**November 8, 2022 – Carson Valley Photo Club Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees**

Susie Roaldson

NJ Thompson

Sandy Jonkey

Barb Mower

Sandra Silva

Mitch & Vicki Palmer

Robin Grueninger

Connie Peters

Sherrie McGee

Sheila & LeRoy Clement

Dave Arstein

Tom Monti

Kimberly Burchiel

Wendy Whyman

Nancy Hulsey

Susie started the meeting:

* Cindy Marple will be speaking about “Adding impact to our images”.
* Welcomed Tom Monti, he will be the vice president next year.
* Introduced Mitch & Vicky Palmer.
* Reminder that meeting on December 13 will be a pot luck dinner 6pm at the Carson Valley United Methodist Church, 1375 Centerville Lane, Gardnerville. December photo contest is “Best Shot of the Year”, $75/$50/$25 cash prizes. Bring printed photo, max size 11x14”, matted.

**Guest Speaker – Cindy Marple**

**What we can do to make our photos more impactful?**

Why do we care about Impact?

Images with impact:

* Make you say “WOW”
* Make you stop and take a look, they are appealing
* Are images you tend to remember
* Are images that do well in photo competitions

How do we get impact?

Take pictures of something new and different – people will stop and look at images they haven’t seen before whether they are places or animals or objects. What is new, unusual, and different to one person is different for another.

Travel images that are from faraway places often have more impact. Look for different things that get overlooked in your backyard. Look for small things, details on buildings and structures, use a macro lens on insects for a different view.

Make your subject look different

* Choose the time of the day for different light and color
	+ Sunrises and sunset can be unique in themselves and they also provide a unique color to places that have been photographed a lot, iconic photo locations.
	+ We’ve all heard of the “golden hour” that can provide a special look to nature, cityscapes, any kind of an outdoor scene.
	+ The “blue hour” right after the sun goes down provides interest.
	+ Night scenes with lights often look really nice in that first hour after sunset.
	+ Holiday festive lights, during the blue hour look really pretty.
* Photograph in different kinds of weather
	+ Fog, low clouds, or mist will give you a different look, constantly changing too.
	+ Snow blowing through can provide a unique view.
	+ Rain, providing you keep your gear protected.
	+ After the storm has passed, you can find some unique images, might get rainbow, dramatic light.
* Change your perspective
	+ Do something different from our standing height.
	+ For example, get down low and look up.
	+ Or try a perspective from higher up, drones can give you a different perspective, out of tall building.
	+ Focal length lens being used can affect the perspective.
	+ A wide angle can give you some interesting distortions.
	+ Telephoto lenses make the objects that are farther away seem closer than they are, that can create impact by bringing things closer together than they really are.
	+ Macro lenses can show unique details we don’t see very often.
	+ Crop the image differently to focus on the image.

Other ways to create impact

* Use Reflections
	+ A sharp reflection can provide symmetry and balance.
	+ In landscapes, they can be dramatic.
	+ A disturbed reflection can bring a more impressionistic look.
* Dramatic Sidelight and Backlight
	+ Backlight can make the image more dramatic.
	+ Sidelight can create shadows in landscapes.
	+ Backlighting flowers and plants against a dark background transilluminates the edges.
	+ Backlight with wildlife gives you rim lighting on their fur, works best when background is darker.
	+ You can also create silhouettes with backlight. Think about the detail you will show instead of just a big black blob.
* Striking Color
	+ We are drawn to color but too much of it is not too impactful
	+ A little goes a long way, simple color schemes tend to be more impactful
	+ Only take one colorful object in the scene to draw your attention
	+ Remember the complementary color chart, putting complementary colors together make them more vibrant, blue/orange, red/green, yellow/purple
* Evoke an Emotion
	+ Use color, yellows and oranges are vibrant and happy
	+ Cool colors are more serene, calmer
	+ Animals/people interacting with each other
* Freeze Action
	+ We see continuous motion
	+ Using fast shutter speeds and capturing action can be quite dramatic
	+ Water splashing
	+ You can end up with things you really can’t see or happens too fast for the human eye to capture
	+ Helps to know the subject and behavior so you are ready with your settings
	+ Sport activities have great opportunities
	+ Landscapes occasionally have opportunities like a glacier dropping ice blocks

**Questions**

What do you use for equipment? Depends on the location and subject. On trips, she brings everything.

Where you going next? Her next trip will be Panama, mostly a bird watching trip. She did a polar bear excursion this past summer.

What do you focus on mostly when shooting for your impact? Tries to capture action. Has lately tried to focus on lighting especially side and backlighting to get unique images.

How does someone find photo trips to go on? If you have a particular location or genre, just google it. There is a lot out there wildlife, landscape, abstract, all kinds of things. Outdoor Photographer has a huge list of tours.

cindymarplephoto.com

**November Photo Contest – In the Shadows**

**Judge:**

Cindy Marple

**Judging Comments:**

#1 Three Trees – Really strong composition, makes really good use of the lines. Likes the backlight on it, gives definition to the trees, makes all the leaves stand out. Likes the monochrome look of it. In the tree trunks, there is just enough light in them so they are not just solid black trunks. Likes that there are 3 trees. Overall, quite a nice image. Treatment so different.

#2 Pine Nut Mts. Highlighted in Red Sunset Light – Likes the use of all the horizontal layers, even the clouds are layers.

#3 Fall Shadows of Pines & Aspens – Nice use of the shadows as elements of the composition of tree trunks, nice backlighting. The bottom of the image shadows merge the tree trunks, might want to crop that a bit so the tree trunks stay separated. And crop a smidge off the right. Likes the sun peeking through, could you move a tad to make it a starburst?

#4 Who Says I’m Short? – Love the shadow on this with such a low angle of light. Nice triangle shape the separated legs make.

#5 Starry, Starry Night – Hope Valley – Really pretty milky way. Like the ridgeline glow along with the lake and reflections in there. For her tastes, green in the front seems too saturated. Struggled a bit on what was supposed to be the shadows, but really pretty image.

#6 No Wind Today – Likes the slight diagonal on the image and the different substrates, brick, leaves. Wish the top left corner of rocks wasn’t there, it is a bit distracting. Really nice image.

#7 Rockin Shadows and Light – Great demonstration of how shadows give you depth and dimension of objects. Like the shadow going across the base, shows the texture. She might have gotten rid of the small bright spot in the background to keep the eye from going there.

#8 Iris Shadows – Likes the shadows as a compositional element. Might have tried to get a little more separation between the shadows on the wall and on the leaves. Likes the play of light and shadows. Likes the color and crispness of shadows.

#9 Afternoon Stroll – Composition is really strong. Like the curve in the sidewalk. The shadow is really clear and identifiable shape. The fall leaves add interest and tells time of year. She went back and forth if she like the dog being cut off. Ended up liking it, doesn’t take away from the shadow as if the whole dog was there. Makes her smile.

#10 Fall Shadows – Likes the shape of the shadows, wish it was a little more dark. Overall, a nice shot.

#11 Shadowy Photographer – Likes the yellow substrate grass for the shadow. Love that the person is touching their hat, an identifiable shape. The arm on the left is in a bit of a weird position, looks a little cut off and stunted. Clever shot.

#12 Fall Shadows – Wonderful line of shadows running down the aspen tree trunk. Wonderful shapes and patterns. Would crop the right side off, a little tighter would make a stronger image.

#13 Windy City – Interesting perspective of the city. Shadows and shapes make interesting patterns. Might be too much sky. Could crop it to be more of a panoramic, would make it a stronger image.

#14 Beautiful Path – Fall color is drop dead gorgeous. Likes the shadows crossing the road, creates an interesting pattern, helps avoid the road being a distraction. The strong side light makes the leaves glow.

#15 Shadow and Leaves – The shadow itself is really cool. Loves the wood substrate it is on, nice weathered and textured. Didn’t like the green out of focus plant as much, distracts from the image a little. Might have also taken some of the leaves and put them on the right.

#16 Hi There – This is so much fun. Loves the raised hands so there is detail and not just blobs. Likes the leaning in feel, adds a nice shape to the composition.

#17 Shadow Plant – Interesting shadows on the substrate. Feels like 2 separate images, not quite sure what is supposed to be important. Likes the right side the best, if you were to crop it for just the right side, it would be much stronger.

#18 X Marks the Spot – Love the shallow depth of field. Blue sky in upper left draws attention, would crop that out. Wonderful shadow pattern.

#19 Me and My Shadow – Makes her smile. Likes the long shadow. Assuming it was converted to black and white and the color brought back into the leaves, really effective. You also get the shadows in the blades of grass that adds texture. Might have added a little more leave in the upper left. The post processing added impact

**Winners:**

First Place: #1 Three Trees – Bob Gosma

Second Place: #9 Afternoon Stroll – Sherie Mcgee

Third Place: #14 Beautiful Path – Susie Roaldson

**Honorable Mentions:**

#19 Me and My Shadow – Kimberly Burchiel

#8 Iris Shadows – Connie Peters

#7 Rockin Shadows and Light – Sandra Silva

1. Please send a NON-watermarked full resolution jpg to Nancy Hulsey (nancyhulseyphoto@aol.com).
2. Bring an 8"x10" or 8"x12" printed photo of your winning image (which 300 dpi is best to print from) to Robin Grueninger at Marty’s Appliance. NJ will hang at library.

**Contest Reminders:**

Be careful of your photo being too large. Website can only take up to 25mb which is pretty large. Also, you need to properly name your shot before you upload it into dropbox.

Remember we have a deadline for the photos, midnight of the Tuesday a week before the meeting.

Thanks to those for participating!

**Next month’s contest December is Best Shot of the Year**
Bring printed photo to the pot luck. Max size 11x14”. Bring matted.