

Camerasderie

A close-up photograph of a flowering branch, likely a quince or similar species, featuring numerous small, five-petaled flowers in shades of pink and white. The flowers are clustered along dark, woody stems with small, green, oval-shaped leaves. The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly a wall or rock.

March 2016

Volume 145

*Our Camera Club
Turns 50!!!*

Camera Club of Laguna Hills, California; Organized 1966 - www.lhcameraclub.com

*** A Member Club of the Photographic Society of America, www.psa-photo.org ***



The following article was published in "Leisure World History" Spring 1981. Many thanks to **Brenda Moore** for discovering it in the Laguna Woods Village Historical Society and to **Mac McNamar** for transcribing it.

"By Harold C. Kime

THE CAMERA CLUB

The Camera Club has blazoned light and color onto the big screens of all the clubhouses in Leisure World, and has gained a reputation for its delightful color slide shows. The club roster numbers some 500 members, and many residents swell the audiences.

It all started before the community was a year old, when several *aficionados* got together to share travel memories. A formal organization took shape in January 1966, and sessions were held at Clubhouse 2. The twice-monthly meetings soon outgrew the small dining rooms, and quarters were found at the then lightly-staffed medical center. A waiting list was soon established when attendance began to exceed the 100-seat capacity.

When Clubhouse 3 opened, dining room number two was adequate for a time, but the fire-marshal threatened to shut down the meetings unless attendance was held down to the posted capacity.

Today two sessions a month convene in the auditorium. CAMERA ONE brings the best photographic talent in Southern California. SHOWCASE night features shows that have been

critiqued by classmates in the Clubhouse 4 facility.

The third monthly session in a dining room is dedicated to competition. A judge evaluates the pictures, and designates ribbon winners.

Nearly fifty club members are affiliated with the prestigious Photographic Society of America, and many of them have earned high honors in international competitions. Each year the club brings to the community one or more of the international competitions, a treat not enjoyed by many communities.

The United California Bank commissions the club to hold an annual competition to select the picture to adorn next year's calendar. Generous cash awards are provided.

The Camera Club of Laguna Hills is chartered as a non-profit corporation. Its chief philanthropic activity is in providing cash awards for photo competitions at Saddleback Community College. It also contributes up-to-date books on photography to the local library.

Print-making is a fascinating facet of photography. Recent breakthroughs in amateur processing have taken the tedium out of enlarging in color. So today the work of print-makers is being seen on the walls of clubhouses, contesting for public interest with productions by the devotees of brush and palette.

There is, of course, instruction in general photography, in the use of today's sophisticated equipment, and in the art of improving slides by various manipulative processes – techniques that often turn duds into winners.

All classes are held in Clubhouse 4 at the photo facility, with a generous supply of equipment, paid for in part by Golden Rain, in part by the club.

For this age of electronics there are classes in the use of tape recorders, from simple cassettes to complex reel-to-reel machines.

Front Cover: "Sakura Splendor" by **Mary-Rose Hoang**, our featured member in this issue.

The major goal is, naturally, to add music or sound effects to shows. It also means that the show can go on – even if the show-maker has laryngitis!

To keep club members informed there is a monthly publication christened, appropriately, **CAMERADERIE**. This apt title was suggested by its first editor Irvin Borders, a journalism major.

Club Presidents: John Lohmann, 1966; Leslie Tillinghast, 1967; Martin Fisher, 1968; Charles Dempsey, 1969; Glenn Giddings, 1970; Malcolm Masteller, 1971-72; John Partin, 1973; Harold Kime, 1974-75; Clyde Vroman, 1976; Gertrude Cohn, 1977-78; Murray Golub, 1979; Winifred Escher, 1980.”

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Eulogy for Traditional Slides

Born: January 1966 in Laguna Hills, California
 Passed Away: December 15, 2008, Laguna Woods, California
 Laid to Rest at Clubhouse 5 with 100+ in attendance

Now we pause a moment to pay tribute
 To all who, over the years, took time to contribute.
 There is much we could reflect on,
 But taking too much time would cause some to yawn.
 Regardless of the subject matter entered: butterfly, door knob,
 flower, or balloons soaring,
 No more traditional slides 7's, 8's, or 9's-judges scoring.
 No more wondering where to mark the dot
 On the slide before you put it in the carousel slot!
 No more laughter, poking fun, or dinosaur shouts
 At the TGIF (Thanks God It's Film) faithful holdouts.
 Now that this chapter in the Camera Club is being laid to rest.
 No fear, a new medium carrying the torch, will be blessed.
 There is not much more we can say,
 Since traditional slides have had their day.
 Most will sing and shout "Hurray, Hurray"
 Digital is now in full sway!
 As we say this final farewell,
 Please do not be rash and toss all of your slides in the trash.
 You may be surprised when you win a prize,
 Because you had your slides scanned and digitalized!
 Though traditional cameras, projectors and slides may cease,
 We take this last moment to remember and allow them to
REST IN PEACE! REST IN PEACE!



Upcoming Club Critiques & Deadlines

Monday, March 28: Digital Critique

Submission by: March 24

Categories:

Pictorial,
 Monochromatic,
 Special Subject:
 Children

Saturday, April 9: Print Critique

Submission by: April 6

Categories:

Color Pictorial,
 Monochrome,
 Special Subject: Macro

Monday, June 13: Slide Show Competition

Submission by: to be announced

For guidelines and rules of the competitions, go to <http://www.lhcameraclub.com/Critiques.html>

*Transcribed from the January 2009 Cameraderie issue, Volume 99,
 And Shared at the Club's 2008 Holiday Dinner*

The Camera Club's Vocabulary

By *Mary-Rose Hoang*

Then.....

1. Film
2. Roll of Film
3. Film/SLR/35mm Camera
4. ASA
5. Negative
6. Dark Room or Wet Lab
7. Manual Retouch with Dodge and Burn, with special pencils, etc...
8. Contact Print
9. Develop a roll of film
10. Slide Show
11. Slide & Slide Tray
12. anything equivalent?
13. Evaluation

Now.....

1. Digital Image
2. Memory Card
3. DSLR Camera
4. ISO
5. JPEG or RAW
6. Digital Dark Room
7. Editing Software to manipulate images e.g. Lightroom, Photoshop
8. Digital Image
9. Edit the pictures
10. Digital Slide Show
11. Digital Slide in a software
12. Histogram
13. Digital Critique

These are only a few terms to illustrate the club's growth and adaptation with time and technology. Most of the physical aspect of photography pertaining to film and wet lab has been transferred to a digital environment. We no longer need to "develop a roll of film." Instead, we "download our images" from a "memory card" to our computer. Better yet, with our pictures taken with a cell phone camera, we can "upload to the Internet" and "share" them quickly on social media.

Luckily, the terminology for capturing the images still prevails. What would we do if f-stop, exposure, exposure compensation, shutter speed, aperture, stop down, wide open, etc.... are replaced by a whole slew of new terms? That will require a total retraining for the multitude of us photographers.

Nowadays editing software plays an important role in emulating the actions used in the film days and in helping photographers manipulate their images. From "Elements", "iPhoto" to "Lightroom" and "Photoshop", we are armed with robust tools to play with. Plus "presets" help us create that special look in few keystrokes. For slide show software, "Photodex Proshow Gold" and "Producer" as well as "iMovie" are the most popular for our members.

New words are added to the photographic lexicon such as "image stabilizer" and "crop factor". Some terms have even become mainstream. If you need to add a person to a group picture, just "photoshop" her in! This word in particular has started to get a negative connotation. If an image has been "photoshopped", oftentimes it means it has been modified beyond the accepted norms and may look fake and contrived!

And so, as technology continues to evolve, we can expect more new words to come into play. "I 'youtubed' my slide show" perhaps?



Did you know that the Camera Club is on Facebook? Check it out: [Camera Club of Laguna Hills](#)

Updates from the Education Committee By *Jim Graver*

The Education program started this year with “**From Camera to Computer**”, a presentation by David Dearing and Joel Goldstein. Topics included uploading images from your memory card to your computer and how to share them using Emails, Facebook, Instagram, prints, and other media. A Q&A session followed the presentation and several knowledgeable camera club members provided personal assistance to others on the many features of their particular cameras.

“**Preserving Your Photos, Slides, Negatives, Movies, and Videos**”, presented by Mike Bajc of Digital Arts+, detailed the different ways of preserving and restoring, not only our current digital photos but also others in media of the past: slides, negatives, and videos. By having our photos digitized, we can then restore and edit them, thus enabling us to share these treasured memories with family members and others.

Digital Arts+ is located in Mission Viejo and specializes in preserving photos, slides, videos and video editing, movie and movie transfer to DVDs, photo restoration, and photo archiving, utilizing the latest equipment and software that give their customers the best possible professional results. For members of the Camera Club, Digital Arts+ offers a 20% discount, and all work is done on location. If you need any of these services, contact Mike at (949) 206-1644 for more information, or check their website at <http://www.digitalartsplus.com/>. Be sure to mention that you are from the Camera Club.

A beginning class on “**Photoshop Elements**”, a popular photo editing program, was offered over seven weekly sessions with topics such as organizing your images, primary tool sets and their uses and options, understanding the different kinds of “Layers” and how they work, and the most common options to fix and enhance your photos. It’s currently in its 5th

week of instruction under the guidance of Art Ramirez who brings over 40 years of photographic experience, and who strives to teach people the skills they need to become better photographers and produce better photographs.

Future classes would be offered for Beginning and Advanced Photoshop Elements, and Beginning Digital Photography.

An “**Introduction to Picasa**” class was given by Marianna Spoelder, an active Camera Club member. Picasa is a popular and free photo editing program by Google; however Google is doing away with it and migrating it to Google Photos. In the meantime, Marianna explained the basic functionality of the program, from importing our photos from various sources and organizing them, to editing them by color enhancing, cropping, adding contrast, and straightening. She also covered the use of filters and how to share photos with others.

Fred Granger Learning Center is a classroom located at Camera Club facility in Club House 4. With a small classroom setting, it excels in providing hands-on training via a variety of computer software to organize and enhance your digital images. Classes and monthly Photography workshops on Photography techniques and software, are held in Clubhouse 4. If you are a Camera Club member and have a short 2 to 3-hour class to present, or if you would like to join the Education committee, please contact us at lhcc@lhcameraclub.com

Future Programs scheduled in the coming months will be Flower Photography, Mat Cutting & Dry Mounting your photos, Shooting Video with your camera, Landscape Photography and Wildlife and Action Photography.





SPOTLIGHT on our MEMBERS

Author's note: *As writer of the Cameraderie featured person article, I get to influence the choice of the individual selected for each issue. For all Mary-Rose has done in bringing the Cameraderie back to life and making it such an enjoyable publication, I chose her for our featured person.*

Spotlight on Mary-Rose

By **Mike Bray**

Mary-Rose was born in Saigon, Vietnam. She explained that the city of her birth is now called Ho Chi Minh City, but for her, it will always be remembered as Saigon.

America's "peace with honor" and withdrawal of all combat forces from Vietnam hastened the fall of South Vietnam and the takeover of Saigon by communist forces on April 30, 1975. Operation "Frequent Wind" was the final phase of American involvement in evacuating Americans and highly placed Vietnamese. On April 29th and 30th of 1975 the final 7,000 evacuees were airlifted out of Saigon by helicopter. In all, more than 50,000 were evacuated in the final months of the conflict.

Unfortunately, Mary-Rose and her four brothers and her mother and father were unable to get out during this initial exodus. It took nearly three years for Mary-Rose and her family to make their escape by boat. This carried the great risk of being caught and executed, but the dream of a new life and the freedoms in America were more powerful than the dangers the family faced. Having survived storm tossed seas, skulking pirates, and Malaysian soldiers, Mary-Rose and family were granted sponsorship by an Atlanta-based Lutheran church. A new life for the Tran family began.

With assistance from the Lutheran church, the Tran family worked their way into their American dream. For Mary-Rose, a first job in a bank vault organizing paperwork gave way to a college

education in California. Working her way through college with work-study grants, loans, and family support, Mary-Rose graduated from UCI with a degree in Information and Computer Science in 1985. Her career path traversed jobs at McDonnell Douglas, FileNet, and the computer division of Ernst and Young.

In 1997, Mary-Rose met Bao Hoang. They married in May of 1999. His nickname to family members is "the doctor." This is due to the fact that Bao has dual undergraduate degrees in mathematics and engineering, two masters degrees and a Ph.D. Successful in education and at work, Bao retired early from Raytheon and now spends time making detailed plans for travel trips with Mary-Rose. As active travelers, few can rival Mary-Rose and Bao. Their extensive list of trips includes journeys to Antarctica, Myanmar, Cambodia, Taipei, the Vatican, Germany, Monaco, Morocco, Andorra, Norway and 54 other countries. They have traveled to 7 continents and visited nearly all



Mary-Rose

— continued

the national parks in the U.S. Phew! I wonder how many suitcases they have worn out. Mary-Rose shared that about 30 additional countries are still on their list of future destinations.

Mary-Rose is in her 3rd year as editor of the LHCC Cameraderie. This large task barely predates her joining the camera club, but her involvement in photography has much deeper roots. Younger brother Pascal had a short career as a professional photographer, and Mary-Rose spent time assisting him when the family called Atlanta home. Restoration of a family album also gave Mary-Rose impetus to get more involved in photography. Soon an older model S3 gave way to a Canon 60D with an 18-200mm lens, which now functions as her all occasion travel camera.



Oh, the joy of Continuous Shooting to capture this moment!



In addition to editing and publishing the Cameraderie, Mary-Rose stays busy with 3 watercolor classes, 2 tai-chi classes, Kara's Intermediate Slide Show class, and one class featuring a guest lecture series. The creativity involved with watercolor painting and photography overlaps, so I asked Mary-Rose how she views her two hobbies.

"I have always liked watercolor painting because of the delicate, airy and transparent quality to it. In both watercolor and photography, the emphasis is put on light. Light gives objects their form or shape. In watercolor, to show the presence of light, we use different values of a color, from light to dark, to give the impression of form and space."

Mary-Rose explained that pure white from the paper is often



Mary-Rose

— continued

used in watercolor paintings to emphasize the point where light hits an object. This is a 'no-no' in photography when whites are blown out and have no texture. Conversely, watercolors never show pure black, but will have a variety of darker values from gray to purple to show shadow.

"Photography helps me see the difference in values. We can boost the contrast and saturation in our photos to make the pictures 'pop.' On top of that, with my numerous photographs of locations we've visited, I have plenty of subjects to paint without having to worry about copyright infringement!"

Without a doubt, her two mutually supportive hobbies will keep Mary-Rose growing as an artist and continue to complement her busy travel schedule. We camera club members are thankful she finds enough time in her busy schedule to keep our Cameraderie such a first class publication!



*Photography & Watercolor Paintings
by Mary-Rose Hoang*

Photography TermsBy **MRH****Of Interest...**

- ◆ "[In Focus: Daguerreotypes](http://www.getty.edu/art/exhibitions/focus_daguerreotypes/)" exhibit, The Getty Center, November 3, 2015 - March 20, 2016; http://www.getty.edu/art/exhibitions/focus_daguerreotypes/
- ◆ "[Robert Mapplethorpe: The Perfect Medium](http://www.getty.edu/art/exhibitions/mapplethorpe/)" exhibit, The Getty Center, March 15 - July 31, 2016; <http://www.getty.edu/art/exhibitions/mapplethorpe/>
- ◆ "[The Thrill of the Chase: The Wagstaff Collection of Photographs](http://www.getty.edu/visit/exhibitions/future.html)" exhibit, The Getty Center, March 15 - July 31, 2016; <http://www.getty.edu/visit/exhibitions/future.html>
- ◆ "[Robert Mapplethorpe: The Perfect Medium](http://www.lacma.org/art/exhibition/robert-mapplethorpe-perfect-medium)" exhibit, LACMA, March 20 - July 31, 2016; <http://www.lacma.org/art/exhibition/robert-mapplethorpe-perfect-medium>
- ◆ "[In Focus: Electric](http://www.getty.edu/visit/exhibitions/future.html)" exhibit, The Getty Center, April 5—August 28, 2016; <http://www.getty.edu/visit/exhibitions/future.html>
- ◆ "[Mummies of the World](https://www.bowers.org/index.php/exhibitions/upcoming-exhibitions/457-mummies-of-the-world)" exhibit, Bowers Museum, March 19 - September 5, 2016; <https://www.bowers.org/index.php/exhibitions/upcoming-exhibitions/457-mummies-of-the-world>
- ◆ "[Japanese Prints and Photographs](http://www.lacma.org/art/exhibition/paths-through-modernity)" exhibit, LACMA, May 21, 2016 - September 25, 2016; <http://www.lacma.org/art/exhibition/paths-through-modernity>

One-Shot AF: One-Shot Autofocus, suitable for still subjects. When you press the shutter button halfway, the camera will focus only once.

AI Servo AF: or Artificial Intelligence Servo is Canon's predictive autofocus system. It's best used for moving subjects when the focusing distance keeps changing. While you hold down the shutter button halfway, the subject will be focused continuously. Nikon's similar term AF-C means Continuous Focus.

AI Focus AF: this Canon mode switches the AF mode from One-Shot AF to AI Servo AF automatically if the still subject starts moving. Nikon's term is AF-A for Automatic Autofocus.

Manual Focus: by adjusting the focus herself, the photographer achieves the greatest control.



Google Photos

By *Patricia Patti*

As of March 15, 2016, the Picasa desktop application, a free, user-friendly photo editing software that a lot of us are familiar with, will no longer be supported. There will be no more development or future updates. Also Picasa Web Albums service will be closed as of May 1, 2016. When I first heard this news, I was concerned. Picasa was the first editing program I learned to use in my photography class. I like it because it is easy and fun and a simple way to organize my pictures.

Google stated that the primary reason for retiring Picasa was that it wanted to focus its efforts “entirely on a single photo service”, the cross-platform, web-based Google Photos. The transition is easy. If you use Picasa Web Albums and you log into Google Photos, your pictures and videos will be there. Google Photos desktop uploader can be found at photos.google.com/apps

Since it was launched in May 2015, Google Photos has garnered glowing reviews and is rated the best of its kind. Below the many advantages it offers are included but not limited to:

- ◆ All your photos and videos will be accessible on all your devices, and will be backed up automatically.
- ◆ You can easily find photos by what’s in them. Looking for a photo of your pet? Just tap the icon “dog”.
- ◆ Upload three or more photos of a scene and Google Photos will stitch them together into sweeping panoramas.
- ◆ It will automatically create GIFs with your series of shots.
- ◆ Its editing tools, filters and enhancers, are simple to use.
- ◆ You can share your photos instantly with family and friends.



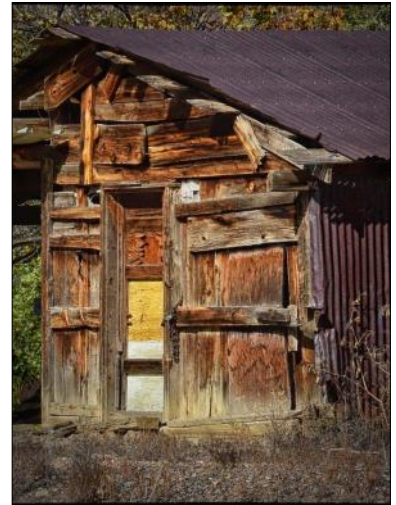
Web Images

Imagine all your photos easily accessed across your devices, and simply editable! And of course with Google’s famous unlimited storage! I’m impressed.

New Mexico - "The Land of Enchantment" - Part II

By *Bette and George Harper*

On November 7th, we travelled the Scenic Turquoise Trail (New Mexico State 14) south to the old mining towns of Cerrillos and Madrid, while we kept a close lookout for any old, derelict houses along the way and were fortunate to find several photo ops! The Cerrillos mining district is one of the oldest and most marked of the Old Spanish mineral developments in the Southwest. Madrid's rich history, dating from the early 1800's, has taken it from the discovery of coal, to a mining town, to today's distinctive artists community.



Madrid



Cerrillos Coral



We left Santa Fe November 8th, to drive to Socorro, NM, where we stayed for 2 nights, stopping at Abo, a pueblo ruin on the Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument on the way. Then it was on to Bosque Del Apache, a wildlife refuge, where tens of thousands of birds — including Sandhill cranes, Arctic geese, and many kinds of ducks gather each autumn and stay through the winter. The Refuge is 57,191 acres located along the Rio Grande near Socorro. Our visit was one week before the annual Festival of the Cranes held each November. We were out before daybreak and returned for sunset to photograph the birds leaving in the morning and returning at night. It was a wonderful sight to see and photograph!

<== *Sandhill Cranes, Bosque Del Apache*

The morning of November 10th, after one more photo shoot at Bosque, we drove to White Sands National Monument, located about 13 miles southwest of Alamogordo. Along the way, we stopped at Three Rivers Petroglyphs site on County Road B-30. At White Sands, you see the glistening white sands of New Mexico that engulf 275 square miles of desert and great wave-like dunes of gypsum sand. It was designated a national park in 1907, and in 1945 it housed the White Sands Proving Ground where the first atomic bomb was detonated.



Unfortunately, even though we had a wonderful time, we were rushed and often ran out of time to truly see and photograph all we wanted to. So if you travel to New Mexico for photography be sure to schedule enough time. In Santa Fe we stayed at The Villas de Santa Fe, a time share that offers units for rental at a reasonable price. It is located only a few blocks off the plaza and also offers shuttle service for places in Santa Fe. Other places we stayed were also moderately priced. In addition to the areas we visited, New Mexico offers many others. Among those are Chaco Canyon, the Natural Arches, Carlsbad Caverns, and Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu, Fort Union, Tent Rocks, Bandelier National Monument, the Bisti Badlands, Acoma Pueblo, and the Gila Cliff Dwellings. That is why New Mexico is called “The Land of Enchantment.”



Abo

White Sands National Monument

PHOTO OPS: March — May

- ◆ **St. Joseph's Day and The Return of the Swallows Celebration**, Mar 19, San Juan Capistrano Mission. [Click here for more information](#)
- ◆ **Bubblefest**, Mar 26 - Apr 10, Santa Ana, Discovery Cube. <http://www.discoverycube.org/oc/exhibits/bubblefest/>
- ◆ **Renaissance Faire**, Apr 9 - May 22, Irwindale. <http://www.renfaire.com/socal/>
- ◆ **Spring Garden Show**, Apr 28—May 1, Costa Mesa. <http://www.springgardenshow.com/>

Tech Corner — TIPS



- ◆ If you shoot JPEG, be sure to use the 'Fine' setting or the biggest size available.
- ◆ If you want more options in processing JPEGs, process them as RAW files in Photoshop. But know that you will not have as much information to work with.
- ◆ Take time to check the sharpness of that shot when in doubt, by zooming in tight in the preview mode and checking the focus. The small camera screen can fool you in thinking the shot is in focus when it is not.

Location, Location, Location

Spring Flower Displays

By *Mary-Rose Hoang*

Spring Equinox is March 20th this year but due to the warm weather of past months, we are already seeing many trees and flowers in bloom. We've compiled a list of various locations, from California to the US and to the world, for you to plan a visit to view the many beautiful displays of Mother Nature.

- ◆ **Carlsbad Flower Fields** in Carlsbad is only about 45 minutes from Orange County and features *ranunculus* as its main attraction. <http://www.theflowerfields.com/>
- ◆ **Descanso Gardens** in La Cañada Flintridge is known for its azaleas, tulips, and cherry blossoms. <https://www.descansogardens.org/>
- ◆ **Sherman Library and Gardens** in Corona Del Mar is a favorite destination for many of our members. <http://www.slgardens.org/>
- ◆ **The Huntington Library** in San Marino is another favorite. *Clivias* and *wisterias* are currently in bloom. You'll need a whole day to visit as its grounds are and include a library, botanical gardens, and art collections. <http://www.huntington.org/>
- ◆ **The Antelope Valley Poppy Reserve** in Antelope Valley is the best place to view *California poppies*. Bear in mind that poppies are sensitive to weather conditions: in windy weather they close and may not open if the weather is cloudy. Also often there is chilly wind in afternoons; so come early. http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=627
- ◆ **Death Valley National Park** is experiencing a "super bloom" similar to that of 2005, exploding with wildflowers that have been in hiatus. <http://www.nps.gov/deva/index.htm>; http://www.desertusa.com/wildflo/ca_dv.html. For a report of wildflowers in Nevada, go to <http://www.desertusa.com/>



Death Valley Superbloom, 2005

wildflo/nv.html

- ◆ **Anza-Borrego State Park** in eastern side of San Diego county is another hot spot to view wildflowers. http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=638
- ◆ The Northern California Cherry Blossom Festival in San Francisco's Japantown, in its 49th year, is celebrating the blooming of cherry blossoms. <http://sfcherryblossom.org/>

Outside of California several regions are noted for their showy displays:

- ◆ Have you ever heard of the '*bluebonnet*', state flower of Texas? It blooms in early spring, and can be readily found in fields and along the roadside throughout central and south Texas. Ennis is designated the "[Official Bluebonnet City of Texas](#)" and showcases over 40 miles of mapped driving Bluebonnet Trails. One of the common sights is cows grazing among these bluebonnet fields.
- ◆ If *tulips* are your favorite flowers, the [Skagit Valley Tulip Festival](#) in Washington state will delight you. The festival lasts the entire month of April although this year they expect an early bloom. I was told the fields rival the tulip fields of the Netherlands!
- ◆ And if *cherry blossoms* with their dainty pink petals give you shivers, you can go to either
 - * [Washington D.C.](#) where nearly 1,700 cherry trees lining Washington D.C.'s **Tidal Basin** burst into color in a beautiful display of floral fireworks, or
 - * [the International Cherry Blossom](#)

[Festival](#) in **Macon, Georgia** where more than 300,000 Yoshino cherry trees bloom each March.

Further away if you time your trip right, you can follow the *sakuras*, Japanese name for cherry blossoms, in Japan. My husband and I went there in 2010 and were blown away by the impressive yet delicate flowers. There, “hanami” or flower viewing is a serious Japanese tradition where people would have an outdoor party beneath the sakura during daytime or at night.



When we mention spring flowers, we have to include the [Keukenhof Garden](#) in Lisse, Holland, about 20 miles southwest of Amsterdam. Boasting 7 million bulbs, including 800 varieties of tulips, daffodils and hyacinths, and filling over 79 acres of color and fragrance, the garden is a favorite destination of flower lovers and alike.



And if you need a refresher course in photographing flowers, refer back to the award-winning article on “Flower Photography” by none other than our own Jim Graver in the [March 2015 Cameraderie](#) issue.



2016 Camera Club Schedule 2nd Quarter

Monday Mar 28: Digital Critique

Submission by: March 24

Categories: Pictorial, Monochromatic,
Special Subject: Children
Clubhouse 3, Dining Room 2 at 6:30PM

Saturday Apr 9: Print Critique

Submission by: April 6, 12:00 Noon

Categories: Color Pictorial, Monochrome,
Special Subject: Macro
Clubhouse 4, Classroom at 10:00AM

Monday Apr 11: Journey in Latin America by **Jim Cline**; Clubhouse 3, Dining Room 2 at 6:30PM

Tuesday Apr 12: Workshop: Beaux's Blooming Workshop

Clubhouse 4, Classroom at 1:15PM

Monday Apr 25: Showcase

Monday May 9: Showcase

Monday May 10: Workshop

Monday May 30: Digital Critique

Tuesday June 14: Workshop

For activities beyond the 2nd quarter and workshops, please check our club website for dates and topics, and look out for emails.



Be sure to visit the club website

www.lhcameraclub.com/latest_news for more details on lectures, workshops, showcases, and image critiques.

Tips to add Pizazz to Your Slide Shows

By **Mike Bray**

With the club's **Slide Show Competition** coming on **June 13**, now is a good time to get ready and prepared with these tips below.

Most of us have watched a lot of slideshows and "showcase" presentations. Some are much more entertaining than others. What's the secret? What are some ways to make your shows more interesting to your viewers?

Most shows are made from our travel experiences. Our trips provide a good venue for taking lots of photos. Being introduced to different sights gives us a chance to accumulate enough images to share them in a slideshow format with an audience. Following are some tips on how to take and organize your photos for your show.

- ◆ Try to tell a **story** of the place you are visiting. What is unique or unusual about the place you are visiting? Try to link your images to a theme your audience can relate to. Making a cursory outline or storyboard can help with this process and the organization of your photographs in the show.
- ◆ The **central theme** will evolve into related topics. In connecting the topics, you help create your storyline. For example, a storyline about a trip to France might link a variety of images relating to French attitudes towards lifestyle. Photos of food, art, transportation, architecture, shoppers, flower gardens, fruit stands, graffiti, etc. all help tell a story.



- ◆ Be sure to take photos of different subjects on your trip. **Variety** helps hold your viewer's interest. Think creatively toward what you photograph.
- ◆ In Proshow, use the "zoom-in" and "zoom-out" feature to add **movement** to your images, but don't overuse this feature. Too much zooming gets tiresome to watch.
- ◆ Avoid complex transitions and slide styles with too much theater. Simple works best.
- ◆ Use readable **maps** to keep viewers aware of your location.
- ◆ Try to remember to shoot some **video** when you travel. Adding short video clips to your slideshow gives a nice change of pace.
- ◆ Divide your show into **chapters**. This can add emphasis to different subjects that work separately to tell a bigger story.
- ◆ Choose **music** for your show that does not interfere with your viewer's enjoyment of your images. Don't force ethnic music into your show; an audience will appreciate music that is not distracting or annoying.

Plan the ending of your show to "close the loop" with your storyline. A **strong finish** leaves a lasting impression with your audience.



Tech Corner 

by MRH



The Magic of "Content-Aware Fill" in Photoshop

Need to add more pixels to the left or right of your photo? Or to the top or bottom? Fear not, the *Content-Aware Fill* feature in Photoshop comes to your rescue and it does a pretty good job at it.

In my example below, I want to add more pixels to the right of my image.

Step 1: I open the image in Photoshop (Figure 1).

Step 2: I press Ctrl-J (Win) or Command-J (Mac) to create a copy of my image. This preserves my original copy. And I change "Layer 1" to read "Content-Aware Fill" (Figure 2).



Figure 1

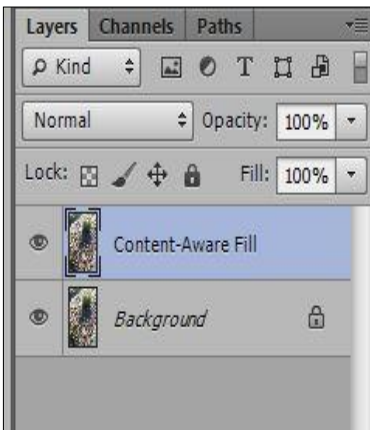


Figure 2

Step 3: I go to Image Menu at the top, click on 'Canvas Size...' to increase the canvas size of my image. This pop-up menu is displayed (Figure 3).

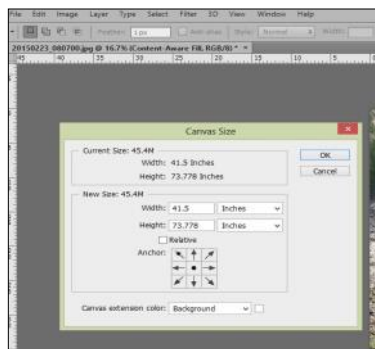


Figure 3

Step 4: in the "Anchor" section, I click on the middle left box to anchor my image to the left of the canvas; then through trial and error, I add 4 inches to the Width dimension making it 45.5 inches (Figure 4).

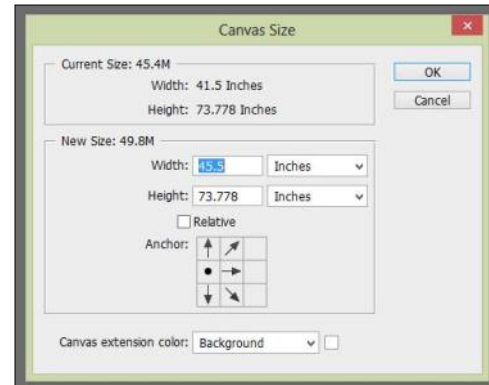


Figure 4

Step 5: I press OK. A blank white section is added to the right of the image (Figure 5).



Figure 5

Step 6: I select that blank section using the Rectangular Marquee Tool, then go Edit menu, and choose 'Fill...'; a pop-up menu will come up (Figure 6). You could also include a small bit of the edge area of the image when selecting.

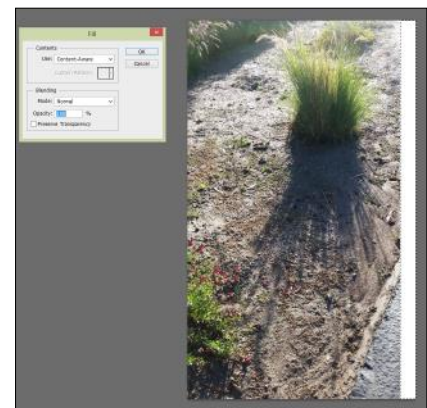


Figure 6

Step 7: I make sure 'Content-aware' is selected for the 'Use' prompt and leave 'Preserve Transparency' unchecked - this is very important (Figure 7).

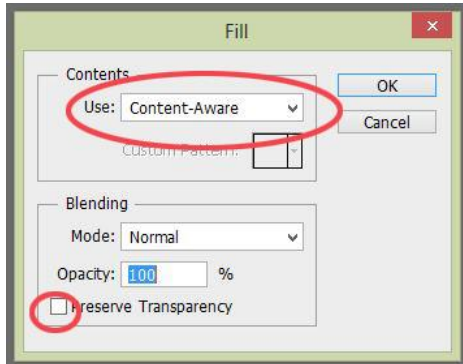


Figure 7

Step 8: I press OK. Et Voila! Photoshop fills that section in quite nicely for me. (Figure 8).



Figure 8

If you are not satisfied with the result, you could either undo this action and redo step 7 & 8, or use the Healing Brush to fine tune the newly filled in section. Note that if you choose to undo & redo, you'll get a different result each time.

This feature works best with

simple edges or when there are not many details. But even if I have to do some cleanup after 'content-aware fill' did its job, to me, it is a timesaver and it surely beats using the Clone Stamp Tool to add pixels, a painstaking job. I can also use this feature to erase and replace large areas in my image, or fill in a stitched panorama. But that is another tutorial for another time.



Welcome to New Members December 2015 - February 2016

Dr. Ralph Bloch
Roberta Buyers
David Cohen
Bill Gibson
Particia Darin
Myles Feinman
Eleanor Fumanti
Richard Fumanti
Pamela Guzman
Steve Heit
Se Bong Kang
Young Soon Kang
Jae Lee
Kyung Lee
Athena Lin
Barbara Nobis
Jarod Nozawa
Stacy Joel Safion
Zae Shim
Annie Summers
Eric Sun
Roula Vitakis

Cameraderie Team Update

Due to health reasons, **Alan Pollock** has resigned from the Cameraderie Team. We wish you well, Alan and thank you for all your contribution to the Camera Club and our newsletter!

Patricia Patti has joined our team. Warmest welcome to our latest member, Patti!

View this and older issues online at <http://www.lhcameraclub.com/Cameraderie.html>

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Cameraderie Committee

Editor: Mary-Rose Hoang
Team: Carolyn Bray, Mike Bray, Bette Harper, Patricia Patti, Elaine Randolph

Any article, question, comment, suggestion please Email us: cameraderie75@gmail.com



Cameraderie, Newsletter of The Camera Club of Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods, CA 92637
Website: www.lhcameraclub.com



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