



South Bay Camera Club

NEWS & VIEWS



February 2010

www.sbccphoto.org A great resource!

The South Bay Camera Club is a non-profit social club providing for its members activities involving photography and continuing education in all types of photographic technique. Regular meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month (unless otherwise noted) at the Zamperini Field (Torrance Airport) Administration Building Meeting Room, 3301 Airport Drive. at 7:30 p.m. President: Phil Cohen (310-212-7200, phil@absolute.net); VP and Membership Chair: Lou Schutzenberger (310-377-1342, sschutzenb@verizon.net); Treasurer: Jim Bardos (310-378-7655, jbardos@verizon.net); Secretary: Lou Schutzenberger (310-377-1342, sschutzenb@verizon.net); News & Views Editor: Bill Berry (310-378-9511, wh.berry@verizon.net). Mailing address: South Bay Camera Club, P.O. Box 1213, Torrance, CA, 90505: Web site: www.sbccphoto.org.

SERVING THE SOUTH BAY SINCE 1944

EVENT SCHEDULE: Here is the schedule of meetings for the rest of the 2009-2010 year. All meetings are on a Monday at 7:30 PM at the Torrance Airport Meeting Room (Zamperini Field), unless otherwise noted. A table listing other events is given on a following page.

| Date | Program/Event | Description/Background |
|--------|------------------------------|---|
| Feb 8 | Print evaluation | Evaluator is a professional photographer working in LA. He is an Adobe Certified Photoshop Expert with 30 years of photographic experience, 17 of those years in digital. Name withheld until final confirmation. |
| Feb 15 | SBCC Board Meeting | My place, 7:30 PM. |
| Feb 22 | Kelli MacDonald Presentation | Kelli will demonstrate some essential Photoshop techniques such as removal of undesired objects and how to change things, i.e. head swaps, etc. |
| Mar 8 | Digital image evaluation | Evaluator is TBD. |
| Mar 22 | Video Presentation: "Baraka" | This renowned iMax film will be presented in HD Blue Ray using our new projector. |
| Apr 12 | Print evaluation | Evaluator is TBD |
| Apr 26 | Scavenger Hunt Judging | Judge is TBD |
| May 10 | Digital image evaluation | Evaluator is TBD. |
| May 24 | TBD Speaker | |
| Jun 14 | Gallery Night | Put your best prints out on tables and discuss them. |
| Jun 28 | Awards Banquet | End of year Banquet. Awards, new officers. |

January Meetings:

January 11, Digital Image Evaluation

This was our inauguration of the new digital projector. From all accounts I have heard, the projector passed with flying colors (pun intended). All it needs is a little calibration --- plans are in the works for this improvement. Many thanks to our evaluator, Clifford Bailey, a professional photographer from the LA area specializing in portraits, urban photography, feature news, action sports, and coffee table books of beautiful women in elegant attire. Clifford was once a student of Darilyn Rowan. Darilyn suggested Clifford as an evaluator. Thank you Clifford.

January 25, Mark Comon Presentation: "Famous Photographers who have and continue to inspire me and the world around us!"

About 37 SBCC members, spouses, and guests came out to enjoy another of Mark's fascinating illustrated presentations. He talked about why each of the following photographers had inspired him, and showed works by each artist: William Allard, DeWitt Jones, Annie Leibovitz, Neil Leifer, Freeman Patterson, Edward Weston, and Garry Winogrand. Thank you Mark for your informative talk.

Upcoming Meetings:

February 8, 2010, Print Evaluation

Print evaluation night --- bring up to 2 of your best prints for evaluation by a professional photographer and just plain showing off to other SBCC members. The evaluator has been selected but is not yet confirmed for the meeting. Come out and find out the identity of the "mystery guest".

February 15, 2010, SBCC Board Meeting

SBCC President Phil Cohen has called for a board meeting on Monday, Feb. 15, at 7:30 PM. It will be at the usual place, my living room. All are welcome.

February 22, Kelli MacDonald will demonstrate some valuable Photoshop techniques every photographer should know

Among other things, Kelli will show us how to remove unwanted items from your photos and how to add change things, i.e. head swaps, backgrounds etc... Kelli is a professional photographer in the area as well as a photo editor and touch-up artist extraordinaire at Silvio's. Kelli has served as our evaluator on several occasions.

Outings and Field Trips:

There are several outings and field trips already planned or in the planning stages. For an overview and quick summary of these, see the table below.

For questions, or to reserve a place on a tour, call Betsy Treynor at 310-375-6348, or send an e-mail to bgtreynor5@gmail.com.

| Date | Event | Description/Background |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Thurs Feb 25 | Santa Monica Pier after sundown | Meeting at 3 PM at the carousel, dinner at 5:30, and after dinner, night photography for those who wish to stay. |
| Sat Apr 17 | San Diego Wild Animal Park | Deluxe Caravan Safari, 3.5 hrs, \$150 + admission per person. 2 feedings (giraffe and rhino), 5 enclosures. Ride in open truck, with guide, also sun/rain cover. We depart at 10:30 AM on the Deluxe Tour. We can have whole truck if 15 paid in group. (Max is 15). Rain or shine. It is anticipated that this will be an overnight outing --- stay tuned, more information to follow. |

Reports on Field Trips in January:

January 8, Whale Watching Cruise

The weather was perfect, the day was warm. About 16 of us from the club met the boat at the fisherman's pier in King Harbor and shoved off by 10 AM. There were also a few folks from the general public --- plenty of room for all. We were fortunate to see a fin whale --- the second largest whale type in the world (behind the blue), hundreds of brown pelicans and gulls, dolphins right up next to the boat, and bands of sea lions. SBCC member Doris Beaman also served as a Cetqcean Society guide. We were back at about 12:30 --- several of us repaired to Ruby's for lunch. It was a wonderful outing. Thank you Doris for setting it up.

January 29-31, Elephant Seal Trip, Hearst Castle

Nine members and spouses made the trip to Piedras Blancas to see and photograph the elephant seal rookery. The elephant seals were so much fun to photograph and the seaside was so gorgeous that no one cared to continue on to visit the Hearst Castle. That trip will be for another time. Here is the report from Betsy:

"Elephant Seals!!

"Those of us who arrived mid-afternoon Friday were favored with extraordinary conditions: a spring (extreme) low tide at 3:49pm, allowing the elephant seals a large area to romp and roar, a spring high tide at 9:27 the following morning, pushing the massive animals right up to the cliffs above which is a boardwalk for viewing; some seals even made it to the street where park rangers (?) did their best to move them to the sea side of the fences set up to protect both us and them. The afternoon sun was low and golden, the morning sun shaded by high clouds—no glare—that left us with blue skies for the Piedras Blancas Light Station (not light house) tour from 10 to, er, 1 pm. The wife of our superb volunteer docent, Mr. Martinez, spoke in a low tone to one of our group that this was the tour from hell: her husband loves to talk and the photographers take time and ask questions. We got an extra hour with this most informative guide. Oh, we had another bonus...the wild, wild surf! Spectacular, roaring over huge rocks in a splendid display of spray, knocking harbor seals off their perch on Piedro Blanco (the one huge rock off the coast of the light station)—at least until they reached a higher point. Back at the beach that same pounding surf pushed and rolled baby seals to where more unfortunate babies had died some time before and gulls were doing their scavenger thing.

"What are the basic elements of mammalian life? Food, warmth and reproduction. Except for the food part (the elephant seals bulk up in the months before they get to the beach at San Simeon), there was plenty of the other: the seals are blubber-protected and huge, the adult males weighing 2 to 3 tons (depending what you read/hear). The females are smaller but we noted that for every pound a baby gains the mother loses 2 pounds...and that over a 4 week period, at which time the mothers go back to sea (newly pregnant) and the weaned (forcibly, I would say) babies and the other weaners (yes, that's what they are called) figure out how to swim and be a proper elephant seal. (Elsewhere we read the mothers teach them.) The fathers have only one goal and it is to impregnate every member of his large harem about a week after they deliver. There was plenty of evidence of same. His secondary goal is to defend his authority when challenged by other adult males. We heard a lot of honking (whatever you call the deep throated fog-horn like sound used to warn challengers), but only skirmishes at best. No blood.

"By the way, Friday night was a spectacular moon rise of the Wolf Moon* from behind the lush and darkening pastels of the clouds reflecting the sun's just-set afterglow. The following morning the same moon set in a misty, lavender sky. All night it rained. Who cared?"

Don't forget, Board Meeting on Monday, Feb. 15, 7:30 PM, my place.

Bill Berry
SBCC News & Views Editor