
SEPTEMBER 2020

CARSON VALLEY PHOTO CLUB



Photo by Suzie Lentz Zimmerli

COVID-19 EDITION

Meetings: The Carson Valley Photo Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

Our next meeting, back to the Church:

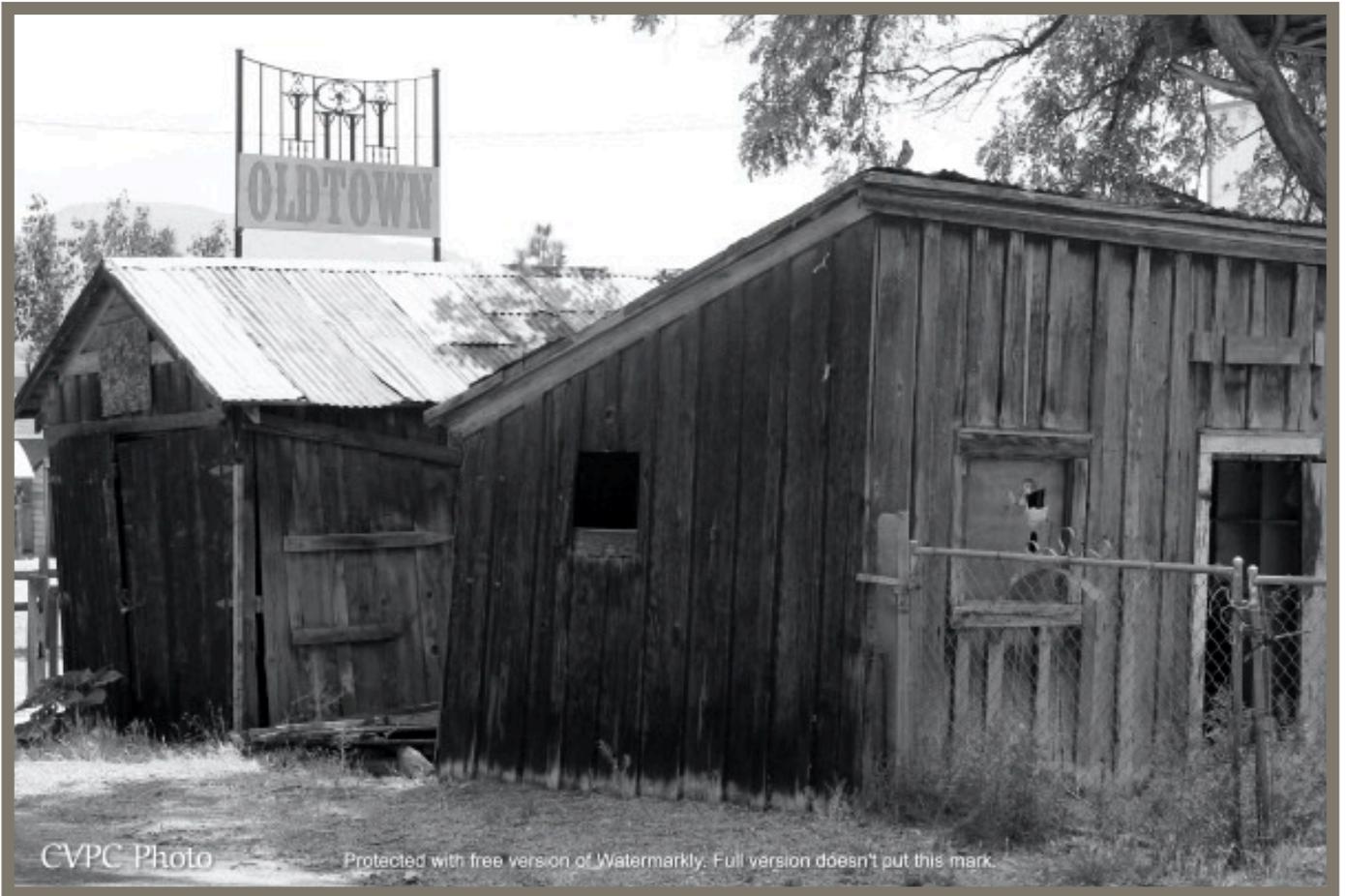
Tuesday, October 13 at 6:30pm

Location: Carson Valley Methodist Church (and Via Zoom)

1375 Centerville Lane

Gardnerville, NV

**AUGUST PHOTO CONTEST THEME
“OLD NEVADA BUILDINGS IN B&W”**



**FIRST PLACE
Old Building**

Photographer — Sandy Silva



SECOND PLACE

Hotel

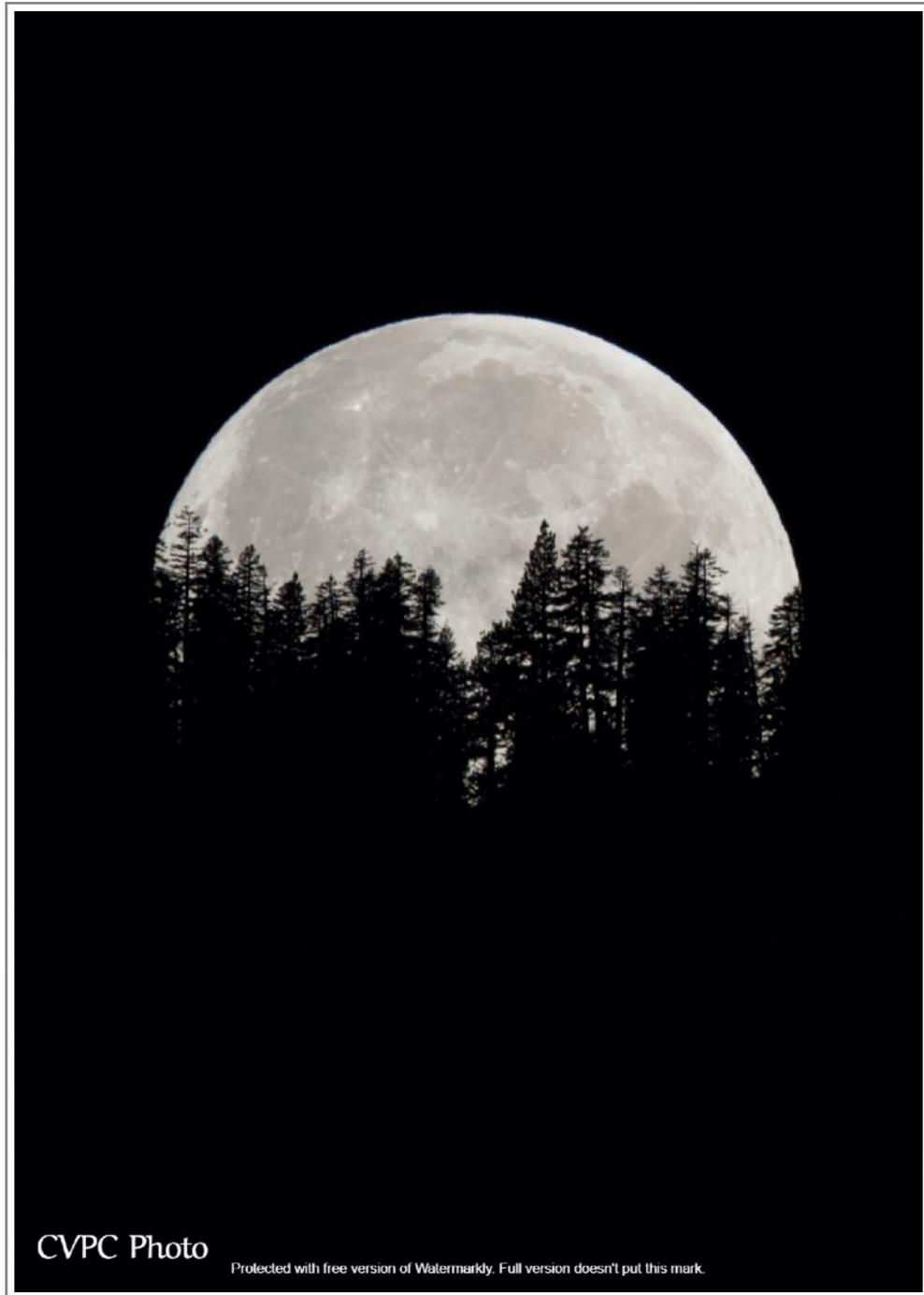
Photographer — Sandy Silva

**SEPTEMBER PHOTO CONTEST THEME
“NIGHTS AND LIGHTS”**

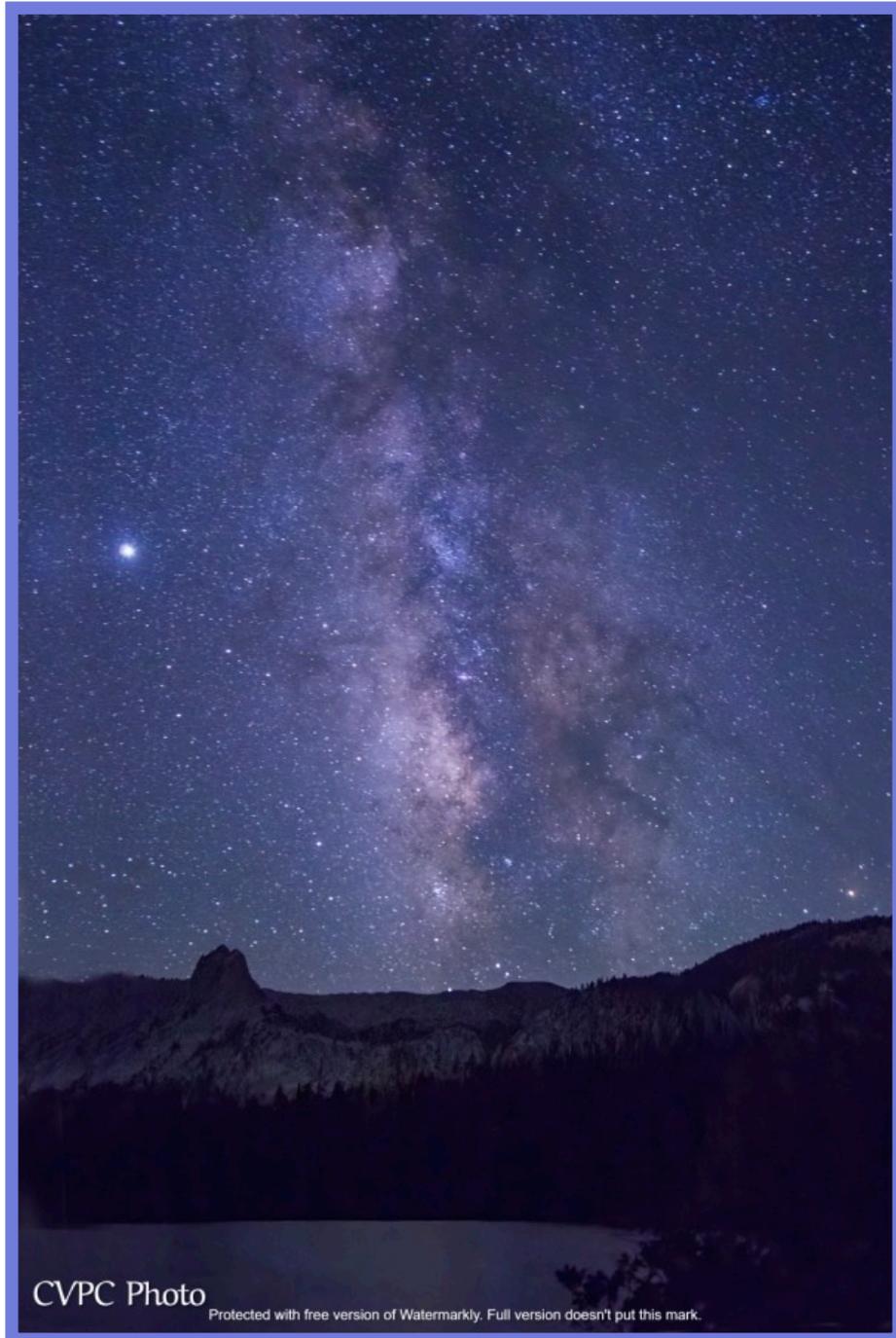


CVPC Photo protected with free version of Watermarkly. Full version doesn't put this mark.

**FIRST PLACE
Red Comet 2020
Photographer — Shannon Reddoch**



SECOND PLACE
Trees Against Full Moon
Photographer - Kim Steed



THIRD PLACE
Milky Way and Jupiter over Lake Mamie
Photographer - Tom Keller

Monthly Meeting Minutes

The Aug-Sept Meeting was called to order by President N J Thompson who welcomed us all back together again at the Methodist Church after a lengthy hiatus due to the Corona Virus. Five members attended via Zoom and twelve in person for a total of seventeen attendees. Pretty good, huh!

NJ had worked very hard for several weeks with her minions behind the scenes prior to the meeting making arrangements with the church, establishing a Sanitation Committee, working with Barb Mower our website designer so that our beloved Contest could go on smoothly, and the many additional things it took to get our illustrious club back up and running so we could all share our photographic delights together.

Big Kudos to NJ and her troops!

After solving a few technical problems we were able to start our meeting with Sandy Jonkey as Greeter, and Susie Roaldson as Sanitary Engineer. Our new member Shannon Reddoch shared that her interest in photography was inspired by her father who was himself a photographer. She wants to know more about photographing the great outdoors and do some travel photos as well as to get to know the area and the great photo spots.

Agenda:

Treasurer's Report

Barb Mowry to give an orientation to the new website emphasis on how to upload photos for the contest and to the Gallery

Contest

Landscape photography presentation by NJ

If time, video on Landscape Photography

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Barb Mowry reports we are flush with \$3,065.00 with no outstanding bills.

Website and How it Works:

Barb did a lot of work to make the website very user friendly and greatly appreciated Sandy Jonkey's help in putting this together. Main points were:

- can see photos both with/without links to people's personal websites
- can submit up to 6 pictures to the Gallery
- to submit pictures first find "click here" on the web page then hit "+" and your pictures will upload
- give pictures titles
- if you are uploading for the contest do not watermark your pictures; Sandy will watermark them with the club watermark

Thank you Barb for your terrific step-by-step presentation!

Contests: we had no judge so we all got to vote

August had only two submissions both by Sandy Silva

First Place Old Building

Second Place Hotel

September

First Place Red Comet 2020 by Shannon Reddoch

Second Place Trees Against Full Moon by Kim Steed

Third Place Milky Way and Jupiter Over Lake Mamie by Tom Keller

With part of our audience being via Zoom it becomes quite difficult to go through the judging process. Realizing we truly need an October judge- Sandra Silva volunteered. Thank you Sandra!

Program: Landscape Photography by NJ

There are many tips on the website. Especially with landscape photography NJ pointed out that it's all about location, location, location. There are apps out there to show the status of various locations in real time which really helps when you want to go out and shoot fall colors for instance. Other main points are:

- Time of day is important but clouds can be used to increase richness and softness of fall colors.
- Pushing the ISO can increase or decrease light rather than using aperture or shutter speed as we're so used to doing.
- Contrast colorful foliage with a solid background.
- Use elevation i.e. getting down low can really change the perspective of a picture; or shoot upward or through things like leaves.
- Utilize props.
- Make fall the secondary subject.
- Use patterns and texture.

Shannon offered to lead a Fall Foliage field trip. Stay tuned for final details

Next month's Theme: Landscape (Can be taken within the last six months. Hopefully some of the images will include fall foliage.)

Business:

- The membership present at the meeting voted to provide the Carson Valley United Methodist Church with our full annual donation amount, \$375.
- Cookie Monster next month: Temporarily Retired
- Kim Steed suggested we move our Contest Winners Display from the Library to the new-ish Prism gallery in Minden. She would have to get final approval from owner Mike Miller but thinks it would be no problem. Everyone was in favor of the change.

The meeting was then adjourned.

As a reminder, the following are the contest categories for the remainder of the year:

October: Landscape

Nov: Birds

Dec: Your best photo of 2020

Our website details rules for submission of photos.

PHOTO CONTEST FOR OCTOBER

“LANDSCAPE”

Check out our website for landscaping tips,

www.Carsonvalleyphotoclub.org

Photo Deadline: Midnight Tuesday, October 6, 2020

BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY

Thanks to N.J., Steve, Merry, Michael, Nancy and Kim for the suggestions on Bird Photography! There are some different ideas, but I think everyone agrees...

PRACTICE A LOT!

EQUIPMENT SUGGESTIONS

It is very helpful to have a camera capable of shooting at least 7 frames per second, that gives you the best chance of at least one sharp capture. IBIS and ILS are a plus if your equipment has it.

You will need a lens of 300 mm or greater to capture birds that are not close by.

If you are using a tripod, use a Gimbal head.

Use the fastest scan disk card.

You can get a pop-up blind (only about \$50) that fit two tripods and two chairs. It works pretty good if you have a lot of patience. Bring drinks & snacks while you wait.

Have a fully charged battery in camera and a backup in bag.

EXPOSURE SETTINGS

Shooting in shutter speed priority mode is helpful for fast moving subjects (this may be called something else depending on your camera).

A shutter speed of 1000th of a second or faster depending on available light and lens. This will help freeze the wing motion.

Generally, settings are AV, F5.6, iso 400, spot metering and shoot in continues mode.

Use the lowest ISO - 100 if possible for bird portraits, this will vary depending on available light and your lens.

Don't be afraid of high ISO if you need it (like 6400 in a barn).

Birds in flight or hummingbirds, a very high shutter...usually 1/2500, give or take a couple hundred; f stop is at f5/6; ISO is adjusted accordingly.

Shooting quail, settings at 1/800, f5.6 and ISO 200.

Try to leave the house with your most likely settings for the conditions already chosen; have alternate settings for secondary conditions in your presets (user defined buttons).

Always shoot in RAW format.

CONSIDERATIONS FROM THE EXPERTS!

Study your subject and learn their habits and habitats.

Focus on their eyes, shoot rapid and hope you get something to print.

Get out as often as you can. Increasing your opportunities is probably the most important factor in getting a printable shot.

Be positive and take your time. Bird photography is kinda like fishing. Be happy you got to go out even if you got skunked.

Be familiar or research the locations you choose and be a repeat visitor if possible.

Don't have too much of a pre-conceived vision of your capture, just general. Let the subject make the shot. Just get it in the frame.

Go out as much as you can...I never leave home without my camera and I am always scanning to see where I can find birds that are willing to cooperate with me...I will sometimes sit for an hour to try and capture certain birds. The more you do it the more you will find that birds will have patterns.

Check the viewing modes in your viewfinder and try a few sample shots. Get a good general idea of what you are seeing, lighting-wise ending up in the image. Review the first few images in the field to make sure you are in the right general area for the conditions.

Underexpose a little, rather than overexpose. It is harder/impossible to fix an overexposed shot in post. You can use a little help in Lightroom or Photoshop for exposure correction and sharpening.