

PSOC NEWSLETTER

President's Letter

We are still planning to continue conducting our monthly meetings (LENS and General) via Zoom until conditions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic make it sufficiently clear that it is appropriate and safe to resume our traditional in-person meetings at the Fount Church. Exactly when, and under what conditions, this situation will change is to be determined by; Orange County and State health statistics, guidance from the various government agencies, and the requirements of The Fount Church regarding large gatherings of unrelated people.

Following on the initial, informal, February 20th Field Trip to Descanso Gardens, the March 20th Field Trip to Anza Borrego and the Salton Sea was conducted in a similar manner. That is, without formal car pooling or a PSOC-organized social gathering at a nearby restaurant. Hopefully, many of you made the trip out to the beautiful desert. Note that the April Field Trip will be to the Carlsbad Flower Fields and is scheduled for Sunday, April 18th. The degree of formality is yet to be determined.

The majority of 2020 PSOC Members have renewed their membership by paying the pertinent dues. Participants who plan to continue to be Members in good standing, but have not paid their 2021 dues, please send a check for your 2021 dues to our Treasurer, Dan Anderson at 5051 Linda Circle, Huntington Beach 92649. Thanks to those who have already sent in their dues! Please remember that only Members that have fully paid their dues have the privilege of submitting photos for critique during the monthly General Meeting.

Please remember to put our monthly LENS (April 15th) and General (April 22nd) meetings on your personal calendars. Even via Zoom, it's good to "see" everyone. The LENS topic this month is "Visualizing in Black and White" to be presented by Barry Evans. The subjects of your General Meeting submittal for critique by are 1) the Field Trip to the Salton Sea and Anza Borrego Desert State Park, and/or 2) the Assignment "Minimalist Compositions".

Now that it's Spring, let's all find excuses to get out and spend more quality time using our cameras to do this thing we all enjoy so much!

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Monthly Meetings

April LENS Meeting Info

Thursday: April 15th @ 7:00 PM

Our guest instructor will be Barry Evans. He will be presenting on the subject Visualizing in Black and White

April General Meeting Info

Thursday: April 22nd @ 7 PM

The General Meeting will be on April 22nd, 2021 at 7PM. This will be a virtual meeting via Zoom. The link will be emailed a few days before the meeting. Photos from the "Salton Sea and Anza Borrego State Park" Field Trip and/or the Assignment "Minimalist Compositions" will be shown. Art Ramirez will be our guest critiquer.

You can e-mail up to 3 images plus title photo to the Digital Show Team at: psocphoto@gmail.com on, or before, Tuesday, April 15th at 6PM. This is a hard deadline! The digital team needs this time to prepare for the show. If your pictures are late, they will return them to you advising you of this.

2021 PSOC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

01 New Year's Day
 18 M L King Day
 21 LENS Meeting
 28 General Meeting
13 Jan Field Trip - Laguna Beach (Wed)
 * Jan Assign. - Silhouettes & Back-lighting

Jul						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

04 Independence Day
 15 LENS Meeting
 22 General Meeting
24 PSOC Picnic
 * Jul Assign. - Candid & Self Portraits

Feb						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

14 Valentine's Day
 15 Presidents' Day
 18 LENS Meeting
 25 General Meeting
20 Feb Field Trip - Descanso Gardens
 * Feb Assign. - Patterns

Aug						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

19 LENS Meeting
 26 General Meeting
22 Aug Field Trip - Shoreline Village & Queen Mary (Sun)
 * Aug Assign. - Using Shadows in Com-positions

Mar						
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

17 St. Patrick's Day
 18 LENS Meeting
 25 General Meeting
20 Mar Field Trip - Anza Borrego & Salton Sea
 * Mar Assign. - Minimalist Compositions

Sep						
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

06 Labor Day
 16 LENS Meeting
 23 General Meeting
04 Sep Field Trip - HB Civil War Reenactment
 * Sep Assign. - Environmental & Occupational Portraits

Apr						
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02 Good Friday
 04 Easter
 15 LENS Meeting
 22 General Meeting
18 Apr Field Trip - Carlsbad Flower Fields (Sun)
 * Apr Assign. - Macro & Depth of Field

Oct						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

11 Columbus Day
 31 Halloween
 21 LENS Meeting
 28 General Meeting
16 Oct Field Trip - San Pedro & Battleship Iowa
 * Oct Assign. - "Open" Pick a favorite subi.

May						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

09 Mother's Day
 31 Memorial Day
 20 LENS Meeting
 27 General Meeting
22 May Field Trip - Flying Leathernecks Aviation Museum
 * May Assign. - Black & White

Nov						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

11 Veterans Day
 25 Thanksgiving
 11 LENS Meeting
 18 General Meeting
20 Nov Field Trip - Balboa Peninsula "Night Shoot"
 * Nov Assign. - Night Photography

Jun						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

20 Father's Day
 17 LENS Meeting
 24 General Meeting
05 PSOC LIBRARY SHOW RECEPTION (SAT)
19 Jun Field Trip - Downtown LA
 * Jun Assign. - Docum. "America Today"

Dec						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NO LENS & GENERAL MEETINGS IN DEC.
 25 Christmas
09 PSOC Holiday Mixer: Show candid shots of members in 2021
 * Jan. 27, 2022 Gen. Mtg: Show Balboa Penin. & Night Photo.

Meeting Date	Field Trip Photos to Submit	Field Trip Date	Assignment Photos to Submit	Helpful LENS Presentation	Helpful Newsletter Article	Meeting Critiquer
January 28th	Nixon Presidential Library		Member's Choice	None		
February 25th	Laguna Beach	January 13th	Silhouettes and Backlighting	None		Matt Brown
March 25th	Descanso Gardens	February 20th	Patterns	Minimalist Compositions	Patterns As A Subject	John Bare
April 22nd	Anza Borrego and Salton Sea	March 20th	Minimalist Compositions	None	Minimalist Photography	Art Ramirez
May 27th	Carlsbad Flower Fields	April 18th	Macro and Depth of Field	Controlling Depth of Field	How to Take Vibrant, Razor-Sharp Macro Photos of Flowers	Barry Evans
June 24th	Flying Leathernecks Aviation Museum	May 22nd	Black and White	Visualizing In Black and White	Black and White	Matt Brown
July 22nd	Downtown LA	June 19th	Documentary "America Today"	Visualizing In Black and White	TBS	John Bare
August 26th	PSOC Picnic	July 24th	Candid and Self Portraits	None	TBS	TBD
September 23rd	Shoreline Village and Queen Mary	August 22nd	Using Shadows In Compositions	Mastering Your Camera As A Tool	TBS	TBD
October 28th	HB Civil War Reenactment	September 4th	Environmental & Occupational Portraits	None	TBS	TBD
November 18th	San Pedro and Battleship Iowa	October 16th	Open- Pick Your Favorite Subject	None	TBS	TBD
No December General Meeting	None	-	None	None	None	None
January 27th (2022)	Balboa Peninsula Night Shoot	November 20th	Night Photography	Night Photography (11/16/2021)	TBS	TBD

- 1) - Photos for the Assignments can be taken anytime in the prior few months as long as they fit the Assignment description, but should be as recent as feasible
- 2) - Photos taken during Field Trips do not need to be Assignment-related in order to be submitted for General Meeting critique
- 3) - Only Members that have fully paid their dues may submit photos for General Meeting critique

MEMBER INFO

April 2021

Mary Madden will be traveling to Moab and Monument Valley this month for the first time. Let's hope she captures some great images and shares some with the rest of us.

Eric Stogner, bird photographer extraordinaire, has five images on display in Middle Ridge Winery's Art Gallery in Idyllwild.

Jennie Breeze has a showing at Laguna Beach City Hall's "2021 Art That's Small at City Hall" exhibition. This event runs until April 15th. Jennie also continues to make sales via her website: jennie-breeze.pixels.com

Carol Calkins has her photo on the cover of the Bolsa Chica Conservancy Calendar. Carol also scored the covers of the Bolsa Chica Land Trust Calendar and the Wings Over Bolsa Calendar! Also, in the Land Trust calendar are; Kurt Bayless (July cover), Robin Hoyland (2 images), Eileen Rizzacassa, and Eric Stogner.

In case you weren't aware, our website has links to several more of our members' work via their own websites. This is worth checking out at <https://psoc.net/links.html>

As always, we have a good number of members' projects on Smugmug. General information on this great opportunity is available on the PSOC website.

Picture This

Cotton Mill Girl | 1908

Established in 1904, the National Child Labor Committee, existed to fight for the rights of child workers in the USA. They realized that the most powerful tool they had was to show the real face of these children. They believed that seeing these images of child labor would awaken the citizens to demand change.

When Lewis Hine, an investigative photographer, came across Sadie Pfeifer, one of the smallest children at work. Standing at just 48 inches, he knew he had a shot that would change people's views.

This photograph along with others was a crucial part of the campaign which led to a change in legislation. The outcome of which was a 50% cut in the number of child laborers over a 10-year period.



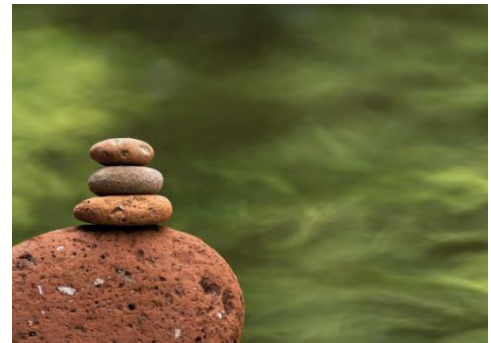
Minimalist Photography

Assignment to Show in April 2021
by Stefan Steinberg

"Minimalist photography is a form of photography that is distinguished by extreme, austere simplicity. It emphasizes sparseness and focuses solely on the smallest number of objects in the composition process." (Wikipedia)



Linda Calkins



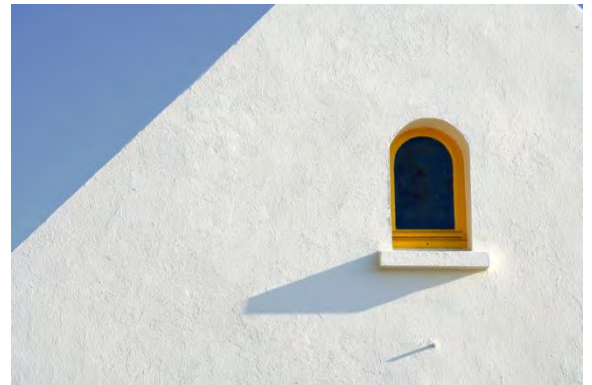
Its artistic style can be encapsulated by the quote, "less is more." Minimalist photographers achieve this effect by casting aside all of the unnecessary components in creating their works. This principle is demonstrated in various minimalist photographs, for example, when capturing a mountain or an ocean on camera, the entirety of the scenery will be presented as one big vast space. In order to expand and concentrate on the expansive space, it is crucial to minimize contradicting elements such as people or distracting buildings. Therefore, a minimalist photograph is often captured early in the morning, sunrise or dark at night. This ensures that the scene is not filled with crowds.



Janet Frumhoff



Minimalist photography often pays attention to one single subject in its composition, using nature as its background. Some representative subject matters include geometric patterns, lines, and textures, which can range between an apple, a mountain, or a bridge, to name a few examples. Although this style of photography is derived from the art movement in the early 1950s, its impact is exhibited in various forms of digital photography today.



Here are six elements of minimalist photography to think about as you create your powerfully simple frames:

Simplicity. Keeping it simple doesn't mean keeping it boring.

Negative space. What you do with negative or empty space is contrary to what the term implies. ...

Powerful composition. ...

Isolation. ...

Color. ...

Lines and shapes.



Deborah Anne



Ken Hart

May Assignment: Black and White By Mike Whitmore **to be shown at the June meeting**

Black and White photography has been and continues to be an essential art form in photography. It is an alternate way to see reality and can be a powerful tool to express mood and feeling. Black and white is about shape and form, texture and tones. We rely on these fundamentals to tell our story. We use these to create impact. Look for tones, composition, perspective, shadow and light. The absence of color reduces our image to elements of tonal contrast, shape and form. Certain subjects may have more impact when the distraction of color is removed. Black and white can be powerful in portraiture by bringing attention to facial expression.



Understanding how color is rendered in black and white is essential to being able to control the process of making a digital black and white image. Tonal control is essential to success in producing an impactful black and white image. It is important to know what tonal difference to expect between red and green, for example, in order to visualize how a subject will stand out or blend in with background. Film black and white photography relied on this knowledge and the use of colored filters to control the tonal results. We could use a red filter, for example, to render the blue sky dark and a green filter to lighten foliage.

Digital image processing makes this tonal work easier and can be done effectively in processing. Lightroom and Photoshop both have sliders to enable us to vary separate colors to have the effect that we were able to achieve with filters in film photography. You can move the slider back and forth and see how the tone of that color changes in the image. See the tutorial links referenced below for the how-to. You can learn quickly by experimenting with the sliders.

You can also set your camera to shoot in B&W jpeg and it will render a reasonable B&W image depending on how the manufacturer set up the in-camera processing. However, most photographers shoot in RAW and then convert the images to black and white during processing. You can get much better results by shooting in RAW, capturing maximum information, and then processing it the way you choose to. There are many excellent choices available for processing software. There are many tutorials available to assist you using photoshop and lightroom. Some excellent specialized software is also available. There are also some excellent videos available. The two that I use are Lightroom and Nik Silver Efex-Pro. Here are some links to explore.

[How to Convert Photos to Black and White in Lightroom](http://digital-photography-school.com/how-to-convert-photos-to-black-and-white-in-lightroom/)
digital-photography-school.com > how-to-convert-photos...

[Converting Color Photos to Black and White in](#)

[Photoshop Top Black & White Software - Digital Photo](#)

[Magazine](#)

<https://www.dpmag.com/software/processing/top-black-and-white-software>

