



COLOR NEWS

What's happening at Photochrome in April

April 3—Open Pictorial— Projected images.

Each member may bring up to two images, either digital or film for informal critique. While the category is Pictorial, this embraces all themes so bring your favorites.

Special presentation: Those members who went on the March Field Trip will show up to six images of their impressions of the day.

Chris Kibre is moderator

April 5—Field Trip Ft. Point

Along with the spectacular views of the Golden Gate, the Fort is known for Civil War period masonry. Fort Point is located under the south end of the Golden Gate Bridge at the end of Marine Drive in the Presidio of San Francisco. While you can make pictures of the Fort from outside, we'll venture into the Fort to find new perspectives. It should be an interesting morning. We can have lunch at the Warming Hut after the shoot. Meet in the parking lot next to the fort. For more information on the Fort, see the NPS website

<http://www.nps.gov/fopo/> and <http://www.nps.gov/archive/fopo/home.htm>.

Richard Zimmerman, leader

April 10—Board Meeting All members welcome

The Board meets once each month to chart the course of our new Photochrome. Input by all members is very welcome.

Save meeting time. Send your digital images in advance to:

photochromeprojectionist@gmail.org

Mark your images:

First Name_Last Name~title.jpg

April 17—Exploring Photography South Atlantic Ocean By Enrique Aguirre

Since 2002 I have concentrated most of my travels around the coast of the Atlantic Ocean with the hope of producing a book (just 2 more locations to go: Belize and the Namib Coast). The last of the long trips took me, again, to the Falkland Islands.

Part 1 - the Falkland Islands. Home to 5 species of penguins and the largest colonies of albatross on the planet, these islands provide an amazing wildlife spectacle during the Austral Summer months comparable to the migrations of the Masai Mara. I will show circa 40 images of penguins, seals, albatross, birds of prey and landscapes from the islands and will discuss equipment used, techniques, shooting strategies and location access.

Part 2 - 50° South and beyond - Ushuaia, South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsula. If time allows I will show another 40 images of the planet's wildest oceans, the infamous Drake Passage where Atlantic, Pacific and Antarctic Oceans meet... more seals, penguins and lots of ice. I will also talk about equipment, techniques, shooting strategies and access.

I will also bring my camera bag with me

—Chris Kibre is moderator

April 18—Field Trip Mitchell Canyon, Mt. Diablo

Led by Stacy Boorn and Chris Kibre. Bring a lunch. Wildflowers, oak and other trees. Some walking/hiking involved; although one can find quite a bit to work on near the parking area, including a small stream. Meet at the church parking lot at 7:00 AM. Please let Stacy know if you think you might attend: sboorn@aol.com

April 2008
Volume 63, Issue 4

April Schedule Of Events

April 3—7:30pm
Open Pictorial—
projected images
Chris Kibre, Moderator

April 5—10:00am
Field Trip
Fort Point
Richard Zimmerman

April 10—7:30pm
Board meeting
Fireside Room
(upstairs)

April 17—7:30pm
Exploring Photography,
special presentation
Enrique Aguirre
Chris Kibre, Moderator

April 18—Field Trip
Mitchell Canyon, Mt.
Diablo.
Stacy Boorn, Chris Kibre, leaders

April 19 – 9:00-4:30
Digital day with Lewis
Kemper
www.lewiskemper.com.
Sponsor: Marin Camera
Club

Coming Attractions May 2008

May 1. Theme Night. (Subject: GREEN) Someone said recently, "Where ever I go I look for green." This is exactly the response a photographer loves to hear. Open your mind to a different way of interpreting what's out there. Sure: "look for GREEN." Look for a different way to see.

May 8—Board Meeting. As said elsewhere, this is where those members who are really, really interested in the future of Photochrome gather to try to guess how to keep it relevant and interesting to the photographers who must carry it forward. While Photochrome has been an association since 1943 (yeah, I know, the dark ages) it has stayed in business all these years. This isn't the first upheaval in the development of photography (I hate myself for these puns). So, let's ALL keep it a viable entity.

May 10. Field Trip—The Presidio. The Presidio? It's huge! Let's visit some of the parts you've possibly never really looked at before. Details soon on our website and here in the next issue of the Color News.

May 15—Photoshop Night. Alan Heald, Moderator. Lots of talent lined up here, but some surprises need to be saved for later...

May 29—An Evening Concerning Travel Photography. Jim Silva. World-class traveler, Jim Silva will present some tips, hints and procedures on travel photography and image presentation. He will accompany this with recently taken shots on South China's Pearl River Delta, featuring Hong Kong, Macao and Canton.

MAY

May 1...Theme night
subject is **GREEN**
Stacy Boorn Moderates

**May 8—
Board Meeting**

**May 10—
Field trip, the Presidio**
Alice Steele, leader

**May 15—
Photoshop Night**
Alan Heald, Moderator

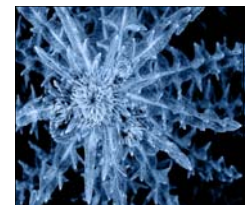
**May 29— Travel pho-
tography.**
Jim Silva moderates

JUNE

**June 7— Tide Pool
Field Trip.** There's a
great minus tide on this
date. Details of this rare
opportunity to be an-
nounced.
Stacy Boorn leads.

March 6—Pictorial 'competition' evening.

This was the first time this year Photochrome invited an 'outside' judge to comment on member's projected images. We'll do this every three months. This time, Dick Stalke, recently President of N4C (Northern California Council of Camera Clubs) came to our meeting with a wealth of judging experience. And our members came with a fine selection of images to be critiqued. After critiquing, Dick Stalke was asked to pick five Favorite Images from the entire pool of entries and he did have a tough time. Here are his choices. There were two straight color shots, one monochromatic, one montage and one posterized. And one was by a new member. (These images will look better when you see them on the website. *Photochrome.org*.)

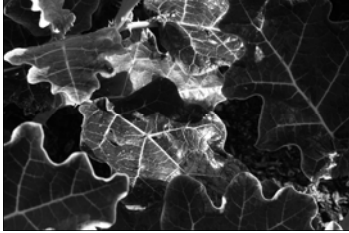


Left to right: Steele, Patena, Zimmerman, Boorn, Steele

Selective Focus—Alice Steele

Have you looked at our newly refurbished website lately? It's looking good and is well used by people checking out Photochrome. When you visit the site look for the survey, just posted, that asks about equipment and related data. The Board hopes to use this information to better serve the needs of the members. www.photochrome.org

The March field trip to Cayuga Playground has produced some fine imagery. We saw some at Print Night and will see more at the April 3 meeting. Here's a tiny teaser of what you will see. These are from Connie Louie:



This is also a reminder that if you were at the March Field trip, please bring up to six images to share with the group at the April 3 meeting.



I am grateful to Stacy Boorn and Alan Heald for their contributions to the Color News this month. Lots of good information there and some nice advance notice of that Minus Tide Field Trip coming up in June.

It's sometimes a challenge to come up with new items for this column every single month. To keep our newsletter lively, please consider making a contribution to it. Have a favorite place for photography? Have a technique you can share? Please send it along. You'll see it in print and you will help others in the club.

Finally, go find wildflowers this month. They are all over our area and don't last long. Pt. Reyes is a good local starting point, while if you feel like roaming, the desert flowers, I hear, are doing just fine.

Welcome New Members

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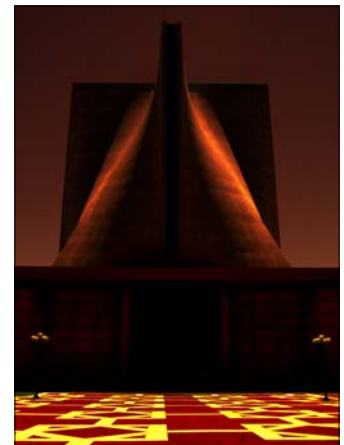
Photoshop Tip

Here's an image that sparked a bit of interest at the latest Photochrome print meeting. It's another fairly easy technique that adapts well to many uses. For this particular procedure, it is necessary to use two images.

First, put the original image on your screen. (In this case it was a bland, mostly gray, black and white building.) Then load one or two other images into memory. They should have the colors you wish to add to the original. Experiment!

Then select: Image>Adjustment>Match Color. Find the box labeled "None" and use the dropdown menu to select one of the images you loaded in. The result might or might not be pretty bright. Use the sliders to tone it down or otherwise adjust. If the first image doesn't work, try another. That's about it. The results can be dramatic or subtle. It's up to you.

I wish I could show you the originals of this example image, but they have long disappeared into the jungle of my hard drive.



GOING DIGITAL

Part Two of two parts By Alan Heald

Photoshop Elements

Last time, I discussed my process of making the transition from film to digital photography. While this transition will definitely take some mental effort and some time, I have a suggestion that may make the change a little simpler. When you get your first serious digital camera, you might well also purchase a copy of Photoshop Elements. By learning this editing program, piece by piece and at your own pace, you will definitely be on your way in the digital world.

Photoshop Elements started its life merely as a stripped-down version of the intimidating Photoshop program. Over the years Adobe has seen fit to make many improvements in Elements so that, in its latest versions, it is a fairly simple and powerful program in its own right.

In my own case, a little over two years ago I started with Photo Elements 4. In looking back, I feel **now** that I should have continued on with that program longer, before making the big step into Photoshop itself. I still remember how, for weeks, I floundered with the increased complexity of Photoshop! Instead, I should have explored Elements much further than I did. In doing so, I would have made the transition much easier on myself.

The nice thing with Elements is that everything you learn to do here is done pretty much the same

way with Photoshop itself. You will not have wasted your time. The "tools" you use are the same.

With this program you'll quickly be able to learn to crop a photo. You will also be able to easily correct your overall exposure, if you need to. Also, with a digital image it is easy to quickly alter the contrast, and, or, the color balance of a photo. These things are not difficult to do. They make a photo look much better when there is a problem. The days of wishing that you had bracketed "about a half a stop darker" are over when shooting a digital camera.

With experience, as you feel more comfortable with digital editing, you'll want to explore things like removing unwanted objects from a shot, or increase or decrease the sharpness of an image. Later on, too, you'll need to learn to use non destructive editing methods using Layers. All in all, I have to say that I've thoroughly enjoyed the time I've spent working away at my digital images.

Some things don't change. A boring photo can't be saved with a computer. You still have to get out there and shoot interesting subjects. Nevertheless, there are times when a good photo can be made better through careful editing.

I have found this new world of digital photography to be very creative... and very fun!

N4C Competition, 2008

While Photochrome does not sponsor competition in N4C this year, members who are interested in seeing their work compete with that of other Council clubs are still able to submit their work. Here's the procedure.

Check the N4C website (N4C.org) for complete rules and meeting places for the competitions. The pertinent instruction is as follows:

In any monthly Interclub Competition, individuals may enter one print or one projected image at the competition in only one Competition Division, provided that print or PI has not previously been entered by their club. Individuals entering a Print or PI in this manner must bring the image to the competition in person and remain at the competition for the duration of the judging.

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Tide Pool Photography

By Stacy Boorn

What is it that draws the human soul to the water's edge, to the place where the powers of the sea attack and retreat, constantly reshaping the land underfoot? Whether you come for contemplation, to allow the ocean's roar to drown out the noise of a stressful life, to commune with the strange creatures of the tide pools, or do recreational surfing, there is something about the coastline that beckons to us and always satisfies. Ask any photographer – it's the creative possibilities along the coast that draw us there!

That's why some Photochrome folks on the spur of the moment, on President's Day, at a negative tide headed south. Connie, Janet, Chris, Deborah and Stacy parked at the north side of Pescadero State Beach, to explore the possibilities among the rocks and waters.

Many beaches have dangerous surf conditions with rip currents and cold temperatures. But the extensive intertidal reefs along the California, Oregon and Washington coast in particular offer close-up viewing of marine life.

Photographing life in and around tide pools can be very challenging. It is not just a matter of composition and equipment. You need to do your homework and find out when there are low tides, especially minus tides. You need to navigate with precision on slippery rocks, keeping yourself and your equipment dry. You will be crouching down and bending over for long periods of time to get as close as possible to the life above and below the water. Try to arrive at a tide pool area while the tide is still going out so that you are less likely to be hit by the incoming swells or dragged out to sea by a "rogue" wave.

Ochre Stars and Giant Green Sea Anemone often inch close together in a mussel bed. Getting in close and still encompassing the ecosystem is a real plus. To eat a mussel the Ochre Star will use several of its thousands of tube

feet to pry the mussel open. Sea stars also use their thousands of tube feet to move and attach themselves to rocks and reef surfaces. Don't try to pry them loose – you will only rip off their little legs! But occasionally they will be attached to a small rock or detached mussel or actually resting in sand and can be turned over without harm. This will give you a view of their underside and eating process. Although "ochre" is a shade of yellow, most of these stars are orange or purple. Try spot metering on the orange ochre.

Watch for the incoming waves and then use them to your advantage. A sea star placed in an area that will be partially submerged when the foam and edge of a wave roll over the area will give you opportunities for stunning images. By using a polarizer or neutral density filter you can achieve a slow shutter speed (1/20 – 1/4 of a second). As the water washes over and around the star you will record its movement as beautiful streaks of white flowing water. You may get your feet and tripod a little wet, but it is well worth it! With an even slower shutter speed the water will move into and out of your frame during the exposure time rendering the water like a mist. Film users will want to take several shots because you won't see the end result until your slide is on the light table. Digital shooters and/or Photoshop users may want to take many shots as well for combining images to get the most creative water movement possible.

A polarizing filter is a very valuable tool while working in tide pools to eliminate unwanted reflections in the water and reduce glare on the wet surfaces, especially rocks and sea kelp.

"Simplify, simply, simply" is a good rule of thumb at anytime and works well as you comb the tide pools, beach and reef areas.

This is a great location, because when you need a break you can head to the bakery in Pescadero for artichoke bread and cheese!



Stacy Boorn

Meetings are held the First and Third Thursdays of the month, except for November and December. They begin at 7:30 and are held at the Fellowship Hall, Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 678 Portola Drive, San Francisco, CA 94127. For meeting details check: www.phtochrome.org

Board of Directors—2008

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Dan Friedman
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Connie Louie
Burr Preston
Alice Steele
Richard Zimmerman.

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Webmaster

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Jim Kelly

Plan Ahead for PSA Conference—August 31-Sept. 6

PSA (Photographic Society of America) will hold its 2008 conference in Portland this year. Since it's just up the road, so to speak, this one is an easy conference to take in. Some 50 presenters are scheduled along with workshops, photo tours, classes and meetings. The hotel is the Marriot Downtown Waterfront Hotel. Lots of information and a registration form are at the **PSA.photo.org** website or in the PSA Journal.

Photochrome is a member of PSA as are some individual members of the Club. You do not have to be a member to attend this week-long conference of photographers.

N4C

Photochrome is also a member of N4C (Northern California Council of Camera Clubs) which holds a conference with other California Councils every other year. The next one is in 2009.

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2008 International PSA Conference
Portland, Oregon 8/31-9/6

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