FOCAL POINT

Rossmoor Photography Club News

The President's Corner

Another fun packed month is in store for us this month! Don't miss the film "*Desert Dreams*" on May 2nd at Peacock. It is visually stunning and colorful, depicting life in the Sonoran Desert throughout the year! Also, the presentation on "*Creative Seeing*" by our very own Ojars Kratins tells us that "Human seeing is conditioned by memory of what has been seen before," and if we seek out places we typically ignore or don't look at and then take a fresh up close look, new oppor-



tunities will open up before us that will make our photography even that much more enjoyable!

CALENDAR

May 2nd - - Film Series - Desert Dreams - See article below. 7:00 pm at the Peacock Theater.

May 3rd - Competition Meeting: Pictorial Color and Monochrome Prints, Pictorial and Creative Images. 6:45 pm for refreshments, 7:00 pm meeting starts at in the Vista Room at the Hillside Clubhouse.

May 10th - Photo Talk - film "*Portraits Unplugged*" by Bobbi Lane, about taking great portraits in available light. 7:00 pm meeting starts in the Vista Room at Hillside.

May 17th - Competition Meeting: Nature and Creative Prints, Travel and Journalism Projected Images. 6:45 pm for refreshments, 7:00 pm meeting starts in the Vista Room at the Hillside Clubhouse.

May 24th - Program Night - *Creative Seeing* - Mastering Creative Photography. See the article below. Gather at 6:45 pm, meeting begins at 7:00 pm in the **Club Room** at Creekside .

May **31st** - - **Potluck Night** - Bring an appetizer/drink/dessert ... and bring a friend! Popular social gathering for members of the Club. 5:30 pm in the Vista Room at the Hillside Clubhouse.



Photography Club has a new Event Center Exhibit

Our new Exhibit went up on April 5th, and will be there until August 2nd. At that time we will replace the three pictures in the niches (depicted on the left, above) with three new ones, so if you're interested get your pictures ready. Once announced in July, they will be selected on a first come first served basis.

Who is he??



Mr. "GQ" here is a long time resident of Rossmoor, and a very active member of the Rossmoor Photography Club! The first Club member to guess *who* he is wins a free 16 X 20 black frame with mat, suitable for hanging in one of our Exhibitions! Email: alnordgren@gmail.com with your answer! (Only one guess per member).

Answer to last month's "Mystery Member": It's *Terry Nordgren*, Rossmoor Resident for 14 years, and Events Center and Points Chair for the Club.





Photography Club hosted talk on Lightroom

More than 4,000 people came out to see this special presentation by Photographer Eric Ahrendt on April 26th! OK ... it was more like 45 people. If is topic on "What Lightroom Can do for Your Photography" was both entertaining and informative. Attendees learned the basics of Lightroom and how Lightroom differs from Adobe Photoshop. Perhaps the most powerful part of his presentation was how Eric took a rather mundane picture of Yosemite Valley, and literally transformed it before our eyes through applying a series of enhancement features in Lightroom! When asked of the audience if they would like Eric to come back at a later date to further our knowledge and skills in using Lightroom, there was almost a unanimous raising of hands! Stay tuned.

Photography Club Hosts iPhone Camera Workshop for Rossmoor Residents



If you own an iPhone and take pictures with it, you're going to want to attend this workshop! Last year the Rossmoor Photography Club hosted an introductory workshop on the iPhone. Now, the Club is introducing a workshop which shows you how to easily edit your photos right in your iPhone to enhance them, before sending them to friends and family or printing them on your home inkjet printer.

The class will be held over two sessions, the first of which is Wednesday, May 24th from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm, and the second session which is Friday, May 26th from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm. There are still a few spots remaining, so if you're interested in attending please contact Mark Forrette at: emsmark@att.net (preferred) or 925.330.4536.

Come Do Some "Creative Seeing" with Ojars Kratins



On Wednesday, May 24th, 7:00 pm in the Club Room at Creekside, our very own Ojars Kratins will introduce us to the concept of "Creative Seeing" when taking photographs.

Ojars is an award winning photographer, well recognized for his innovative and artistic approach to photography. Ojars believes that human seeing is conditioned by memory of what has been seen before, and this memory is a kind of tyranny that is a silent control of the photographer. Ojars' photography shows a unique way of escaping this unconscious photographic control, enabling him to see the visual world in fresh ways. He seeks out places that many "shooters" ignore

such as where water and sand meet, rocks weathered by wind and rain, decaying wood or painted surfaces, rusting machinery, and reflecting surfaces.

His presentation will give examples of a fresh way of looking at creative and pictorial photography.

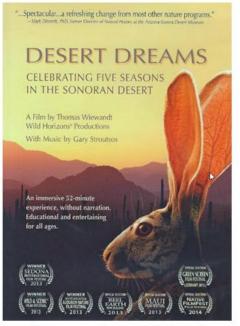
DESERT DREAMS - CELEBRATING FIVE SEASONS IN THE SONORAN DESERT

Among its many Awards, *Desert Dreams* is the Winner of the SEDONA International Film Festival for 2013!

Dispelling the notion that deserts are deserted places, DESERT DREAMS immerses viewers in a world filled with life and beauty year-round. This 52 minute multimedia tapestry showcases 182 species of Sonoran Desert Plants and animals in a five-season chronology.

HD video content and time-lapse imagery captured over four years blends with stills from THOMAS WEIWANDT'S photographic archive compiled over three decades. Using no narration, *DESERT DREAMS* combines natural sounds with a kaleidoscope of flute and percussion vignettes by Gary Stroutos.

Twenty-nine musical instruments with "earthy tones" can be heard in this film, including Chinese bamboo Dize and Xiaoflutes, the African clay pot udu drum, a Cuban Marimbula thumb piano, a Middle Eastern frame drum and Southwestern desert contemporary rim flutes.



If you love nature, and want to see and experience what *really* goes on day and night in the desert throughout the year ... you will not want to miss this beautifully made, visually stunning film. Bring your family and guests to the Peacock Theater at 7pm on May 2nd!