

The Viewfinder

Sun City Photography Club Newsletter
December 2019



Sue Puetz, Photographer of the Month

Balancing Act



President's Corner

Dr. Howie DiBlasi
2019 Photography Club President

Thank You From a Grateful Board President

At the end of this year as the Photography Board President, I want to take a moment to share some observations and to thank our other board members for the many ways that each of them contributed to the growth of our Sun City Photography Club.

As President of the Photography Club, I have enjoyed the privilege of serving with a distinct group of individuals who have dedicated themselves to improving this club.

Our final board meeting was Nov 2, 2019 and I wish to thank the current board members for the fantastic contribution during the past two years. Although they are leaving the board, we will definitely be tapping into their knowledge and skills moving forward. The following people have completed their terms on the board:

Larry Lorimor, Vice President Administration

Allen Utzig, Vice President, Programs & Education

Keith Walkup, Treasurer

Bob Bearden, Secretary

I have been blessed to get to know many of the board members personally, and I thank you all for your friendship and the opportunities I have had to learn from you and your work. I'd like to thank all of them for their dedication and efforts in enhancing and magnifying the importance of the Sun City Photography Club.

Please let these individuals know how much you appreciate them. They all contributed mightily to the Photography Club growth, and kept us moving forward.

Introducing the 2020 Board Members

Volunteers always needed - Please share your time and talent



Bob Maher
President



Walt Grabowski
VP of Administration



Rita Johnston
VP of Programs & Education



Jim Wooll
Treasurer



Marsha Larrabee
Secretary

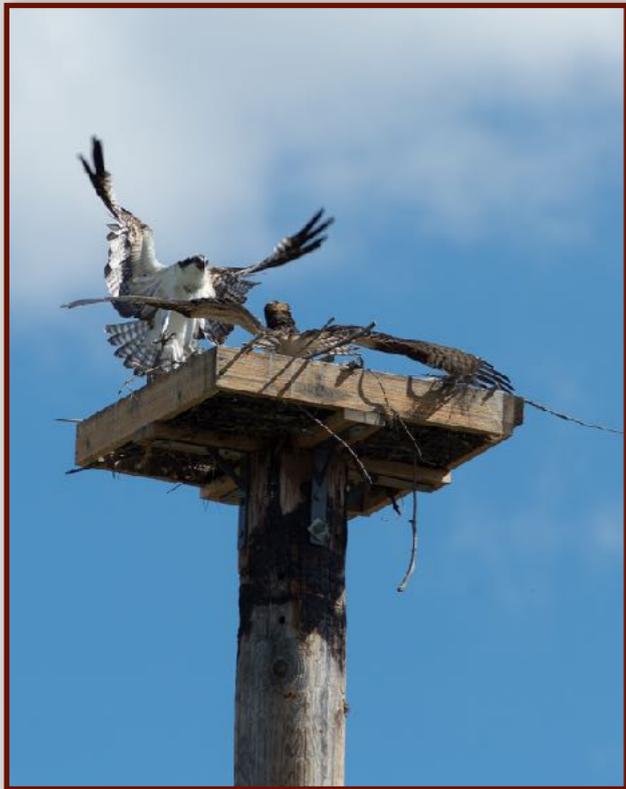
PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE MONTH



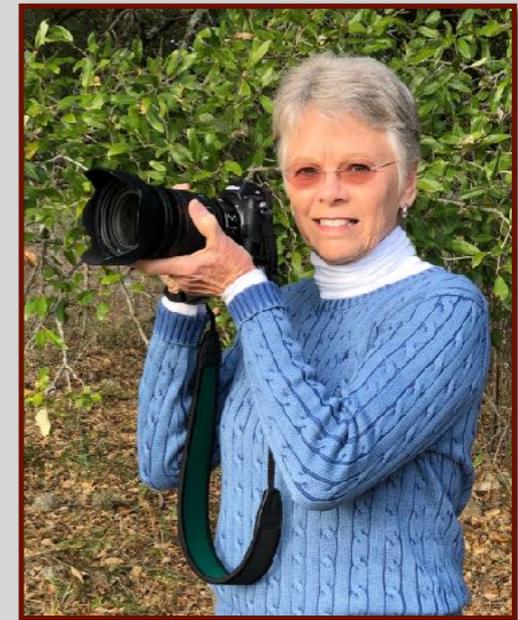
Insolent Teen



Noshing



Coming In Hot



SUE S P U E T Z

I'm a born-and-raised Texan and occasionally rode a horse to school. I'm a computer programmer by profession and worked in the life support simulation division at NASA during the Apollo 11 era. I spent most of my career as a computer consultant programming, training and supporting software accounting systems. We built, owned and managed a golf course and I designed and trademarked our training curriculum. That program gained national attention so I wrote the handbook on how to grow the game and gave presentations to fledgling programs across the US. I love to learn - about anything - and I love to teach. I am an adventurer and my curiosity is insatiable. I swam with the manatees and the stingrays, soared over the mountains in a glider and drifted in a hot air balloon over Austin and Sedona. I climbed to the top of the Statue of Liberty and hiked the Narrows in Zion NP. Life for me as a photographer began when we moved into a MotorHome and toured the USA for 3 years, sans home base. I've always had a camera but this new adventure amplified my passion for photography. Although I think in black and white, I see in color. My favorite subject is wildlife and that includes my grandchildren.

[Sue's Gallery](#)

IG [@suespuetz](#)

View Sue Puetz's exhibit at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center in December. Sue's digital images are posted in a gallery on the club's website, along with her biography. A special thanks to **Walt Grabowski** for coordinating this exhibit.

Photography Club News

Eleventh Annual Print Competition and Exhibition

The Eleventh Annual Print Competition and Exhibit went up on November 9th. Forty-three photographers entered 134 photos. These photos were judged over a 4.5 hour period by Mary Visser who is a professor of art at Southwestern University. The consistent high quality of the photos made her judging work a challenge. I am very pleased to report that the top eleven awards including the nine first place winners, the best of show, and the people's choice went to eleven different people. This result affirms the breadth of the talent in our club. Jerry Meinzer's logistics team did a great job of receiving, moving and hanging photos throughout the Activities Center.

The Award Reception was held on November 17 with about 200 people attending. Teri Adsit's reception team did a great job setting up, welcoming people, keeping them fed, managing the people's choice balloting, and cleaning up.

The exhibit remains up until December 28 and I hope all in the club will visit the exhibit.

Again, thanks to all for making this annual event speak so well for our club.

Larry Lorimor, Director of Exhibits

Photography Discussion Group

Every Monday, Noon - 2:00 pm
Game Rooms 1 & 2, Activity Center

The Photography Discussion Group is an all inclusive gathering of photographers: novice to advanced, cellphones to pro-cameras. Discussions will be facilitated by a variety of photographers, experienced in the subject for that day.

Presenters by Monday-of-the-Month:

1st: Basic camera functions / Bob Maher rjmaher52@gmail.com

2nd: Exploring photography genre / Marsha Larrabee marsha_larrabee@me.com

3rd: Smartphone Photography / Jim Newkirk newkirk12@gmail.com

4th: Exploring Instagram / Sue Puetz sspuetz@gmail.com IG [@suespuetz](https://www.instagram.com/suespuetz) **No meeting on 12/23/19**

5th: TBD and may change with the seasons

Come grow with us. Contribute to and learn from our discussions. Bring a friend.

Members' Upcoming Exhibitions

Darius Sams and Glenn Rudd each received two acceptances for images entered in the "High and Dry" Exhibition running Nov 25 - Jan 28 in the galleries of the International Cultural Center, Texas Tech University.



Submarine Rock by Dee Sams



Looking at Me by Glenn Rudd



Totems at Sunrise by Dee Sams



Horse Play by Glenn Rudd



Holly Moore is exhibiting some of her most memorable travel photos in the Impressions Gallery at Saint David's Georgetown Hospital from Dec 06 - Jan 03.



Holly Moore also has a current exhibit titled "Flea Market Treasures" at the Williamson County Museum.

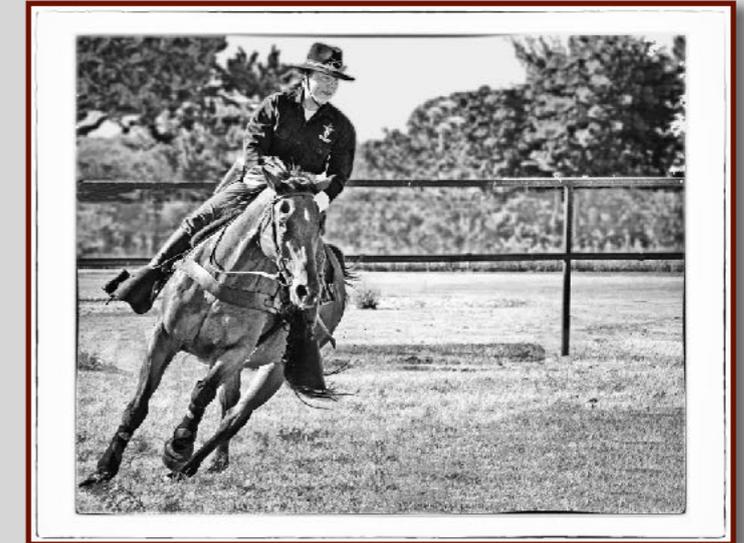
Member Awards and Recognition



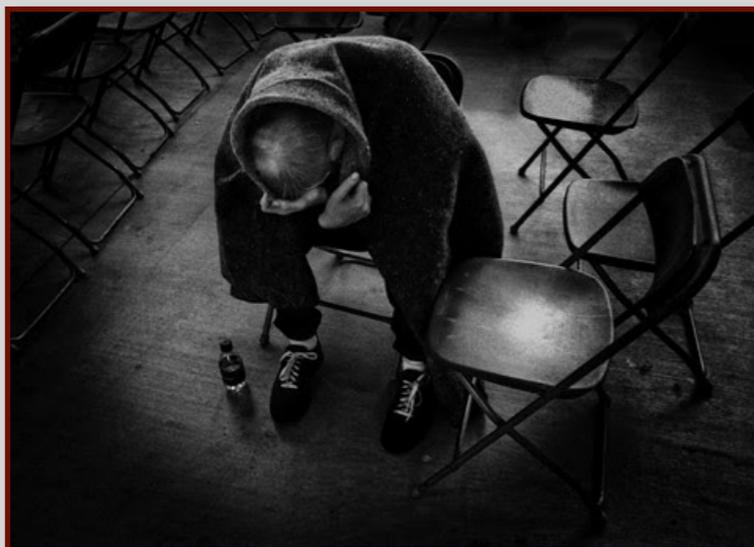
Burton Anes' "Just Married" received the HERO AWARD from ViewBug.



Marcela Stegemueller's "Forgotten" won a first place in "round one" of the PSA Interclub Print Competition.



State Fair of Texas "BW Action or Motion", "The Cavalry Trooper is a Lady" 2nd Place. Photo by Wes Odell taken at the Horse Cavalry Detachment of the 1st Cavalry Division stationed at Fort Hood, Texas.



Burton Anes' "Depression" placed 1st in the "Mental Illness" Challenge.



Mitch Michielutt's "Old Capt." placed 1st in the "remembrance - military personnel" Challenge.



Burton Anes' "Ron Lockhart SALUTING" placed 3rd in the "remembrance - military personnel" Challenge.

Member Awards and Recognition (con't)



Mitch Michielutti's "Monster" placed 1st in the "Monsters" Challenge.



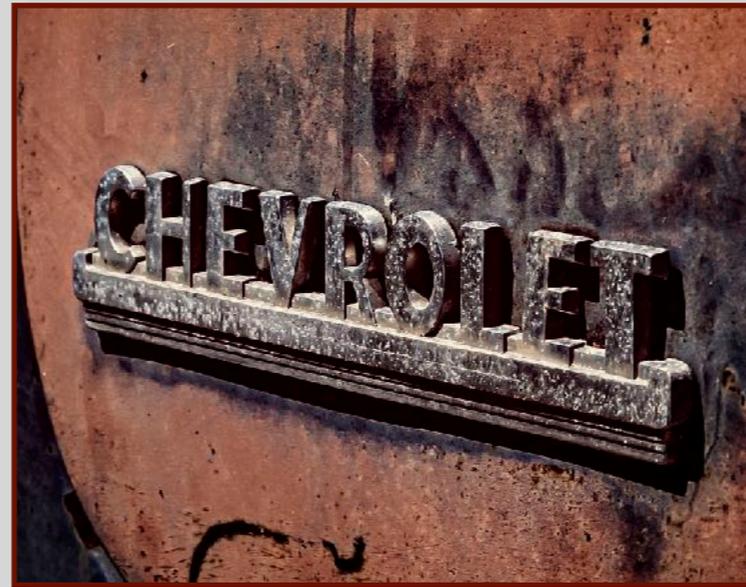
Burton Anes' "Wet Silver Leaf" placed 3rd in the "Leaves..." Challenge.



Mitch Michielutti's "Mr. Magoo" placed 4th in the "Him" Challenge.



Burton Anes' "Lincoln Zephyr Hood Ornament" placed 4th in the "My Favorite Old Iron" Challenge.



Patty Michielutti's "50's Pickup" placed 2nd in the "My Favorite Old Iron" Challenge.



Mitch Michielutti's "Jaguar" placed 1st in the "My Favorite Old Iron" Challenge.

On-Site Exhibits

The Retreat Amenity Center

This venue exhibits 12-15 images each month. The next exhibit date is Nov 23. Register on the club's calendar.

Temporary restrictions: framed images are to be no larger than 16x20. Until the CA gets the slots at the top of the boards redone we can't take the chance of a frame falling off.

Contact Sherry McRae
topspin53@gmail.com



Legacy Hills Grille



This venue always welcomes photographs showing themes or categories that convey the joy of being outside, creative photos that highlight your artistic vision, photos that tell a story, and heartwarming photos that show connections to cherish. Tell us a little about your photo in the comment section of your Detail Form and we will share it. We accept five photos no smaller than 16x20. The next exhibit date is Nov 30 to be followed by a creative theme month going up Dec 28.

Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Shelia Richards
sheheflin@gmail.com



Cowan Creek Amenity Center

This venue exhibits 15 images each month. The next exhibit date is Nov 5 at 10:00 at Cowan Creek. Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Sally Graham,
sgraham2385@yahoo.com

The Activity Center

The Activity Center exhibits will be the Visual Arts Club Competition and the Photo Club Print Competition thru the end of 2019.

Contact Dean Ginther
dean.Ginther@gmail.com



Solo Wall Showcase

All of the assignments for the 2020 Solo Wall have been made and are listed on the Club website page under Exhibits-Solo Wall. If you are interested in being considered for the 2021 Solo Wall, contact Wes Odell prior to July 2020.

wesodell@gmail.com



iPhone Photography SIG

Coordinator, Bob Bearden rebsctx@gmail.com

[iPhone Photography SIG Webpage](#)

iPhone Photo SIG meets Friday 12/6 at 9am in the Activity Center Game Rooms 1/2 (the same place as always). All iPhone users are welcome to this SIG. In addition to reviewing iPhone Camera basic functions we'll take a look at Camera+2, an optional camera app many are using to get the capability and complexity of a regular DSLR. See if this is right for you and your shooting style. Sherry McRae will share how she uses Camera + on her iPhone.

We will also revisit the recent IOS changes to the Photos app and how it impacts image storage and post processing options. Time permitting we will look at Snapseed, one of the most popular image editors for cell phone cameras

Our SUBJECT OF THE MONTH is FAVORITE PHOTO LOCATIONS so look in your photo library and email me (rebsctx@gmail.com) up to THREE of your favorite iPhone shots of your Favorite Photo Location so that we can admire them at the SIG.

Fall Color and Halloween



Jeanne Dillinger



Mary Campbell



Kathy Lorimor



Nature SIG

Coordinator, Carlos Rio scnaturephotosig@gmail.com

[Click Here for the Nature SIG webpage](#)

Nature Photo SIG is undergoing changes. The January, March, and October meetings will be run as PSA Nature Competition SIG by Allen Utzig. The rest of the year will remain Nature Photo SIG, with an educational program and a "show and tell" of your photos on a theme that has been selected for that month. See the THEME OF THE MONTH attached and check the website for instructions for submitting your photos. In addition, we will have an outing sometime in April (before our meeting) with Martin Byhower, leader of the Nature Club's Birding SIG. We'll go to Murphy Park in Taylor about a 40 minute drive, to photograph dozens and dozens of birds and their newborns as they start making their first flights. We will have educational programs on how to photograph birds in action during our December and February meetings.

THEME OF THE MONTH

Dec 15, 2019	Birds & Guys that Fly
Jan 24, 2020	PSA Nature Competition (Digital)
Feb 28, 2020	B&W
March 27, 2020	PSA Nature Competition (Digital)
April 24, 2020	From the Ground Up Or Photos from Bird Outing to Murphy Lake
May 22, 2020	Spring colors
June 26, 2020	Animals in the Zoo
July 24, 2020	Shadows & Silhouettes
August 21, 2020	Potpourri &/Or From the Ground Up
Sept 25, 2020	MW
October 23, 2020	PSA Nature Competition (Digital)
November 20, 2020	Patterns in Nature
Dec 18, 2020	Fall Colors



Foggy Ferry Lake by Darius Sams



Pod Seeds by Roger Murphy



Agawa Canyon by Dean Ginther

Special Interest Groups (con't)



Sony SIG

Coordinator, Bob Bearden
rebsctx@gmail.com

Our THIRD session of the Sony Photo SIG will be held on Friday, December 13th at 9 AM in the Activities Building games rooms one and two. This monthly SIG focuses on helping all club members who use Sony mirrorless cameras to understand and use their gear to produce better images.

This month's highlight will be a presentation by David Skinner on his growing collection of ancillary gear he uses with his Sony RX10III. Maarten Heilbron will share "Vacation Hacks" for the RX10IV and we will learn more about newly introduced APSC Sony lenses: f/2.8 16-55mm and f/4.5-6.3 70-350mm.

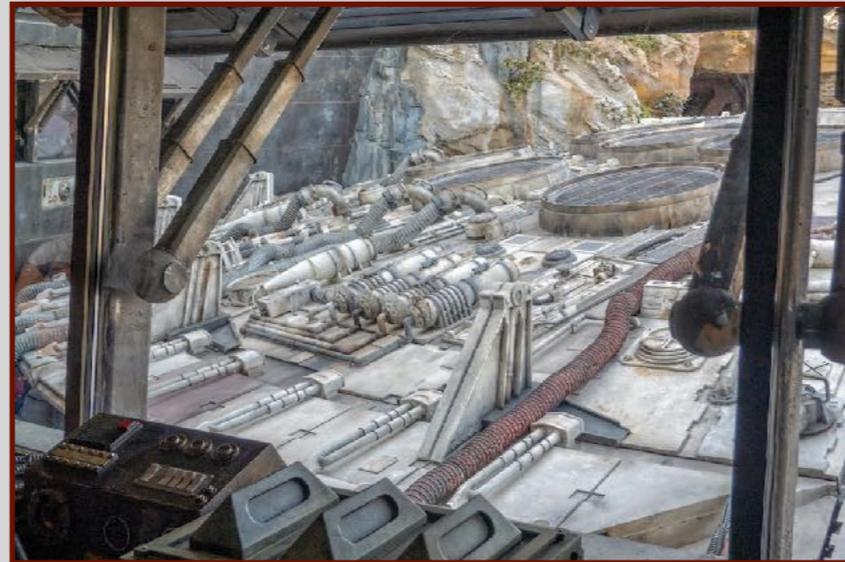
Remember to email your Sony shots of our Subject of the Month, Favorite Photo Locations to me at rebsctx@gmail.com. All Sony Shooters are welcome, come join our growing membership!



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Carlos Rios: RX100VII presentation shot at Disney World

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Mitch Michielutti: Fall Color SOM submission

Special Interest Groups (con't)



Fieldtrip SIG

Coordinator, Jim Sandham jsandham77@gmail.com

Civil War Reenactment at the Liendo Plantation

November 23 was a beautiful day for a field trip and we had a good one. This year, there were two civil war reenactments, one at 10am and the second at 2pm, both with lots of cannon fire. In addition to the battle scenes there were the campsites for the union soldiers and one for the confederate soldiers for photo opps. In addition there were several exhibits and shops to go through on the confederate side, maybe that's the reason they lost the war.



Photoshop SIG

Coordinator, Allen Utzig autzig@outlook.com

[Photoshop CS-CC SIG Webpage](#)

The Photoshop SIG is made up of three different groups:

Training Group: Focus is on Using Photoshop

Photoshop lab: Drop in and come with their laptop and an image or images and I (and possibly others) will help you practice

Photoshop SIG: Discussions about how we might use Photoshop to improve our photos

Each Group meets once a month. Please check the Photography Club calendar for the specific dates, times and locations of the meetings. Most of the meetings have been scheduled in our PC Studio (Game Rooms 1 & 2)



Travel Photography SIG

Coordinator, Dr. Howie DiBlasi. howie@frontier.net

[Travel Photography SIG Webpage](#)

If you are passionate about photography, you love to travel, own a camera and wish to capture stunning pictures, this SIG is for you.

This is a place for people who would like to explore new places and destinations, and take great photos. Meet fellow travel enthusiasts and share your photos from around the world. Discover first-hand recommendations on new destinations and ways to travel. Learn how to take amazing photographs on your next trip. Learn about Scene modes and the other dials and menus on your camera.

Find fun, laughs - and new ways to travel to different venues. Whether you are completely new or experienced, we would love to have you. This is a chance for you to meet fellow likeminded people and find travel friends.

Meetings are scheduled on the first Wednesday of the month, 9-11 in Activity Center's Game Rooms 1 & 2

Special Interest Groups (con't)



PSA Print SIG

Coordinators, Glenn Rudd and Cheryl Janssen

grudd2@yahoo.com or cherylj2013@att.net

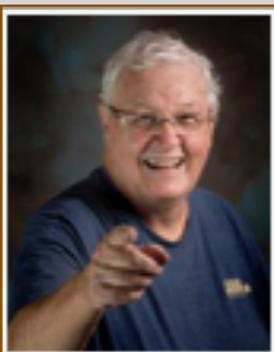
[PSA Print SIG Webpage](#)



This is both a club and individual competition. For each submittal event, there are awards in each category for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Honorable Mentions. End of Year certificates and ribbons are also given. This is an International competition with 14 clubs currently participating. Please check the club calendar. SIG meeting attendees are sent email confirmations of these dates. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to view photos from this season

Here is a summary of the SCT Photography Club PSA Print SIG for the 2018-19 Season Competition:

Name	Round	Category	Award	Title
Sharon Grabowski	1	Large Mono	HM	Cooling in Chicago
Glenn Rudd	2	Large Color	HM	Green Crowned Brilliant
Allen Utzig	2	Creative Altered Reality	HM	Pioneer Homestead
Rick Siersma	2	Creative Altered Reality	HM	Kabucki Makeup
Walt Grabowski	3	Large Mono	1	End of the Line
Allen Utzig	3	Creative Altered Reality	2	Texas 56
Wes Odell	4	Small Mono	HM	Majestic



PSA Digital SIG

Coordinator, Mitch Michielutti

imitchmeister@gmail.com

[PSA Digital SIG Webpage](#)



Our PSA Digital Image SIG meets 3 times a year to compete in PSA inter-club competition. We choose the top 6 photos submitted at our meeting in Projected Image Divisions (PID). These are then sent to PSA for judging. Great way to evaluate our photo skills compared to other photography clubs. Join us for a journey to another level of learning and enhance your skills and artistry.

Check out the 2019 photos on the PSA Digital's webpage.

PSA Digital Image SIG Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10am.



Competition SIG

Coordinator, Rick Siersma richard.j.siersma@gmail.com

[Competition SIG Webpage](#)

The Competition SIG meets on the 4th Friday of the month from 10 am to noon in the Studio (Game rooms 1 & 2 in the Activities Center). Go ahead - take a chance - you will be welcomed and accepted at any level - join us in developing our photographic eye and skills.



Fun Foto Social

Coordinator, Jim Sandham

jsandham77@gmail.com

Most of us will have attended many holiday lunches, dinners, neighborhood parties, etc. by Dec. 25th, so the Fun Foto Social is taking December OFF. Please save your best holiday photos to share with the group at our January meeting. See you then!



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Sue Puetz
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Marsha Larrabee
E-mail Blaster & Calendar Admin
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Submission Guidelines to The Viewfinder

Articles must be received **by the 24th** of the month to be included in the next month's newsletter.

Lengthy articles may be edited to fit space. Links will be used for long articles.

Articles must be submitted digitally via email.

Photo submissions must be in JPEG format and no larger than 1400px on the long side.

Submit a max of 3 photos per SIG or event. A link to member photo galleries or albums may be used.

Photographs must be legally reproducible or licensed by the member submitting the photo. Include the Photographer's name, photo title, contest/show entered, placement received.

COMING SOON: new guidelines for submitting photos to be published on the website and in the newsletter.