

# POLY SPEAKS

Magazine of the Polyphoto Camera Club



**POLY**  
PHOTO CLUB

Volume 9, No.2

March, 2018



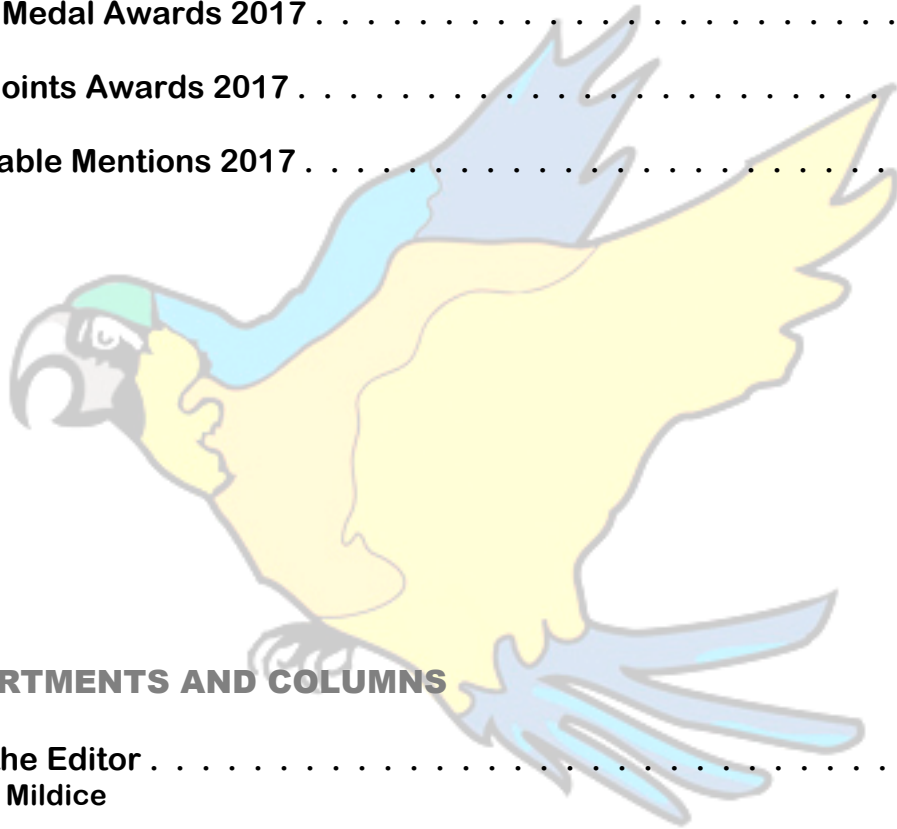
## Best of the Year 2017

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**News and Views of Poly Photo Camera Club Members**  
**March, 2018** **Volume 9, No.2**

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## From the Editor

Our year-end Awards Luncheon was last Saturday. And now, the next day as I write this, I have been thinking about our Poly awards, and awards affairs in general. I'm sure most of you with "competition" in your genes have had the customary feelings. *"The tension of expectation, the thrill of victory, the agony of defeat."*

But aside from all that, this year's party was much better than just the competition results. I was beginning to feel that our most festive yearly party was starting to get into a little proverbial "*rut*." Same venue . . . same food . . . same pictures . . . same show. But this Saturday seemed new and more exciting.

As a meeting place, it's not possible for me to criticize the LaJolla Country Club. Its old-world sophistication and elegance seem perfect. But there was a change. The accommodations we had this year seemed even better than our usual ones. The room was more intimate; my lunch was even better than usual; and the easily-darkened second room, arranged with theater style seating (and supplied with coffee and cookies) was ideal for showing our pictures.

Charlie Breese did a terrific job on the presentation of all our submitted images. And Les' presentation of the awards included the showing of each person's winning picture(s) when they received their award. Everyone I talked with afterward thought that was a great idea.

I won't try to mention everyone who worked on the party (because I'd surely forget someone), but all of you did an outstanding job!

But, enough about the party; the other main reason to be there is to see the best of Poly member's work for the last year. And not just the winners. For me, the most important aspect of this show is that each member gets to pick the images that he/she likes the best, independent of a judge's opinion.

I know, if we got eight "nines," we'd probably send them all in. But we all usually get enough "sevens" to be able to say, "I know that judge didn't "get" it, but I really like this picture."

And "*last but not least*," we all want to find out "first hand" if we've won any awards. Those awards are selected from the images you submitted; and have been juried by a three-judge panel. All the medal winners are presented in this issue, starting on Page 3.

One more thing. There's some good news for the Poly Speaks staff (and for our readers). Our Past President, Dee Elwin, has decided to come on-board as a columnist. I look forward seeing what she has to say in future issues, because she brings a unique perspective about the club and photography. Photographer / Past President / Writer; how good is that?

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## Quote of the Month

"To me, photography is an art of observation. It's about finding something interesting in an ordinary place. I've found that it has little to do with the things you see, and everything to do with how you see them."

– Elliott Erwitt

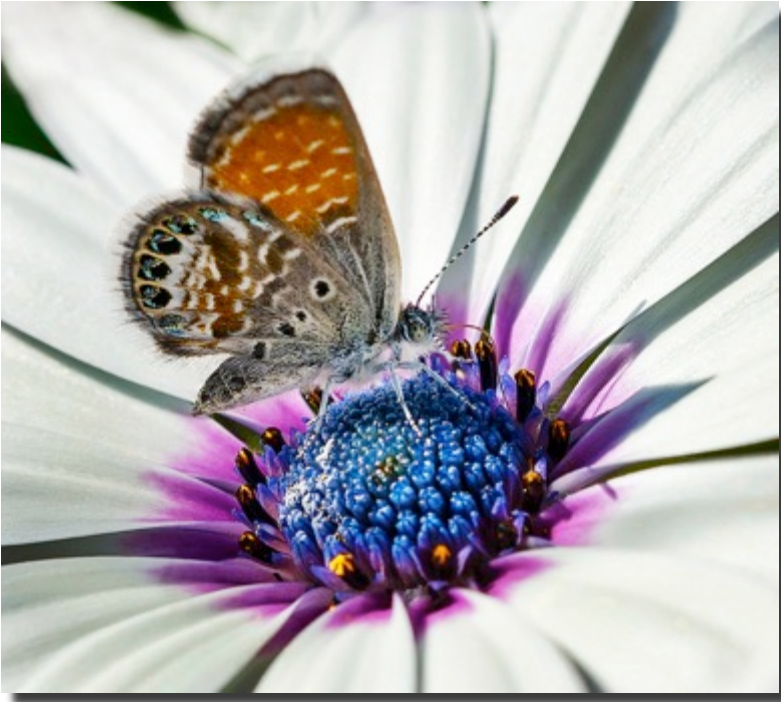


# Poly's Best Images of 2017

## Category 1 – First Place



***“Takeoff “***  
**By Dan Palermo**



**Category 1 – Second Place**

*“Western Pigmy – Blue on Blue”*  
By Joan Harris

**Category 1 - Third Place – “A Stroll” – by Byron Aughenbaugh**



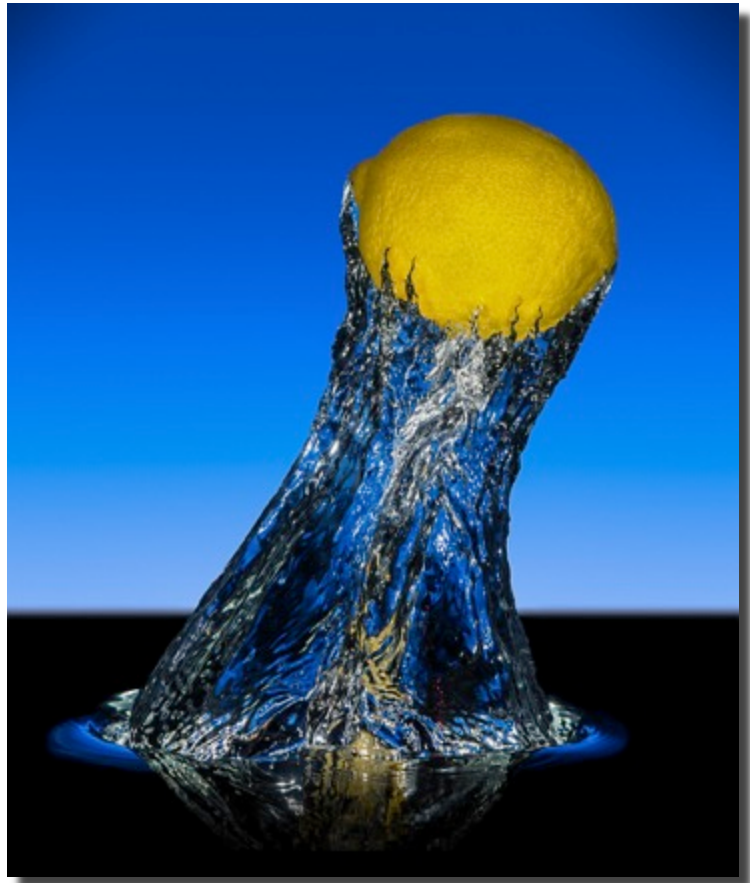


## Category 2 – First Place

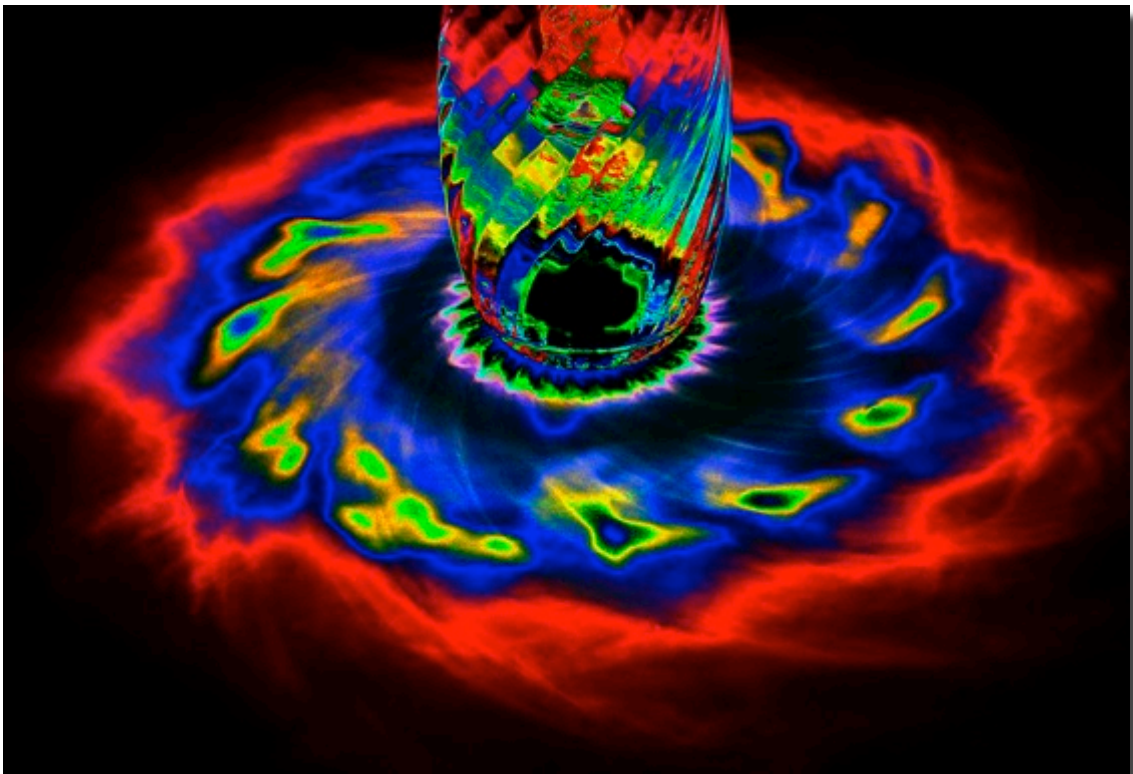


***“The Southwest Monsoon”***  
**By Phil Sokol**

**Category 2 – Second Place**  
*“Lemon Launch”* – by John Kane



**Category 2 – Third Place** – *“Ring of Fire”* – by Rick Wiley







**Project – First Place** (Triptych) by Jan Handman

**Project – Third Place**  
(Too Much of a Good Thing)  
by Paul Shilling



**Project – Second Place**  
(Faceless Portrait)  
by Ernesto Corte





**Van Nostrand, Best of Nature for 2017 – “Mt. Cook Park Rainbow”** by Drema Swader



**Bob Rittenhouse, Most Creative for 2017 – “Extraterrestrial ‘Easter’ Island”** by Jim Mildice

## High Points Awards



**“Above and Beyond” Award  
For Exceptional Service to Poly**

**Karen Gless**



# Honorable Mentions

## Category 1

### **Les Anderson**

Cranes Brake for Landing  
Camping Under the Stars  
Looks Like Someone Needs a Hug

### **Byron Aughenbaugh**

Stroke

### **Marietta Baginsky**

Discovered at Carlsbad Flower Fields

### **Jeff Boorher**

Hold On Loosely  
Lonesome  
Trouble

### **Dee Elwin**

Curious Coyote – Death Valley

### **Ernesto Corte**

Impressions by the Sea

### **Michael Fairbanks**

Awash  
Golden Light – Alabama Hills

### **Karen Gless**

Cactus Flower

### **Joan Harris**

A Berry Good Day  
Little Sugar

### **Koustav Maity**

Coral Tree  
Milkyway Over Sedona

### **Carol Murdock**

And the Sparks Flew

### **Dan Palermo**

Just a Little Crazy

### **Cynthia Parnell**

Electric Peak  
Eye of the Tiger  
Teton Gentleman  
Winter Fall

### **Paul Shilling**

Siblings in the Nest  
Dinner Time  
One Moment in Time  
Tiger Portrait

### **Drema Swader**

Morning Comes

### **Clark Winsor**

Black Phoebe  
Feather Pillow

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## Category 2

### **Byron Aughenbaugh**

Energy  
Thunderstorm  
Summer Storm

### **Beverly Brock**

Rufus Hummingbird  
Jumping the Moon

### **Ernesto Corte**

Halloween Time  
Relaxation in Red and Yellow

### **Jim Mildice**

Extraterrestrial Sunset

### **Phil Sokol**

Catching the Light

### **Rick Wiley**

Spinning Wheel

## Musings from the President (No, not the new President)

By Dee Elwin

### Don't be Afraid of Competition!

While watching the Olympics, I became aware of a parallel between it, photography, and competition. Participating athletes have a passion for their sport and have put in years of training (some beginning at a very early age). This includes spending large amounts of money for equipment, trainers, coaches, facility fees, and travel. They sacrifice a great deal in time away from family and social time with friends in order to excel in their particular sport.

Photographers do much the same. We start out with a passion for our hobby. We put out money for expensive photography equipment, accessories and editing programs. We join a photo club and take advantage of workshops, classes, tutorials and photo shoots. We literally spend hours alone working on an image to get it just right.

Olympic athletes have to perform in front of judges or scoring machines. They are doing their best and when their best is not quite good enough, they (or interviewers) ask "What happened?"

Being judged by others is not for the faint of heart! We all want to be seen in a good light. When our effort is deemed not good enough, it's a blow to the ego. When

an ice skater falls during a performance, he or she immediately gets up and continues as if nothing happened. Afterwards, their coaches and others will hug and console them. Later, they will review what led to the fall and work on that particular problem. The attitude is to practice more and try again.

Isn't this true with our club's competition? When new members finally get the nerve to enter an image and receive a low score, they're devastated and embarrassed. That's natural. However, take good notes on what the judge had to say about your and other images. Learn from him or her. Judges are there to help you improve. Poly members are very generous with their knowledge and will help you if asked. Our club's purpose is to educate and learn from one another.

So, don't be afraid of competition. If you don't do well, don't go home and post your equipment on E-Bay! Find out how to get better. Listen to the judge. Ask members. Apply that advice and try again. Even long-time members will admit to receiving a 5 or 6 from a judge. It takes a long time to hone your skills – but one day, with perseverance, you'll hear that magic number – "NINE"!

-dee





# This and That

By Clark Winsor

Hi Poly,

Last month I wrote about how much we could spend DSLR Cameras. To follow up, I would like you to write Poly Speaks and talk in general about how you use your camera when your not taking images for a camera club competition. It would be interesting to see if anyone would still own the same equipment if they didn't belong to a camera club.

Ever since the I-phones just about everyone is now taking stills and videos with their cameras. There is so much photography taken with a cell phone that the San Diego County Fair has a category just for cell phone images.

San Diego is very lucky to have Holland American Cruise line using our port as one of its homeports. I took a week's cruise earlier this month. Among the many onboard actives is the opportunity to attend classes on Windows 10. The ship had a dedicated digital classroom with a computer at each seat. I would guess there were enough computers for about 20 students. A lot of the class time was

devoted to post processing photos using windows 10. If you want to see the class notes go *to [Hollandamerica.com](http://Hollandamerica.com)* >

***Onboard > Enriching Activities> Digital Workshop***

On another subject, I been wondering why camera clubs don't spend, at least some time, educating their members on all the tools their SLRS Cameras have. I would bet not all owners of a DSLR Camera know what their cameras are capable of. I think it would be a very useful show and tell.

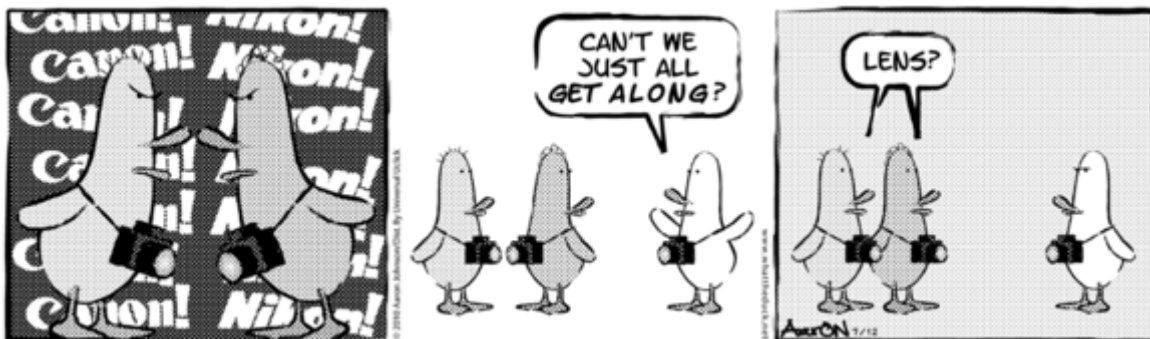
Lastly, the competition totals for the February meeting were;

In the Realistic category there were six 9's, twenty 8's, fourteen 7's, and five 6's.

In the VR category there were three 9's, five 8's, and two 7's.

Looking at the totals for each category we had 10 images in VR, and 45 images in realistic.

Clark



# Programs and Coming Events

Josi Ross

## March 3 – Competition

### PROJECT – “Window Dressing”

Our judge for March will be **Joanne Stoltie**. Here’s a little about her.

When Joanne was in elementary school, her father gave her a box camera, and by Junior High she was using a bellows camera. She cannot remember a time when she did not take photos and she has always listed photography as her first interest on her resume.

Since 1998, Joanne has been deeply involved in regional photo clubs, currently serving as president of S4C, a coalition of Southern California camera clubs. She lives in Glendora, where she formerly served as Vice President of the Glendora Color Slide Group; and is a member of the Pomona Valley Camera Club. She is General Chair of the S4C International Exhibition.



Joanne is also very active in the Photographic Society of America (PSA). She has four stars in Color, five stars in Nature, three stars in Photo Travel and three stars in Photojournalism. Joanne is Chair of the PSA Photojournalism Division, the PJD representative on the PSA Uniform Practices Committee, Chair of the PSA Membership Retention Committee, Director of the Introductory Color Slide Competition for Individuals, and PSA Journal News Editor for the Color Slide Division.

You can see some of her work at <http://www.pbase.com/joannestolte>

## March 17 – Workshop – Tabletop Magic

Once again **Rick Wiley** and Company will share their mind-bending ideas during this table-top, hands-on workshop. Bring your tripod and your macro lens if you have one, but that is not a necessity.

This workshop is sure to put some magic into your photography. FYI – the project for April is Macro/Close-up.



## Coming Events –

Our next road trip will be:  
**Tucson Photo Adventure**  
April 20 - April 22/23



Lin Graft and Al Larranaga have come up with a wonderful trip to Tucson. We will be visiting Mission San Xavier, the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, Saguaro National Park and more. Please check the Poly website for hotel information and reserve your spot today.