



Marin Photography Club - Presidents' November Letter

Dear Members

As fall moves into winter (and as Jon will attest having recently returned from a week in Canada's Hudson Bay and its subzero temperatures, California's version of winter is early Fall up North) and as the year end approaches the Club still has a couple of exciting events remaining.

December 4th is our Presidents' theme competition "Bridges". It will be a low key and fun evening with some great images, food and company. The 4th is also the last night for you to turn in your prints for N4C's Annual Competition.

Don't forget to bring your iPhone to our next field trip on December 9th. We will start by photographing the Marin Civic Center's wonderful architectural features and it's many interesting details. We will then move to the GGCS's classroom in San Rafael to learn how to use the powerful post processing tools available on today's smart phones.

These and other powerful post processing tools now make it easier for more photographers to utilize computer generated items in their images. That in turn raises the question how much non-maker generated material (clip art, textures, etc) should we allow in the images submitted to our competitions? N4C recently has addressed this issue and decided not to change its rule that images must be 100% the maker's own work. MPC currently follows the N4C rules and at our Board Meeting (on December 7th) the Board will address this issue and communicate our decision to Members shortly thereafter. We would love to...

...hear your viewpoint on this issue so please communicate your thoughts to any of the Board Members.

This is our last Presidents' letter and we would like to thank everyone for their support during the past two years. Thank you to our fellow Board members, to the many volunteers (too many to mention by name but you are ones who make everything happen) and to all the Club's members for your support and your love of photography.

We feel especially good that we are handing over the reins to two outstanding Members, Steve Disenhof and Marnie Walters. We trust you will give them the same support you gave us.

It has been our honor to serve you. While we won't be in leadership positions, we will still be very much involved in MPC and you will see us around helping pull off the Club's great events and competing.

Good light

TJ Campbell Jon d'Alessio
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Editor's Note

A Member's Travel article by Bill Sumits on his travels to the Baltic Sea region includes some terrific images. (Page 6)

Page 7 has information on the upcoming President's Theme evening "**BRIDGES**"

Let me take this opportunity to wish all members of the Club a Happy Christmas and good health and great image opportunities in 2018.

Noel Isaac

Images of the Month



Night Portrait of a Young Male African Lion

Virginia H. Meyer

Print - Color Pictoral - Intermediate

Website Judge: Chuck Honek

Behind the Image: ...No additional information available.

[..Virginia H. Meyer](#)



Pensive Chinese Elder

Dorothy Weaver

Projected Images - Monochrome - Advanced

Judge: Jack Hecker

Behind the Image: No additional information available.

[.....Dorothy Weaver](#)

MPC December Event Calendar

- **Monday, December 4th: MPC Presidents Theme**
6:30pm @ Drakes Landing Community Room
- **Thursday, December 7th: MPC Board Meeting****
11:00am @ GGCS Meeting Room, First Presbyterian Church †
1505 Mission Ave. San Rafael.

Editor's Note:

**Any member of MPC can attend the monthly Board Meetings. If you have any questions or subjects that you would like it to discuss, please put them into writing and send an e-mail to one of the two Presidents.

The Outside Photography World

EXHIBITS in San Francisco:

- [The Grain of the Present](#)@ Pier 24
- [Current Exhibitions.](#) @ the Harvey Milk Photo Center.
- [Current Exhibitions](#) @ Rayko Photo Center

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS:

- [Rayko Photo Center](#)
- [Harvey Milk Photo Center](#)
- [Point Reyes National Seashore Association](#)
- [The Image Flow](#)
- [Photo Arts Marin](#)

NOTE:

Do you know another location with great classes and/or workshops?

Please send the information to:focalplanenewsletter@gmail.com

MPC Member Websites

Want to see more photos of our members, please visit their websites, the list is [here](#).

If you want to add your website to the list, please send a request to focalplanenewsletter@gmail.com

Traveling to some of the Capitals that Border on the Baltic Sea - Bill Sumits



Never having traveled to the Baltic countries, or even knowing much about them, we booked a tour covering the Baltic capitals and included St Petersburg in Russia, which was our primary reason for traveling.

One of the world's most magnificent cities, St. Petersburg was built at the mouth of the Neva River early in the 18th century by Peter the Great, who

wished to create a Russian capital to rival the splendor of Paris. Peter also wanted a splendid summer palace which he built in 1714, called Peterhof. The gardens and gilded fountains of Peterhof are spectacular.

St. Petersburg is called the "Venice of the North" because of its many picturesque islands, canals, and bridges. Along one of the canals is the colorful "Church on the Spilled Blood". It was built on the site where Emperor Alexander II was fatally wounded by political nihilists in March 1881.

The city is probably better known for the Hermitage Museum and its collection of magnificent art, much of which was collected by Catherine the Great. The newest addition for 20th century art houses a remarkable number of impressionist and post impressionist art works. Also of interest is the Faberge museum with treasures of the Romanovs.



Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, distinguished itself as an important cultural center when Vilnius University opened in 1579. The cobbled streets of the city's compact Old Town provide many photo opportunities, with the carefully restored Baroque buildings and medieval charm that earned it UNESCO World Heritage status.....[read more](#)



Gratitude - November/December 2017 Meetup Challenge

The theme of the last meet-up challenge of 2017 is GRATITUDE and your challenge is to photograph something you feel grateful for or the act of expressing gratitude - this can be a person, a place, object, or idea.

Each of us has a story to tell in regards to what it is that we have gratefully achieved and offered. Tell us your story with a photograph and a caption. Plus, it will be a good practice for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners and those New Year's toasts!

The Challenge ends December 31st at 10pm.....[More Info](#)

[Karen Gideon](#)

Finally we would like all Club members to know that there is a fun evening coming up that you are all invited to attend:

- **President's Theme "BRIDGES"**, Monday, December 4th, held at Drakes Landing Community Room. Fun, non-competitive, social event to end the year - images will be submitted digitally

