

February 2024

https://www.pplac.org/



2024 President John Po

"You don't make a photograph just with a camera. You bring to the act of photography all the pictures you have seen, the books you have read, the music you have heard, the people you have loved."

Ansel Adams

To our wonderful members of PPLAC:

First: Okay, okay, I get it. This letter is far too long. I assure you, future letters from me will be shorter. Now that we've got that out of the way, on to what's in my heart:

It is both an honor and a privilege to serve you as our incoming president for 2024. Thank you for having the courage and faith in entrusting me with this sacred responsibility. I will do my very best to live up to the expectations and desires we share to keep our wonderful organization robust, thriving, and growing,

both individually and organizationally.

As I assume the presidency, I want to acknowledge our outgoing president, Nikki Washburn. Thank you again, Nikki, for leading us through the past two years. Balancing your work and responsibilities was no easy task and you did it with ease, grace, and charm!

Speaking of Nikki, how about a "shout out" to the amazing "Nikki and Mel team" that put together our wonderful Open House?! You two make a great team ... in more ways than one ... and what you achieved was a stellar evening for one and all. Again, thank you for all your hard work, creative input, and what turned out to be a first-class event!

This leads me to one more "shout out": thank you to Paul's Camera, and specifically to Mark Comon for graciously opening up his *Creative Photo Academy* classroom for our PPLAC Open House. His generous support and infectious enthusiasm that evening is greatly appreciated!

To our incoming board, what a stellar group of photographers and friends we have, all assembled under one banner. With their experience, leadership, and warm spirits, we are going to have fun this year! I look forward to working with each and every one personally! Thank you for stepping up and giving of your time and resources to make PPLAC the great organization it is!

And, finally, and certainly not least, to our members at large: I am here for YOU! It is our goal, our desire, our wish that we can use this platform to further your photographic skills and at the same time, enhance our personal relationships along the way, growing together regardless of our photographic skill level; from hobbyist and avid fan to professional photographer.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the accolades that were celebrated at our annual meeting. For 2023, our Architecture Photographer of the Year is John Grusd, our Wedding/Event Photographer of the Year is Eleanor Gray, our Nature Photographer of the Year is Mel Carll, our Open Photographer of the Year is Kevin Karzin, our Portrait Photographer of the Year is John Powers, our Photojournalism Photographer of the Year is Kevin Karzin, and our Landscape Photographer of the Year is John Grusd. And our prestigious Photographer of the Year with his amazing award-winning photographs is the one and only Gary Parsons. Congratulations to every one of you; well deserved honors!

Looking at February, we have some exciting events already set, all thanks to our new ^{§t} Vice President, Liz Chambers. On Sunday, February 25th we are going to Riverside for the annual Dickensfest. Details are forthcoming! Listed below are more opportunities you may want to personally explore.

Be sure to take advantage of our upcoming events and don't forget that February is our first Digital Photographic Competition (DPC) of the year. Submissions via Printcompetition.com is February $5^{th} - 11^{th}$ with our actual DPC taking place via Zoom on Thursday evening, 6:00 PM, February 2^{2d} . Good luck to everyone – be sure to submit! You can't grow if you don't participate!

Okay, that is far too much from me! Thank you for your patience!

Keep on clickin'!

John Powers, M.Photo.Cr., CPP PPLAC President

From: **Mark Comon** <<u>mark@paulsphoto.com</u>> Date: Fri, Jan 19, 2024 at 8:55 AM Subject: THANK YOU To: Mel Carll Nikki & Mel Please forward this on to the PPLAC crew

PPLAC Photographers,

THANK YOU for allowing me to be part of your awesome awards ceremony last night.

It was fun to get to meet so many new friends and re-connect with familiar faces.

We hope you enjoyed your evening in the Creative Photo Academy classroom.

We look forward to many more events and evenings of inspiration.

THANK YOU for your support of our camera store.

We work hard everyday to help you make your best photos. It takes all of us working together to make this happen. See ya soon!

Mark Comon

PAUL'S PHOTO 23845 Hawthorne BI Torrance CA 90505 310-375-7014 paulsphoto.com creativephotoacademy.com

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 YouTube
 https://www.instagram.com/creativePhotoAcademy/

Coming Events &

General Meetings

Come join our monthly meetings held on the **4th Thursday of each month** (unless it falls on a holiday).

Save The Date

Meetings and Events

Visit our Meetup Calendar or website for more details**

January 28, 2024 PPLAC Outing - LA Zoo

February 5, 2024 DPC Submissions Open

February 11, 2024 DPC Submissions Close

February 22, 2024 First DPC of the year

Stay Connected

Facebook <u>https://www.facebook.com/PPLAC/</u>

Meet Up <u>https://www.meetup.com/Culver-City-</u> <u>Photography-Meetup/</u>

PPLAC is a Proud Affliliate of...

PPC <u>https://ppconline.com/</u>

PPA <u>https://www.ppa.com/</u>

PPLAC Sponsors

February 25, 2024 PPLAC Outing - Dickensfest

March 28, 2023 General Meeting

April 25, 2024 General Meeting

May 13 - 16, 2024 King's Canyon Adventure

May 23, 2024 DPC

June 27, 2024 General Meeting

July 25, 2024 General Meeting

August 22, 2024 DPC

September 26 General Meeting

October 24, 2024 General Meeting

November 21, 2024 DPC

*Please note that speakers/schedule may change at any time. **https://www.pplac.org/calendar

2024 Officers

President John Powers

1st Vice President (Programs, Speakers, Workshops) Liz Chalmers

> 2nd Vice President (Membership) Roy Patience

> > Treasurer Mel Carll

Secretary Teresa Pepe

Digital Photographic Competition Director Gary Parsons

Digital Photographic Competition Co-Chair Kevin Karzin DxO <u>https://www.dxo.com/</u>

Imagenomic https://www.imagenomic.com/

> Jixipix Software https://jixipix.com/

Luminar Neo from Skylum https://skylum.com/luminar

On1 https://www.on1.com/

ProLab Digital <u>https://www.prolabdigital.com/</u>

StudioMagic <u>https://www.layercakeelements.com</u>

Think Tank <u>https://www.thinktankphoto.com/</u>

Topaz Labs <u>https://www.topazlabs.com/topaz-</u> <u>photo-ai</u>

March Silent Auction

On1 Photo Raw Max 2024

https://www.on1.com/

February Sponsor of the Month Prolab Digital <u>https://www.prolabdigital.com/</u>



Special Award - George DeLoache

Digital Photographic Competition Moderators Mel Carll Bob Young

Fundraiser Director Ira Mintz

Sponsor Management Chair Mel Carll

Newsletter Teresa Pepe/Eleanor Gray

> Webmaster John Grusd

Parliamentarian Nikki Washburn

Event Photographer Angela Chen



2023 Photographer of the Year Gary Parsons



Guest Speaker Mark Comon

2024 Open House and Awards Ceremony January 18, 2024 Highlights

PPLAC Open House Thursday, January 18, 202<u>4 - 6pm</u>

Casino Theme

Location: Paul's Photo 23845 Hawthorne Blvd. Torrance, CA 90505

Dinner, Board Installation, 2023 Photographer Awards, Raffles, SWAP Meet, Print Competition, and MORE!

Please RSVP to PPLAC2022@gmail.com by January 10, 2024

If you or your guest is a vegetarian or vegan, please let us know in your RSVP Print Competition Rules.

Theme: Open- anything goes Must be a physical print Secret Judge chooses the winner Print can be any size No previously merited images allowed





2023 PPLAC Photographer of the Year Gary Parsons



PPLAC 2023 Photographer of the Year Architecture Category John Grusd



PPLAC 2023 Photographer of the Year Landscape Category John Grusd



PPLAC 2023 Photographer of the Year Nature Category Mel Carll



PPLAC 2023 Photographer of the Year Portrait Category John Powers

PPLAC 2023 Photographer of the Year Photojournalism Category Kevin Karzin (no image available)

PPLAC 2023 Photographer of the Year Open Category Kevin Karzin (no image available) PPLAC 2023 Photographer of the Year Wedding/Event Category Eleanor Gray (no image available)



Judge's Choice Award 2023 John Grusd











Robin Swanson swears in the new 2024 Board

































Coming Events! Meetings/Outings

February 22, 2024 DPC #1



PPLAC DPC February 22, 2024 6:00pm

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION!

Join us for our 1st Digital Photographic Competition of 2024 ! Yes, we compete, but it is really a learning exercise. There is no better way to improve your work than to receive constructive comments from knowledgeable photographers. A panel of 3 judges evaluates each image submitted into the competition and they do it live!



"Profiles in the Sand" by John Powers November 2023 Best of Show

Our DPC is conducted via Zoom meeting. For all of the details about how to enter as well as how to watch the competition, go to pplac.org and click on the "Photo Competition" tab.

The dates to submit images are February 5-11.

Join us on February 22nd at 6:00pm!

Further information coming soon.

Outings/Safaris/Adventures

January Outing



PPLAC Outing! Sunday

January 28, 2024



Dust off those cameras and join us for our 1st outing of the year! The LA Zoo has more than 270 different species of animals. We will meet at 10am at the Zoo entrance. Tickets are \$22/adults and \$19 for seniors. Tickets can be purchased at https://lazoo.org/plan-your-visit/reservations/







February Outing



PPLAC Outing Sunday February 25th, 2024

Dickensfest!

Jurupa Valley, California

Join us as we venture to the Riverside area to photograph one of the more unique reenactments: mid-nineteenth century Victorian characters!



The venue location has changed this year. It will be at the Jensen Alvarado Historic Ranch & Museum, located at 4307 Briggs Street, Jurupa Valley, California 92509.

For details about the *Dickensfest*, you can read more at their link: <u>https://dickensfest.com/</u>

The entrance cost is \$10.

If you're interested in attending, contact John Powers at: johnepowers@hotmail.com



Photos by John Powers

May Adventure



Join us on this scenic exploration into California's spectacular Sierra Nevada!



On this PPLAC Adventure, John Grusd will lead us on an amazing photographic journey to the biggest trees, deepest canyons, wildest rivers and the highest peaks in America! We will also be on the lookout for wildlife!



Included is a workshop: <u>"Knowing Your Gear! - Field</u> <u>Techniques from Focus and Sharpness to Tripods</u>" The aim is to help you improve your approaches, techniques and efficiency while out on location.



The PPLAC Multi-Day Adventure fee that includes four days of guidance, a pre-trip informational Zoom meeting and a post-trip review of our images is \$70 per person. Lodging and transportation are not included. We will be based in the town of Three Rivers at the Comfort Inn.

For questions or to register for this event, please contact PPLAC 1st VP, Liz Chalmers - liz@lizchalmers.com



Join us on this inspiring 4-Day PPLAC Adventure!

Sponsor of the Month ProLab Digital

https://www.prolabdigital.com/

Photo Opportunities

PHOTOGRAPHY ADVENTURE TOURS

VIETNAM 5 CAMBODIA



MARCH 25 - APRIL 9, 2024

\$6995 Experience culture and the natural beauty of This colorful region

2024 PHOTOGRAPHY ADVENTURE TOURS



For detailed Itineraries email or text us at:



Sharon Lobel (818)802-7597 ShutterbugSharon DavidLaNeveCPP @aol.com

David LaNeve (714) 398-0138 @Gmail.com



SPECIALIZING IN LUXURY PHOTO TOURS



PPC News

https://ppconline.com/



Mojave National Preserve Caving Lava Tubes

February 10-11, 2024

Take exit 246 off of I-15, and head south toward the signed Mojave Preserve on Kelbaker Rd. Reset your odometer as you turn onto Kelbaker Road from the highway off-ramp.

A field of cinder cones stands out dramatically from the surrounding Mojave Desert between the city of Baker and Kelso Depot Visitor Center in Mojave National Preserve. Within the lava field is a short trail leading to a tube formed long ago by molten lava. A ladder takes hikers down into the tube where skylights (holes in the rock ceiling) illuminate a subterranean world.

> Members - \$25 Non-members - \$30

Register at ppconline.com Information: 800-439-5839 ext. 1





DEATH VALLEY February 23–24, 2024

Death Valley National Park is all about extremes. Famous for the highest tempature ever recorded anywherein the world. Come here to hike through colorful canyons and to see such landmarks as Badwater Basin—at 282 feet below sea level, it's the lowest point in North America. National Park Pass Required per car.

Make your own hotel reservations in Beatty, NV

Premium Members: \$45 PPC Members: \$75 Non-Members: \$90

Information: 800-439-5839 ext. 1



Wind Wolves Preserve

March 23, 2024 10am - 4pm

16019 Maricopa Highway Bakersfield, CA 93311

\$25 PPC Member \$30 Non-Member (Bring your own water and lunch)

Wildflower Loop Trail is creating a buzz of excitement at The Wildlands Conservancy. Keep an eye out for blue dicks, fiddlenecks, birds' eye gilia, owl's clover, tiny tips, lupine, monolopia, and more! windwolvespreserve@wildlandsconservancy.org

> Register at ppconline.com Information: 800-439-5839 ext. 1





Carlsbad Flower Fields

April 20, 2024 9am - 2pm

5704 Paseo Del Norte Carlsbad, CA 92008

Purchase your ticket at www.theflowerfields.com Join us at San Diego County Carlsbad world famous flower fields. 50 acres of ranunculus there's also a number of opportunities to eat, learn, relax, and play. Take our wagon ride, learn about our garden, sweet pea maze, and more! (You may bring a tripod)

> Members - \$25 Non-members - \$30

Register at ppconline.com Information: 800-439-5839 ext. 1





WEST COAST SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA

WCS News

https://ppconline.com/wcs/2020-westcoast-school/

WEST COAST SCHOOL

TIME TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION

WCS is dedicated to provide the highest quality, hands on education and motivational workshops by the industry's top names and talent.

June 9-14, 2024

OUR INSTRUCTORS

Michael Collins Photoshop – Zero to Sixty in a Week





Tim Meyer Fundamentals of Lighting and Posing

Michelle Pennings Fine Art Masterpiece Portraits - Creation to Completion

Pete Rezac Hard Light, Soft Light, Window Light, Strobe Light BLACK AND WHITE DONE RIGHT

Chris Wooley Magic Marketing: Captivate and Connect with Your Brand



Register online at: www.westcoastschool.com

About Us...

West Coast School is a week long photography school offering an outstanding lineup of instructor's and a full schedule of special events. Our commitment has been to teach attendees practical, real-world skills that can be used to build a satisfying and prosperous career in professional photography. Come experience an incredible week of networking,

education & fun.

Community Network







TUITION STARTS AT: PPC MEMBERS \$1340.00 PPA MEMBERS \$1390.00 NON-MEMBERS \$1520.00 INCLUDES HOUSING



TIM MEYER



THE ESSENTIALS - LIGHTING AND POSING

Join Tim as the class will focus on the fundamentals of quality lighting and posing, emphasizing the basic elements of studio and outdoor portraiture. With style as a consideration and in a hands-on environment, Tim will illustrate how your choice of light shaping tools, metering, ratios, facial and body analysis, and posing work together to produce dynamic results and consistently high quality images.







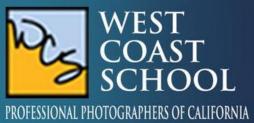
GET PERSONAL HANDS-ON EDUCATION IN PHOTOGRAPHY AND PHOTOSHOP



Community Network School

Register Online at: www.**westcoastschool**.com

LIVE | LEARN | CREATE





TUITION STARTS AT: PPC MEMBERS \$1340.00 PPA MEMBERS \$1390.00 NON-MEMBERS \$1520.00 INCLUDES HOUSING



MICHELLE PENNINGS

FINE ART MASTERPIECE PORTRAITS - CREATION TO COMPLETITION

Embark on a creative journey where Michelle will share her unique and innovative approach to transforming everyday items into captivating masterpieces. This class is for the photographer looking to discover new techniques and to expand your artistic horizons.

You will learn to harness the power of lighting to create dramatic effects and evoke emotions in your photographs.

Get ready to unleash your creativity, as you dive into the world of fine art photography and embak on an unforgettable artistic journey.



GET PERSONAL HANDS-ON EDUCATION IN PHOTOGRAPHY AND PHOTOSHOP



Community Network School with PPA

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TUITION STARTS AT: PPC MEMBERS \$1340.00 PPA MEMBERS \$1390.00 NON-MEMBERS \$1520.00



SHARON LOBEL & KAREN NAKAMURA

MACRO PHOTO TO ART

Learn how to find, approach and photograph captivating insects in natural light. Sharon will teach you her flower, water drop & insect macro techniques.

Karen will teach you how to incorporate your images and turn them into pieces of art through editing or compositing. Take your floral images to the next level by designing a beautiful art piece with unique backgrounds using Photoshop techniques. You will also learn how to photograph flowers in the studio to match the light of your subjects.

Some of our little insect friends and waterdrops will be photographed in a studio setting. And, if nature is nice to us, we will be photographing butterflies hatching out of their chrysalis. We have a lot more in store so have your cameras, tripods and computers ready!



GET PERSONAL HANDS ON EDUCATION IN PHOTOGRAPHY AND PHOTOSHOP



Community Network

Register Online at: www.westcoastschool.com CA 1(8





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PETE REZAC

HARD LIGHT, SOFT LIGHT, WINDOW LIGHT, STROBE LIGHT - BLACK & WHITE DONE RIGHT

Pete will help you secure the confidence to make your black and white portraiture sing showing you how to use LIGHT! Be it soft, hard, natural, or electronic! Lighting skills never go out of style, and there are so many styles than one to use! Pete will show you how to block and tackle light to make any subject it illuminates sing - especially in black and white (works for color too!)

Light doesn't care what light sensitive material it's hitting, so be it silcon or silver Pete will help you get the results you are after, and if you know Pete, you will have a TON OF FUN doing it.







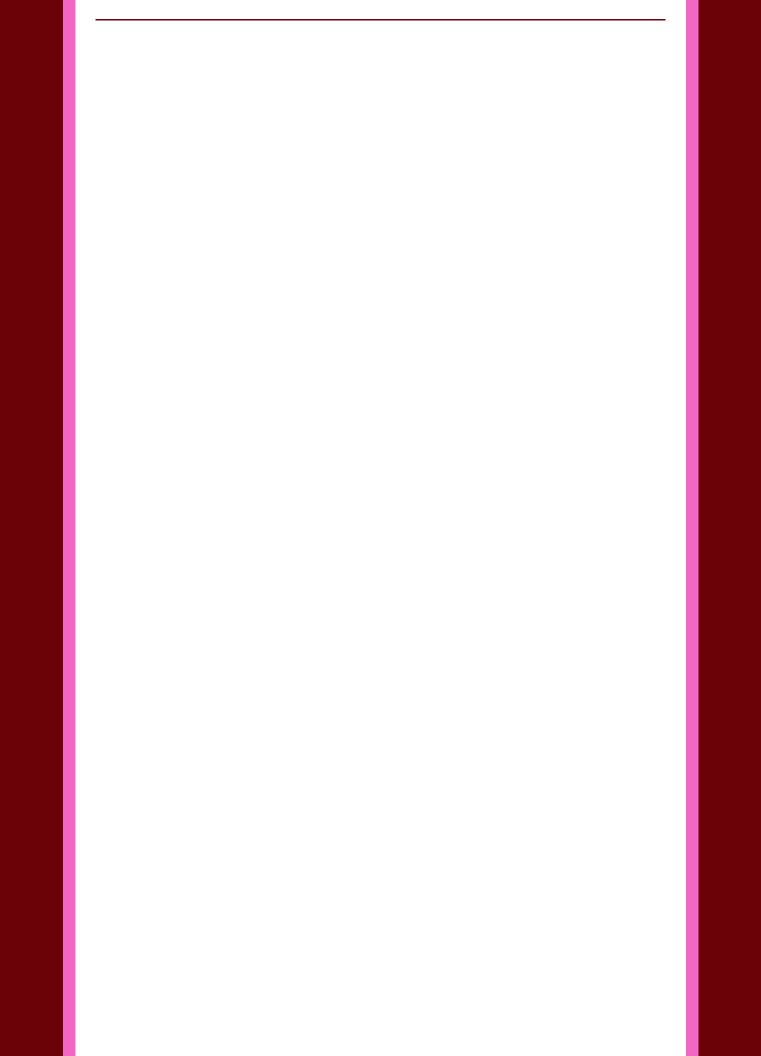
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MICHAEL COLLINS

PHOTOSHOP - ZERO TO SIXTY IN A WEEK

Learn the basics (and not so basics) of Photoshop in a week-long program. We'll work Hands-On learning the tools, actions, other techniques for speeding up your images snap, crackle and pop. Camera Raw, retouching, cloning, healing brush, keyboard shortcuts and many more ways to help build your skills. We'll show the easiest ways to remove people and objects from your image. How to composite, change colors of various things. We'll learn layers, masks, brushes, type tool along with tips and tricks to make it easy.









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https://www.ppa.com/

The 12 Elements of a Merit Image

<u>https://www.ppa.com/ppmag/articles/1</u> <u>2-elements-of-a-merit-image</u>

If you are curious or interested in becoming a Certified Professional Photographer check out the PPA link below:

<u>https://www.ppa.com/credentials-</u> <u>mem/cpp-mem</u> Please note that PPA has a page dedicated to what is available. You DO NOT need to be a PPA member to look at their website.....and they are offering a lot of webinars this year!

LET'S CONNECT PPA - Professional Photographers of America 229 Peachtree St. NE, Suite 2300 Atlanta, GA 30303 1-800 786-6277 https://www.ppa.com/inittogether

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