



## What's happening at Photochrome in NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2009

**Nov. 5—7:30pm Theme Night—  
"Transportation"**

**"Long Shutter Time"**

**You may enter up to two images for each theme.**

We open the meeting with a "PicTwo" from the Winery Field Trip Then we will see how the subjects of the evening are interpreted. We have such diversely artistic members it will be great fun to see what mischief ensues.

**Nov. 12—7:30pm Board Meeting**

This is may be the last meeting in 2009. (One may be scheduled in December if needed). This is a good time for all members to think about serving their Club in planning activities and events for the year. It is held in the Gallery Annex / Fireside Room upstairs on the main level of the Church and lasts about an hour and a half.

**Nov 14—9:00AM IMAGE FEST**

**Details for this grand event are below.**

**Nov. & Dec. Field Trips**

No organized Field Trips are scheduled, but look for those perfect holiday scenes and record them for the PicTwo in January 2010.

**Happy Thanksgiving everyone!**



**Image-Fest  
2009,  
Saturday,  
November 14**

**9:00am – 1:00 pm  
with lunch!**

**All Member  
Competition**

**Win Prizes  
for best  
Pictorial,  
Nature,  
Photo Travel,  
Photo Journalism  
&  
Creative images.**

**Special prizes in  
six other  
categories.**

**See the August  
Color News or  
look on-line at**

***Photochrome.org***

***for very  
complete  
details.***

*Thank you to the The Silvas who have again volunteered to make the lunch a success, so offer to bring a side dish or dessert for everyone to enjoy.  
At the next meeting, let the Silvas know what YOU will bring..*

# **Annual Awards Banquet**

## ***Saturday, December 12***

**Cocktails: 5:30, Dinner: 6:30pm**  
**Irish Cultural Center—2700-45th Ave.—San Francisco**

**\$33—Filet of Salmon, Lamb with mint**  
**\$27—Vegetarian Lasagne**

### **Image Fest Awards**

**Pictorial review of the Club's best work during 2009**

*Tickets on sale now or make reservations  
by email to [Kibre@att.net](mailto:Kibre@att.net)  
or visit our website, [Photochrome.org](http://Photochrome.org)*

### **A Warning: The Story of a Computer “Crash”**

**By Alan Heald**

*Although the following is my “tale of woe”, it clearly has implications for anyone who owns computer. The story began one morning my laptop suddenly decided to convert itself into an unresponsive bunch of wires in a shiny red aluminum casing. This is the story of a computer “crash”.*

Early one morning, I sat down at my trusty Dell XPS laptop and a cup of coffee. I planned to continue editing a photo I had been working on the night before.

That evening I had been doing some routine cloning and contrast modifications, but I just hadn't quite finished tweaking the image. Photoshop was working normally that night, and the computer was working perfectly fine. Before going to bed, I shut down the computer.

Next morning though, the story was different. When I turned on my machine I immediately got a warning from Microsoft that “there was a problem opening normally”. An understatement. Suddenly I was unable to open my laptop; I was unable to shut it down either. No mouse, no response, nothing! I ended up shutting it down by abruptly turning off the power. I then tried to power it up again. My computer just sat there with a dull looking screen.

I picked up my dying laptop and hauled it down to my computer technician. He first told me “not to worry... that he would get it running again in no time”. About an hour later, however, I received a call saying “Mr. Heald, I'm sorry to tell you this, but you have a serious

**DECEMBER EVENTS**

**Board Meeting  
(If needed)  
December 10**

**Annual Banquet  
December 12**

problem. This is one of the worst crashes I've ever seen!”

The only solution was to erase my hard drive, and begin again. This meant that ALL programs, all files, and all photos were going to be permanently erased. Nothing on the computer could be saved!

A few hours later, I picked up my Dell with Windows Vista newly installed. In effect I had a brand new computer with nothing on it. Swell!

The happy part of this tale is that I had been pretty faithful at backing up my files using a small external hard drive, one which plugs into a USB port. My

## The Black Crow: A Cautionary Tale

Photo and story by Dan Sarago

Sometimes, taking a step back to get the shot is not always the best strategy.

My friend Patty and I were walking along a windy path out at Fort Funsten last Sunday. It was a typical fog-laced afternoon, full of dogwalkers and hang gliders going about their usual business. I brought along my camera and a 300mm lens, hoping to shoot some hang gliders sailing through the mist.

Just past an old military battery, we heard the unmistakable caw of a black crow. We both looked up, and there he was: perched huge and cackling, his black outline contrasted against the stark gray sky, begging to be photographed (or so I thought). I raised my camera upward and thought, "just one step back and I'll have him totally in frame."

I took that step backward, and fell about three feet off an incline, hitting my left shoulder blade and rib cage hard on something other than sand. I yelled, and Patty was at my side in an instant. I was in a lot of pain and sat there for 20 minutes before attempting to move. It was difficult to breathe and every breath brought even more

pain. We drove to the VA Hospital over on Clement St. and spent the next five hours in the emergency room where I had x rays taken and was given a shot of Demerol. The good news is that I broke no ribs, but I would be in pain for the next few days. With the help of Vicodin and rest, I should be OK.

I kept thinking of that blackbird all evening and remembered his trickster identity. Maybe his cackling was a warning: "Watch where you step, brother" or, most importantly: "Don't let your eagerness to get the shot blind you and put you in harm's way".

So, thanks Mr. Crow, for another humbling lesson learned the hard way.



*Hang Glider enjoying his ride, unperturbed by events below.*

### Selective Focus—Alice Steele

**Editorial**—We have a strong organization with dedicated members who carry us through the year with planning for meetings, events and our year-end banquet. Most of this is carried out through our Board of Directors, a loosely knit group of about 10-12 people who meet once a month on the 2nd Thursday.

Some of these people have other commitments and must now leave the Board. Richard Zimmerman, Connie Louie, Stacy Boorn, and yes, yours truly, will not return for another term. (I've been on the board for some 14 years, and that's a long time!)

Remaining members, Enrique Aguirres, Chris Kibre, Weronika Patena, Alan Heald, Gary Larsen, Burr Preston and Martin Taylor will be joined by Bob Nelson whom you know as a delightful contributor to the Color News.

Now it's YOUR turn. Can you take on a few Club responsibilities for a while? Tell any Board member of your willingness to serve on the Board.

Please do not wait to be asked. It just doesn't work that way. So, want to help? Say so!

Oh, yes. I'm leaving the Board but not the Color News. Keep on sending in those great stories and images! I look forward to them.

### FOTOCLAVE 2009

**Oct 30-Nov. 1—Doubletree Hotel, Modesto, CA.**

Several of our members plan to attend this popular event. It happens every two years and always has fascinating programs. If you want to go, there probably still is room, so look up the complete information at [N4C.org](http://N4C.org) and tell us all about it when you come home.

### Planning Ahead

**By Gary Larsen**

We will soon start preparing for next year's calendar activities. We are looking for members' input for Theme Nights, educational material to present at our Exploring Photography meetings, Field Trip locations which will include an interesting neighborhood in San Francisco, and any other item or ideas you may have to make next year an interesting, fun and learning experience in photography. Please send your ideas to [gelarsen@comcast.net](mailto:gelarsen@comcast.net) or any other board member.

**President:** Enrique Aguirre  
**Vice President**—Stacy Boorn  
**Secretary**—Weronika Patena  
**Treasurer**—Chris Kibre

**Board Members:**

Alan Heald—Connie Louie  
Gary Larsen—Burr Preston  
Alice Steele—Martin Taylor  
Richard Zimmerman

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*Color News Deadline  
3rd Friday of the Month*

## Story of a Computer Crash—by Alan Heald, Continued from Page 2

photos and my other files had been saved! The only tricky and time consuming thing was reinstalling all the programs themselves. In particular, I had to make a nervous phone call to Adobe to tell them about my “crash”, and to say why I was unable to de-commission my version of Photoshop before getting permission to reload the program. This is actually a big deal because Adobe is very cautious about not allowing unauthorized copies of its programs get into the wrong hands.

In the end, my tale of woe had a happy ending. Except for that one file that I had been working on, everything else is back on my machine. It is as if nothing had happened!

The moral of my story is obvious. If, in fact, some of you are sitting at your computers without doing regular backups, you do so at your own peril! External hard drives, like my small drive from Western Digital are not costly at all. Also, they are definitely easy to use. I take the time every week or so to make sure that important files and photos are also saved on the external drive. It only takes a minute or so to do a backup. All of you should be doing this doing this as part of your routine.

After surviving this crash, I thought that it would be smart to relay my story on to all of you as a “word to the wise”. Don’t risk losing your work by failing to do your backups. Use an external hard drive!

**Meetings are held the First and Third Thursdays of the month, except for November and December. They begin at 7:30pm 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)**

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**Photochrome Club of San Francisco**  
**P. O. Box 27265**  
**San Francisco CA 94127-0265**  
**WWW.photochrome.org**



*Member of: The Photographic  
Society of America (PSA)  
since 1943*



*Member of: Northern California  
Council of Camera Clubs*

# PHOTOCHROME'S Annual Banquet—2009

**Saturday, December 12,  
Cocktails—5:50pm Dinner —6:30pm  
Irish Cultural Center  
2700—45th Ave, San Francisco**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

YES—reserve places for me (and my guests)

**Roast Leg of Lamb @ \$33** # \_\_\_\_\_

**Filet of Salmon @ \$33** # \_\_\_\_\_

**Vegetarian Lasagne @ \$27** # \_\_\_\_\_

My check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Mail to:

**Photochrome Club of San Francisco  
P O Box 27265  
San Francisco, CA 94127-0265**

# 2010 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL PHOTOCHROME

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

(please print\*)

___ Full Member	\$45
___ Associate Member	\$20
___ Honorary Member	-0-

\*Photochrome sometimes uses e-mail to alert members of upcoming attractions. If you would prefer NOT to receive such alerts, please check here: \_\_\_\_\_

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