



# COLOR NEWS

## What's happening at Photochrome in September

### September 4: — Open Pictorial

*Richard Zimmerman moderates.*

This is when an outside judge critiques our images and at the end of the evening, picks Favorites. Input by members is encouraged. There will be a **PicSix** by those who attended the Dahlia Garden Field Trip.

### September 6 —Field Trip

**9:00 OR 10:00am. S. F. Zoo.**

Early group, with reservations, meets at the front entrance and goes in together. Please park on Sloat Blvd. One of our members arranged early admission for 10-12 of us on that Saturday. For early reservations, email Alice Steele at [SFalice@aol.com](mailto:SFalice@aol.com). If the early group is filled, come at 10:00am when the Zoo opens, and meet fellow photographers on the grounds during the day. We are cautioned not to block paths with our tripods or other equipment. Our member, Richard Stacks, a life-long, professional, nature photographer will be there to offer advice. Many thanks to our Gail Secchia, who is

head zoo docent, for helping to set up this field trip.

### September 11— Board Meeting, 7:30pm—Fireside Room

Every month, a group of volunteers gets together to chart the course of Photochrome. These members plan the meetings, arrange for the projectionists and moderators and try to do all the things that make a club run smoothly. Members are welcome to attend these short, lively meetings. Several have done so and found them fun and interesting—their input has been very helpful.

### September 18—Fall in California

*Alice Steele moderates*

This evening is designed to get us in the mood for all that colorful fall foliage that's just around the corner. Show off your favorite pictures from earlier autumns. Tell the details if you'd like. Club members will offer technical suggestions—and probably take notes on all the good places to visit.

SEPTEMBER 2008  
Volume 63, Issue 9

## SEPTEMBER Scheduled Activities

### September 4—7:30

*Richard Zimmerman moderates.* Open Pictorial Judge's Favorites Night. Pic Six (Dahlia Garden) Outside Judge will critique members images and pick several 'favorites'. Members bring two images. Film or Digital.

### September 11—7:30

Board Meeting, Fireside Room  
Everyone welcome

### September 18—7:30

Fall in California  
*Alice Steele Moderates.*  
Members may bring up to six images of fall color taken in California (or thereabouts). Tell us details of your shoot.

### Save meeting time.

**Send your digital images by midnight Wednesday(s)  
to:**

*photochromeprojectionist@gmail.com*

Mark your images:

**Category\* -First Name-Last Name-Title. Jpg**

*\*categories are:*

**PicSix** (up to six images taken on Field Trips )

**OP** (Open Pictorial) two images

**TN** (Theme Night) two images per theme.

**Please note: digital images should be re-sized so that the longest side is no more than 1024 pixels. That is how they fit properly on our projection equipment.**

# Image-Fest 2008

**Saturday, November 15  
9:00am-1:00PM with lunch**

## ***All Member Competition***

Club members are gearing up now for this annual event where we bring our best for judging and recognition.

Enter up to 49 separate images in many categories. See how they resonate with our highly qualified judges who will be at this day-long event.

Your images may qualify for prizes to be awarded at our popular Annual Banquet on December 7th.

Complete details are on-line at ***Photochrome.org***, or flyers are available at regular meeting nights. If you receive this newsletter by email, a copy of the flyer is at the end of this newsletter.

## **OCTOBER Scheduled Activities**

**Oct. 2—Open Pictorial  
Moderator: Burr Preston  
Members present two images**  
**Oct. 9—Board Meeting**  
**Oct. 16—Print Night  
Moderator: Alan Heald  
Printmakers to bring their own  
special favorites on this last  
Print night of the year.  
No restrictions.**

**Nov. 6  
Next Theme Night:  
(2 images each)  
Motion  
Geometric Forms**

**Nov. 15:  
Image Fest**

**Dec. 7:  
Awards Banquet**

**September 20, 2008  
9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Lark Theater,  
Larkspur, CA**

**“Reflections on My Journey”**  
*An All-Day Presentation by*

**John Isaac**

**Registration fee:  
\$65 per person •  
\$25 student fee**

**Register at: *N4C.org***

**Sponsored by N4C**

**Journalism • Travel • Nature**

*John Isaac is a jewel among photographers. Those who have met him talk about his charisma, his great presentation abilities, and, of course his great award winning photography. **Not only as chief photographer of the UN, but now as a nature and travel photographer.** His journalism images are really stunning. Olympus Cameras will have a table at the seminar to show off their latest digital equipment, as well. John will be giving away three large prints, one each in journalism, travel and nature, as door prizes. In addition he will comment on some pre-chosen images, both prints and electronic images as part of the program. They will be chosen from among the N4C winners or submissions. N4C really needs your support! And you will be delighted with this wonderful presenter.*

*Registration materials can be found at the [N4C.com](http://N4C.com) website.*

*Try not to miss this one.*

## Fall Colors— *When & Where to find them*

*Story and Images by Jim Silva*

In California we lack those brilliant reds of New England. Still we have our share of yellow and gold and in some good years these can sparkle and glow in mass concentrations. Our three best performers are aspen, cottonwoods and willow.



When to go? Do not stray far from the second week of October. Where to go? Our Sierra is the answer. Our Sierra makes for quick, convenient and productive photography in good weather.

Some suggestions:

About eight miles before **South Shore, Lake Tahoe**, along Hwy 50 is a right turnoff onto Hwy 89. Cruise along till you reach Hwy 88. You are now in the heart of **Hope Valley**. By turning left on Hwy 88, you will get to more aspen groves which surround Sorensen's Resort. Let your eyes now guide you. Turn back and slowly cruise along Hwy 88 on the other side of 89. Grove after grove of color will appear.

Make your headquarters in the little town of **Lee Vining**. There are several motels here. Make early reservations

this time of year. Lee Vining is located along Hwy 395 just off Mono Lake. It can be approached by going over Tioga Pass (Rt 120) of Yosemite or by Hwy 395 from Reno and Carson City. Get a good detailed map of the area and you will see that most ravines going up to the Sierras have pockets of aspen color that may be approached by road. Find **Lundy Lake** and the short road leading to it. Find **McGee Creek**. Find **Convict Lake**. Do the **June Lake Loop**. The extra bonus? **Mono Lake!**

Go south along 395 and make **Bishop** your destination. Bishop has a nearby town area which has an abundance of cottonwood trees. From Bishop go up towards the Sierras via Rt. 168. About a quarter of



## New Field Trip Coordinator is Gary Larsen

As Burr Preston indicated during a recent membership meeting, we are seeking suggestions for field trip locations in San Francisco and the Bay Area. Recently, the club has visited the Cayuga Playground, Fort Point, Presidio Mountain Home Lake, Fort Scott and the Golden Gate Park Dahlia Garden. Bay Area trips have included wildflowers in Napa and Mount Diablo, and tide pools at Pescadero. Do you know of places with good photographic opportunities?

Please send your suggestions to: [ge.larsen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ge.larsen@sbcglobal.net)

—Gary Larsen

the way up is the resort area of **Aspendell**. Go to the small lake by the resort. Lots of brilliant color

From Lee Vining go north on 395. Initially there is a steep climb with Mono Lake falling away below. Way before reaching the **Bodie** Turnoff is the high ground of Conway Summit. **Conway Summit** overlooks a large depression on the left side of the road which stretches away to hills beyond. The whole area has masses of aspen and willows ablaze with gold. Long lenses do especially well here as pockets can be isolated.

Shooting tips:

- ◆ Try shooting backlit aspens against the sun, but be careful to shade your lens.
- ◆ Try using a polarizer to cut down on reflections and intensify color
- ◆ Try a warming filter (81B) on the masses of yellow. Try shots with and without this filter.

## Planning Begins for 2009

Photochrome has undergone considerable change over the past few years and continues to evolve even now. The Club has moved from a strong competitive focus to that of sharing of images and information.

It has embraced the digital age with enthusiasm, while maintaining strong ties to the age of film as well. It's all photography—a field we love.

We have been governing Photochrome by Committee and it's been working pretty well. However, its time for more structure.

It's also a given, that the Club becomes a more valuable resource as more people become involved in its working.

Committees need to be established for 2009. The club is fortunate that a volunteer has assumed the

Field Trip Chair. Other committees needed are:

*Education—Judges—Projectionists—  
External Liaison—Print—Social—Special Events—  
Equipment—Website—and more!*

Some of these committees might work with one or two people, others will need more.

Some members may wish to join the Board—that group of people who have been keeping our Club alive recently. There are Board members who have completed their terms and wish to step down. New people need to come forward in their stead.

Finally, the Club needs a Secretary. This vital post is ideal for someone who wants to be in the thick of things. Interested?

Come to the next Board Meeting, scheduled for September 11, or talk to any Board Member.

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## Stacy Boorn meets Alaska



*A few of us have been lucky enough to receive email messages from Stacy Boorn, Past President of Photochrome, an avid photographer, inveterate traveler, and good friend. This lady has so many great experiences to relate that I'm passing some of them on to our membership. Here are a few of her words: (Ed.)*

Around 5 PM I drove the Stampede road about 12 miles north of Denali, close to my hotel in Healy.

I saw a moose there, and took a few shots. But the rain was pretty heavy and it was dark from the very low and heavy cloud bank. But nonetheless – there she was, gigantic!

On Friday, it started with rain, But at noon there was some break in the sky when I joined the group of people going to North Face Lodge and Camp Denali, 89 miles into the park via three buses. After mile 15, only the park buses and those of the five lodges that were in their location before the park, are allowed on the road. At mile 15, it began to rain again, and then our

bus broke down.

But while we were off the bus waiting for another, a lovely caribou practically walked among us ... The rest of the trip was a mixture of rain and some short periods of rain. Mountains coming in and out of view. The road is very steep and curvy and quite bumpy. We made a few stops for viewing the landscape and wildlife, and had a picnic dinner on the way. Two foxes also entertained us there.

We began the trek at 1:00 PM and arrived at Camp Denali at 8:30 PM. On the way I kept looking around to try and figure out where Mt. Denali (McKinley) might be. I could see cloud topped mountains. But not the great one. Finally, near wonder lake, 80 miles or so in, above the cloud bank the white tip began to become visible – way above tops of all the other mountains – I was simply looking too low! AWESOME. The mountain is 20,320 feet, tallest in North American, but not as tall as some 450 others throughout the world (I think). The vertical rise from the 2,000 foot base is 18,000 feet. Mt. Everest's vertical rise is only 12,000 feet (but it's base is at 17,000 feet).

Then there was some clearing and by 9:00 PM the whole mountain was visible – from our ridge you basically saw the top.

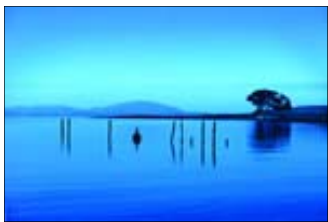
The name Denali could be 10,000 years old – it means “The High One.” So it seems more appropriate that that original name is more commonly used.

At 10:30 PM came the real feast – the Alpine Glow caused the snow covered mountain top to turn orange. The frus

## Selective Focus, by Alice Steele

**One of our newer members**, Phil Brown, told me of a photography exhibit over at the Oakland Museum. Well, I went over to take a look, and it's a keeper!

Called *In our Own backyard: A celebration of the East Bay*



Bob Walker, *Point Pinole Twilight*, Point Pinole Regional Shoreline, November 1987

*Regional Parks*, it has more than forty images by the late Bob Walker on display until October 12. Taken from around 1982 to 1992, the exhibit shows the regional parks at their finest. (I found

this image on the Oakland Museum's website)

Most of the Museum is closed for renovation, but

this exhibit and the adjacent California Natural History section is well worth the visit.

**Did you get my email?** The one about our member, Jim Goldstein, who is putting on a photography workshop at Elkhorn Slough? He was telling us of his *SEA OTTERS OF MONTEREY—PHOTO TOUR* on 9/7 (8:00-2:00) and 9/14 (12:30-6:00pm). I understand our Rebecca Jackrel will be teaching too. I also know there are a few spaces still available if you're interested. Ask questions at: [workshops@JIM-Galleries.com](mailto:workshops@JIM-Galleries.com). Jim's a fantastic nature photog, and so is Rebecca. I'm taking advantage of all this expertise on the 9/7 tour which is why I won't be at the Zoo Field Trip.

**Sometimes there's just too much** going on. Dang it! I want to do it all!

**Since this has the tendency** to be a gossip column (who moi?) I'll say it's just great that Gene Morita is with us again. Gene lives up in the wilds of Marin and is very

active in the Marin club as well as N4C. He gave up his Photochrome membership a while back, but, ah HA, found he just couldn't live without it and reinstated. Nice. Great to see you, Gene. We all look forward to seeing some of your gorgeous images soon.

**Our members are wandering** all over the place these days. Richard Zimmerman just spent some time on the Oregon coast; and quality time that must have been. Lighthouses, shorelines, trees, fog.... Stacy Boorn is off in Alaska (see elsewhere in this newsletter for proof) and Deborah Hall was up Alaska way recently as well. Deborah reports clear skies over Denali. Fortunate lady, that one. Now, she's off to Burning Man. Oh, yeah! I want to see the pictures from *that* one.

**Others wandered off** as well, but my ears were not long enough to catch the details...

**This issue** of the *Color News* is eight pages, and you know? There are still articles in the queue with promises of more to come! I am so grateful for our members who write well and are willing to share their experiences, and their knowledge. Did I say "thank you" yet? Thank you Contributors.

**I don't often give** a critique of a meeting (but). Our 8/21 meeting, where Enrique Aguirre described "DAM" or Digital Asset Management, had people at the edge of their seats. This professional photographer showed (with illustrations) just how he manages his voluminous collection of images. And a lot more..

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**Stacy-Continued**...tration of the two previous weeks of almost constant rain seemed like a distant memory. By Saturday morning the mountain was no longer visible and the rain returned.

Camp Denali is dedicated to being a green community and is quite self contained and amazingly run. There are about 25 cabins, each with their own outhouse, potbelly wood stove, propane lamps and beautiful hand made quilts for the beds. Everyone eats in a common area with meals that have surpassed any restaurant I have been to on my journey! (Showers and flush toilets aren't too far away on the grounds if you need/want them.)

Only from quite a distance did we see wolves and 4 pups playing gracefully, a few grizzlies and various birds. NO moose, so hopefully in the next stage of my journey! But it is raining again...



# Welcome New Members

Sus Cho  
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## Rebecca Meets Moose

### *Story & image by Rebecca Jackrel*

"Hang on, go back. I saw something in that meadow." How anyone could see in the inky pre-dawn darkness I'll never know. I was focused on keeping the car on the ice and snow-covered road. I turned the car around and sure enough, at the far side of the meadow was a female moose and her yearling calf. They were slowly rising to their feet after sleeping the night, shaking the snow from their coats and preparing to munch a few willows for breakfast. It was much too dark to photograph so we sat in the car and watched, waiting for the light. After what felt like hours (more like 30 minutes) we slid from our seats, closed the doors quietly and moving slowly and with purpose, pulled our gear from the back of the car. I set up my 600mm and sat down on the bank to observe and shoot. The moose knew we were there - mom looked us over and apparently dismissed us as unthreatening. They moved around the field, the calf getting bolder as the morning grew lighter, exploring the far reaches of the large meadow.

Suddenly, mom broke into a trot, making a beeline straight for me. My heart skipped a beat and I calculated whether I thought I

could get to the car before this massive creature turned me into a puddle of mush. About 30 feet from me, she stopped and pulled a large mouthful of grass up. She gazed at me, chewing thoughtfully - all I could fit in the frame was an ear and an eye. At least the ear was forward - an upset moose will put her ears against her head not unlike a horse. She turned toward her calf and moaned as only a moose can do. Within moments he trotted over to join her. I switched to my 300mm lens and clicked away while the pair munched contentedly. I don't know if she wanted to keep a closer eye on us or if she felt there was safety in numbers but she clearly was not offended by our presence.

About 10 minutes later another car arrived - two people leapt from the car and ran toward us... and the moose - small point and shoots held in front of them, flashes popping, shouting to each other. I turned back to moose and her ears were pinned back against her head, her feet were braced apart and she looked pissed. It was a frightening sight and I said softly under my breath "Please don't kill us momma..." I was both thankful and very sad when she turned abruptly and trotted into the forest nipping at her calf to make him take the lead. The two newcomers were

high-fiving each other and shouting, "Dude! Did you see that?!" Without a single word of apology for ending our photo shoot, the new-comers jumped back into their car and sped away in pursuit of their next awesome wildlife encounter.



When we saw them again, they were chasing a bull moose near Maligne Lake.

The moose stepped OVER the hood of their car as easily as I would step over a tricycle. I think it finally settled in what a huge animal they were dealing with because all the shouting and flashes stopped dead; they got back in the car and stared silently at the retreating animal. Once the moose had been gone several minutes they drove slowly away and we never saw them again. Happily, the Bull Moose reappeared shortly after and was very indulgent of our slow, calm approach.

Most of the time... It isn't the animals I worry about... It's the people.

## Emperor Penguin Photography Story & Photos By Enrique Aguirre

Our first encounter with an area or a species can be really stressful. How long will I have to work with it? what shots do I need to get? How do I represent this place, animal or situation?

At one point I realized that I was caught in the haze of the battle, so to speak, and needed to take a step back and think, look for my shot.

We tend to get carried away into the portrait shot or taking straight documents of the scene.

Finding the courage to 'waste' some of that precious time trying to get creative is a difficult thing to do. Difficult but necessary.

At some point during that first encounter we need to think out of the box and find our take on the

scene that is unfolding before us.

On my first, and at the moment also my last, trip to an emperor penguin (*Aptenodytes forsterii*) I had this figured out.

We were expected to spend 4 days 'parked' in the ice shelf off Snow Hill Island and taking short helicopter rides to the colony. When we arrived we found heavy ice in the area and the only safe parking spot we found was over 25 miles away from the colony. Flight times would be longer and weather windows would be smaller.

On our first day it all looked promising, the weather looked like it would hold and we all managed to shoot at the main colony. We immediately began to photograph the chicks and adults as they went on with their daily routines... feed, sleep, preen, etc.

At one point I realized that I was caught in the haze of the battle, so to speak, and needed to take a step back and think, look for my shot.

Penguins are a classic example of what is called contrast camouflage. The top of the bird is black to hide it from predators looking down in to the dark waters and their bellies are white, light, just like the surface viewed from below. Two of the larger species (*Aptenodytes*) have prominent ear patches with bright colors.

these ear patches play a very important role in the penguin's courtship. Bright patches result in high breeding success, dull patches will result in rejection by a mate.

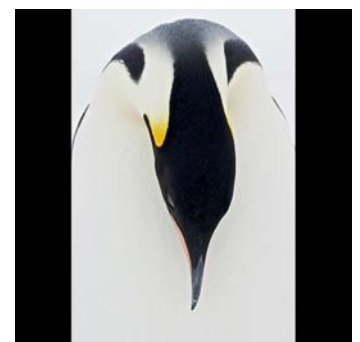
During the courtship the pair will stand in front of each other and perform a ritual courtship dance, bowing their heads and making trumpeting noises. While I watched I noticed that the ear patches took on a completely different aspect when viewed from the mate's perspective. The semicircular patches now looked like 'go faster' stripes on a race car, all pointing towards the bowed head of the bird.

Something clicked, I wanted that photo! I needed that photo!!! The only problem was that I always had another bird in the position required to take the shot.

Luckily for me penguins will some times bow at any creature of their same height... even a photographer on his knees. One solitary bird approached me head on, then stopped and started to bow!

I knew that once it started it would repeat the move a few times expecting a response so I took care to compose the shot close cropped to include the head and neck. I dialed in an exposure that would carefully over-expose slightly and render the whites as white as possible but still maintain a hint of feather detail and in doing so keep the blacks from blocking out. The almost white out conditions on the ice shelf at that moment eliminated any intrusive background elements or color and made handling the exposure much easier.

The result is an image that is subtle, almost monochromatic, with just a hint of color in the beak and ear patch, an image where lines move up from the edges and curve in and down meeting at the tip of the penguins beak, almost abstract.



*Emperor Penguin*

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.photochrome.org](http://www.photochrome.org)

**Board of Directors—2008**

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Alice Steele  
Richard Zimmerman.

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Jim Kelly



**.Waiting for the Right moment**

*"Something clicked, I wanted that photo! I needed that photo!!! The only problem was that I always had another bird in the position required to take the shot... "*

*Enrique Aguirre*

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