

Contra Costa Camera Club

## **The Bellows**

Dec 2022

PSA/N4C Vol. 74 No. 12



Pink Dogwood with black background and border - Joan Field

Founded in 1948

the Contra Costa Camera Club is a member of the Northern California Council of Camera Clubs-N4C and the Photographic Society of America-PSA



Iron nautilus - Henry Lam

We offer:

- Competitions to hone skills, from beginning to masters with a critique. Both projected and print images are exhibited in pictorial, Creative, creative, journalism, travel and sequence categories.
- Guest speaks to enlighten you on new aspects of photography.
- Field trips to expand your horizons.
- Mentors for fellow photographers.
- A monthly newsletter The Bellows to inform you of our competitions and upcoming events.
- An annual awards dinner for your enjoyment.
- Various member-sponsored programs that can enhance your skills.

## Useful Information

### 2023 Board Members

**President:** Eric Ahrendt

**Vice President:** Jane Postiglione

**Treasurer:** Dan Simpson

**Secretary:** Anita Rama

**Member-at-Large:** Rod Lucich

**Member-at-Large:** Vicki Anderson

**Education Chair:** Susan Wong

**Field Trip Chair:** Allan Petersdorf

**Judge Chair:** Lucy Beck

**Membership Chair:** Ally Whiteneck

**N4C Rep:** Vicki Anderson

**Bellows Editor:** Jamie Wasson

**Print Chair:** All Printers

**Print Assistants:** Debbie Bergvall and Anita Rama.

**Projection-Creative and Journalism Chair:** Tracy Lussier

**Projection-Travel and Creative Chair:** Dan Simpson

**Projection-Pictorial Chair:** Stephen Busch

**PSA Rep Pictorial:** David Morse

**PSA Rep Nature:** Pat Prettie

**PSA Rep Creative and Journalism:** TBD

**Monochrome SIG Alpha Moderator:** Eric Ahrendt

**Monochrome SIG Beta Moderator:** George Ziser

**Architecture SIG Moderator:** Janet Reinstra

**Landscape SIG Moderator:** Jim Magill

**Animal SIG Moderator:** Dan Simpson

**Salon Alpha Moderator:** Jim Magill

**Salon Beta Moderator:** Bob Johnson

**Slide Show Chair:** San Yuan

**Webmaster:** Tracy Lussier with assistance from Georges Pelpel and Eric Ahrendt

**Facebook Page Admin:** Meng Horng, Stephen Weiss, Janet Reinstra, Stephen Busch, Allan Petersdorf, David Grube



Oh..sing to me! - Peggy Fleming

### Upcoming Events

Jan 5: No Judging Exhibition of Projected Images

Jan 13, 10:30 am: Print Competition (monochrome, pictorial, nature, travel)

Jan 15: Field Trip – Hazel Atlas Mine Tour - Balck Diamond Mines

Jan 19, 7:00 pm: Projected Competition (nature, travel)

Jan 26, 7:00 pm: EdNite - Charles Needle

# FIELD TRIPS ARE BACK!!!

## Allan Petersdorf, Field Trip Chair

**Trip 1.** Our first trip of 2023 will be on Jan 15th, a Sunday, to Black Diamond Mines in Antioch. Located at the southern end of Somersville Road, from Highway 4 East. Meet in the upper parking lot no later than 1:40. You will have to walk up to the visitor center entrance and then from there to the opening of the Hazel Atlas Mine. (I am working to see if a park shuttle might be able to shuttle some of our members that might find it difficult to make the walk). Once we are in the mine, the tunnels are well lit, railings on all steps and speed is not required. The cost, which I will initially pay is \$5. You can pay me at the parking lot or Venmo me the \$5 to @allan-petersdorf. Please email Allan by December 15<sup>th</sup> if you would like to attend this field trip. [Allanpetersdorf@gmail.com](mailto:Allanpetersdorf@gmail.com).

No Lunch since this is an afternoon trip.

In addition, I am working to arrange access to the old Moller Farm, at the entrance of Black Diamond. It has an old barn (since recovered by the park), old farm and out buildings as well as old farm equipment. **This has not yet been arranged.**

If we are allowed access, the terrain is rough with no established paths and our stay will be only 30-45 minutes after the Mine Tour.

**Trip 2** Our second trip destination is Muir Woods. We will depart on Feb 11, 2023. I have arranged two parking passes, good for two cars. If I can get another driver, other than myself to drive and take 5-7 people that would be great. I can carry 5 including myself. Our entrance to the parking lot (open to the public) is from 10:00-11:00 am. Certainly, if you make your own transportation arrangements, you can arrive as you set fit. (There is NO shuttle running in Feb.) Holders of the National Park Pass are admitted free. Passengers in their cars are also admitted under the one pass. This is an unguided tour. Most of the park is flat with very gradual up and downs. One trail begins a gradual uphill climb on the south side of the park and eventually meets the flat trail near the end of the established path areas. We can meet for lunch at the gift shop area at 1:30-2:00pm. Lunch can be eaten at the park gift shop/ Restaurant Deli. There are tables inside as well as outside (weather permitting). Because this is finishing in the late afternoon and lighting will disappear around 4pm, any additional trips for the day are on your own.



## FIELD TRIPS (cont)

**Trip 3-** March, 12, 2023. Wilder Ranch State Park. Finalized. 1:00 PM starting time. Meet in the parking lot.

This is a fairly new state park, located on Highway 1, just North of Santa Cruz. From the Bay Area, it is easier to travel to Half Moon Bay and travel South to the park. Signage is brief and difficult to see so once you approach Santa Cruz, keep an eye on the coast side of the highway. **This is public and no reservations are required.** A guided tour is available but you will have to sign up on-line. Admission to the park is \$10 a car, not person. If you have a State Parks Pass, it is free in March.

Again, lighting will play an issue in how long you stay in the park. Lunch can be arranged before our tour in Davenport, at one of two restaurants. Davenport Roadhouse or Whale City Bakery. ( I prefer the bakery) If you want to meet in Davenport, be there no later than 10:45 am. It takes a bit of waiting to be served ( and to find parking) but the drive done to the park is 15-20 minutes from there. The park has access to second growth redwoods, a bit of a walk under Hwy 1 and up to the hills or a walk to the coastal area for views looking both North and South. There are a variety of old farm buildings, currently accessible for photographs as well as local fauna and flora.

Additional possible photo spots after Wilder Ranch, Shark Fin Cove (by Davenport) or Pigeon Point Lighthouse, ( North of Davenport.) This past would make a great sunset photo!

### **UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS: SAVE THE DATES!** Details to

Follow

**Trip 4** is to Oracle Park, also known as San Francisco Giants Stadium. (April Date not available as of yet) We have not finalized this trip as of yet. This would be a tour of the ballpark facilities and field areas.

**Trip 5-** (May date not available) Elkhorn Slough, in Moss Landing. Also not finalized.

**Trip 6** has been arranged already. June 4, 2023. 10am. The Eugene O'Neil house, is a National Park Monument in Danville.

# Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and Salons Within CCCC

A Special Interest Group, or SIG, is a group of club members who share an interest in some aspect of photography. Examples of a special interest are Monochrome, Portraits, Street Photography, Macro, or Landscape. A SIG typically includes about 10-12 members, who voluntarily join the group. A Salon is essentially a SIG without a specific category.

There is no judging and no competition at SIG or Salon meetings. The focus is on viewing, appreciating, and critiquing images, with the goal being to help members learn more about their special interest and produce better images.

As opposed to camera club meetings, where a single judge critiques images, this is a format where everyone participates. SIG and Salon members attend to share images and knowledge, to agree, to disagree, to learn, and to simply enjoy being part of a friendly group of photographers who share an interest in a specific type of photography.

CCCC currently offers two Monochrome SIGs, an Architecture SIG, and a Landscape SIG and two Salons. If you are interested in joining a SIG or Salon, please contact the moderator. If you are interested in starting a new SIG or Salon, please contact our Club's president, Eric Ahrendt.

We currently have the following SIGs and Salons:

## **Monochrome SIG Alpha**

Moderator-Eric Ahrendt [eric@grayscaleimages.com](mailto:eric@grayscaleimages.com)  
Meets 2nd Wed of the month-7-9PM  
Current Status: Full

## **Monochrome SIG Beta**

Moderator-George Ziser [georgeziser@gmail.com](mailto:georgeziser@gmail.com)  
Meets 1st Tues of the month-7-9PM  
Current Status: 1 Opening

## **Architecture SIG**

Moderator-Dan Simpson [dsimpson57g@gmail.com](mailto:dsimpson57g@gmail.com)  
Meets 3rd Monday of the month-7-9PM  
Current Status: 2 Openings

## **Landscape SIG**

Moderator- Jim Magill [j-magill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j-magill@sbcglobal.net)  
Meets last Monday of the month-7-9PM  
Current Status: Full

## **Salon Alpha**

Moderator-Jim Magill [j-magill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j-magill@sbcglobal.net)  
Meets 1st Wed of the month-7-9PM  
Current Status: Full

## **Salon Beta**

Moderator-Bob Johnson [rnjphotography@comcast.net](mailto:rnjphotography@comcast.net)  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues of the month-7-9pm  
Current Status: Full

# Spotlight

Denise Vouri

Where did my photography journey begin? Strangely enough, I have my grandfather and National Geographic to thank. My grandfather loved the magazine for its content, but more so for the photographs. He was an armchair traveler and sadly never visited any of the places he was so excited to read about in the magazine month after month. He would say to me, “Granddaughter, I hope you will travel and tell me what you’ve seen and document with pictures”.

Fast forward several years and I bought my first real “grown-up” camera at Adolf Gasser – a Nikkormat FTN in 1972 followed by the Nikkormat FT2 in 1975. I loved the metal body, the grip that fit my hand perfectly and its 100% manual operating system. By then my grandparents had moved to Washington state, and as often as I could, I would visit, my best memories being heading out with my grandfather in the morning to see what we could find to photograph, whether it be dilapidated barns, cornfields, each other, him with his Pentax and me with my Nikkormat. In those days I shot a lot of b/w and developed and printed my images.

I was able to begin fulfilling my travel dreams when I moved from SF to Belgium in the mid 70’s. I switched from film to slides at that time due mainly to the cost of film development. During those two years of living abroad, the travel bug had taken hold and I haven’t stopped since, desiring to see new cities, countries whilst meeting the local residents and learning about their lives and culture. After retiring from the corporate world, I spent three years teaching English in Asia and Iraq – many photos, many memories!

However, I have two favorite places in the world to shoot: one is a city and the other, nature/wildness. It may sound strange but it’s a balance for me. They each remind me to breathe, take a moment to be still, and then something in me settles, reminding me that at times I forget, catch myself charging forward and that I need to stop, to be present and walk slowly into life. Paris fascinates me, Africa excites and soothes me. My first trip to Paris was in 1975, my first safari to Africa was in 1986, but for both, I never really leave, they’re always with me. You will have seen images entered by me that stray from my favorites, because I find joy in photographing what attracts me wherever I am. This is part of what excites me about creating an image that is personal to me. I use Lightroom which is enough to tweak my images, but perhaps I will learn enough Photoshop to venture into the more creative/graphic side of photography.

I have been fortunate to travel and live outside of the US and each adventure has reinforced something I read: “Travel, because travel teaches to say good morning to everyone regardless of which sun we come from.....Travel, otherwise you end up believing you are made for a panorama, but instead inside you, there are wonderful landscapes still to visit”. Gio

# Spotlight

Denise Vouri



One of the iconic landmarks of Paris, the Louvre is especially alluring at night

Paris is truly the City of Lights as evidenced by my photo of the Pyramid/Louvre taken near midnight during the summer. I know Paris as well as SF and so was comfortable to walk there before sunset so I could get some interesting shots, but as the evening moved on, and the crowds disappeared, I began to move around the Pyramid to see what kind of images I could capture. This was my favorite



Steps in Montmartre

One early Sunday morning I took the bus near my apartment in the 7<sup>th</sup> to Montmartre so that I could explore this “artistic” section of Paris. After walking throughout the area, shooting the Moulin Rouge, Sacre Coeur, I found these steps leading down to another part of the neighborhood. All that was missing was the man wearing a bowler with his cane!



# Spotlight

Denise Vouri



Cafes are the heartbeat of Paris such as this one on the Ile St. Louis, where friends can meet, or you can enjoy a cafe while checking messages

Paris is a walking city and from my rented apartment, I covered at least 2 to 3 arrondissements a day. This café is just over the bridge to Ile Ste. Louis from Notre Dame. I took it mid-morning because the light was good and there were some interesting customers.



Vintage Vietnamese woman

Wherever I travel, I love to walk and explore the city, village.... In this case, I was aimlessly wandering and saw this woman carrying a load of kindling on her shoulder. I quickly walked ahead of her and shot a few photos, this being my favorite



# Spotlight

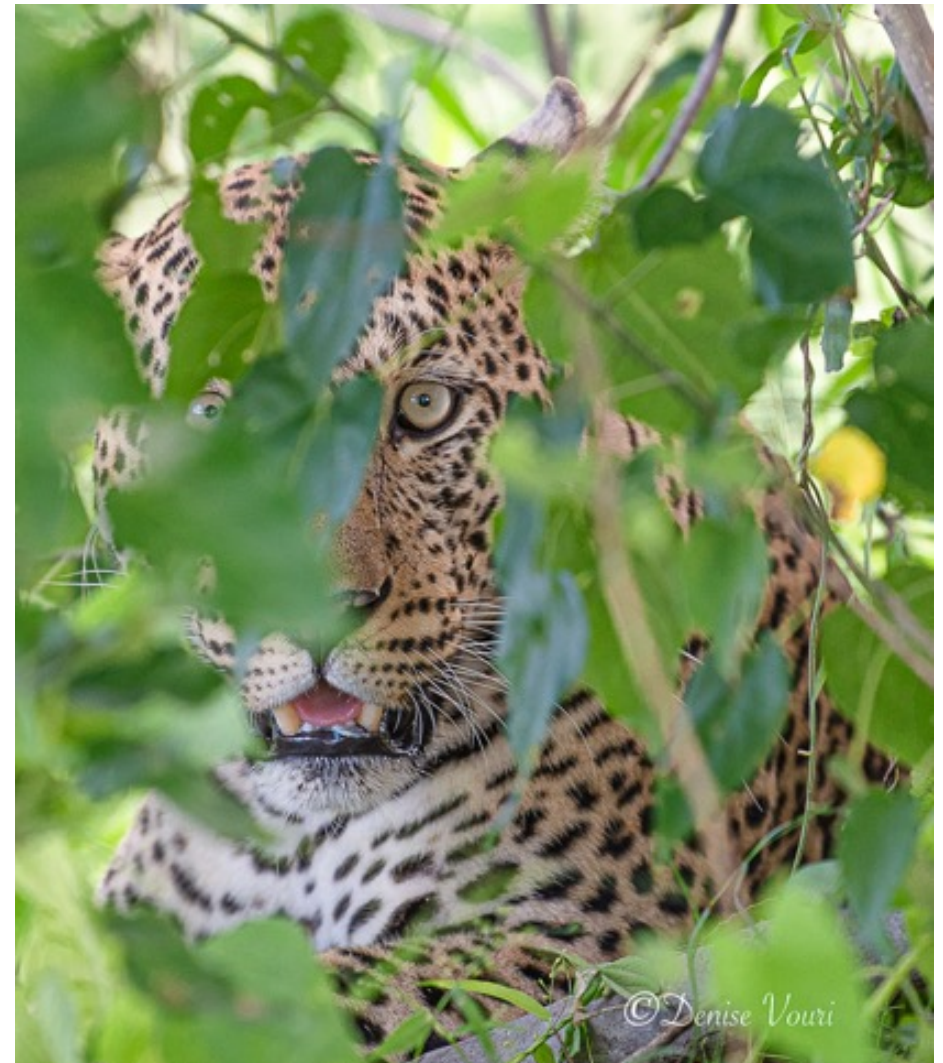
Denise Vouri

Leopards are my spirit animal and during one of my trips to Botswana, I spent two hours in the jeep, waiting for this leopard in a tree, to move enough so that I could capture a photo or two. She never showed herself fully, but I had fun watching and capturing her eye, and once her eyes.



Attention please.

I love tulips and invested \$\$ for bulbs to plant in the front and backyard. The squirrels seemed to enjoy most of the bulbs, but this tulip did grow and produced a beautiful blossom. As it began to fade, I captured this image of the stamen which I thought was interesting.



Elusive, but ever watchful



# Spotlight

Denise Vouri



hippos

The Moremi Game Reserve in the Okavango Delta has a few large pans with pods of Hippos. This particular morning we watched as two male juveniles were “play fighting”, honing their skills for the time when they could challenge the leader of the pod and gaining mating rights.

Meerkats are not easily found in Africa, so I traveled to the Northern Kalahari in South Africa, to a private game reserve that is home to two families of Meerkats. This family I photographed early one morning is part of the McCulloch clan, at the time about 17 members. I love this family photo because it is so imperfect – the one little one not behaving with mom looking at him with the evil eye.

Meerkat family portrait





# Spotlight

Denise Vouri

I love Elephants – everything about them and especially the little calves. Their family bond is admirable, their strength undeniable, their family dynamics unbelievable. I was fortunate to witness this mom and baby, probably just a week or so after its birth. After birth, the calves stay very close to their moms as they are not very stable on their feet until 3-4 days after birth. Mom provides a wall to support the little one.



Othawa male 2021

One of the most stunning males in the Sabi Sand Reserve was the Othawa male. Just about 5.5 years of age, he primarily spent his time in the Singita property, the leader of the Mhagene pride. Male lions however are never just content with just one pride, or being in charge of one property and so he kept crossing over into the Londolozi property where the Birmingham males ruled. His youth and cockiness led to his demise, just two weeks after I captured this image. Such a loss.....



Sheltering under mom

# Print Competition Results December 2022

Judge: Dan Katzman

## Monochrome Printed Images

### Dec 1, 2022 Results

Judge: Dan Katzman

#### ADVANCED

(5 entries)

1	Future Belt?	Debbie Bergvall
2	Angles And Curves – Originally Designed In 1965 As A Gas Station By Post-Modern Era Architect Albert Frey, This Building Is Now The Palm Springs Visitor Center.	Dan Simpson
3	Always On Alert.	Debbie Bergvall

#### MASTERS

(8 entries)

1	Elder Chinese Man Carrying On An Ancient Tradition Of His Ancestors Playing An Authentic Sanxian	Henry Lam
2	Iron Nautilus	Henry Lam
3	Three Buddas	Jane Postiglione
HM	Mystical Faces	Anita Rama

## Monochrome Printed, YTD

(as of Dec 1, 2022)

#### INTERMEDIATE

Deb Anderson	1.0
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#### ADVANCED

Debbie Bergvall	99.0
Dan Simpson	81.5
Bob Rogers	2.0
George Ziser	1.5
Allan Petersdorf	1.0

#### MASTERS

Henry Lam	55.0
John Templeton	42.0
Eric Ahrendt	37.0
Jane Postiglione	20.0
Anita Rama	17.5
Joan Field	17.0
Stephen Busch	7.0

## Pictorial Printed Images

### Dec 1, 2022 Results

Judge: Dan Katzman

#### MASTERS

(4 entries)

1	Sunset In Death Valley	John Templeton
2	Pink Dogwood With Black Bg And Border	Joan Field
3	The Golden Tower	Jane Postiglione

## Pictorial Printed, YTD

(as of Dec 1, 2022)

#### ADVANCED

Dan Simpson	22.0
Bob Rogers	2.0

#### MASTERS

John Templeton	61.0
Lucy Beck	40.5
Anita Rama	28.0
Jane Postiglione	26.5
Eric Ahrendt	16.0
Joan Field	11.5
George Ziser	2.0



**Image of the Month:** Future Belt - Debbie Bergvall



## Monochrome Printed Images



Elder Chinese man carrying on an ancient tradition of his ancestors playing an authentic sanxian – Henry Lam



**Image of the Month:** Sunset in Death Valley - John Templeton

# Projected Competition Results

## Pictorial Projected Images – Dec 1, 2022 Results

Judge: Dan Katzman

### BASIC

(3 entries)

- 1 Early Morning At Convict Lake
- 2 Cycle Symmetry
- 3 Frisbee

Sandy Eger  
Rod Lucich  
Leon Nicosia

### INTERMEDIATE

(17 entries)

- 1 Emergence
- 2 Oh..Sing To Me!
- 3 Flowing Through Color
- 4 Bishop Creek Aspens
- 5 Anna's Hummingbird Feeding On Pride Of Madiera Flowers
- HM Broken Doorway
- HM Sometimes We Just Need To Look Up!Jpg-2
- HM Wild, Windy Day At Point Arena Lighthouse North Of Gualala Ca

Vadim Mikulinsky  
Peggy Fleming  
Vadim Mikulinsky  
Stephen Busch  
Pat Page  
Linda Horng  
Denise Vouri  
Pat Page

### ADVANCED

(13 entries)

- 1 Happiness
- 2 White Faced Ibis Strutting Along
- 3 Blackbirds In The Wetlands. Colusa, Ca
- 4 A Couple Enjoying Dinner And Wine At A Sidewalk Cafe In The Montmartre District Of Paris
- 5 That Look
- HM Trombone Player
- HM Yellow Flower With Bud

David Morse  
Sharon Anderson  
Vicki Anderson  
Rodney Sweet  
  
Stefan Schafer  
Eric Ahrendt  
Sherry Grivett

### MASTERS

(19 entries)

- 1 Alone
- 2 Yuki Bonding With Duke
- 3 Dolomites At Dusk
- 4 Icicles On Salty Mono Lake
- 5 Opposites
- HM Abandon Storage Hut
- HM They Really Do Good Work

San Yuan  
Roger Johnson  
San Yuan  
Bill Chambard  
Stephen Weiss  
Meng Horng  
Roger Johnson

# Pictorial Projected, YTD

(as of Dec 1, 2022)

### BASIC

Rod Lucich	52.0
Sandy Eger	50.0
Mary Scheele	18.0
Leon Nicosia	10.0
Marge Levy	5.0

### INTERMEDIATE

Vadim Mikulinsky	82.0
Peggy Fleming	62.0
Maria Ley	48.5
Denise Vouri	44.5
Linda Horng	28.5
Susan Wong	25.5
Susan Andrews	21.0
Allan Petersdorf	21.0
Stephen Busch	15.0
Pat Page	7.0
Judy Proller	7.0
George Field	7.0
Deb Anderson	6.0
Ally Whiteneck	4.0
Neil Bellenie	2.0
Jean Yim	2.0
George Ziser	1.0

### ADVANCED

Sharon Anderson	86.5
David Morse	72.0
Vicki Anderson	46.5
Stefan Schafer	44.0
Sherry Grivett	35.0
J.R. Hsu	29.5
Rodney Sweet	25.5
Bob Rogers	24.5
Dan Simpson	8.0
Eric Ahrendt	4.0
Lucy Beck	1.0
Tracy Lussier	1.0

### MASTERS

San Yuan	76.5
Pat Prettie	48.5
Bill Chambard	39.5
Roger Johnson	39.0
Joan Field	38.5
Stephen Weiss	34.0
Bob Johnson	32.5
Meng Horng	29.5
Helen Sweet	26.5
Jamie Wasson	23.5
Jane Postiglione	23.0
Udo Klein	22.5
Anita Rama	18.5
Frank Menkel	17.0



## Pictorial Projected Images



Early morning at Convict Lake - Sandy Eger



Happiness - David Morse



**Image of the Month:** Emergence - Vadim Mikulinsky





Alone - San Yuan

**Season's  
Greetings  
&**



**A Happy  
New Year**





Christmas in Union Square – Eric Ahrendt





**Dashing Through The Snow - Bill Chambard**

Atlas Mountains in Morocco. Pat just instructed me on how to take pics of snowflakes with a camera flash. These two runners were passing by and I waited until the right moment and got them and the snowflakes.





Happy Holidays - Suzanne Roady





Santa Clauses Coming to Town – Meng Horng





Young People Enjoy Holiday Lights - Janet Reinstra





Frosty the Snowman

Ally Whiteneck





Tennis Player's Wreath – Meng Horng



Walnut Creek House Lights – Jane Postiglione





©Helen Sweet

*Happy holidays to all from Helen & Rodney*





Reflections of the Season – Peggy Fleming





Holiday fun at Glowfari - Eileen Johnson





Ruth Bancroft's Garden of D'Lights - Janet Reinstra





Merry Christmas – Rod Lucich





Merry Christmas – Vicki Anderson





Happy Holidays, from the Yuans



Peace and Light

Peggy Fleming



*Happy  
Holidays*



Frosted leaf – Joan Field



*Merry Christmas*



*Greeting from San Francisco City Hall*

**City Hall in Holiday Lights – Susan Wong**





A different kind of Christmas Tree – Jane Postiglione



Merry Christmas – Sharon Anderson





Reindeer and Christmas Tree— Joan Field





Fall Leaves and an Early Snow, Colorado  
– Pat Prettie



Aspen and Pine Trees dusted by an  
Early Snow, Colorado – Pat Prettie







**Christmas at the Plaza, San Francisco Financial District – Denise Vouri**





**May Santa Bring You All You Wish For! Happy Holidays  
Marge (and Sadie)**