POLY SPEAKS

Magazine of the Polyphoto Camera Club

Volume 10, No.6 November, 2019

A Short History of Cameras

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November, 2019 **Volume 10, No.6**

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Poly Speaks is published by the Poly Photo Camera Club, in San Diego, California. Editor – Jim Mildice
President – Diane Patterson | Vice President – Robin Stern | Secretary – Josi Ross | Treasurer – John Kane

From the Editor

It's been a while since the publication of our last issue. To tell the truth, I had lost some of my enthusiasm for writing, and I decided to take a break to recharge. That was followed by a real vacation – car trip to the northwest coupled with an "inside passage" Alaska cruise. It was great to get away!

Also, judging by the number of inquiries I received about our hiatus, maybe you folks appreciated a break too.

First of all, congratulations to Al Larranaga for his election as Poly President; and many thanks for stepping up. The other members of the executive committee have another year in their terms so they stay the same.

And now, we are approaching the end of this year, and with it, the excitement and activities of the holidays, and plans and expectations for the new year.

I know, for some of you, looking at what's going on in Washington these days doesn't give you much hope for next year. But I came to a realization that makes me happy. The politicians are all completely preoccupied with fighting with President Trump and each other (whatever their party). The media treats their bickering and foibles as if they are the most important thing in our country, and they add fuel to the fire. All that pretty much means that they are ignoring what we do, and they are not passing any new laws to "help" us.

It sounds perfect to me. If we just ignore them and stop reading the political reporting in the newspapers and magazines, and listening to most of the TV news, it can be a very good year!

I know it's still a little early for serious consideration, but how about that for a New Year's resolution?

Sorry, I drifted off topic a little there. Let's get back to Photo Issues.

How many of you saw the National Geographic's "*50 Greatest Wildlife Photographs*" Exhibition in the Gallery in the Natural History Museum?

I have a couple of questions for those of you who did.

Do you think they were the greatest wildlife images you ever saw in the Magazine? I thought a lot of them were historically important. In addition, they documented often-rare or unusual views of wild animals in their natural habitats. But were most of them impactful, or artistic as we usually demand for nature pictures. I thought probably not.

Also, many of them (about 20 to 25%) were caught by camera traps or remote cameras. In this case, who gets the byline; the camera manufacturer, the photographer who placed it, the magazine, or no one at all?

Should their interpretation of "*greatness in nature pictures"* influence our judgement of nature image excellence? Is uniqueness as important as art?

This month, we have published the current scores and standings for our yearly high points competition. These cover the period through October, but do not remove the lowest scoring two months (as the rules require). So, if you want to see how your score compares with someone else's you can do the subtraction yourself. We'll take care of all the math after the November scores are in, so we'll the publish the final results then.

Finally, our cover graphic this month is a quick history of camera types. There are so many that the pictures need to be really tiny to fit. Enlarge it on your computer if you need to, and you may find the camera that got you into the photography that is taking up all this time and attention these days. It may even bring back some fond memories.

Dee Focuses on Our Members

By Dee Elwin

For some time now, I've wanted to interview various members of Poly to get to know more about them. What better person to begin with than Marietta Baginsky who's probably our oldest current member and an inspiration to all of us.

GETTING TO KNOW MARIETTA BAGINSKY

When did you join Poly? I think it was either 2005 or 2006. I've also been a member of Photo Naturalists and Dark Roomers.

Do you mind telling me when you were born? I was born January 8, 1929. So this coming January I'll be 91. *(Ed. Note: I think she is the oldest member of Poly.)*

Where were you born? I was born in Frankfurt A/M, but raised In Chile. We moved there when I was 3.

What was your profession? My professional life included a Chemistry and Pharmacy Doctorate from Chile (University of Chile), a Master's Degree in Biochemistry (UCLA) and a PhD degree in Biochemistry (UCSF). After getting my PhD at UCSF, I joined Scripps Clinic for a post doctorate, followed by a research position at UCSD, with all my research resulting in more than 45 publications. I also taught a number of science classes in San Diego, as well as General and Medical Spanish. And, I am still teaching Spanish to two UCSD neurologists who have been with me for more than 25 years.

How long have you been a photographer? I got seriously interested in photography after buying my first camera (Canon P) in 1956.

How did you get interested in photography? I have always been interested in Art and Nature. In art, it was handcrafts and in painting, mainly water colors. Two of my paintings done at around age 12 are still decorating my bedroom.

What is your favorite subject to shoot? I particularly like flowers and small animals, with a preference for bugs. I do not often take landscapes, but when travelling I could not pass up on some of nature's wonders. While traveling, I concentrated on architecture (especially churches of all religions and ages). I loved shooting people in their native environment and with their crafts. I never liked posed models! However, I took pictures of a number of small (and many times sad) children dressed to please the tourists.

What do you consider your greatest achievements in photography? I think that my greatest achievements in photography are the result of carefully planning a given scene to be executed on a table in my house. There, I can control the light and background. That's how I created the picture which won Poly's

Image of the Year Award in 2016. The title was “Exploding Milkweed Seed Pod”. Of course it didn’t actually explode, but was set up to look that way. I believe I am good at composition and at concentrating on what I consider the best part of my subject such as the center of a flower. Because I often take pictures of what presents itself in front of my eyes, especially when traveling, I have been lucky to capture a number of different subjects. Quite a few of these pictures have been accepted in various categories at the San Diego Fair, and some received ribbons.

What is your advice to photographers?
Having attended various photography clubs for so many years and listening to the innumerable critics of the pictures shown there has allowed me to tremendously improve my not so good techniques (I have never attended any photography classes!). So, my greatest advice to photographers is to listen to the critics and learn from them, but - do not let them discourage you. Follow your own feelings about a given picture. It is your work. It has to be pleasing to YOU. Re-submitting a refused picture often receives high marks from a different judge. Also, take pictures for your delight, not just for competition.

And finally…. do not get old!

Thank you, Marietta. It was a delight getting to know you.

-dee

Happy Shooting, everyone!

Rank for Altered Reality (AR) Scores

	Total	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV
Dan Palermo	158	16	16	17	18	14	16	15	15	15	16	
Rick Wiley	105	17	0	8	15	7	8	17	17	8	8	
Beverly Brock	83	8	9	9	8	9	7	9	9	6	9	
Darlene Elwin	79	9	15	8	8	9	8	7	7	0	8	
Barbara Fletcher	64	8	8	8	9	8	8	0	0	8	7	
John Kane	55	9	9	9	8	7	7	0	0	6	0	
Joan Harris	39	0	0	9	0	8	8	7	7	0	0	
Byron Aughenbaugh	37	7	8	0	0	0	0	7	7	8	0	
Ernesto Corte	32	8	8	0	8	0	8	0	0	0	0	
Koustav Maity	17	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Carol Murdock	16	0	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Ani Sarkar	16	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Rank for Reality (R) Scores

	Total	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV
Bill Godwin-Austen	156	15	17	18	17	15	18	16	14	13	13	
Marietta Baginsky	141	15	16	16	14	14	16	14	7	16	13	
Dorothy Mildice	141	8	14	17	15	17	14	15	15	12	14	
Jeff Booher	132	17	15	18	0	15	17	18	0	18	14	
Ernesto Corte	126	9	7	17	7	14	9	14	17	16	16	
Pat Michalowski	118	7	16	18	14	15	0	16	16	16	0	
Robin Stern	118	15	16	15	0	18	8	16	16	0	14	
Carol Murdock	117	14	7	7	15	14	0	13	16	18	13	
Joan Harris	105	14	16	9	17	8	8	8	8	9	8	
Kim Signoret-Paar	105	14	16	0	15	16	16	13	8	7	0	
Allan Pakett	104	0	15	16	16	14	15	14	14	0	0	
Byron Aughenbaugh	103	8	8	15	9	15	18	8	0	9	13	
Daniel Breslin	103	0	0	15	16	15	15	15	15	0	12	
Charles Mittman	101	14	0	16	0	0	14	16	15	13	13	
Drema Swader	94	13	14	16	0	18	0	16	17	0	0	
Barbara Fletcher	84	8	9	9	8	9	8	9	8	9	7	
Carol Flanagan-Corsi	83	16	7	18	8	14	14	0	0	6	0	
John Kane	83	8	9	0	8	8	9	17	17	7	0	
Beverly Brock	76	9	8	7	7	8	7	8	7	8	7	
Darlene Elwin	71	8	0	9	7	7	8	7	16	0	9	
Rick Wiley	59	0	14	9	0	7	7	0	8	8	6	
Richard Guarascio	44	14	14	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Rank for Combined Scores

	Total	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV
Beverly Brock	159	17	17	16	15	17	14	17	16	14	16	
Ernesto Corte	158	17	15	17	15	14	17	14	17	16	16	
Dan Palermo	158	16	16	17	18	14	16	15	15	15	16	
Rick Wiley	164	17	14	17	15	14	15	17	25	16	14	
Bill Godwin-Austen	156	15	17	18	17	15	18	16	14	13	13	
Darlene Elwin	150	17	15	17	15	16	16	14	23	0	17	
Barbara Fletcher	148	16	17	17	17	17	16	9	8	17	14	
Dorothy Mildice	148	15	14	17	15	17	14	15	15	12	14	
Joan Harris	144	14	16	18	17	16	16	15	15	9	8	
Marietta Baginsky	141	15	16	16	14	14	16	14	7	16	13	
Byron Aughenbaugh	140	15	16	15	9	15	18	15	7	17	13	
John Kane	138	17	18	9	16	15	16	17	17	13	0	
Carol Murdock	133	14	15	15	15	14	0	13	16	18	13	
Jeff Booher	132	17	15	18	0	15	17	18	0	18	14	
Pat Michalowski	118	7	16	18	14	15	0	16	16	16	0	
Robin Stern	118	15	16	15	0	18	8	16	16	0	14	
Kim Signoret-Paar	111	14	16	0	15	16	16	13	8	13	0	
Allan Pakett	104	0	15	16	16	14	15	14	14	0	0	
Daniel Breslin	103	0	0	15	16	15	15	15	15	0	12	
Charles Mittman	101	14	0	16	0	0	14	16	15	13	13	
Drema Swader	94	13	14	16	0	18	0	16	17	0	0	
Carol Flanagan-Corsi	90	16	7	18	8	14	14	0	0	13	0	

Programs and Coming Events

November 2 – Competition PROJECT – *"Historical"*

Our Judge this month is **Lauralee Humes**.

She was introduced to the basics of photography through an adult recreation class when she was 68. It was the spark that ignited her passion to pursue images inspired by her faith, imagination and the beauty in nature. She mastered her camera and learned to develop photographs in the digital darkroom.

Lauralee's determination that "You are never too old to try" has kept her on the go. She travels with her husband in their Jeep to the mountains, deserts and coast, ever hopeful of capturing the wonder of a starry night, the beauty of a flower or the serenity of a landscape.

Lauralee finds great joy in the friendships photography has blessed her with, and loves to share the stories that give voice to her images.

In 2010, she entered the San Diego County Fair International Exhibition of Photography and received a Blue Ribbon for her still life. In 2019, Lauralee celebrated 10 years of acceptance in the fair exhibition with numerous awards to her credit. Other honors include Sponsor awards, SCAA Public Choice Award, SD-FAR contributor, Gumpshun Junction Gallery, CO featured photographer, OCAA Mildred Baker Merit Purchase Award and Nelson Photo Photographer of the Month.

Lauralee is especially grateful for the invitations she has received to share her photographs and narratives. Her work is enjoyed in homes and businesses across the country and Hawaii.

November 16 – Poly Annual Holiday Potluck in the Photo Arts Building

Since this party is held on one of our usual Saturday mornings, it normally becomes a festive Brunch. So, feel free to bring either breakfast-style or lunch-style food items for your pot luck contribution.

You'll get more information at the November Competition meeting.

Important Reminders

Competition

Images for our year-end competitions will also need to be submitted by about the end of this month. So, start thinking about which of your eight R and/or AR accepted images you think are the best ones to be juried and displayed.

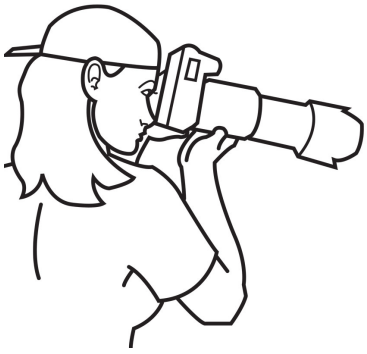
The rules and requirements from the Bylaws are included on Page 7. Actual dates and more details will be announced.

PolyPhoto Annual Awards Luncheon

Our year-end awards will be announced, and their recipients honored at this event. It will be on February 22 at 11:30 am – 3:30 pm

Registration: 11:30am
Lunch: 12:30pm
Closing: 3:30pm
Location: La Jolla Country Club
7301 High Avenue
La Jolla, CA 92037

See the schedule on the Poly web site, and look for additional announcements for more information.



ARTICLE XIII – YEAR-END COMPETITION

Section 1:
Entries in the year-end competition shall be chosen from accepted images in monthly competitions from that competition year. Each member shall choose eight of his or her images from those that have received a score of seven or higher, regardless of category. Submitted images may be improved versions of the original accepted images from the monthly competitions, as long as they are clearly the same image. Improvements may be based on the photographer's judgment or the judge's comments. The President or the Competition Chairperson shall make arrangements deemed appropriate to judge these images. The judges shall select First, Second and Third place image winners in each of the two Categories, plus approximately ten percent of the entries in each Category as Honorable Mentions. First, Second and Third place winners shall receive inscribed medals. Honorable Mentions shall receive ribbons.

Section 2:
High-points awards will be determined by totaling the points accumulated from the monthly competitions as defined in Article XII, Section 4. First, Second, and Third place High-Points Awards will be given separately, at Year-End, to winners of the Realistic category and the Altered-Reality category. In addition, First, Second, and Third place High-Points Awards will be given to winners of the Combined-Category, created at Year-End for those who have entered at least 6 of a possible 22 images in both the Realistic and Altered-Reality categories during the competition year. If a winner qualifies for High-Points Awards in more than one category (i.e., such as Awards in both Altered-Reality and Combined-Category), only the highest Award will be given regardless of which category it is in. In the event that a winner earns the same High-Points Award in multiple Categories (e.g., two Third Places), only one Award will be given using the following category hierarchy: (1) Realistic, (2) Altered-Reality, and lastly (3) the Combined-Category.

Section 3:
The names of First Place High-Points winners of the Realistic, Altered-Reality, Combined categories shall be inscribed on the High-Points Perpetual Trophy. An inscribed medal shall be awarded to all First Place winners, along with Second and Third place runners-up in each Category. In the event of ties for First Place in any Category, all First-Place names shall be engraved on the High Points Trophy and receive inscribed medals.