



May 2020
Volume 18: Issue 5



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Hello Photography Friends,

I sure hope that all of you are well and happy. I know for many of us this has not been an easy time. Since many of you don't know me, I thought a short introduction might be in order. I immigrated with my parents to the U.S. when I was 11 years old. We escaped from East Germany when I was 5. My school and college years were spent in Utah. I retired from Consolidated Freightways 2001.

My photography interests go back to my father who brought a Kodak camera home to Berlin after the war. I learned to use it as a young boy and have been hooked ever since. I always took one photography course in college so that I could use the college darkroom. After retirement my wife and I moved to central Oregon. I was introduced to the camera club in 2008 by Robert Agli after taking a photography class from him at COCC. I'm looking forward to getting to know each one of you when this pandemic is over. Until then happy imaging and remember you are never fully dressed until you wear a smile."

Jack



*"A Study in Yellow"
©Larry Hudspeth
Theme "Yellow"*

Welcome to **IN FOCUS**, newsletter of the Cascade Camera Club, located in Bend, Oregon.

Our meetings are usually held at the Bend Senior Center, 1600 SE Reed Market Rd, the First and Third Monday of each month (except September). Currently do to the Covid19 virus, the Senior Center is closed. Our monthly critiques are being held online. See website for instructions. We will resume our normal meeting routine when possible.

Website: cascadecameraclub.com
Email: cascadecameraclub.com/contact/

April Critiquer

Robert Agli

Theme Was "Yellow"

SUBMISSION DEADLINE
11:59 p.m. ON THE WEDNESDAY
PRIOR TO CRITIQUE NIGHT



APRIL SUBMISSIONS

Theme:

Robert Agli	Evening Grosbeak
John Aylward	Steen's Aspen's, First Dusting of Snow
Joe Bailie	Yellow Rose
Jon Basham	Yellow Pride
Larry Bristow	Old Friends
Bob Bush	Yellow Flowers Below Blue Hills Utah
Chip Cleveland	Unusual Flower
James Dunn	Making Waves
Blanche Feekes	Choose Hope
Jeannine Florence	The Extrovert
Ted Forman	Spring Bloom
Joe Hudspeth	Sittin' Pretty
Larry Hudspeth	A Study in Yellow
Shellie Littau	Hello Mr Yellow
Rich Marrocco	Corbet SP
Pete Martin	Lake Inari Boat
Bev Murphy	Wanna' Play?
Judy Neill	Golden Glow
Steve Peters	Deschutes Fall Color
Michael Rouse	Nature at Work
Brian Russell	Tulip
Ken Sandine	Yellow Line
Jack Schade	Girl with Baby Duck
Dan Schafer	Yellow Sky Over White Rvr
John Stewart	Sunburst
Jeff Tilley	Hummingbird
Greg Waddell	Sunday Morning
John Williams	Morning Glow

Open:

Barb Rumer Internal Glow

Our Critiquer for MAY
Kevin Kubota



April Theme Images
"Yellow"



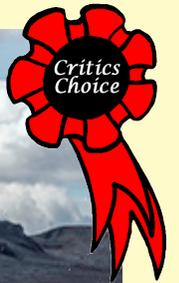


©John Stewart



©Robert Agli

April Theme Images
"Yellow"



©Bob Bush



©Joel Bailie



©Jack Schade



©Jim Dunn



©Brian Russell



©Steve Peters

April Theme Images
"Yellow"



©Michael Rouse



©Bev Murphy



©Ken Sandine



©Dan Schafer



April Theme Images
"Yellow"





April Theme Images
"Yellow"



April Opene Image

DAN AND JEANNIE IN AUSTRALIA

GREETINGS FROM DENHAMS BEACH

GREETINGS

I am grateful that Bev has graciously allowed me to continue submitting my “travel news” to the newsletter. It means a lot to me to be able to stay in contact with CCC members. I am also grateful for the personal communications I have with some of you even though you all seem to be telling me “Dan, stay in Australia!”

To refresh your memory, Jeannie and I are stranded on a beautiful beach in Australia. Our walking world now consists of 6 beaches, each with a different character. Here’s one—Smuggler’s Cove—that we arrive at after a 30-minute walk on 3 other beaches and an additional 20-minute walk up and down a steep, headland hill (which, incidentally, is scarred from the horrible bush fires in January).

Throw five beautiful parrot species and a resident dolphin family into the equation, and this place is tolerable.



(Smuggler’s Cove and Pacific Ocean Sunrise; Nikon D850, Nikon 14-24mm @ 14mm, ISO 125, f/14, 1/25s)

AUSTRALIA HEALTH AND LOCKDOWN UPDATE

This is such encouraging news. Australia, with a population of 25 million, currently has fewer than 1,000 active coronavirus cases, is expecting 40% of the population to download a recently-introduced phone app for Bluetooth contact tracing, and has just procured 10 million virus test kits. We are still in lockdown, which is enforced by police, who can give spot fines up to \$11,000, but there has been some minor easing of restrictions.

Because the Australian government was so successful with flattening the curve and avoiding hospital overcrowding, and has managed to obtain so many test kits, it is in the relatively enviable position of having the people’s trust and the ability to re-open thoughtfully and carefully. Fortunately, there are lessons from South Korea, Singapore, and Germany about the delicacy of the next step. The U.S., in comparison, has a much more precarious dance to perform in the life-versus-livelihood choices.

It’s still too early for Jeannie and I to think very much about our next move. Some states have relaxed camping restrictions, but only within 50km of home, and state borders are still closed. We have yet to see what kind of spikes might emerge from the easing of lockdown restrictions and whether exponential growth rears its ugly head again. We’re optimistic and we speculate about what we might be doing in 3 months and 6 months, but for now it’s still wait and see.

LOCKDOWN PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography sure is a good lockdown hobby. Not only can we maintain safe social distances (not possible with square dancing, for example), photography has a kind of reflective meditation aspect that helps with the whole sanity thing. Along those lines, John Williams recently sent me this quote from a photographer named Alister Benn: ‘Photographs are the perfect reflective medium, our growth walks hand in hand with our understanding of our preferences and accuracy of execution of our intent!’

I am fortunate to have some outstanding photo opportunities in my backyard, but I am also sad to miss the coming spring in Central Oregon—the budding of flowers, migrating birds, insects and butterflies. What else can you do without travelling? One thing I have been enjoying and which anyone can do in their house, yard, or neighborhood is abstract photography.

Art Wolfe says that designs and patterns in works by famous abstract painters can be found in nature and captured with similar impact as art. He tells people like us that abstract photography offers a way to capture images that are uniquely our own and, because of that, offers a more satisfying form of art expression than, say, re-capturing a scene in someone else’s photograph. In his own words, “I love nothing more than to find art and compositions in things that most people would drive by.” If you are interested, Google “Art Wolfe abstract photography” and click on “Images.” Continued on page 10

FLAWS AND FAILURES

ANOTHER VIEW by ROBERT AGLI



Photo by Joe McNally

Recently I listened to an interview with Joe McNally, one of my photographer heroes. He had a stunning image of a ballet dancer in a kitchen of a Cuban home. In explaining the backstory

Joe said the image was flawed and he further explained all his images were flawed, that's the nature of photography. I couldn't see the flaws and it occurred to me that we often perceive flaws in our work that are truly invisible to most viewers. Often it is because the flaw is what we wanted to accomplish in our mind's eye and that the final result was not the same. This brought about a flashback of well over 40 years ago when I was trying to complete a project and my boss, and a true mentor, asked what the holdup was. I explained I was 90% there and was working on the last 10%. He replied forget the last 10%. In the case of that project the effort required wasn't worth it. Run with the 90%. That was a shocker for a self-professed perfectionist. To this day it's tough for me to heed that advice and there are certainly things where near perfection is critical but, most of the time, we don't have to achieve perfection. In photography there are things that absolutely must be perfect, most of the time, such as image sharpness. Therefore, there is a degree of technique that is essential but there are also elements of an image that just are not worth the trouble to make perfect.

Flaws in human performance are definitely not limited to photography. During her teen years, my daughter was the pianist for a traveling musical group. I asked her how she could stay motivated playing the same thing over and over. Her reply was a true epiphany. She said every time the group performed it was another opportunity to get it perfect and any time they got close just spurred everyone on to keep trying.

Flaws are just a mini component of failures and failures are an important learning tool. The first year I photographed the marble caves in Patagonia I was disappointed with my

results. I just didn't capture the true magic of this awesome geological formation. I thought about all the things I had done wrong and also all the things that worked. When I went

back, the following year, I was ready and my shots captured the magic. My guess is this is why so many world class photographers shoot the same locations over and over. They learn new things every time and they can incorporate those things next time.

An extension of this thinking goes a step further. During an evening review of all the participants work at one of my workshops one of the participants said they wanted to see what I took at the same location. After reviewing my images this person said, "I'm trying to figure out how you only had a few minutes to shoot while we were packing up 'cause you were helping us and yet all your images are better. What gives?" I had to chuckle. I explained I had the benefit of seeing what everyone else was doing before taking out my camera. I saw their shooting locations and all their camera settings, lens selection etc. Basically, they had provided great data and my shots were the result of all their experimentation.

In summary, remember, don't let that little perfectionist voice in your head overwhelm your final result. Oftentimes that final image may actually be better than what you imagined.

Remember that failure is part of the learning process and use that info to help you next time.

If you don't have an entire class of photographers to provide input, work the subject whenever you can. Move around, use different settings, experiment. Sometimes just screwing around can result in some excellent surprises.

Continued from page 8

Not in the same league as Art, I nevertheless find that I can lose myself in hunting for abstract images—searching for lines, patterns, and textures and trying to capture them in pleasing compositions. This is my go-to photography on an overcast day. If you feel like giving it a try, keep your eyes open for lines, patterns, and textures in anything (like rust, for example), and zoom in closer than you think you should. Here are a couple of mine:



(Rock patterns; Nikon Z7, Nikon 24-70mm S @ 60mm, ISO 64, f/16, 1/50s)



(Design in fallen tree; Nikon D850, Nikon 80-400mm + TC1.4 @ 550mm, ISO 2800, f/18, 1/640s)

If you do try this and get some good results, I would enjoy seeing what you arrived at. It's interesting to see how different people "see" abstract design differently and what that might mean about their own personality, vision, and creativity.

Stay healthy, stay sane.
Cheers! Dan

CASCADE CAMERA CLUB 2020 OFFICERS

cascadecameraclub.com

Jack Schade
President

Ralph Delamarter
Vice President

Secretary

Larry Hudspeth
Treasurer

Shireen Gastineau
Member-at-Large

Robert Agli - Program
Brent McGregor - Program
Co-Chairman

Ruth Baker - Membership
Chairman

Ralph Delamarter
Multi Media Chairman

Bev Murphy
Communication Editor

Jim Sellers
Audio Chairman

MONTHLY THEMES

May	Black/White
Jun	Humor
Jul	Gardens
Aug	Harsh
Sep	Under
Oct	Odd Couple
Nov	This Changing Planet
Dec	Joy

Be sure your image is submitted by 11:59pm on the Wednesday prior to the Monday critique

Tutorials for uploading digital images can be found on our website Cascadecameraclub.com