the Galleon

Affiliated since 1938

The Santa Maria Camera Club Newsletter November 2026

President's Message

Greetings!
We have an exciting program meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. at Merrill Gardens. Photographer, artist and educator Kam Jacoby will share his diverse photographic work. We'll also be voting for the SMCC Board of Directors.
Field trips are planned for Nov. 9 to the Pismo Beach Sand Art Festival and on Nov. 14 to see Monarch Butterflies and the Pismo Trailer fest Rally.
Our competition this month is on Wednesday, Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Entries are due by Sunday, Nov. 15. Look for an email from the club.
Be sure to put our Holiday Party on your calendar. It is Wednesday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. at Merrill Gardens (instead of a program meeting). We'll be doing a potluck and gift exchange like last year.
So much fun stuff is happening! Hope you can join us!

Yours in the light,

Jeanne Sparks





Slate of Candidates for
Santa Maria Camera Club 2027 Board of Directors

At the **November 4 In-Person Meeting** at Merrill Gardens, we will hold the election for our 2027 board members. The slate of candidates is as follows:

President: Jeanne Sparks

Vice President: Heidi Gruetzemacher

Secretary: Rosie Brancacio

Treasurer: Alan Upshaw

At-Large Board Members: Flavio Parigi; Jim McKinniss; Harold Litwiler; Penni Powell; Frank Tromp

Currently there is one At-Large position available that can either be filled by election or by appointment.

The SMCC 2027 Nominating Committee



A story of real life from Jim McKinniss



Story behind photo:

This was made with a telephoto. The woman on the right in yellow top and lavender pants asked if I made photos of her. I said yes. She got very aggressive and prevented me from leaving without physical force, demanding that I delete the photos of her. I explained that I had a Constitutional right to take photos, and she had no legal recourse to stop me.
I could have called the police and have her arrested for false imprisonment. After a standoff, I made my point and I deleted the photos. I drove away laughing, knowing that I had the photos on a backup card.
Moral: Use your judgment about potential confrontation. Always have a backup card in the camera. Remember that you have the police option and that I'm not a lawyer.

Message from Adi Ringer

Here is my post. Thank you.



I just got back from a quick six-day exploratory trip to Costa Rica, where I checked in with some of the lodges and visited several new places and experiences as I continue developing future Costa Rica tours. It was a fast trip, but amazing as always.

Two new spots opened for April 22-30, 2027, so if you are interested in going, contact me or check out the website for details: **https://adiringer.com/**

90 Days to go before heading out on the Tanzania Safari! There is still one room available for a couple, or a single occupancy. Don't miss this bucket list trip. Details also on the website or contact me.

Adi Ringer,
Email: adi@adiringer.com
Mobile: 805-610-5527

OCTOBER COMPETITION RESULT

Judge: Christopher Broughton

Digital Monochrome

1ST PLACE	Three unremarkable objects and a cinderblock wall	Ed E Powell
2ND PLACE	Belair fine art	Jim McKinniss
3RD PLACE	Couple walking dog	Jim McKinniss

Digital color

1ST PLACE	Up – tern	Frank Tromp
2ND PLACE	Shifting sands	Jeanine Bognuda
3RD PLACE	Flamingo	Jeanne Sparks
HONORABLE MENTION	Death Valley from west side road	Penni Powell

Congratulation to everyone



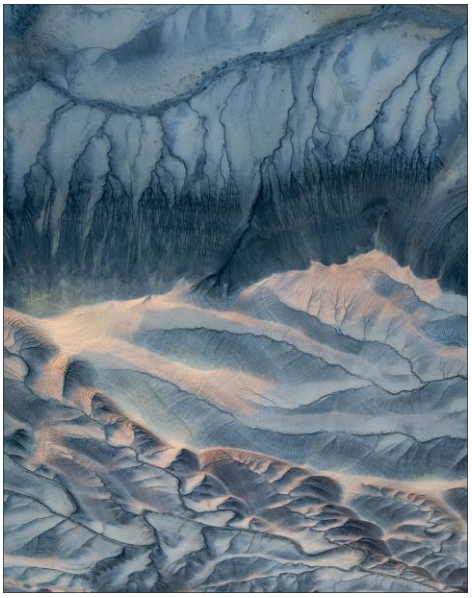
Ed E Powell



Frank Tromp



Jim McKinniss



Jeanine Bognuda



Jim McKinniss



Jeanne Sparks



Penni Powell

SMCC Field Trips for November 2026 by Penni Powell

Please note: Bad weather can cancel outdoor activities. Contact the leader if you are in doubt. Check your email for any updates.

Nov 9th (Mon 3–5pm/sunset) - Pismo Beach Sand Art Festival

Meet 3pm at the Pismo Pier (100 Pomeroy Ave) to enjoy the third day of the Pismo Beach Sand Art Festival with large-scale, ocean-inspired sand art installations. Artwork will be created on the shoreline and naturally washed away with the evening tide, emphasizing the event's harmony with nature. The tideline gallery begins just South of the pier and runs up the beach to the cliffs beneath the Seacrest Hotel.

Questions? Contact me penpowell2020@gmail.com or cell phone.
Why go? Ephemeral art, such as sand art, is similar to photography: It teaches us that not everything we value has to be material. Sometimes it's the process itself that is fulfilling enough to make us focus.





Nov 14th (Sat 9am-noon) – Monarch Butterflies and Pismo Trailerfest Rally

Meet 9am at the Pismo Beach Monarch Butterfly Grove parking (445 S Dolliver/Hwy 1) and start the morning visiting the monarchs there.

Next, we walk to the Pismo Coast Village RV Resort (165 S Dolliver/Hwy 1) where the Trailer fest is being held. Open House hours are 10a-2p and we can tour 100+ vintage trailers and meet with their owners. Questions? Contact me penpowell2020@gmail.com or cell phone. Why go? It's like a classic car show, only there's a kitchen and bedroom inside.

And beyond…

Dec 20th (Sunday) – Oso Flaco Lake Migrating birds will be back.

Jan 2027 – LA museum trip, down and back on a Sunday

Got an idea for a field trip? Email Penni at penpowell2020@gmail.com

Kam Jacoby

The Santa Maria Camera Club- Presents Kam Jacoby

Kam will share his diverse photographic work and offer insight into his creative vision and artistic journey. Join us for an inspiring look at his images and an opportunity to connect with a photographic artist.



"Teo" Kam Jacoby

Kam Jacoby is a photographer, artist, and educator, based in Los Alamos, California. He holds an MFA in Photography from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, along with degrees in Communication Design and Fine Art.

Kam taught photography at Allan Hancock College for many years and has exhibited his work throughout California and beyond. He explores a wide range of subjects including composite imagery exploring the history and character of the Lompoc Valley, featured in his 2009 book, Layers: Composite Photographs from the Lompoc Valley.

His work has been presented in numerous solo and group exhibitions, including a 2025 retrospective at Allan Hancock College's Anne Foxworthy Gallery and So Far: Selected Works by Kam Jacoby at the Elverhøj Museum of History and Art in Solvang.

Santa Maria Camera Club

RSVP to SantaMariaCameraClub@gmail.com for gate entry instructions.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLUB

Meetings	In November there will be a program meeting (November 4) and the competition meeting (November 18)
Location	Our first meeting of every month will be held at Merrill Garden Retirements Center at 1350 N. Suey Road, Santa Maria. The second meeting will be via Webex. If you want to participate, p*lease send an email to* santamariacameraclub@gmail.com
Saturday Breakfast	The meeting will be on November 14 at 1275 Betteravia Rd, Santa Maria. It starts at 8:00 and ends at 10:00.
Membership dues	$ 35 per person; $ 50 Family; $ 30 to participate in the competition meeting. All the due are per year
2025 Club officers	President: Jeanne Sparks Vice President: Heidy Gruetzemacher Secretary: Frank Tromp Treasurer: Alan Upshaw
At-large Board Members	Nyla James, Harold Litwiler, Jim McKinniss, Flavio Parigi, Penni Powell, Diane Thomsen
2025 Competition Rules	Each member may submit a maximum of 3 total image submissions in any category per competition.
Categories will be:	Digital Color, Digital Monochrome
Immediate Past president	Cheryl Decker
2025 Special Subjects	March – Landscape. June – Macro Photography. September – Still Life
Submit your images for digital competition to:	All the digital images can only be submitted by email at this email address santamariacameraclub@gmail.com All the digital images **MUST** be received no later than Sunday prior to the Wednesday competition. Images not received on time will not be entered in the competition
Galleon Director	Flavio Parigi fparigi@aol.com

Committee chairs & Club Volunteers

Webmaster	Greg Doudna
Digital Competition Projectionist	Frank Tromp & Jim McKinniss
Program Projectionist	Ron Calvert & Frank Tromp
SMCC Directory & Calendar	Rosie Brancacio
Historian	Nyla James
Judge Recruitment	Harold Litwiler
Saturday Chat	Jim McKinniss
Point Tabulator	Richard Russ & Flavio Parigi
Print Coordinators	Flavio Parigi & Jim Snodgrass
Slide Coordinator	Elaine Calvert
Image scoring	Elaine Calvert, Penni Powell
Program Recruitment	Heidi Gruetzemacher
Refreshment	Everyone
PSA Representative	Nyla Janes
Library Coordinator	Ed E Powell
Meeting room setup	Everyone
Membership recruitment	Richard Russ
Field trips	Penni Powell, Bob Mihelic, Rosie Brancacio, Alan Upshaw, Greg Doudna
Name Tags	Nyla James

“Photography helps people to see."

Berenice Abbot