**April 13, 2021 – Carson Valley Photo Club Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees**

Shannon Reddoch

Susie Roaldson

Joe Clements

Carol Heinricy

Robin Grueninger

NJ Thompson

Suzie Zimmerli

LeRoy & Sheila Clement

Barbara Mower

Mary Kay Kaluza

Kim Steed

Sandra Silva

Sandy Jonkey

Susan Jack

Sherri McGee

Nancy Hulsey

Jim Mitchell

Sue Cooke

Nenita Wasserman (guest)

Susie introduced Art Silverglate.

**Art Silverglate – 15 Ways to Improve Your Photography without Buying New Gear**

Art has been teaching photography for over 40 years. Graduate of New York Institute of Photography. Former wedding photographer. Went over his resume. Runs 2 meetup groups in Florida.

Many people have GAS: Gear Acquisition Syndrome.

It’s not the gear, camera or lens. it’s the person.

Art shared images.

Ansel Adams quotes:

* “The single most important component of a camera is the twelve inches behind it.”
* “You don’t take a photograph, you make it.”
* “The negative (digital file) is comparable to the composer’s score and the print to its performance.”
* “Each performance differs in subtle ways.”
* “You don’t make a photograph just with a camera. You bring to the act of photography all the pictures you have seen, the books you have read, the music you have heard, the people you have loved.”

1: Critique Your Own Work: 12 Tips (from the Time Life Series “Pictures”) - Your image should meet at least 6 of these. Helps you decide if the image works or not.

1. Is the image sharp?
2. Is the image well exposed?
3. Does it have a clearly defined subject?
4. Have I eliminated distraction, unimportant details?
5. Does it have a definable center of interest?
6. Is there depth?
7. Is the perspective right for the image?
8. Is there suggestion of motion and is it compelling?
9. Is it more successful as horizontal or vertical?
10. Is the image better in color or black and white?
11. Is the subject placed carefully in the frame?
12. Does my finished work reflect what I saw in my mind’s eye?

2: Get pickier

3: Change perspective – get down lower

4: Create depth in your image

5: Get balanced

6: Pay attention to the moment – look around and behind you

7: Look to the light – look at back lighting, shadows

8: Use the best lens – his favorite is a 28-200 Tamron, they now have a 18-300.

9: Get closer – isolate on the subject you are trying to capture

10: Study the masters:

* Henri Cartier-Bresson – focus on geometry, be patient
* Vivian Maier
* Ansel Adams – landscape photographer
* W. Eugene Smith – documentary photographer
* Robert Frank – traveled around the U.S. on bus
* Also think about famous painters like Da Vinci, Matisse, Renoir

11: Learn the digital darkroom – Photoscape X is free and fun, Silver Effects Pro is the best black and white software, Sharper from Topaz Labs is a great sharpener and has other good software

12: Play. Risk. Fail. – YouTube has a lot of ideas to try

13: Shoot on manual – master your camera, learn all the controls

14: Simplify

15: Process in monochrome

**Bonus Tips**

16: Memorize our camera

17: Shoot in RAW – gives you tremendous range, jpg is a processed image

18: Use a tripod or hold the camera correctly

19: Go out empty – don’t go out with any pre-conceived ideas, be open to what may happen while you are out

20: Do a 360 – look around

21: Don’t be afraid to crop your image

22: Shoot every day

23: Take a class

24: Read photo blogs, examples Art likes:

* jkost.com
* lightroomkillertips.com
* Dave Kelly “The Joy of Editing” – on YouTube
* Terry White masterclasses on YouTube
* Hazel Meredith – likes to use textures, does workshops

25: Have a project(s) – like hands, patterns, letters, flowers in ice, kitchen close-ups, right time/wrong lens, car park abstracts, A-Z photos, 1-100, alternative car trails, the 365 project, the 50x50x50, build a texture library

26: Join a camera club

3 accessories you should have:

1. Tripod – carbon fiber is the way to go, lightweight, turn off vibration reduction when on a tripod
2. Remote cable release for taking long time exposures, timed exposures
3. Reflector like a 5-in-1 42” reflector or a smaller 11-12”, easy to fold up

He has 4 pdf’s he gives out.

Remember to back up your images! He has 2 physical hard drives, duplicates of each other. Backblaze is an online backup company that offers unlimited storage for $60/year.

Life is like a camera:

**Focus** on what’s important

**Capture** the good times

**Develop** from the negatives

And if things don’t workout

Take another shot

Art can be reached at 5thexposure@gmail.com

**Member Show and Tell**

Suzie showed her Havit ring light.

**Updates**

Barn Project: The barn tour was really fun. Sandy did a phenomenal job. Would be great to do early morning or evening for next session. Barb has put up the photos on a special page on our website for the historical society to review and get their feedback.

Art Show: Nancy Hulsey recommends we not attend the art show, not enough interest.

**Reminders**

* Remember the save the dates that were sent out, different topics coming up and judges.

**Next Month**

* Submit your best picture you have for Art to critique, due May 4. You can still do an image showing Balance or Asymmetry in the Environment or submit anything from your photos that you want. Only one submission per person this time around to optimize Art’s time.
* Next month’s meeting we will be on zoom again, May 11. Art Silverglate will give lecture on “The Psychology of Composition” and he will also judge.

**Field Trip Suggestions**

* Considering Swan Lake still.
* Will do another barn outing, details TBD.
* Horses are in the valley now, suggested going this Sunday, April 18. Meet 7:15am, take Fish Springs Road, make a left on Windmill, right before the hill, there is an area to park. “Zorro’s” Pond is on the other side of the hill a couple miles away up the dirt road.

**April Photo Contest – Light of the Spring Season**

**Judge:**

Joe Clement

**Judging Comments:**

#1 Ruffled – Good quail picture. Light coming from the right side, can see the shadows on the back of the bird and the feathers stand out. The bokeh makes the bird stand out. Rabbit brush and stump frame it.

#2 Morning Light Bud – rule of thirds is used here. Bokeh very good. Light from right makes yellow stand out. Nice picture.

#3 Blossom Close Up – likes the back lighting, makes the flowers almost truculent. Has an effect of stained glass. Rule of thirds, very very good picture.

#4 Purple Petals – more of a soft focus, nice bokeh makes the purple stand out. Good depth of field, could be even better to make petal stand out. Really nice.

#5 Evening Light in Tree – this is a difficult back lit picture to do. Has highlights like water on leaves in tree. Probably used a high f-stop, makes a sunburst. Would like to see a jpg of this instead of the web to really see the image. Would like to have more tech specs to learn more how image is shot.

#6 Yellow Blossoms – forsythia, done very well. Back lit again, has leading branches, really a good photo.

#7 The Light of the Morning Sun – lighting from the left. The horses show good activity, light casts a shadow on the back of the horse and gives them depth. Good action. Kudos.

#8 Mountain Bluebird – another nice pict, good bokeh. Would like to know the f stop and size of lens used. There is a catch light in the eye of the bird. Looks like the bird has 3 feet, one foot is the barbed wire.

#9 Tulip Petals – wonderful light from the left shining on the flower. Good bokeh, background is fuzzed out and dark, but you can still see the stem of the tulip and leaves. Rule of thirds plus lighting is wonderful, translucency of the flower.

First: #7 Light of the Morning Sun – Jim MItchell

Second: #1 Ruffled – Kim Steed

Third: #9 Tulip Petals – Sandra Silva

Honorable Mentions:

#5 Evening Light in Tree – Robin Grueninger

#8 Mountain Bluebird – Kim Steed

#3 Blossom Close Up – Sandra Silva

Winners please send a jpg to Nancy Hulsey full resolution photos (nancyhulseyphoto@aol.com).

**By-Laws Review**

Voted on adopting changes – APPROVED.