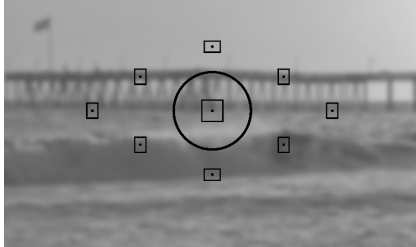


Through the Viewfinder



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From the Prez's Pad

Sal Santangelo

June 2017

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have expressed words of encouragement and support for our family while we have been going through some difficult health issues with our daughter. It is no fun watching a child, no matter what the age, going through a life threatening issue. Although she will require further treatment, it seems she has now turned the corner.

I would also like to thank the leadership stepping up during my absence. Just goes to show you that no one is indispensable. You all seem to weather my absence with no outward signs of injury. The club continues on!

To keep my sanity and maybe an excuse to keep my mind occupied with other thoughts the past couple of months, I purchased a new camera. I should admit that I had been contemplating this move for a while. I have been bitterly complaining about the lack of low light capability of my Canon 7D and the weight of the camera and lenses that I had to cart around on my travels. So, I purchased a Sony alpha 6500, a cropped sensor mirrorless camera, the little brother of the full frame sensor alpha 7Rii. This now necessitated buying a couple of new lenses since I had now changed camera systems. And so began the adventure of learning a new camera. I have to say it is driving me nuts having been used to the Cannon logic and now trying to undo it. Buttons in different places with different functions and more assignable functions than I ever thought possible. I was going to say it was a steep learning curve but that would be wrong. I am still on the curve. On the other hand, the quality of images at 800 or 1600 ISO just blows me away. Haven't tested 3200 or 6400 ISO yet. Having the ability to shoot with absolutely no shutter noise is also pretty nice and even can do it remotely with my iPhone.



Prez Pad (cont'd)

An articulating LED screen is convenient and the EVF doesn't make miss the DSLR viewfinder, well except at high speed continuous shooting when the viewfinder goes black. Oh, almost forgot...about half the weight but unfortunately not half the cost. There are a limited number of lenses available. And I do wish there was a joystick controller and another control dial but on the balance so far I like it.

Hope your image files are out to print. Our June critique is for prints only.

Our mentor is Donna Granata. Donna is a real treat, not only a Brooks graduate photographer but a mover in the regional arts scene, founder and director of Focus on the Masters which is a non-profit that documents, preserves and presents the works and lives of accomplished regional artists and a recent USC graduate receiving a master's degree in communications. She will provide us a presentation at 6:30 in addition to our regular critique session. Not to be missed.

See you Wednesday, 6:30, June 14, 2017.

Sal



Exploring Digital Photography with Photonaut

Shooting (Not Singing!) in the Rain

In case you were wondering, the Viewfinder is a few days late this month because yours truly just returned from a two week vacation in Northern Ireland, and the 8 hour time zone shift is still taking its toll on my head.

The northern portion of Ireland has a long list of interesting things to see and do, including the new ultramodern Titanic Museum (located at Harland & Wolff Shipyards in Belfast, within feet of the slipways where the huge ship was built and launched). Second, many of the exterior filming locations for the most popular current TV series in the entire world (HBO's epic Game of Thrones - GOT) can be visited using several multi-day all-day tour bus companies, the one I chose used actual cast members as tour guides, and they could talk your ear off about the GOT series. Last but not least, the Antrim Coast (some of the most beautiful and varied scenery in Europe) provides you the opportunity to see spectacular vistas, which is one of several reasons it was chosen as a major filming location for GOT.

The weather in Ireland is famous for being very unpredictable. It was not uncommon for it to change three or more times a day, every day. Sunny, to pouring rain, back to sunny again, cloudy, then rainy again, etc. Almost changed by the hour. Ireland suffered severe drought the last few years, but in recent months, it received heavy rainfall, so the *Emerald Isle* recovered enough color to live up to its name. "Green" of a type not seen in California...

It also poured intermittent heavy rain while I was out and about taking pictures. The small twisty roads, plus driving on the opposite side of the road, prelude many tourists from renting cars. Except for occasionally being protected on a tour bus, I was on foot most of the time, so relying upon physical shelter was not much of an option. Castle ruins don't have roofs, neither does the huge deep and dark forest near Winterfell! Photography in California typically does not require much thought, if any, about how to deal with rain, but in Ireland, it does require considerable advance thought and preparation. I had two lines of defense, a Tamrac shoulder camera bag that is rainproof, and Rainsleeve, the clear plastic cover specifically designed to protect your DSLR camera while it is being held and used in the rain. For what it is worth, the camera bag did not attract much attention from other tourists, but the Rainsleeve definitely did! Many were staring at my Rainsleeve protected camera as I snapped away, and they could not. While at Dunluce castle, the real inspiration used for three CGI castles shown in GOT, in the heavy pouring rain, I was snapping away and able to see perfectly and clearly through the viewfinder while accessing all camera controls. Rainsleeve protects everything except the front of the lens and the viewfinder lens on the back of the camera, both generally protected from rain by camera manufacturers. The parts protected by Rainsleeve but not well protected by manufacturers include buttons on the top and back of the camera body. Other tourists were not taking pictures in downpours since they were trying to protect their rain soaked cameras under their coats and umbrellas. I was wearing a wide brim Gortex rainproof hat without an umbrella, so I had both hands free, & handling the Rainsleeve protected camera was a breeze.



Exploring Digital Photography with Photonaut

Shooting (Not Singing!) in the Rain

I must admit one oversight. I was wearing a waterproof Nike jacket, my head and glasses were protected from rain by the Gortex hat, the camera and lens were protected by the Rainsleeve, the second zoom lens and polarizing filters were inside the rainproof camera bag, but the Peak Design quick release *camera strap* on my shoulders was not protected by anything, it got soaking wet. Fortunately it suffered no permanent damage, it is similar to the material used to make seat belts in cars, so it is rugged against the elements. It later dried out in a few hours at the hotel.

In case you are wondering, the Rainsleeve is dirt cheap, a no brainer. I got mine at Sammy's in Santa Barbara. The package of two Rainsleeves for large DSLRs was \$7.50, which is \$3.75 each! If you don't tear or lose them, they will last forever.

There is one other accessory needed for shooting in the rain. I have two types, a fine microfiber cloth for cleaning a glass lens of anything including dust or rain drops, and a rough thick soft microfiber cloth that can be used for wiping anything in a pinch, both the lens or the lens barrel, and even the camera body if needed. The rough version is much better at absorbing water, which is what I frequently used in the heavy Irish rain. Microfiber of any type is generally considered safe for wiping lenses, so where were they 40 years ago when I needed them? All we had then was cotton fiber, and that had many practical limitations.

Photonaut.



Club Merit Awards

Results of May 2017 Critique & Judging

Judge: Gary Moss (Photo Editor 805 Living Magazine)

Assigned Topic Only (No Open Category)

Environmental Portrait, or Self Portrait

Digital Assigned:

"Me and Myself" by Bernie Goldstein
"Scuba Selfie" by James Hart
"EyeDoc" by Kevin Ikeda
"Environmental Self Portrait " by Susannah Kramer
"Quilter" by Ron Lindsay
"Witch Broom Maker" by Ron Lindsay
"Woodturner" by Ron Lindsay
"Clock Repair" by Ed Pinsky

Print Assigned:

"Photographer in Red" by Albert Huen
"Portrait" by Ken MacGregor



Club Merit Awards

Results of May 2017 Critique & Judging

Judge: Gary Moss (805 Living Magazine)



"Me and Myself" by Bernie Goldstein



"Scuba Selfie" by James Hart



Club Merit Awards

Results of May 2017 Critique & Judging

Judge: Gary Moss (805 Living Magazine)



“EyeDoc” by Kevin Ikeda



“Environmental Self Portrait ” by Susannah Kramer



Club Merit Awards

Results of May 2017 Critique & Judging

Judge: Gary Moss (805 Living Magazine)



"Quilter" by Ron Lindsay



"Witch Broom Maker" by Ron Lindsay



"Woodturner" by Ron Lindsay



Club Merit Awards

Results of May 2017 Critique & Judging

Judge: Gary Moss (805 Living Magazine)



"Clock Repair" by Ed Pinsky



"Portrait" by Ken MacGregor



VCCC Announcements

To: "Joyce Schoppe " <jbschoppe@sbcglobal.net>

Subject: Item for newsletter

Hi, Joyce. I don't know who I'm supposed to send this to. If you would forward it that would be great!

I have two photos in the current Carpinteria Arts Center show "Thru the Lens" The show goes from now until 6/26 [The reception is on 6/10 from 5-7.](#)

More info: <http://www.carpinteriaartscenter.org/2017-exhibit-schedule>

THANKS! SueB

Sue Barrera (VCCC Club Member)

For Sale: I have a number of Nielsen metal frames with glass 16 x 20 inch size.

Frame and glass for \$15 each or with mat and picture for \$20 each.

Like New - Colors Black, Silver, or Gold

Call John Ferritto (VCCC Club Member) (805) 647-2539



My cousin's wife is Exec. Dir. of a small community arts center in Down East Maine. They were given (bequeathed, I think) some Nikon equipment including a 600mm f4 lens to sell, the proceeds to benefit the art center.

Do you think we could/should let our members know to see if there is any interest?

Contact (for more info):

Bruce E Schoppe (VCCC Club Member)

bschoppe6698@sbcglobal.net



VCCC Announcements (Cont'd)

From Ojai Photo Club --

The Ojai Photography Club will host **Lewis Watts**, nationally and internationally known photographer, archivist and educator. His work is in the permanent collections of leading art and history institutions, including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Smithsonian Institution and the Oakland Museum of California. The free event, "Documenting the Cultural Landscape," will be held at 7 p.m. on [Tuesday, June 20, 2017](#), at Help of Ojai's Kent Hall, 111 W. Santa Ana Street, Ojai, CA.

"Cultural Landscape" is Watts' term for the traces of ancestral cultures left behind when people migrate because of war, oppression, or for economic opportunity. "In some cases," he says, "the traces that they leave say as much about who they are as their portraits."

For more information on the work of Lewis Watts, go to <http://artsites.ucsc.edu/faculty/watts/pages/main.html>.



VCCC Announcements (Cont'd)

Club Meeting:

Wednesday, June 14th, at 6:30 pm, Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd, Ventura CA 93003.

Please come to the next meeting of the **Ventura County Camera Club** on the second Wednesday of the month. Digital entries must be submitted by Monday, **12 June**, at 5 pm.

Our scheduled Judge for critique on 14 June 2017 is: **Donna Granata**

http://www.focusonthemasters.com/Donna_Granata.html

Before the general meeting and critique session at 7:00 pm, Donna Granata will make a special presentation at 6:30 pm. So please plan on attending at 6:30 pm...

Annual Membership Renewal:

Only members in good standing may submit images for judging. If necessary, please talk to **Joyce Schoppe**, our Membership Chairperson, or send an email to Joyce at:

membership@venturacountycameraclub.com

Regular \$60, Student \$30, or send to:

Joyce Schoppe
4875 Mascagni St.
Ventura, CA 93003

Annual dues for new members will be prorated on a quarterly basis if joining after the first quarter. **Make your check out to: "Ventura County Camera Club, Inc."** We are an incorporated CA nonprofit.

Instructions for Digital Projection Entries:

Please **ensure** your files are correctly labelled in accordance with the required format:

Required: **LastnameFirstname_IMAGE TITLE_month-year_Assigned/Open.jpg**

example... **SmithJohn_ENTER AT OWN RISK_03-16_Assigned.jpg**

Images must be emailed to: digitalentries@venturacountycameraclub.com no later than 5:00 pm by the Monday prior to the Club meeting. All images submitted for projection must be in jpg format with pixel dimensions **not to exceed: 1920 width, and not to exceed 1080 height, total (1920w x 1080h)**.



VCCC Announcements (cont'd)

2017 Assigned Topics & Judges List:

January:	Portraits	Chuck Place
February:	Panorama	Tim Meyer
March:	Bad Weather	Gary Moss (see May)
April:	Abstracts	Bill Hendricks
May:	Environmental Portrait	Gary Moss

or Self Portrait

(Assignment Category only, no Open Category for May)

June: Open - Prints Only! Donna Granata

July:	Speed	Chris Zsarney
August:	Reflections	"Hutch" Hutchinson
September:	Open - Prints Only!	Dan Holmes
October:	Street Photography	Christopher Broughton
November:	Silhouettes	Robert Fields
December:	<i>No Meeting - Year End Merit Competition Judging</i>	

(Greg Cooper, Sharron Sheppard, Anne Hutton)

2017 Refreshment Schedule:

January:	Sal Santangelo
February:	Ron & Sally Brubaker
March:	David Paumier
April:	James Hart
May:	Joyce & Bruce Schoppe

June: Bob Rose

July:	Wally Olsen
August:	NEED A VOLUNTEER!
September:	Gregg Gillman
October:	Ken MacGregor
November:	Albert Huen



2017 Suggested Individual Photo Opportunities

Individuals can use this information as suggested ideas/destinations for doing their own photography. There are people in the club that have been to most of these destinations in the past few years, and can advise you on what you should expect to see if you go there...

Within 45 miles:

Loons Beach (Summerland)
El Matador Beach (Malibu)
Ventura Mission
Local Ventura Beach - Sunset

Local Ventura Surfers (waterfront promenade)
Local Downtown Ventura Architecture
Leo Carrillo State Beach Malibu
Nite Shooting Downtown Ventura Main Street
area and Waterfront
Ventura City Hall
Butterfly Grove - Santa Barbara (Nov-Feb)
Santa Barbara Zoo
Getty Museum/Center
Anacapa Island (Island Packers Ventura Marina)
Topanga Park
Santa Barbara Mission
Santa Barbara Botanical Garden

Less than 100 miles:

Hollywood at Night
Griffith Observatory at Sunset
Morrow Bay
Montana de Oro State Park

More than 100 miles:

Pt Lobos State Beach (Monterey/
Carmel)
Mono Lake
Huntington Beach
Yosemite National Park
Kings Canyon
Sequoia Park
Big Sur!



Professional Support

Below are some of the local professional photographers that have been gracious in providing their free time as judges on a repeating basis to attend and critique member's images at our recent Club meetings. Thank you all for supporting our Club!

Sherron Sheppard:

<http://www.sherronsheppard.com> <http://www.sheppardphotography.com>

Dan Holmes Photography Workshops, Tours, and Photo Adventures:

<http://www.danholmesphoto.com/Danholmesphoto.com/Workshops.html>

Robert Fields Fine Art Travel Photography

<http://www.robertfields.com>

Mark Jansen (& Holly Higbee-Jansen) Photography and Expedition Workshops:

<http://www.jansenphotoexpeditions.com/Pages/default.aspx>

Sam and Patricia Gardner - Medici Portraiture Studio

<http://www.mediciportraiture.com/about-medici-portraiture/meet-the-artists-sam-patricia-gardner-fine-art-photographer>

Gary Moss Photography - (Gary is Photographer and Photo Editor of 805 Living Magazine)

<http://www.garymossphotography.com>

Chris Zsarnay - Z Studios

<http://www.zstudios.com>

Greg Cooper - Ventura College (ex-Brooks Institute Instructor)

email: gcooper@brooks.edu

Bill Hendricks - Ventura College

<http://www.hendricks-studios.com>

Matt Haines

<http://matthainesphotography.com>

Ines Roberts

<https://sites.google.com/site/cccccangle/bios/ines-roberts>

Ann Hutton

<http://www.annehuttonphotography.com/>



2017 Club Officials

President:

Sal Santangelo

Vice President:

Ken MacGregor

Treasurer:

Bruce Schoppe

Secretary:

Ron Brubaker

Judge Coordinator:

Bernie Goldstein

Memberships:

Joyce Schoppe

Website:

Susannah Kramer/Sal Santangelo

Newsletter:

Ken MacGregor

**Digital Image Entries and
Projection:**

Albert Huen/Susannah Kramer

Publicity:

John Ferritto

