



FLASH



Member since
1951

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GREATER SAN ANTONIO CAMERA CLUB

WWW.GSACC.ORG

Competition Results

Page 2

An Editorial

What is Photjournalism

Page 6

**How to Enter
Your Digital Photographs**

Page 9

*Cover photo: "Roses in New Zealand"
by Mary Hunsicker
2nd Place in Pictorial Color*



March 2016 - Print Competition Images

PICTORIAL COLOR PRINT:

1st "After the Storm" by Peter Florczak
2nd "Ulura Sunset" by Bill Hunsicker
3rd "Just Wondering" by Jack Smith
HM "Denman Park Pagoda" by John Kain

PICTORIAL MONOCHROME PRINT:

1st "Aged" by Peter Florczak
2nd "Sunrise in the Clouds" by Mary Hunsicker
3rd "Little Flowers" by Steve Manchester
HM "Chapel Door" by Dick Boone

NATURE PRINT:

1st "The Collector" by Bill Hunsicker
2nd "Two Bees or One" by Mary Hunsicker
3rd "Wild Foxglove" by Steve Manchester
HM "Show Me Your Teeth" by Jack Smith

PHOTOJOURNALISM PRINT:

1st "Day of the Dead" by Jack Smith
2nd "Walking for MS Cure" by Dick Boone
3rd "Cleanup After the Quake" by Mary Hunsicker
HM "What's the Point?" by Peter Florczak

ASSIGNMENT PRINT:

1st "Too Early to Pick" by Mary Hunsicker
2nd "Bird On Bananas" by Peter Florczak
3rd "Apple Swans" by John Kain
HM none

CREATIVE PRINT:

1st "Heaven & Earth" by Peter Florczak
2nd "Roses in NZ" by Mary Hunsicker
3rd "Boom Boxes" by Dick Boone
HM "Waiting for the Shrimp Boat" by John Kain

The judges were Bill Hunsicker, Tim Kirkland and Lance Meyer

ASSIGNMENTS for 2016-2017

2016

April--Nut(s): photograph a favorite food alone or in some form of usage

MAY--Diamond: the rock or the shape of a diamond

JUNE-X's: Subject makes and "X" or X's

JULY-Sticks and Stones: image to contain both stone and wood in some form

AUGUST-Famous Amos: find your subject in the cookie Jar-chocolate chip, Oreo, or ?????

SEPTEMBER-Tools: things used to do some work

OCTOBER-Electric: depict electricity or some way it is used

NOVEMBER-Begins with "E": Name of object starts with 'E'

DECEMBER-Dramatic sky: Subject of picture is complemented by a dramatic sky BUT NOT a sunset or sunrise. The sky, however, is not the main subject.

2017

JANUARY-This Old House: the structure can be in pristine condition, falling apart, or in between

FEBRUARY-Domestic Animal: photo of a domestic animal, but no pets (dog, cat, bird, etc.)

MARCH-Ugly: title says It all-subject can be something like a bulldog & junk yard, facial expression, etc.

MARCH SHOWCASE --- First Place Print Winners



PICTORIAL COLOR
"After the Storm" by Peter Florczak



ASSIGNMENT
"Too Early to Pick" by Mary Hunsicker



PHOTOJOURNALISM
"Day of the Dead" by Jack Smith



NATURE
"The Collector" by Bill Hunsicker



MONOCHROME
"Aged" by Peter Florczak



CREATIVE
"Heaven & Earth" by Peter Florczak

MARCH SHOWCASE --- Second Place Print Winners



PHOTOJOURNALISM
"Walking for MS Cure" by Dick Boone



NATURE
"Two Bees or One" by Mary Hunsicker



MONOCHROME
"Sunrise in the Clouds" by Mary Hunsicker



ASSIGNMENT
"Bird On Bananas" by Peter Florczak



PICTORIAL COLOR
"Ulura Sunset" by Bill Hunsicke

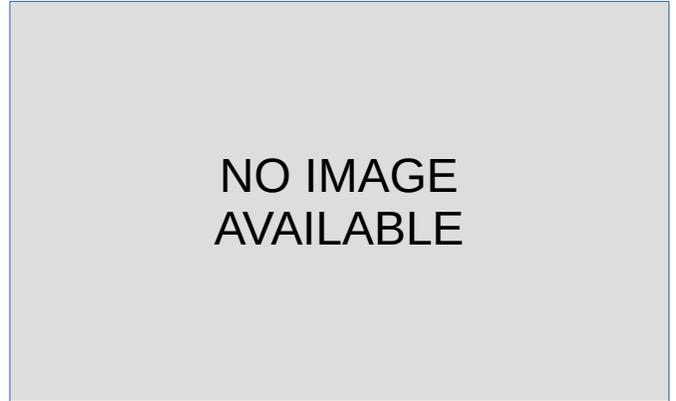


CREATIVE
"Roses in NZ" by Mary Hunsicker

MARCH SHOWCASE --- Third Place Print Winners



PHOTOJOURNALISM
"Cleanup After the Quake" by Mary Hunsicker



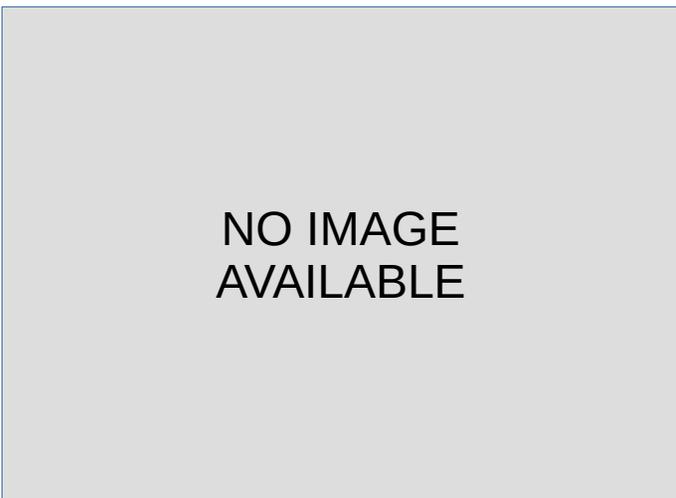
ASSIGNMENT
"Apple Swans" by John Kain



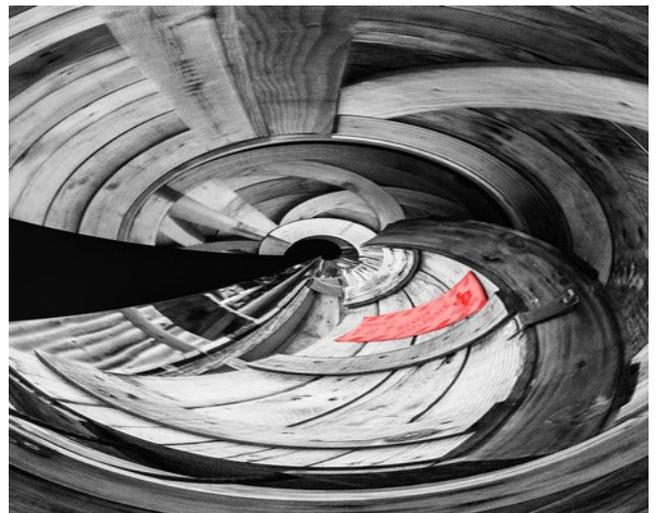
PICTORIAL COLOR
"Just Wondering" by Jack Smith



NATURE
"Wild Foxglove" by Steve Manchester



MONOCHROME
"Little Flowers" by Steve Manchester



CREATIVE
"Boom Boxes" by Dick Boone



A GSACC EDITORIAL

WHAT IS PHOTOJOURNALISM?

By: David Finell, GSACC Member since 2010
NCOIC Radio and Television Systems (Chief broadcast engineer),
Headquarters Air Force News Agency (Ret.)
dfinell@satx.rr.com

My first drafts of this article came across as too preachy and may have been too offensive to some. But, what I have to say is important. It is not intended to offend or insult anyone.

I have been noticing a disturbing trend in what the club members, participants, and judges count as photojournalism (PJ). I consider allowing or scoring high photos that lack PJ characteristics a disservice to the club, as well as the participating photographers. I would like this document to serve as a framework to get the club and its photographers back on track.

To answer the question what is photojournalism? We should probably ask what is journalism? Wikipedia states quite succinctly "Journalism is gathering, processing, and dissemination of news, and information related to news, to an audience." This would seem to suggest that the image first and foremost should be news worthy. This would eliminate many of the vacation photos being submitted and counted as PJ in the club. Generally speaking people engaging in vacation activities is not news worthy. Notice that this statement is not an absolute. There are situations where one of these images might count as news worthy but it would need to be supported with an accompanying article to meet the test.

If we want to delve more closely into what Photojournalism is, we can see the definition in Wikipedia, which is a very good definition. Wikipedia says "Photojournalism is distinguished from other close branches of photography (e.g., documentary photography, social documentary photography, street photography or celebrity photography) by complying with a rigid ethical framework which demands that the work is both honest and impartial whilst telling the story in strictly journalistic terms. Photojournalists create pictures that contribute to the news media."

Three main elements of Photojournalism are Timeliness, Objectivity, and Narrative.

Timeliness asks the question, does the image relate to recent events? If the image is of a burning car you happened on back in 1986 it probably doesn't meet this criteria. But if you are using a stock photo of a F-15 fighter to show what an F-15 looks like to readers of a story about a squadron of these aircraft being deployed somewhere in the world tomorrow, it might have relevance. Here the image is contingent upon the story it is connected with.

Objectivity asks the question, is the image an honest and accurate representation of the events in both content and tone? If you are removing light posts or other items from the image to make it look better that is a no-no. If the image was shot under or over exposed or with the wrong color temperature these corrections may be acceptable. Cranking up the vibrancy of a racecar crossing the finish line might abuse the standard.

Narrative asks the question, does the image with other news elements relate to the viewer or reader on a cultural level? This is where we get into story telling. How well does the image help answer one or more of the questions Who, What, Where, When, How, and Why? Notice that I said help answer, not just answer. PJ images are to assist in telling the story. They don't need to tell the story in and of themselves. PJ images should be accompanied by a narrative that reinforces the questions of timeliness and objectivity while at the same time providing the reader the answer to the question, why should I care? I don't care if you went on vacation and saw other families engaged in typical vacation activities. It isn't news worthy. I don't care. If there was a serious accident where a concrete truck tipped over spilling its load at the crest of one of the overpasses I might care. Was anyone hurt? Are the overpasses safe? How will this effect traffic? How easy will the clean up be? How long will it take? Etc. These are questions of why I might care and the image might be worth a slot in PJ. PJ can also be newsworthy scheduled events like races, rodeos, parades, contests, etc. PJ is not just by chance. One can plan to take PJ photos. Just ask yourself if the image you take is relatable to a story you might see in the paper or on TV. Rodeos, cultural festivals, parades, and other events that don't occur on a daily basis can qualify as PJ. You need to ask yourself is it news worthy? If a narrative isn't compulsory it might be optional for those photos where the PJ content isn't self-evident.

In the PJ category the principles of PJ need to take precedence over the technical quality of the image. A slightly blurry overexposed image of an explosion downtown would have more PJ significance than a crisp perfect image of little Joey scoring the winning goal at the local high school football game that happened at the same time. Everyone remembers images of the planes hitting the towers on September 11, 2001. How many people remember images from the other stories of the day?

24 Die After Drinking Poisonous Moonshine From Times Wire Reports, Japan Suspects First 'Mad Cow' Case From Associated Press, Typhoon Danas Buffets Mainland; 5 Killed From Times Wire Reports, Portraits of the Victims Show Struggles for a Better Life, Bereft Relatives
 MARGARET TALEV and GREG KRİKORIAN, TIMES STAFF WRITERS, and the list goes on. The reason we don't remember the other images or stories is because they had less journalistic value than the story of the terror attacks. They were not bad stories or images in and of themselves. They all met the basic criteria of Photojournalism. But the main story was the attacks and images from these were the most relevant.

One last famous historic example-

Robert Cappa was a renowned PJ embedded with the troops when they stormed the beaches at Normandy. There were several photos taken that day. Many of the same event. Many were much better than Cappa's. But by the time they were published they lost their relevancy. Robert Cappa's photos best met the principles of PJ at the time. Here is one of his most famous photos of D-day.



Troops storming beaches at Normandy June 6, 1944 By Robert Cappa

From a purely photographic sense this image is garbage. It is slightly out of focus, has copious amounts of motion blur, is poorly defined and most of the subject matter is unrecognizable. From a Photojournalistic aspect this image is pure gold. The blurriness and shakiness helps to illustrate the harrowing environment. When the image is coupled with the associated story of the storming of the beaches at Normandy on D-Day its relevance becomes crystal clear. It was one of the first images out of the invasion. This made it particularly relevant for the time. This is what Photojournalism is. This is what a PJ beach scene is.

How would you score these two images if both were submitted and they were both equally timely?

To improve the GSACC's handling of the PJ category I would like to propose changes to the category's rules. There should be no withholding of titles. Images may



Jet ski, 7 mile beach, Negril, Jamaica

By: Jyothi Karthik Raja

be accompanied by a short narrative where the image supports the story. The narrative will show how the image meets the criteria of PJ. Basically there should be a short accompanying article to go with the image to be read during judging. The article would be written by the photographer. Get out your pens and paper or Hermes Rockets and start writing folks. Judges should be strongly reminded what PJ is immediately before judging the category. Having them read this article would be a good idea. I would also like the club to occasionally enter a placebo image from a reputable news source that is not obviously out of the capability or opportunity of the club members to keep judges in check. The placebo should score high in the competition but will be removed from the final tally of winners. This would allow the club to check itself and ensure that it is on track.

Before you submit or judge an image for PJ ask yourself what is its news value? Is it accurate? Is it timely? Before you start judging it on its photographic merits.

I hope that I haven't offended anyone and hope that my thoughts are taken in the spirit they are meant. I want to help the club grow and improve. Helping the club learn what a category is, is one way I can help.

One last thought, it was mentioned to me that many of the photographers in the club are amateurs and can't cope with these professional ideas or thoughts. Regardless what club members do on the outside, in the club we are all amateurs. Amateur means for the love of something and without substantive gain. Nobody gets paid for participating in the club. The awards are purely for recognition and have no monetary value. The term amateur has often been taken as not good at something. This is an extreme falsehood. One other hobby that I am involved with is astronomy. There is a multitude of Ph.Ds. in the field who agree that there are several amateurs that are equally or more knowledgeable about astronomy than they. The amateurs just don't have the college credentials to back up their knowledge. This is no different in the field of photography. Being an amateur is not an excuse but a compliment and a challenge. It is time we embody it.



1. All regular meetings take place at the Lions Field Adult Center, 2809 Broadway unless otherwise noted.
2. Thursday, April 7th GSACC educational meeting Subject is to be announced. Check our website for more up to the date information.
3. Thursday, April 17: GSACC digital competition, 7:30 PM, Assignment is (digital): Nuts
4. Ernie advised us that April 2nd is the date chosen by the Houston Camera Club to hold our annual Club Shootout in Schulenburg, Texas. Terry Rutledge says that The Sausage Fest will take place on North Main St. Opening ceremonies 11:45, Fest from noon to 10:00 PM. The Schulenburg Historical Museum will be open 10:00 AM to 6:00PM, The Polka Museum 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM (or possibly later). How does meeting at 2:00 PM in front of the Chamber of Commerce (618 North Main) and all eating a wurst sound?
5. September 10-12, 2016, PSA will be in San Antonio. PSA organizers asked GSACC for a presentation to welcome convention attendees.
6. Brian Duchin is helping coordinate tours for the PSA Conference in September. At this time he's arranging after hour tours of the Missions, specifically Mission Espada, San Jose, and San Juan. More info will be shared as it becomes available.
7. April 29-May 1 is the 6th Annual Wings Over the Hills Nature Festival located in the LBJ Municipal Park in Fredericksburg. It promises birding for endangers species, nature walks and demonstrations, a raptor flying exhibit, a butterfly tent and much more. For more information: www.wingstx.org
8. John Caine is going to give a workshop session on RESIZING our photos in Lightroom or Photoshop. Date is to be determined
9. David Finnell has encouraged the club to register to be listed as a participant in the annual Photo Septiembre exhibits in San Antonio. July 1 is the final deadline. For more information look at their website at: – <http://fotoseptiembreusa.com/>

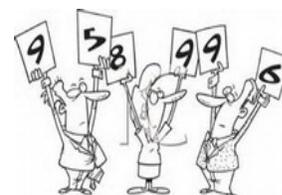
FOR SALE

by GSACC MEMBER

Fuji X-Pro 1 body.

Used, purchased new in 2014, in very good condition. Shutter count is only 3443. Includes everything that came in original box. This camera is the most unique of all the mirrorless models because it has switching between OVF and EVF. This site has a good review of body and a couple of lenses: <http://kenrockwell.com/fuji/x-pro1.htm>. Fuji X lenses are some of the best, often compared to Leica quality. I am changing to different Fuji X model. Offering this to GSACC members first before I put in on the internet. Club member's price: \$425 (I paid \$1200 in 2014), internet price \$475. Available for inspection.

Cliff Henry, 210-824-4963,
Cliffhenry4@gmail.com.



THE NEXT COMPETITION

April's competition is DIGITAL.

NOTE: That the club has changed the definition of "Monochrome". You can see the revised text under "Competition Rules." This brings us more in line with PSA guidelines, and should eliminate some of the past confusion. You can see the changes by going to our website at:

<http://www.gsacc.org/competition-rules--how-to-enter.htm>

DIGITAL CATEGORIES:

1. Pictorial Color Digital
2. Pictorial Monochrome Digital
3. Nature Digital
4. Photojournalism Digital
5. Assignment Digital - Fruit
6. Creative Digital

April's Assignment: 2016: (digital): Nut(s): photograph a favorite food alone or in some form of usage

THE LAST PAGE

MISC. News for GSACC Members

1. We have a real treat in store for our members at the next digital competition We are now the proud owners of a 60" flat screen TV! WOW! I can't wait to see how our projected images look.
2. Monday, April 18: Digital entries must be submitted by 12 noon to be included in Thursdays competition. Also, to participate you must be a paid member, but visitors are always welcome! I think the web entry worked pretty good in February so we are once again going to try to use the website to upload photos for the digital competition.

Go to our website at:

<http://www.gsacc.org/gsacc-digital-photo-upload-page.html>

And just follow the directions. Please limit the size of your photos to 2 MG each (I know the web says 20 MB but please limit them to 2 MB) and use the same naming convention we always use, so John Kain knows whose photos they are, and in what category they belong to. Also, since it is a new way of doing things, the earlier you submit your photos the better it might work.

NOTE: If this doesn't work for you send your images to John Kain at:

gsaccpics@gmail.com

3. Check out our new "FOR SALE" section in the FLASH newsletter so our club members can sell camera equipment not needed or just not being used to other club members?
4. Please note that because of confusion that has existed with our past multiple mailing lists, only GSACC member who have paid their dues for 2016 will be getting a copy by email of the GSACC Newsletter and the 2016 GSACC Yearbook. Copies will, however, still be available on our website for all to view.
5. We now have a new Webmaster Jemima D. Munnangi has graciously volunteered to work on our GSACC website. I know we are all grateful for her work.

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FLASH SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS: Articles: Text must be typed; e-mailed articles should be plain text, or Microsoft Word or Works attachments. The preferred size for images sent via e-mail is 1024x768 and the preferred format is JPEG.

E-mail address for submissions: peterflorczak@gmail.com

Publication deadline: Submissions are due on the 20th day of the month before the desired publication month.

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