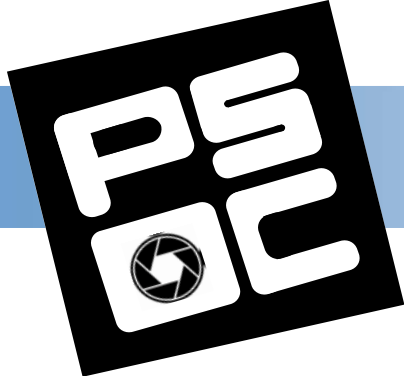




PRESIDENT'S LETTER; SEPTEMBER 2026



Fall is coming and I truly hope it cools down! I do not know about you, but I feel so much more like getting out there when it is not so hot!

Susan's note on inspiration...

Bob and I subscribe to several photographers on YouTube. Some are instructional and some are just plain inspiring. One guy we watch (James Popsys) has this idea he calls "Non-Photography Goals," and it is a great way to get yourself out with your camera on those days when you are not sure what you want to shoot, or the light is not cooperating, or you just do not want to shoot.

The idea is simple: Give yourself a goal that has nothing to do with photography. Walk a certain number of steps. Walk to a specific place and back. Sit in one spot for a set amount of time. Now you have something to focus on besides finding a great photo and, guess what, you might even capture some great images as icing on the cake!

I know it's easy to say "just get out there," but if you happen to be in a mood where you need a reason that is not really about the photography at all, maybe this small trick will help.

Here is what is coming up in September:

September Assignment (to show in October) Lazy / Peaceful

Flyer in this newsletter – check it out!

- **September 1st thru 30th – Annual Photography Show at Huntington Beach Library**
- **September 12th – (Saturday 6:30-8:30pm) Reception at the Library Show**

This is a fun event and you are free to invite family and friends to attend. Look for the invitation flyer in this newsletter that you could email or print and give to people you want to invite.

- **September 17th – LENS Meeting: Movie Night**

Annual Movie Night: This year Kurt has picked a movie called "***Biggest Little Farm.***" He always picks enjoyable films and this looks to be no exception.

- **September 24th – General Meeting**

Here is what we can submit for critique:

- o **Field Trip:** Santa Monica Pier
- o **Assignment:** Abstract / Patterns
- o **Open Category:** Any recent photo, any subject (a great way to show a past field trip or assignment 😊)

- **September 27th (Sunday) Field Trip – San Juan Capistrano**

Please read on in the newsletter about this field trip, we always include a flyer about the field trip to let you know ALL the details.

We also have descriptions and inspiration about the assignments, so read more!

RE The Critique Night:

*Let's talk critiques again — because I **will** keep bringing this up until every single one of you has given it a try at least once.*

When I started entering critique night at a club I belonged to at that time, I did not even understand what they were suggesting I do. It sounded like another language. Turns out, after a few times of some of the same things being mentioned, I knew it was time to learn that language and start doing the tweaks mentioned if I was ever going to get the results I truly wanted! Yes, it was for me, not the people looking at them or the people critiquing them, it was so I could get the images I wanted. AND, the images I was proud to share with family and friends and yes, the photography club too!

Here is what I have noticed: The members who submit regularly have decided that growth was worth the nerves OR, they just decided to share their art.

Critique night is all about learning and growing. It is not a test, but a room full of people who love photography and want to see what YOU have come up with. The person doing the critiques (this month is John Bare) are here to offer a different, yet educated take on your photos helping you see them in a new way.

That is the other thing worth remembering: You do not have to be sure. Submit the photo you are curious about, not just the ones you are confident in. Some of the best ideas happen when the images we were on the fence about are looked at with fresh and experienced eyes.

And it is not only about what you learn — it is about what the rest of us get to see. Every submission is a little window into how you see the world, whatever camera or phone you used to capture it, we genuinely love seeing it.

If it has been a while since you've submitted — or you have never worked up the nerve — consider this your nudge.

How to Submit:

Visit PSOC.net, and click on **Digital Files** in the upper right-hand corner of the website header. Submission details are there.

Deadline: Tuesday, September 22nd, by 6 PM.

This month Bob and I are heading to Sweden and Finland for over three weeks so we will not see you at all in September. The trip is for a family reunion plus exploration around the Stockholm area and the island where my relatives are from. We are definitely looking forward to it but we will miss all of you, the movie, the meeting and the library show reception.

Of course, I am hoping for some photos worth sharing with you from our travels!

See you in October!

Susan

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MONTHLY MEETINGS

MOVIE NIGHT

Thursday: September 17, 2026 @ 7:00PM

“The Biggest Little Farm”

The Biggest Little Farm chronicles the eight-year quest of John and Molly Chester as they trade city living for 234 acres of barren farmland in Moorpark, CA.

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING INFO

Thursday: September 24, 2026 @ 7:00 PM

The General Meeting will be held on September 24, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. **Abstract/Patterns** will be the topic to show for critique. Pictures from **Santa Monica Pier** field trip or other images in the category will be shown and critiqued. **Barry Evans** will critique.

PLEASE NOTE: All Members in good standing are encouraged to email up to three images, plus a title photo, to the Digital Show Team at PSOCphoto@gmail.com on or before Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. the week of the show. The deadline is important because the Digital Show Team needs time to prepare all the images for showing. For instructions on submitting your images, see “Digital Files” at our PSOC website. Images must comply with instructions to fit our digital media. Images late or not in compliance will be returned with an explanation.

SEPTEMBER 2026 ASSIGNMENT -- LAZY/PEACEFUL

***** See Susan Bouet’s assignment write-up in this newsletter *****

SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP - SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

Sunday: September 27, 2026

Carpool: Meet 7:30am (leave 7:45am), end of AAA parking lot, NE corner of Beach & Stark, Huntington Beach

Meet: 8:30 a.m. Entry of Trevor’s at the Tracks restaurant at 26701 Verdugo St.

Lunch: El Adobe de Capistrano, 31891 Camino Capistrano – 11:30am

***** See Rick Taketomo’s field trip flyer in this newsletter *****

2026 PSOC CALENDAR OF EVENTS (8/01/26)

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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- 01 New Year's Day**
15 LENS Mtg- Printing
Presenter- Barry Evans
22 Gen. Mtg-to be shown:
LA Farmer's Mkt/The Grove
Motion Photography
25 Field Trip- Rancho Los
Alamitos (tour)
Assignment- Circles/Round

JULY

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- 04 Independence Day**
16 LENS Mtg- Holocaust Survivors
Presenter- Clifford Lester
30 Gen. Mtg-to be shown:
Lyon Air Museum
Assignment- Rows of Things
12 Field Trip- Balboa Is.-Day/Nig.
Assignment- Shadows/Silhou.
25 PSOC Picnic (Sat)

FEBRUARY

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28

- 16 Presidents Day**
19 LENS Mtg- Career in Commercial Photography
Presenter- John Bare
26 Gen. Mtg-to be shown:
Rancho Los Alamitos
Assignment- Circles/Round
27 Field Trip- SD Zoo Safari Park
Assignment- Opposites

AUGUST

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30	31					

- 19 World Photography Day**
20 LENS Mtg- Str. Photography
Presenter- Jan Merson
27 Gen. Mtg-to be shown:
Balboa Island-Day/Night
Assignment- Shadows/Silhou.
09 Field Trip- Santa Monica Pier
Assignment- Abstract/Patterns

MARCH

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- 17 St. Patrick's Day**
19 LENS Mtg- Capturing Emotions & Feelings in images
Presenter- Art Ramirez
26 Gen. Mtg-to be shown:
San Diego Zoo Safari Park
Assignment- Opposites
14 Field Trip- Pow Wow CSULB
Assignment- Still Life

SEPTEMBER

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- 1-30 PSOC Library Show**
12 Library Reception (Sat)
07 Labor Day
17 Movie Night (Thur. LENS)
24 Gen. Mtg-to be shown:
Santa Monica Pier
Assignment- Abstract/Patterns
27 Field Trip- San Juan Capistrano
Assignment- Lazy/Peaceful

APRIL

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- April 23-26 - Field Trip to Lone Pine, CA**
05 Easter
09 LENS Mtg- Inspirational Photo.
Presenter- Patty Arana (SCFV)
16 Gen. Mtg-to be shown:
Pow Wow Ceremony CSULB
Assignment- Still Life
18 Field Trip- Chinatown (DTLA)
Assignment- Urban/City Sts.

OCTOBER

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- October 8-11 - Field Trip to Albuquerque, NM**
12 Columbus Day
15 LENS Mtg- Protecting photos
Presenter- Joanna Conner
22 Gen. Mtg-to be shown:
San Juan Capistrano
Assignment- Lazy/Peaceful
24 Field Trip- Getty Villa (P.P.)
Assignment- Isolated Objects

MAY

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 10 Mother's Day**
25 Memorial Day
21 LENS Mtg- Life of Photographer
Presenter- Matt Brown
28 Gen. Mtg-to be shown:
Lone Pine overnight trip
Chinatown (DTLA)
Assignment- Urban/City Sts.
13 Field Trip- San Joaquin W.S.
Assignment- Forms in Nature

NOVEMBER

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

- 11 Veterans Day**
26 Thanksgiving
12 LENS Mtg- Creative Lighting
Presenter- John Bare (SCFV)
19 Gen. Mtg-to be shown:
Albuquerque overnight trip
Getty Villa (Pacific Palisades)
Assignment- Isolated Objects
21 Field Trip- Antique G&S Mus.
Assignment- Blue and/or Red

JUNE

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

- 21 Father's Day**
18 LENS Mtg- Audience Critiq.
Presenter- Barry Evans
25 Gen. Mtg-to be shown:
San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary
Assignment- Forms in Nature
20 Field Trip- Lyon Air Museum
Assignment- Rows of Things

DECEMBER

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- NO LENS OR GENERAL MTGS.**
04 Hanukkah
25 Christmas
03 PSOC Holiday Party
Show candid shots of members in 2026.
January 28, 2027 Gen. Mtg.:
Show Antique Gas & Steam Eng. Museum & Blue and/or Red.

2026 PSOC What to Show at General Meetings (4/22/26)

This chart shows the dates of general meetings and what to show at each meeting. Pictures for any assignment can be taken anytime during the year-end 2025 and year 2026, as long as the images fit the assignment for the meeting in which you are showing them. We ask members to submit current work for the meeting critiques. Assignments are planned so as to be coordinated with field trip locations. Pictures taken on field trips need not be assignment-related in order to be shown for critique at the meetings.

<u>DATE OF MEETING</u>	<u>FIELD TRIP TO SHOW</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT TO SHOW</u>
January 22nd	LA Farmer's Market/The Grove	Motion Photography
February 26th	Rancho Los Alamitos/Long Beach	Circles/Round Shapes
March 26th	San Diego Zoo Safari Park/Escondido	Opposites
April 16th	Pow Wow Ceremony/CSULB	Still Life
May 28th	Chinatown/DTLA <i>AND</i> <u>Spring Overnight Trip – Lone Pine</u>	Urban/City Streets
June 25th	San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary/Irvine	Forms in Nature
July 23rd	<u>Lyon Air Museum/JW Airport</u>	Rows of Things
August 27th	Balboa Is.-Day-Night/Corona del Mar	Shadows/Silhouettes
September 24th	<u>Santa Monica Pier</u>	Abstract/Patterns
October 22nd	San Juan Capistrano	Lazy/Peaceful
November 19th	Getty Villa/Pacific Palisades <i>AND</i> <u>Fall Overnight Trip – Albuquerque</u>	Isolated Objects
December 3rd	<u>PSOC Holiday Party</u> (Greenbrook Clubhouse)	Candid shots of PSOC members on field trips & other events in 2026
Jan. 28, 2027	<u>Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum/Vista</u>	Blue and/or Red

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta Overnight Field Trip

Albuquerque New Mexico

October 8-11, 2026

The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta is the world's largest hot air balloon festival, held annually in early October in New Mexico. It features over 500 balloons filling the sky in mass ascensions, dazzling night glows, and creative special shape rodeos.



All Photos by Dan Anderson

We will be staying three (3) nights at the La Quinta Inn & Suites, by Wyndham, 7439 Pan American Freeway N.E., Albuquerque, NM See red X on map, next page. Phone 505-345-7500 Thursday October 8 to Sunday October 11.

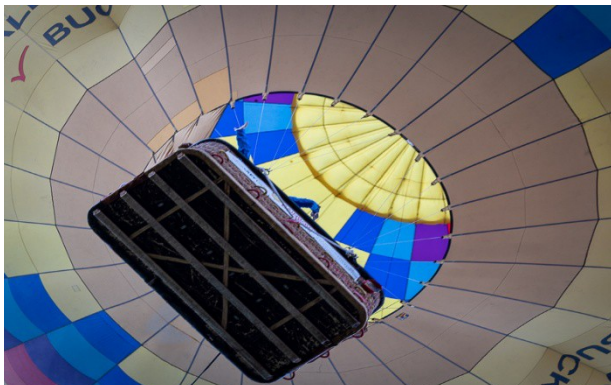
The nightly **room rate will be \$199** plus tax. We've reserved a block of 12 rooms for PSOC

members. **Group Name: PSOC. Confirmation Code: GS100826SOC. The booking link is:**

<http://www.wyndhamhotels.com/hotels/52946?checkInDate=10/08/2026&checkOutDate=10/11/2026&groupCode=GS100826SOC>

Be sure to tell them you're with the Photographic Society of Orange County (PSOC) in order to receive our special room rates.

The hotel provides all guests with a "complimentary" hot breakfast buffet every morning. **We will plan a group get-together on Friday for lunch at noon. Location TBA**



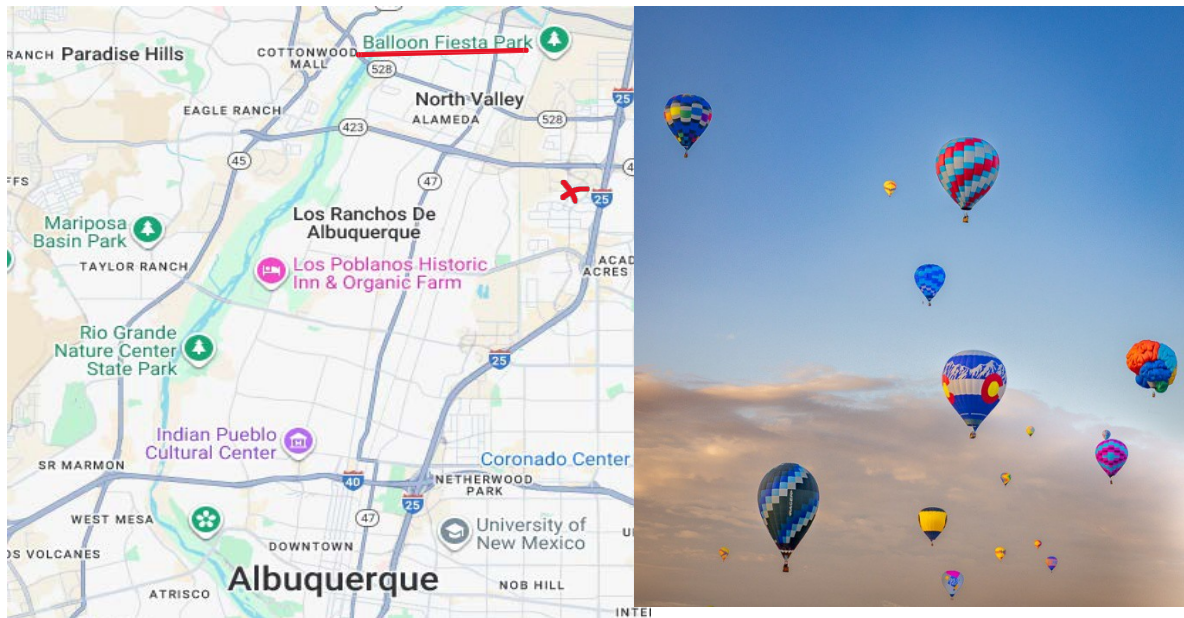
Fiesta activities are divided into two sessions daily. The session consists of all activities at the park in the **morning (4:30 AM to 11:00 AM)** or all the activities in the **evening (3:00 PM to 9:00 PM)**. An example of a session would be when you visit the park to see the Dawn Patrol and Mass Ascension, you would be coming to a morning session. Photography in the early morning and after sunset is especially good.

Tickets are \$15 per session for each of the two daily sessions. Information and ticket purchases for the Fiesta can be found at www.balloonfiesta.com/plan-your-visit/faqs/ Plan to get your tickets in advance.

A **Mass Ascension** is when all 500+ balloons launch from Balloon Fiesta Park. This starts at 7:00 A.M, and will take approximately 2 hours. You will want to be at the Mass Ascension on Friday and/or Saturday.

Parking lots are located on the north and south ends of the park, and costs is **\$20 for each session** you are at the park. Each parking lot is color-coded and the gates are numbered, so please remember the color and number of the gate through which you entered the field. **Please have cash ready as they do not accept credit or debit cards for parking fees.**

The Fiesta field is located west of I-25, approximately 12 miles north of the Albuquerque Airport, 7 miles north of downtown Albuquerque. **There are several food concessions at Balloon Fiesta Park serving a variety of foods.**



Where can I learn more about Albuquerque? Visit the website [Home - Balloon Fiesta](http://Home-Balloon-Fiesta), and the official website of the [Albuquerque Convention & Visitors Bureau](http://Albuquerque-Convention-Visitors-Bureau) to browse an online version of the Official Albuquerque Guest Guide. You can also request a printed copy by calling the Bureau offices at **(800) 284-2282**. Other points of interest in the area include Old Town Albuquerque, Sandia Peak Tramway, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Taos Pueblo, and the Rio Grande gorge. You will find lots of great photo opportunities.

Photography Club Assignment for September: Lazy/Peaceful

The assignment for September (but you can start now 😊) is all about slowing down, both in our shooting and in our seeing. “Lazy/Peaceful” might sound simple at first—perhaps a cat draped across a windowsill, a hammock swaying in the breeze, or golden light spilling over still water. Those images are wonderful and worth making. But the real invitation here is deeper: to explore what *lazy* and *peaceful* actually feel like, and how we can translate that sensation into photographs.

Peace is rarely loud. It often arrives in the small pauses—the moment between breaths, the hush after a wave retreats, the way afternoon light lingers on an empty park bench. Laziness, too, can be reimagined not as sloth but as deliberate surrender: allowing gravity to win, letting the world keep spinning while we rest in it. This assignment is as much an inner journey as an outer one. Some of your strongest images may come from simply sitting with a scene until it reveals its quiet self.

Ways to Stretch the Theme

- **The Feeling Itself:** Photograph the *sensation* of peace or laziness rather than literal subjects. Soft focus, gentle motion blur, warm tones, negative space, or gentle leading lines that guide the eye to rest rather than race.
- **Lazy Light & Lazy Moments:** Late afternoon or early morning “lazy light” that drapes rather than strikes. A person (or animal) fully given over to rest. Empty chairs, abandoned books, half-finished coffee—evidence of pause.
- **Peaceful Places, Unexpectedly:** Urban tranquility—a quiet alley at dawn, a deserted playground, a single flower pushing through concrete. Or the peaceful chaos of nature doing its slow work: moss on stone, weathered wood, a tide pool left calm between waves.
- **Personal Journey:** What does peace look like in *your* life right now? A familiar corner of your home, a favorite trail where worries fall away, or a new spot you’ve claimed as your own? Document the lazy rituals that restore you—reading in a patch of sun, watching clouds, or simply staring out a window.
- **Storytelling & Composition:** Use storytelling techniques. A before-and-after feel within one frame, or a series that shows the transition from busyness to calm. Play with composition that encourages the viewer to linger: balanced negatives, gentle curves, low angles that make the world feel vast and unhurried.

Technical & Creative Suggestions

- **Gear:** Phone, point-and-shoot, or DSLR—whatever lets you move slowly. Tripods can help with intentional long exposures that smooth water or soften wind.
- **Mindset:** Give yourself permission to be unproductive. Wander without a plan. Sit still. Return to the same spot at different times of day. The best images often appear when you stop hunting and start receiving.
- **Creative Slump Antidote:** If inspiration feels distant, start with the most obvious lazy/peaceful thing you see right now. Photograph it poorly. Then photograph it again with one small change (different angle, different light, different feeling). Momentum builds from tiny beginnings.

This theme is gentle on purpose. In a world that rewards hustle, let’s celebrate the radical act of choosing peace—both in front of and behind the lens. Your images don’t need to be perfect; they just need to feel like a deep exhale. Share whatever this assignment stirs in you. We can’t wait to see the quiet beauty you discover.



September Field Trip San Juan Capistrano

Date: Sunday – September 27th, 2026

Shooting Assignment: Lazy/Peaceful

TIME: This will be a daytime field trip related to our next assignment of 'Lazy/Peaceful' scenes or subjects. Everyone (drivers, carpoolers, and train travelers) will meet at the entry of Trevor's at the Tracks restaurant, which is across Verdugo Street from the AMTRAK/ Metrolink train platform on the side of the rail crossing to Los Rios Street by 8:30 a.m. at 26701 Verdugo Street, which should be about 5 minutes after the train travelers arrive. See photo for scene in front of Trevor's. There are fast food venues nearby like 3:16 Bakery Shop just down Verdugo Street at 26762 Verdugo that opens at 9:00 or there is River Street Marketplace (unlabeled orange dot on left of map) on the West side of Los Rios Road.



Trevor's at the Tracks

Lunch: We will be meeting at 11:30 at El Adobe de Capistrano, which is at 31891 Camino Capistrano, one block East of Los Rios St, between Old Mission Road and Del Obispo Street. (See orange dot in lower center of map). There will be a mariachi band at that time. Rick T will make a reservation for 8 ahead of time under PSOC, as he won't be able to make this trip.

CARPOOL: Meet at Automobile Club of Southern California (AAA) parking lot at the south end of the parking at *Beach Blvd and Stark Drive*. I think this means that you should meet at AAA at 7:30 a.m. and leave at 7:45 a.m. Arrival at San Juan Capistrano should be by 8:15 a.m., giving 15 minutes to park and walk to Trevor's at the Track's at the Verdugo Street railway crossing to Los Rios Street near the San Juan Capistrano train depot. See photo above. Rick T won't be with you, so once we have a list of planned attendees, we will need to designate someone to check the Google docs spreadsheet to make sure all have arrived.

For our bold train travelers, there is a Metrolink/Amtrak stop right next to the Los Rios Plaza near Los Rios Street. AMTRAK has an 8:12 am train that leaves from Irvine and arrives in San Juan Capistrano in 12 minutes at 8:24 for \$9 per person. Metrolink has a 12:05 pm and 2:05 pm train for \$3 for seniors that leaves San Juan Capistrano and arrives in Irvine about 17 or 18 minutes later. Both AMTRAK and Metrolink use the same station at 26701 Verdugo Street.

Carpooling or train travel are ideal if you are going to concentrate on Los Rios Street, the Mission Basilica, the San Juan Capistrano Mission ruins, River Street Marketplace, or River Street Ranch. The train station is very central to all those places where there are many potential subjects for cultural, architectural, macro, or street photography. Landscape or wildlife photography would be very limited around that area. The San Juan Capistrano Trolley will not be available at the time of our trip. If you are planning to do wildlife (swallows and such) or landscape photography (other than the Mission grounds), you will probably need to leave the downtown area and either drive or use Uber/Lyft to get to the open spaces to the North, East, and South of downtown.

OVERVIEW: There are three main venues in and around the downtown portion of San Juan Capistrano just off the Camino Capistrano:

1. **Mission San Juan Capistrano/Mission Basilica Capistrano:** Mission San Juan

Capistrano is the “jewel of the California Missions.” The historic landmark and museum founded more than two hundred years ago is the birthplace of Orange County. It is the seventh of 21 Spanish Missions established in California by Franciscan Padres. It features a chapel still standing where Saint Junipero Serra once celebrated Mass. Mission Basilica Capistrano is an active Catholic Church. These are found near Ortega Highway and Camino Capistrano. The cliff swallows, for which San Juan Capistrano is so well known due to the “Return of the Swallows” celebration in March, no longer nest at the Mission itself. Nowadays, they nest outside of downtown.



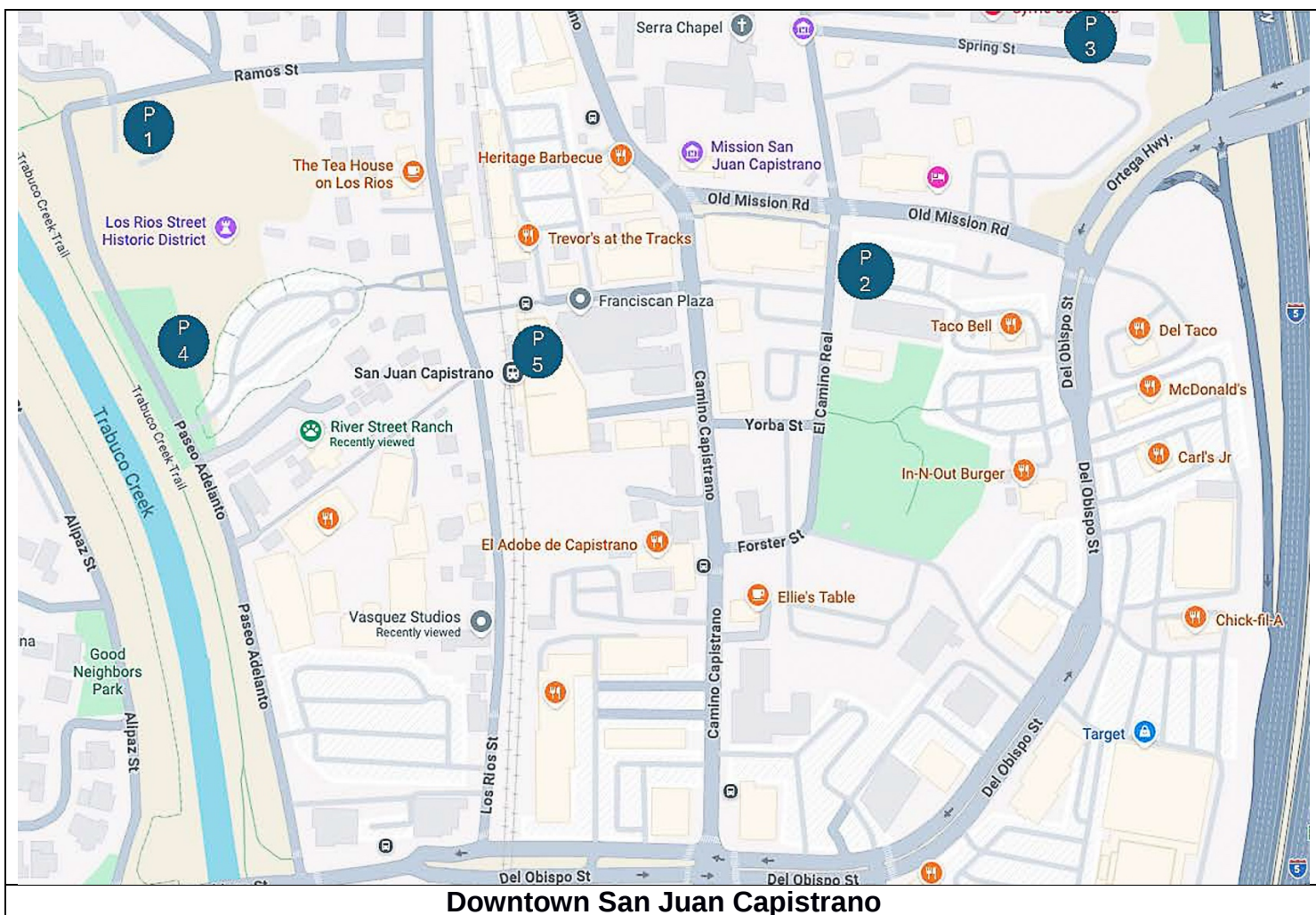
Photo by Rick Taketomo

2. **Los Rios Street:** The Los Rios District lies directly across the railroad tracks from the Capistrano Depot and is the oldest neighborhood in California. The forty homes that remain here include three original adobe structures. Today, although most of the homes are private residences, there are many businesses open to the public during business hours. This provides a relaxing and enchanting experience for locals and tourists alike. To walk the streets of the Los Rios District is to recapture the tranquility of the slower pace of life that existed before the turn of the century and before.



Photo by Rick Taketomo

3. **The River Street Ranch/River Street Marketplace:** Children can ride the ponies and feed and pet rabbits, goats and other animals at River Street Ranch. River Street Market Place is a quaint curio center and food service area. These are just west of Los Rios Street.



DIRECTIONS AND PARKING: Take the 5 Fwy South from the Irvine or Costa Mesa Area and get off on Ortega Hwy (Route 78). Turn right and then proceed to Old Mission Road (just an extension to Ortega Highway) to Camino Capistrano. This puts you in the middle of San Juan Capistrano downtown. If you arrive early in San Juan Capistrano (before 9 a.m.), you should be able to find either free or affordable parking. Besides street parking (mostly along Camino Capistrano north of the Mission Basilica), the five main options for parking lots near the Los Rios Street Historic District/San Juan Capistrano Mission are (see dark blue P1, P2, P3, P4, and P5 circles on map):

- P1: Free Parking at 26587 Ramos Street, San Juan Capistrano. This is the free overflow lot for the train station.
- P2: Free Parking (there might be a charge and time limits) at 31762 El Camino Real
- P3: Free Parking along Spring Street near 26891 Spring Street
- P4: \$2 per hour (max 4 hours) at the Los Rios Parking Lot on Paseo Adelanto near River Street
- P5: \$2 per day at the San Juan Capistrano Metrolink station at 26732 Verdugo Street just across the tracks from the Los Rios Historic District. That rate is for about 70 slots in Zone 1002 if you arrive before 10 a.m. There are an additional 240 slots in Zone 1003, but those are \$2 per hour.

IT'S MOVIE NIGHT!!!
THURSDAY – SEPTEMBER 17th at 7:00 PM
@ The Fount Church

Come join PSOC for a fun-filled evening “At the Movies!”
The movie is “The Biggest Little Farm”

The Biggest Little Farm chronicles the eight-year quest of John and Molly Chester as they trade city living for 234 acres of barren farmland in Moorpark, CA (renamed “Apricot Lane Farms”) with the intent of harvesting in harmony with nature. Through dogged perseverance and embracing the opportunity provided by nature’s conflicts (e.g. wildfires, drought, wildlife), the Chesters worked to develop a sustainable farm with livestock, unlocking and uncovering a biodiverse design for living that exists far beyond their farm, it's seasons, and their wildest imagination. Featuring breathtaking cinematography, captivating animals, and an urgent message to heed Mother Nature’s call, this documentary provides us with a vital blueprint for better living and a healthier planet.

Complimentary **POPCORN and water will be provided by PSOC starting at 6:30 pm. Enjoy the movie!**

Click on the Google link below to sign up for the movie night.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wO5LpuCJaBlG0RisnLxFBwa2P9f8ogpN31lle91dAgY/edit?usp=shari ng>



Creating a Photographic Project Involving Isolated Objects by Jeffrey Sward

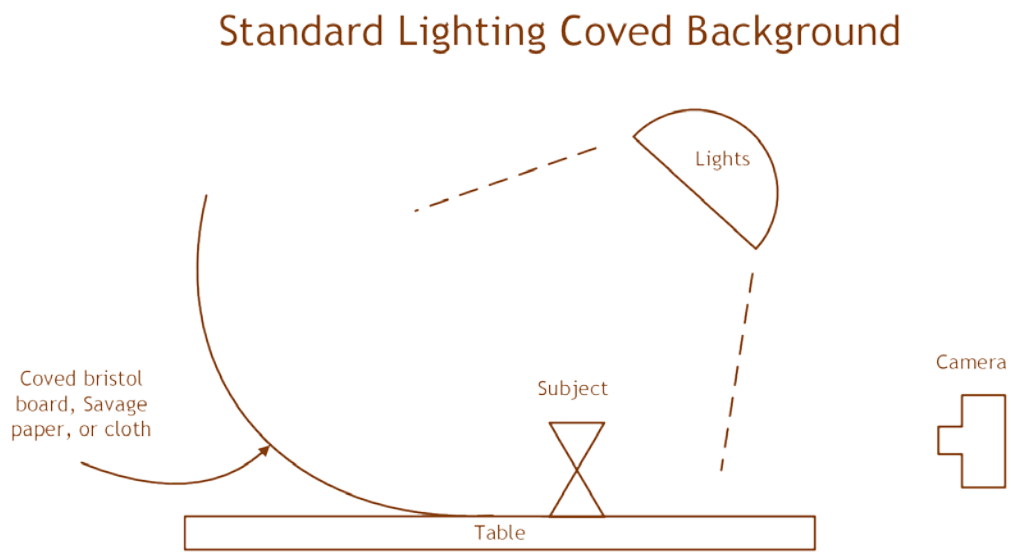
Method I Scavenger Hunt in Outdoor Field Locations

Explore [outdoor] locations which are known or suspected of having isolated objects.



Method II Studio Still Life

Advertising photographs, particularly of products for sale, inherently isolate the product using studio lighting and coved seamless backgrounds. This same technique can be utilized for art and/or personal projects.



Method III Composite



Method IV Your Own Brilliant Ideas

Plan and execute your own scheme.

Your results here



October 2026 Field Trip

The Getty Villa

Date: Saturday, October 24, 2026

Open: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Information (310) 440-7300

<http://www.getty.edu/visit/villa/plan/>

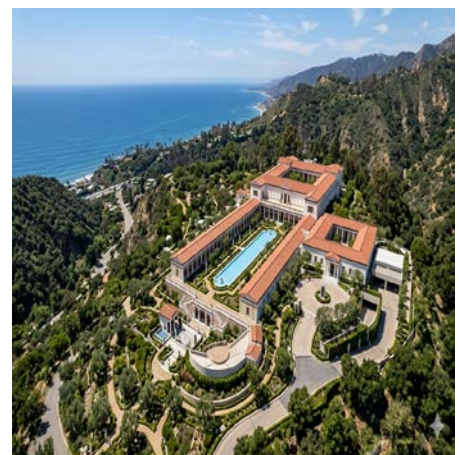
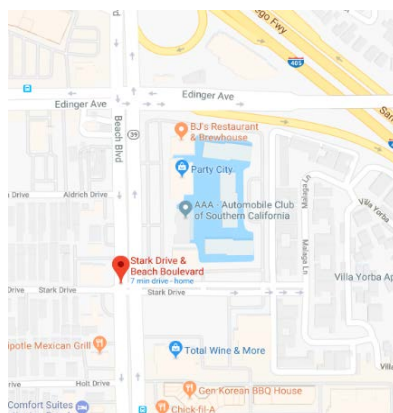
Assignment **Isolated Objects**

[Click on the Google link below to sign up for the Getty Villa field trip:](#)

Carpool

Meet at Automobile Club of Southern California (AAA) parking lot at the south end of the parking at *Beach Blvd and Stark Drive*.

Meet at 8:30 a.m. Leave at 9:00 a.m.



Admission Free

However, an advance, timed-entry ticket is required to enter the site. Book tickets in advance on the [official Getty website](#) or by calling (310) 440-7300.

Travel

Approximately one hour or so from Huntington Beach
17985 Pacific Coast Highway
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Access to the Getty Villa entrance is only from the northbound right-hand lane of Pacific Coast Highway (PCH). Turning left across PCH is illegal, and any attempt to enter the site via Coastline Drive is not permitted.

For these high-traffic weekend dates, booking at least **3–4 weeks in advance** is highly recommended.

Parking

Parking is \$25 (\$15 after 3 p.m.)
(cashless, all major credit cards accepted)

Visitors to the Getty Villa are not permitted to park anywhere other than the Getty Villa. **No street parking is available** in the surrounding area.

Be aware there is **no cell reception or Wi-Fi** inside the parking structure.

Accessibility: The site is wheelchair accessible.

Pro Tip: Arriving at 10:00 AM allows for fewer crowds and a better parking experience.

Lunch

Meet at the Coffee Kiosk: 1:00 p.m.

The Coffee Kiosk near the Cafe entrance at the Getty Villa offers beverages as well as grab-and-go items, including house-made soup, hot and cold sandwiches, salads, and a selection of baked goods, desserts and ice cream.

Picnicking: You are welcome to bring your own food to enjoy in designated picnic areas.

The Getty Villa Museum

The Getty Villa is a free museum and educational center situated on 64 acres in **Pacific Palisades**. The Getty Villa museum is modeled after an ancient Roman country house, the Villa of the Papyri, and is "tucked" into the coastal canyon. Offering a distinct Mediterranean feel, it features Greek and Roman antiquities, stunning gardens, and ocean views.

Top Things to Do

- **Outer Peristyle:** Wander through the Villa's largest garden, which features a long reflecting pool and views of the Pacific Ocean.
- **Ancient Art Collection:** Explore over 44,000 antiquities, including marble and bronze sculptures, frescoes, and mosaics.
- **Guided Tours:** Free first-come, first-served tours cover the architecture, gardens, and collection highlights.
- **GettyGuide App:** Download the free [GettyGuide App](#) for interactive tours and audio commentary.

Photography Guidelines

- **Personal Use Only:** Handheld photography for personal use is encouraged in all galleries and gardens.
- **Prohibited Items:** Tripods, monopods, selfie sticks, and professional lighting equipment are not allowed without prior written permission.
- **Flash:** Flash photography is generally prohibited inside the galleries to protect the ancient artifacts.
- **Drone Use:** Drones are strictly prohibited on the Getty Villa property.

HISTORY AND FACTS

The Getty Villa Museum is one of two locations of the [J. Paul Getty Museum](#). The 64-acre museum complex sits on a hill overlooking the Pacific Ocean. It is an educational center and museum dedicated to the study of the arts and [cultures](#) of [ancient Greece](#), [Rome](#) and [Etruria](#).

In 1954, oil tycoon [J. Paul Getty](#) opened a gallery adjacent to his home in Pacific Palisades. Getty's original private ranch house and the museum wing are now used for curatorial offices, meeting rooms and as a library. Although not open to the public, the campus includes J. Paul Getty's grave on the hill behind his ranch house.

Quickly running out of room, he built a second museum, the Getty Villa, on the property down the hill from the original gallery. The villa design was inspired by the [Villa of the Papyri](#) at [Herculaneum](#) and incorporated additional details from several other ancient sites.

Renovated in 2006, the Getty Villa features its art and antiquities within Roman-inspired architecture surrounded by Roman-style gardens. The Getty Villa is owned by the J. Paul Getty Trust, which also operates a separate campus known as the Getty Center in the Brentwood neighborhood.



ARCHITECTURE

A recreation of an ancient Roman country house, the Getty Villa offers a taste of life in the first century A.D.

Buried by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in A.D. 79, much of the Villa dei Papiri remains unexcavated. Therefore, architects based many of the museum's architectural and landscaping details on elements from other ancient Roman houses in the towns of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Stabiae.



GARDENS

Gardens are integral to the setting of the Getty Villa, as they were in the ancient Roman home, and include herbs and shrubs inspired by those grown in ancient Roman homes for food and ceremony.

There are four different gardens on the grounds of the Getty Villa, with plants native to the Mediterranean and known to have been cultivated by the ancient Romans.^[43]

The largest garden is the Outer Peristyle, an exact proportional replica of the one at the [Villa dei Papiri](#). The garden is 308 by 105 feet (94 m × 32 m), with a 220 feet (67 m) long pool at the center. Traditional Roman landscaping designs are replicated with manicured [bay laurel](#), [boxwood](#), [oleander](#), and [viburnum](#) shrubs. There are rows of [date palms](#) lining each of the long sides of the Outer Peristyle garden. Each corner features [pomegranate](#) trees surrounded by ornamental plants like [acanthus](#), [ivy](#), [hellebore](#), [lavender](#), and [iris](#).^{[44]:91} Copies of Roman bronzes excavated at the Villa dei Papiri and elsewhere are scattered throughout the garden.

Just west of the Outer Peristyle is the Herb Garden, where traditional herbs sourced from ancient Roman texts are cultivated along with a variety of fruit trees: pomegranate, [fig](#), [apricot](#), [apple](#), [citrus](#), and [pear](#). The garden is surrounded by grapevines, and bounded by an olive grove planted on terraces above the garden.^{[44]:100}

The East Garden is small and secluded, surrounded by laurel and [plane trees](#).^[43] Its chief feature is an exact replica of the famous shell and [mosaic](#) fountain at the House of the Great Fountain in Pompeii, but there is also a circular fountain at the center of a basin filled with aquatic plants, around which the garden is oriented.^{[44]:84–85}

The fourth and final garden is the Inner Peristyle. Like the Outer Peristyle, a long, narrow, marble lined pool forms the centerpiece of the landscaping. Along each side are replicas of bronze female statues from the Villa dei Papiri, modelled to appear as if they are drawing water from the pool. In each corner of the garden is a replica white marble fountain, and there are several bronze copies of famous Greek sculptures like the [Doryphoros](#) and busts of Greek philosophers like [Pythagoras](#) and [Democritus](#).^[44]:



ART AND ANTIQUITIES

While the Getty Villa collection includes more than 44,000 Greek, Roman, and Etruscan antiquities dating from 6,500 BC to 400 AD, the Villa is a work of art in its own right. The 50-minute Art, Architecture, and Garden Tour highlights various design elements of the Villa, as well as the unique materials and building concepts used to create the structure, along with the gorgeous gardens and artwork housed within it. Guides on this first-come, first-served tour answer visitors' questions and offer insights into daily life in the ancient world.

Walking the grounds and gardens is a trip into the ancient world with thousands of artifacts on display. But if you're looking for a little more as you explore, you can take a guided tour for in-depth information and behind-the-scenes details from a museum expert.

Special Exhibitions at the Getty Villa

The Egyptian Book of the Dead - On view from **March 4 to November 30, 2026**.

The Egyptian guide to a successful journey into the afterlife has been commonly referred to as "The Book of the Dead." Behold the intricate preparations for eternity in this detailed exhibit. The collection of relics includes the Getty's Book of the Dead manuscripts, which illustrate how ancient Egyptians understood the cosmos and beyond.

The Kingdom of Pylos: Warrior-Princes of Mycenaean Greece: This temporary exhibition is scheduled to be on view until **June 30, 2026**, making June 28 one of the final days to see it.



Photos by Vito and Bonnie Gruttadauria

Iconic Photo Spots

This is the most famous view in the museum.
The long reflecting pool, framed by manicured gardens and colonnaded walkways, offers a perfect symmetrical shot.

Hunt and Seek:



Can you find this statute at the Getty Villa?

Statuette of Diana ~ unknown artist/maker



HONORING OUR MILITARY VETERANS

The PSOC board of directors would like to honor all of our members who have served on active duty/active reserve in all branches of the United States military. We're conducting a survey of our PSOC members so the results can be posted in our October and November newsletters to coincide with **Veterans Day - November 11th**.

If you have served in the military, please email the information below, along with a photo of yourself in the military (or current photo), to Kurt Bayless at kbayless123@gmail.com

Survey:

Member Name _____

Branch of Service _____

Rank _____

M.O.S. (Job Duties/Assignments) _____

Period of Service (active duty / active reserve) _____
(i.e. 1962-66 / 1966-82)





Our Members Have Been Busy with Great Accomplishments!

Entries on show at the OC Fair were shown at the August general meeting. Here are some of the images members have shared for the newsletter.

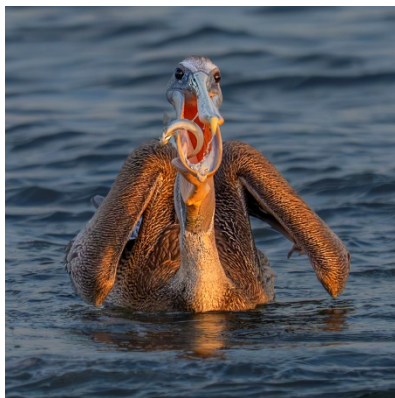


Rick Taketomo's "Springtime Dance," SOLD!

The buyer travelled from Santa Fe Springs to make the purchase.



Eric Stogner "The Great Escape"



Eric Stogner "Tri-Colored Heron"



Donna Stogner "Ketchikan"

Kurt Bayless had three photos accepted for the 2026 Wings Over Bolsa calendar (<https://bclandtrust.org/blog/tag/wings-over-bolsa/>).



Rick Taketomo: Rick entered the following photo of a Vermillion Flycatcher to the Monarch Bay photo contest. While it did not win a prize, it is featured on their website <https://www.monarchbayplaza.com/photography-contest-submissions.html>) Rick also has photos in an exhibition with the CSULB Osher Lifetime Learning Institute (OLLI) program. The exhibit runs from August 3 to August 29 at the El Dorado Nature Center, 7550 E. Spring St., Long Beach. Artist's reception on Saturday August 22, 2026 from 12:00 (noon) to 2:00 p.m. at the Nature Center.



Deborah Anne sold a painting at the Newport Beach Art Exhibition





Annette Globits sold a black and white photo from her Mannequin Series, "Star Spangled Mannequin" shown at the Art Lecture at the Oasis Senior Center.

Annette presented at the Creativity Workshop this August, hosted by Orange County Fine Arts (OCFA).

Creativity Workshop

The inaugural Member Creative Workshop August 20th was a success. Attendees were very enthusiastic and were interested in continuing next month. Big thanks to Stuart Orr for organizing and guiding the workshop! Watch the newsletter for more information.



Annette Globits shares ideas with fellow attendees. (right)

Jennie Breeze has a photo on display at the Irvine Annual Exhibition and at (our very own) 'PSOC HB Library.'



Central Park Paradise



China Sea Storm



**Photographic Society
of Orange County
Annual Exhibit**

Presented at the
Huntington Beach Central Library
 7111 Talbert (at Goldenwest)
 Huntington Beach, Ca. 92648

Fine Art Exhibition
September 1 - 30th, 2026

Reception: September 12th
from 6:30pm - 8:30 PM

Library Hours:
 Monday - 1pm to 9pm
 Tues, Wed, Thur - 9am to 5pm
 Fri, Sat - 9am to 4pm
 Sunday - Closed

Photography by Jennie Breeze
 Website: jennie-breeze.pixels.com

**Irvine Fine Art Center's
42nd Irvine Annual**



"Sea of China" *Jennie Breeze*

Exhibition Dates:
July 11th - September 5th, 2026

Reception:
Saturday, July 11th
2 to 4 p.m.

IRVINE FINE ARTS CENTER
14321 Yale Avenue, Irvine 92604
 Website: jennie-breeze.artistwebsites.com



PICTURE THIS

Edward Weston



Edward Weston was one of the true regenerative artists: an awakener of the eye and the evolving mind it serves. Regeneration was a quality that Weston brought to photography for more than three decades, defining both the limits and generosities of his medium.

“Now to consult the rules of composition before making a picture is a little like consulting the law of gravitation before going for a walk. Such rules and laws are deduced from the accomplished fact; they are the products of reflection...”

- Edward Weston

Suggested PSOC Critique Guidelines

PSOC was founded as a platform for image sharing and supportive self-improvement. With the expanded utilization of outside professional photographers to critique the members' submitted images, that mission has evolved into a shared desire to become more proficient in the art and craft of photography.

It is the responsibility of those who critique to foster that desire and encourage and **teach** the members through that critique. The critique should be a careful review of the images accompanied by an **opinion** regarding the overall strength of the image, as well as an **opinion** regarding the artistic and technical aspects of the image presented. Although the spectrum of photographers showing images includes beginners as well as some who are very advanced, learning and growth should be encouraged at all levels. The following guidelines have been formulated to bring a consistency of format to the critiques. These are not checklists, just suggestions to help the critiquers help our members improve their photographic craft.

1. What is your overall first impression? What impact does the image have for you? What do you like about the photograph? **Be concise**. Remember you are teaching *all* the members as well as the contributing photographer.
2. What **constructive** comments can you make? How does the composition and framing work? How does your eye take in the elements of the image? What gets your attention, and why? Note use of techniques like "rule" of thirds, leading lines, framing, patterns, lighting choices, and other visual elements. What helpful comments can you make?
3. How do you see the technical and processing factors contributing to the image? This may include perspective, exposure, highlight detail, shadow detail, bright and dark areas, contrast; processing of color or black and white, luminescence, contrast, vignetting, dodging, burning, and cropping.
4. Make it clear that your comments are all **your opinion** on how **you** might do it differently, based on your experience, personal style, vision, and processing preferences. Other artists/photographers may often see the image differently.
5. How might you encourage the photographer? Remember, the photographer has a reason to show this work and obviously feels good about it. **You are encouraged to ask the photographer to comment on what they were seeing and expressing in the image. We would also like you to encourage the members in attendance to participate through questions and comments.**
6. Although the title slide for each member's submittal does not need to be critiqued, an outstanding title image can be *quickly* noted.
7. **Please be concise in your comments.** The meetings are scheduled for two hours, and there can often be well over 100 images submitted.

Wall Hangers



LEE GILLHAM



DONNA STOGNER



JANICE HOPKINS



KURT BAYLESS



NANCY PHILLIPS