). Also, we tried to save most of the plastic/bubblewrap that you wrapped your images in and will have it available for you to pick through at the Nov. 28th meeting - figured it might come in handy for everyone to rewrap on the 29th and will be a little less for the landfill!

Advice from the Judges by Mike McMahon

As you know, we were very fortunate to have Jack Davis and Robert Turner as our judges for this year's Member Show. They were great to work with and

generous with their time. When we asked for constructive feedback, they were happy to oblige. I'll summarize their comments below.

Best Foot Forward

The judges approached our Show as a fine-art photography show. They carefully looked at details in the prints and took note of the quality of the mattes and frames. They spotted gaps in panorama-stitching work and were disappointed to hear that a significant number of frames required repair in order to be hung. This should remind us to take the time to professionally present our work...it makes a difference. Although they awarded ribbons to some Gatorboard-only presentations, they felt that the work suffered in comparison to glass-framed images.

A Little Goes a Long Way

In several cases, they pointed out images that had been overworked (e.g. excessively filtered, sharpened, etc. in Photoshop). They reminded us that a little adjustment goes a long way and that the image needs to be fundamentally sound in order to be effective in competition.

What Makes an Image a Winner?

Understanding that every judge approaches an image with his own frame of reference and preference, a few themes were evident. The judges posed the following questions as they evaluated the work: *What story is this image telling us? What kind of mood / emotion / sense of place does this communicate?* Images that set a mood and/or told a strong story rose above the others.

Grab Shot or Fine-art Photography?

In several cases, the judges wished that the artist had worked more with the subject at hand. A slight change in angle, for example, could have strengthened the composition and/or eliminated a distracting background. Shooting at a different time of day would have improved a number of images.

Aesthetic Point of View

Sometimes it's easy to get caught up in the technology of photography and forget about the artistic content. Visiting museums and galleries can strengthen our understanding of composition, the use

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of light and dark, and aesthetic point of view. Setting aside megapixels and print profiles for a moment... fine-art photography, first and foremost, is art.

Summary

So there you have it...a concentrated dose of advice from the experts. They congratulated us on our Show and look forward to staying in touch with our group. Please join me in thanking them for their valuable time and feedback.

November Photo Shoot by Al Schlegel

What: *Photo Shoot in Balboa Park*

When: *10:00 AM Saturday, November 10, 2007*

Where: *Meet in front of the Botanical Gardens (#17 on map in link)*

Parking: Check the map on the link below. Do not leave valuables in your car. Suggest you bring tripods, reflectors, wide angle, and macro lenses for flowers etc. The park opens at 9:30 and parking should be available.

Link to Balboa Park map

<http://www.balboapark.org/maps/BalboaParkMap.pdf>

Rain cancels these events.

Questions to Al Schlegel 858-755-8838

[<aadelmar@pacbell.net>](mailto:aadelmar@pacbell.net)

MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

Joyce Mate's image, "got food?" won an Honorable Mention Award in St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 4th Annual Digital Art Show. Also, her "Midwestern Autumn Scene" and "Moth on Purple Flower" are in this show. You are cordially invited to view the images hanging in the Church sanctuary. Check St. Mark's web site for viewing hours and dates. The Church is located at 3502 Clairemont Drive. Congratulations Joyce!

Mike's Video Shown to City Council

A portion of Mike McMahon's recent video, *Wildfires - Oct 2007*, will be included in a presentation to Carlsbad's City Council. The presentation will review the City's response to the recent emergencies - the video segment features the reverse 911 calls that were made to residents in south Carlsbad. Mike's video can be seen by searching for "mikemcvideo" at www.youtube.com.

☺ Time to be Merry ☺

Believe it or not, the holidays are here again! And after all our county's been through lately, don't you think it's time to relax and just have fun?! So come to the **NCPS Christmas party** at Carrie & Bill Barton's home for a little Christmas cheer! 'Twill be on Sunday, December 16th at 5:00pm. Feel free to bring a guest, and please bring some kind of goody to share! Already cooked appetizers and finger foods are always good, and what would a party be without any Christmas cookies/cake/etc.?! Bring what you would most like to eat, and I'm sure you'll find plenty of helpers to empty the platter! NCPS will provide non-alcoholic drinks - if you'd prefer something else, feel free to bring it. ☺ We will also have our annual gift exchange. For those who'd like to participate, bring some reasonably small (size and money-wise) photo-related creation of yours to exchange. ☺

The Bartons live at 756 Val Sereno in Olivenhain/Encinitas. To better coordinate the food, or for more directions, please email Carrie & Bill at ouraydog@cox.net or call their home at 858-756-5231

Directions:

From the I-5, take Encinitas Blvd east. Go about 2-3 miles. At the bottom of the hill, go left/north on Rancho Santa Fe Rd (the sign may say Manchester, which is what the street would be called if you went to the right). Turn right/east on El Camino del Norte. Go over the bridge. Our street will be the first left/north after the bridge. 756 is on the top of the little hump. Park on the street.

From the I-15, take Via Rancho Parkway west. Turn left/south on Del Dios Hwy. Go about 3 miles. The next turn is hard to spot. Look for the rock announcing Rancho Santa Fe - you may see some cars turning in front of you. It will be a right/north turn on El Camino del Norte (by the RSF rock). Go about 2-3 miles. The next turn will be a bit hard to spot too! You'll go around a couple of rather sharp bends in the road. When the road starts to straighten, and you may be able to see a bridge further along, Val Sereno will be a right/north turn. 756 is on the top of the little hump. Park on the street.

Awards Summary 12th Annual Members' Exhibition

Category	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	Hon. Mention
Category 1 Color, Scenic	#53 Light Carrie Barton	#54 Spire Carrie Barton	#55 After the Storm Sharon Anthony	#86 A Far Place, Garrie Rhodes #67 Landscape, Barbara Swanson #57 Untitled, Paul Nyerges
Category 2 Color, Nature	#56 Graceful Landing Sharon Anthony	#49 Egret #1 Carol Moon	#32 Untitled Steve Fisher	#10 Floating Pearls, Morrie Schechet #41 The Eyes Have It, Saul Pepis #66 Butterfly, Barbara Swanson
Category 3 Color, Architecture	#96 Sentimental Journey Felix Bonomo	#82 Greek Temple Sanford Sherman	No Third Place Awarded	#22 Grist Mill, Patrick Kinnard #97 Lijiang Morning, Felix Bonomo
Category 4 Color, People	#80 LA Valet Dan Nougier	#65 Untitled Nilantha Sirisoma	#4 Icon Painter Stuart Smith	#13 Rashomon, Al Schlegel
Category 5 Color, Other	#84 Untitled 1 Carolyn Taylor	#30 Market Tulips Sally Reis Vogt	#81 LA Chair Dan Nougier	#58 Untitled, Carolyn Taylor #63 Crossroads Emotion, Ray Gibbs #74 Kaleidoscope, Nancy Telford #89 Old Chevy, Jan Thompson #47 1961 Vette Cruisin Grand, Kurt Lightfoot
Category 6 B&W	#5 Alaska Landscape Kat Larsen	#69 Hands #2 Paul Williamson	No Third Place Awarded	#20 Kolob Aspen, Steve Bundy
Category 7 Handmade Alternative	#77 Quinceanera Nancy Jennings	#99 In Memoriam Sing Baker	#76 Downtown Reflections Nancy Jennings	No Honorable Mentions Awarded
Category 8 Computer Alternative	#35 The Eyes Have It Doug Burgess	#8 Still Life Kat Larsen	No Third Place Awarded	#60 Shoe Sale Richard Vestyck
Best of Show		#80 – LA Valet, Dan Nougier		

Judges: Jack Davis & Robert Turner

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SPONSORS

The NCPS thanks the following Annual Photography Exhibition sponsors. Please show your appreciation by visiting them.

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Nelson Photo 1909 India Street San Diego, CA 92101 619-234-6621 www.nelsonphotosupplies.com	Oceanside Photo and Telescope 918 Mission Ave Oceanside, CA 92054 760-722-3348 www.optcorp.com
Photo Art of Carlsbad 2744 Carlsbad Blvd., Ste. 116 Carlsbad, CA 92008 760-729-1960 www.photoartofcarlsbad.com	Total Photo 118 S. Solana Hills Dr Solana Beach, CA 92075 858-755-6311 www.totalphoto.net

SILVER LEVEL

Encinitas Photo Center 967 S. Coast Highway 101 #107B Encinitas, CA 92024 760-436-0562 www.encinitas101.com/encinitasphoto.htm	Green Flash Photography 4966 Lamont Street Pacific Beach, CA 92109 858-272-1926 www.greenflashphotography.com
Jim Cline Photo Tours 11223-5 Carmel Creek Road San Diego, CA 92130 858-350-1314 www.jimcline.com	North Coast Photographic Services 5451 Avenida Encinas, Suite D Carlsbad, CA 92008 760-931-6809 www.northcoastphoto.com
The Ordovery Gallery Studio 172 444 S. Cedros Ave Solana Beach, CA 92075 858-720-1121 www.ordovergallery.com	PC Photo & Imaging 127 N. El Camino Real Encinitas, CA 92024 760-632-1790 www.pc-photo.net
Professional Photographic Repair 7910 Raytheon Road San Diego, CA 92111 858-277-3700 www.procamerarepair.com	Michael Seewald Photo Workshops 835 N. Vulcan Ave. Suite B Encinitas, CA 92024 760-633-1351 www.seewald.com

NOVEMBER 2007 Meeting

Wednesday, November 28, 2007

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. - Presentation

7:45 p.m. - Break & Refreshments

8:00 p.m. - Member Share

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

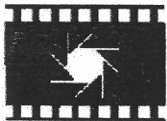
TO REACH NCPS

Web Site: www.nc-photo.org

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP TEAM

President	Stan John	To contact an individual Team Member go to our Web Site and click on CONTACTS and then on the person you wish to contact.
Vice Pres.	Barbara Swanson	
Treasurer	Nancy Jennings	
Secretary	Nancy Telford	
Gatekeeper	Ed Stalder	
Hospitality	Judi Works	
Mailbox	Jack Jennings	
Membership	Al Joseph	
Newsletter	Ron Nash	
Photo Shoots	Al Schlegel	
Programs	Carrie Barton	
Reception	Darlene Ashley	
Web Site	Fred Heinzmann	

NOTE: Please place NCPS in the Subject line of all correspondence.



**North
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