

Dear Members and Friends of the China Lake Photographic Society.

Welcome to the Cable Release for December.

Please join us on Thursday, December 3rd at 7:00 pm at the Maturango Museum. It's Free, and bring a guest.

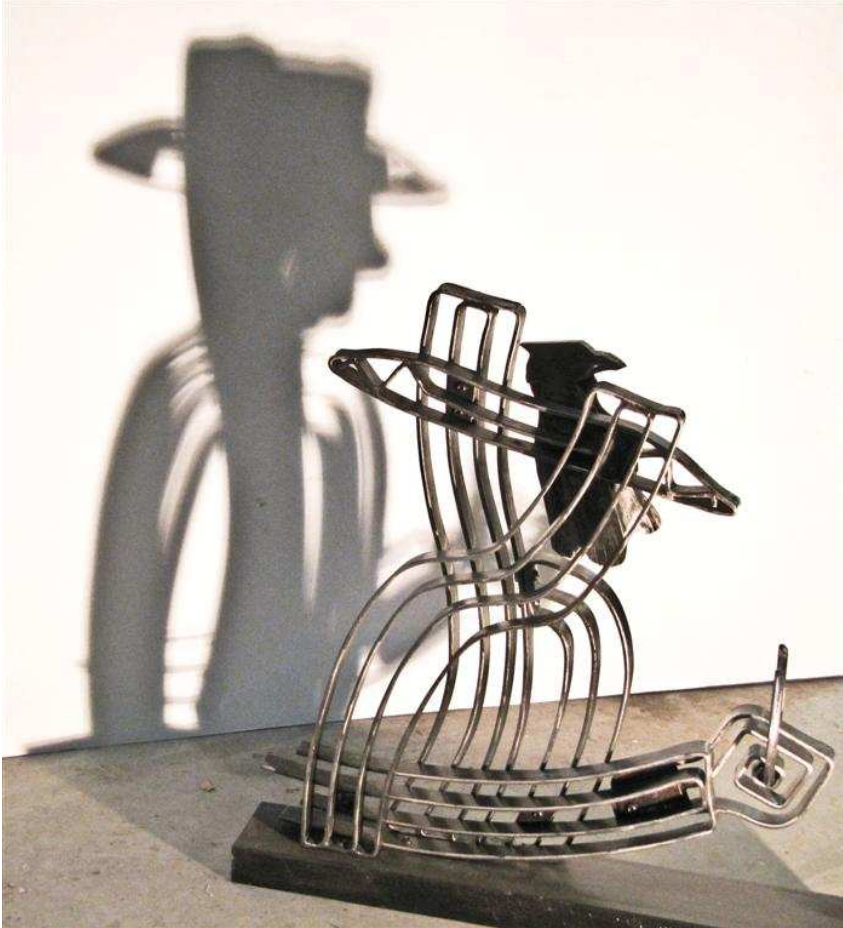
Mike Mumford will discuss his work as an artist-blacksmith. His shadow sculpture "Cowboy Bob" will be the emphasis of his presentation. As a shadow sculpture, the artwork "Cowboy Bob" looks like a semi-abstract metal piece when viewed from the front. When lighted from the correct direction, with an appropriate light, the shadow of Bob emerges. "Cowboy Bob" was created as a memorial to well-known farrier Bob Nett, who died this past summer.



Mike in his Studio, Roadrunner Forge

Mike will give a brief discussion on the concept and development of Cowboy Bob, and show the sculpture, along with a discussion on his work as an artist-blacksmith.

Continue, please



Cowboy Bob Sculpture

As Vice-President of the Desert Artists' League, Mike will also address topics and programs of joint interest between the China Lake Photographic Society and the Desert Artists' League. For example, the Artists' League is planning a three day work shop on creativity presented by a well known artist from outside our local area and will invite photographers to participate.

Mike retired from a successful career in technology and now works as an artist-blacksmith. His blacksmith training started with a class from Greg Price at the John Campbell Folk School in North Carolina. Following that he studied with the legendary Frank Turley, and with other notable smiths including Mark Aspery, Gary Brown, and Darryl Nelson

Mike's artistic interest and challenge is to create works that show beauty and tell a moving story in an image or scene depicted in the hard, rigid medium of forged steel. Part of the fun challenge of this

work lies in the contrast of flow and emotion depicted in this hard medium.

His most enjoyable artworks are those which convey a feeling or message to the observer and add beauty to our world. For example, Sun Joy which he created for the Ridgecrest, California, Art in Public Places Program, symbolizes the hope, energy, and beauty of the morning sunrise, coupled to icons representing Ridgecrest desert life.

His artworks are hand-forged, using traditional blacksmith processes -- working by hand, at the fire (forge) and anvil. Each item is a unique hand-made work. He loves to create! To make something new that speaks to the observer is a very satisfying endeavor. He works alone in his studio where it feels good to be able to communicate through his artworks. His web site www.roadrunnerforge.com is in development.

Photography Related Gifts for Christmas, created by individuals using their own photos, is the second part of our December meeting. We are inviting several people to present their very interesting ideas. Examples include photo albums with text, digital photo frames, DVDs accompanied by music, and calendars, all with personal photos. Everyone is invited to come to our meeting armed with ideas about these sorts of Christmas gifts.

December Photography Assignment: This is not a contest, but merely for inspiring creativity and sharing. Everyone, members and non-members alike, is invited to submit three or more photos for each of our two December assignments: "Shadows", and "Show Off". "Shadows" photos should be shot between November 5th and December 1st. "Show Off" photos can be from anytime. Show us your best stuff! Please submit photos in jpg format, high resolution; each photo should include your name and assignment category. Email to either Don, namastes999@verizon.net or Denise, esmeralda139@verizon.net. Please submit by noon on Tuesday, December 1st so that we can enjoy your photos in a slide show at our meeting on Thursday December 3rd, 7:00 pm at the Maturango Museum

Informal Learning and Sharing Meetings. At our last meeting, there was interest in forming a small group of photographers who would like to share their experiences. Ideas range from sharing knowledge on photographic techniques and processes, to short, local field trips. We would then gather to review and critique our photos.

The meetings would likely be at individual's homes. Please send your interest to Don or Denise.

Field Trips: After a very busy time for some of us, we expect to start planning field trips next year. One idea presented at our last meeting is Manzanar. Other ideas are very welcome. Get those ideas in to us!

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Other Photographic Interests, New Links:

Renowned outdoor photographer Art Wolfe has a program, "Travels to the Edge", on public television. One can learn a lot from the program by carefully watching. For program schedules, go to http://travelstotheedge.com/series/airing_schedule.shtml and click TV Schedule. The program can be seen here on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm on KLCS DT. Locally the TV booster provides this station on Channel 58-1.

Excellent Photographers from the Mammoth Area: Helen Jackson relayed information from Ed Jeter who provided these two links:

Vern Clevenger: <http://www.vernclevenger.com/>
and
Alan Barlow: <http://alanbarlowphotography.com/>

Ed says "Check them out, they are both impressive." I, Don, agree!

Interesting Photos: Mark Gillespie and wife Chris Hynes show some interesting photos at their GHP Studio, online at www.ghpstudio.com Mark is the son of Mariel Louise McEwan who gave our February presentation

Suggestions from last meeting: We had many excellent suggestions regarding photography at our last meeting. Other suggestions we will work on later

Denny Essary recommends the following companies for digitizing slides, and perhaps prints:

Fromex Photo and Digital, Long Beach. Phone 1-562-433-4937
and
www.aandi.com.

Steve Rainey displayed a large panorama photo from an old film camera. Google "panoramic cameras", "Spinshot cameras" or "Noblex cameras" to find information on more modern cameras.

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Standby Links:

There are always interesting activities at our neighboring Lancaster Photography Association at: www.lpaphotography.org. You can find some good lessons on photography there. They often have interesting workshops. Anyone interested, let me know and we could car pool down to Lancaster.

The Photographic Society of America has interesting information and photos at their website: www.psa-photo.org/.

The National Geographic always has superb photos at: www.nationalgeographic.com/. Click Photography.

Find an interesting link or idea? Please email it to me so we can all share it.

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Please help make our Society more interesting. Please send suggestions about what activities interest you. Demonstrations on "How to"? Field Trips? Tours to out-of-town events? Critique of photos? Interesting web sites?

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Please Join us on Thursday, December 3rd at 7:00 PM at the Maturango Museum.

Contacts: Denise 371-3225, Don 375-8599, Helen 375-2773, Carroll 375-5681.

Reminder: Annual dues are due for many of us. Membership is \$18.00 per year, \$9.00 Senior (60 Yrs). You can pay at the meeting or send to China Lake Photographic Society, P.O. Box 1822, Ridgecrest, CA 93556. Please write your check payable to the China Lake Photographic Society and include your name and email address.

Don, email "scribe"