

Focal EXPRESSIONS



Newsletter of the Nevada Camera Club • A Member Club of the Photographic Society of America • August 2025
 See the Nevada Camera Club Web Site at <http://nevadacc.org/>

Barrel Race by Valerie Christiansen. Purple Ribbon in Advanced Photojournalism with 27 points



This photo was also taken at the rodeo in Logandale. This was my very first time to attend this rodeo and I would highly recommend it! I love Barrel Racing, it one of my favorites to watch, and also to photograph. This was also my first "27", which made me very happy!

I used my Canon R6 and a Canon RF 100-400mm lens. My exposure was 1/2000 sec. at F6.3 with an ISO of 32,000.☉

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

NCC Calendar

Events listed in **BOLD FACE SMALL CAPS** are open to the public. Events listed in plain face are open only to NCC members. Unless noted, all General Meetings begin at 7:00 PM in the St. Andrew Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 8901 Del Webb Blvd., Las Vegas. All Executive Board Meetings begin at 7:00 PM by Zoom.

AUGUST

- 1 ENTRY INTERFACE FOR THE 2025 ANNUAL OPEN ELECTRONIC IMAGE COMPETITION CLOSES AT 11:59 PM.**
- 5 Executive Board Meeting on Zoom, 7 PM
- 8 PROGRAM MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL OF AT. ANDREWS LUTHERAN CHURCH, 7 PM. SEE P. 3 FOR INFORMATION.**
- 18 Deadline to enter the Monthly Print Competition, 11:59 PM.
- 22 THE MONTHLY PRINT COMPETITION IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL OF AT. ANDREWS LUTHERAN CHURCH, 7 PM. Club Challenge: *Baby or Babies***
- 26** Deadline for the September issue of *Focal Expressions*.

SEPTEMBER

- 2** Executive Board Meeting on Zoom, 7 PM
- 4 2025 ANNUAL OPEN ELECTRONIC IMAGE COMPETITION EXHIBITION OPENS WITH AWARDS AT 6 PM. CHARLESTON WEST LIBRARY, 6301 W. CHARLESTON BLVD., LAS VEGAS.**
- 12 PROGRAM MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL OF ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH, FEATURING ROYCE BAIR 7 PM.**
- 22** Deadline to enter Monthly Electronic Image Competition, 11:59 PM.
- 26 MONTHLY ELECTRONIC IMAGE COMPETITION MEETING ON ZOOM, 7 PM. Club Challenge: *Includes a "Sunstar"*.**
- 30** Deadline for the October issue of *Focal Expressions*.

President's Message

by Clayton Fox, ANCC



August has arrived and there is a lot going on, but first, let's first talk about our July! Our July was fantastic. Photos were changed at Sunrise Hospital. Thanks to all who supported that. We had a great photo walk at Wetlands Park. **Jerome Hamilton** hosted a great Judge's Corner on Portraiture and a lot was learned. Our July digital competition was amazing with great photos

from our talented members. The Portrait and Glamour SIG finished their portrait course. Thanks **Frank Zak & Gary Galvin**.

What's happening in August? World Photography Day is August 19th, go to worldphotographyday.com to find out more! It is an annual event celebrating the art, craft, science, and history of photography. World Photography Week runs from August 12th to the 26th. You can share your photos on social media using #WorldPhotographyDay.

B&C Camera is hosting a few workshops: on August 2nd, there is a "Light & Shadow" workshop focusing on black and white photography. August 17th, the "Studio Setup System" workshop, sponsored by Westcott, will cover designing, equipping, and lighting a studio. August 23rd, "How to Get Out of Auto Mode" with **Dave McDuffie** will help photographers gain more creative control over their images. UNLV Lifelong Learning is offering a "Digital Photography Editing" class starting on August 4th. Enterprise Library is hosting a "Foto" Friday on August 1st from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Join them in their Flex Lab to learn about photography basics in a hands-on environment. Their program will cover concepts such as the Exposure Triangle, Camera Modes, Composition, and more! Cameras will be available for use, but feel free to bring your own if you prefer. Free and open to the public. Registration on the day of the program is required. Please call them at 702.507.3761. Finally, the annual Lincoln County Photo Festival is coming up in September with early bird pricing available now. As always, reach out to me if you can support the club in any way, we are always looking for folks to support us. Stay safe and keep shooting. ©

In This Issue

President's Message.....	2
Club Challenge Themes.....	2
Programs.....	3
Monthly Competition.....	3
Newsletter Advertising Rates.....	3
Results from July 2025 Monthly Competition.....	4
NCC July Program Meeting Featuring JP Hamilton.....	5
A Visit to Wetlands Park.....	5
July 2025 1st Place Images.....	6
Let's Get Together.....	9
Scouting Like a Pro: Milky Way Edition.....	10
Taming the Glare.....	11
Membership Information.....	Last Page
NCC Contact List.....	Last Page
Meeting Location Map.....	Last Page

Community E-Notice

Subscribe to Community E-Notice to receive announcements regarding the Las Vegas photographic community via E-mail. To start your subscription, modify your newsletter subscriptions in your member account on the Nevada Camera Club web site.

<http://nevadacc.org/>

Club Challenge Themes

<u>August - Print</u> Baby or Babies	<u>October - Print</u> Leading Lines
<u>September - Electronic</u> Includes a "sunstar"	<u>November - Electronic</u> Triptych

Acrylic Frames

20% off
Acrylic Frames

use code: MAFAUG25
offer expires: 08/31/2025



6295 S. Pioneer Way, Las Vegas, NV 89113
702.693.6822 | CashmanProPhotoLab.com

Nevada Camera Club E-Notice

Subscribe to NCC E-Notice to receive timely and important announcements from NCC officers and chairpersons via E-mail. To start your subscription, update your newsletter preferences in your account on the Nevada Camera Club web site.

<http://nevadacc.org>



B&C Camera

4511 West Sahara Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Email: sales@bandccamera.com
Phone: (702) 871-1100

Website: bandccamera.com



Programs

by Jerome Hamilton, DNCC



So far, our 2025 Programs have featured many incredible presenters. **Ed Stiglitz** reviewed Judging in January and **Alan Smith** had a ton of Sports images in March. At our February meeting, you got to share with me a discussion about regarding different subjects within the NCC Club functions. In May, I talked about visiting the U.S. National Parks but we also had **Harry Gruman** take us on a trip through India. For the month of April, CSN Instructor **Heather Protz** brought us

four Student Presentators, all different, that engaged the membership with a very intriguing evening. During the hot months of June and July Professional Photographer **Chasity Hutton** taught us how to self-promote and High School Teacher **JP Hamilton** took us on a Hawaii, Cancun, and Lake Tahoe tour of drone photography as a videographer and photographer.

This month, hotter than the last, we will stay inside for some fun photo-play. Bring your cameras and tripods for an evening with several tabletop interactive and still life displays just waiting for you to create some blue-ribbon photography. **Allan Duff** is going to help set up the selection of mini studios around the meeting space. Have you ever photographed a plasma light or oil drops on water? Allan has brought these setups before, and they are always a membership favorite. Come and practice zooming effects with a few different neon lights or shoot the "Still Life" display to try and get your next category Blue Ribbon placard.

Once again, bring a camera, tripod, and even a shutter-release if you have one and get your creative juices flowing. Come and play and have some fun. I will give a short presentation showing a few ideas and both Allan and I can assist with camera settings for some of the different layouts. See you on August 8th. ☺



Photos by Allan Duff

NEVADA CAMERA CLUB MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Nevada Camera Club shall be to promote the art and science of photography by sharing what is known and continuing to learn with support and respect for one another.

Monthly Competition

by Craig Hicks, HNCC

The July monthly electronic image competition had 96 images in 37 unique categories from 34 photographers. The judges chose 28 first place images with scores of 24 or higher, 23 of which earned Blue ribbons. Five of these 28 images received perfect scores of 27 which earned Purple ribbons. Congratulations for earning perfect scores to:



Richard Bailey *Among the Giants*

Valerie Christiansen *Barrel Race*

Doreen Lawrence *Weathered*

Ken Lawrence *Tri-Colored Heron Reflection*

Steve O'Melia *Demon Under the Milky Way*

Thanks to those who assisted with the competition.

Set-up assistance: **Stephen Cupp, Craig Hicks, Linda Hicks, and Mary Sheets**

Announcer: **Linda Hicks**

Projectionist: **Stephen Cupp**

Score Keeper: **Mary Sheets**

Second Score Keeper: **Craig Hicks**

Merits Recorder: **Juliana Stratton**

Judges: **Mike Chapman, Clayton Fox, Gary Galvin, Harry Ghuman, Jerome Hamilton, Janice Phillips, and Ed Stiglitz,**

Three members entered images in Beginner categories, four members entered images in Intermediate categories, twenty members entered in Advanced categories and eight entered in Master categories.

The Club Challenge topic of *Motion* received thirty total entries; two in Beginner, three in Intermediate, seventeen in Advanced and eight in Master.

The August monthly print competition's Club Challenge is *Baby(s)*. The September monthly electronic competition's Club Challenge is *Include a Sun Star*. ☺

Focal Expressions is published monthly by the Nevada Camera Club for its members. Focal Expressions uses a two-column format. Cost of advertising is \$10 per column inch per issue. Minimum ad size is one-half column inch (\$5). Standard business card size (2" x 3.5") is \$20; a quarter page is \$50; a half page is \$100; and a full page is \$200. Semi-annual and annual rates receive a discount.

Submit ad copy with payment to:

Nevada Camera Club

P.O. Box 19451

Las Vegas, NV 89132.

For further information contact Mary V. Sheets by phone at 702-521-9569 or by e-mail at: sheetsmva@gmail.com. Submission deadline for the September is August 26, 2025. Linda Hicks, editor: publisher@nevadacc.org

Results from the July 2025 Monthly Electronic Image Competition

Abstract

Advanced – Color

Blue	25	Janice Phillips	Color Dispersion
Red	24	Juliana Stratton	Tranquility

Animals/Pets

Beginner – Color

Red	23	Calvin Moore	Bearlaxing...
White	22	Julia Mejorada	Flamingo in the Mirror

Intermediate – Color

Blue	24	Philip Cenicola	Blaze
Red	24	Chris Markel	The Late Great Harley

Advanced – Color

Purple	27	Ken Lawrence	Tri-colored Heron Reflection
Red	26	Steven Dean	Mason Bee on Chastetree
White	23	Anita Rama	Daddy's Lap

Commercial

Advanced – Color

Red	22	Jim Ludwick	Hot Dog Coney Island
-----	----	-------------	----------------------

Master – Color

Red	21	Harry Ghuman	Best Crepes and Salad
-----	----	--------------	-----------------------

Creative

Advanced – Color

Blue	26	Anita Rama	Cool Magnolia
Red	26	Ken Lawrence	Hydrodynamics
White	25	Michael Braunstein	Aliens

Master – Color

Blue	25	Stephen Cupp	Men in Black
------	----	--------------	--------------

Documentary

Advanced – Color

Blue	24	Janice Phillips	Loading Dock
Red	25	Michael Braunstein	Getting Cleaned By a Shrimp
White	22	Michael Stratton	Entering a Lock on the Danube River
-----	22	Sandy Cornwell	Rawley Point Lighthouse

Advanced – Monochrome

Blue	24	Hugo Pech	Havana, Where Time Stands Stills
------	----	-----------	----------------------------------

Master – Color

Blue	24	Terri Hutchings	Coming Around the Mountain
------	----	-----------------	----------------------------

Nature/Wildlife

Beginner – Color

Red	23	Calvin Moore	Tranquil
-----	----	--------------	----------

Intermediate – Color

Red	23	Pam Sale	Pinkham Notch
-----	----	----------	---------------

Advanced – Color

Purple	27	Richard Bailey	Among the Giants
Red	26	Jerome Hamilton	Just a Baby
White	26	Steven Dean	Early Evening Anna's
-----	25	Narcy Alprecht	Blue Grosbeak
-----	25	Clayton Fox	Great Blue Heron

Advanced – Monochrome

Blue	25	Juliana Stratton	Wild Mushrooms
------	----	------------------	----------------

Master – Monochrome

Blue	24	Linda Hicks	Tough to Get Comfortable
------	----	-------------	--------------------------

People

Advanced – Color

Blue	26	Jerome Hamilton	The Cellist
------	----	-----------------	-------------

Photojournalism

Beginner – Monochrome

Red	23	Jeff Hahn	Cake
White	22	Jeff Hahn	Fat Sal's

Intermediate – Color

Red	21	Chris Markel	Humankind
-----	----	--------------	-----------

Advanced – Color

Purple	27	Valerie Christiansen	Barrel Race
Red	25	John Geldermann	Jayden Whitmarsh Digs
White	23	Richard Bailey	Visitors at Dubai Aquarium

Master – Color

Blue	24	Craig Hicks	UNLV Touchdown
------	----	-------------	----------------

Pictorial

Intermediate – Color

Red	22	Serena Scalzi	Silver Strand Surf
-----	----	---------------	--------------------

Advanced – Color

Blue	25	Jim Ludwick	Panorama Bare Mountains, Nevada
Red	24	Hugo Pech	The Door
White	23	Michael Stratton	Palouse Barn
-----	22	Sandy Cornwell	Sedona Arizona
-----	22	Dale Kavula	Zabrinski Pt. Death Valley

Master – Color

Purple	27	Doreen Lawrence	Weathered
Red	26	Harry Ghuman	Whispers of the Galaxy
White	25	Terri Hutchings	Serene Morning
-----	25	Linda Hicks	Reine Harbor
-----	24	Michael Chapman	Bow River, Banff, Canada
-----	24	Clayton Fox	Barn Find
-----	24	Craig Hicks	Bristlecone

Portraiture

Advanced – Color

Blue	24	John Geldermann	Fallen Angel in the Doorway
Red	24	Dale Kavula	Sabrina
White	23	Steve O'Melia	Out of This World

Master – Color

Blue	25	Stephen Cupp	Lauren at the Dry Lake
------	----	--------------	------------------------

Still Life

Beginner – Color

Blue	24	Julia Mejorada	Dolphin
------	----	----------------	---------

Intermediate – Color

Blue	24	Philip Cenicola	Waiting for the Sun
------	----	-----------------	---------------------

Advanced – Color

Blue	24	Jim Ryan	Carousel Horses - Avignon France
------	----	----------	----------------------------------

Continued on page 5

Results from the July 2025 Monthly Electronic Image Competition

Continued from page 5

Red	24	Valerie Christiansen	Pink Beauty
White	23	Paul Bessette	Left Behind
<u>Advanced – Monochrome</u>			
Blue	26	Jim Ryan	Staircase - Luma Arles, France
Red	26	Paul Bessette	A Collection

Unclassified

Intermediate – Color

Red	23	Serena Scalzi	Fremont East District
-----	----	---------------	-----------------------

Advanced – Color

Purple	27	Steve O'Melia	Demon Under the Milky Way
--------	----	---------------	---------------------------

Master – Color

Blue	26	Doreen Lawrence	Mount St. Helens
Red	24	Michael Chapman	Dawn at Lake Louise

Club Challenge

Beginner

Blue	24	Julia Mejorada	Summer Water
Red	22	Calvin Moore	Taking You for a Ride...

Intermediate

Blue	25	Chris Markel	The Skagit River
Red	23	Serena Scalzi	Jumping for Joy
White	23	Philip Cenicola	Installing the Jacket

Advanced

Blue	26	Jim Ludwick	Bike Lane New York City
Red	26	Narcy Alprecht	Shake It Off!
White	25	John Geldermann	Willow Springs Motorcycle
----	25	Paul Bessette	Moving Fast
----	25	Jerome Hamilton	Drive Thru
----	25	Ken Lawrence	Broad-billed Hummer
----	25	Janice Phillips	Morning Flight
----	24	Valerie Christiansen	Alex
----	24	Steve O'Melia	Yield
----	24	Hugo Pech	Grease the Landing
----	23	Anita Rama	Crill Bonanza
----	22	Richard Bailey	Down the Stretch
----	22	Sandy Cornwell	Moving Water
----	22	Steven Dean	The Finish Line
----	22	Dale Kavula	Wind in My Sails
----	22	Juliana Stratton	Old Faithful In Action
----	22	Michael Stratton	Motion Blur

Master

Blue	26	Clayton Fox	Future Transport
Red	25	Harry Ghuman	Embers in Motion
White	25	Michael Braunstein	Move or Freeze
----	24	Doreen Lawrence	Braving the Rapids
----	23	Terri Hutchings	Boat Trails
----	22	Craig Hicks	Yes, It's a Helicopter Flying Upside Down
----	22	Linda Hicks	Go with the Flow
----	21	Michael Chapman	Wave Boarder ☺

Nevada Camera Club July Program Meeting Featuring JP Hamilton



A Visit to Wetlands Park

by Clayton Fox, ANCC

Last month we had a field trip to Wetlands Park to capture photos. This turned out to be not as easy as we thought. The park has so much to offer but it takes a different photographic approach. There were tall reeds and foliage along both sides of the trails which seemingly offered nothing in the way of photography until you looked closer. When we did, we saw small bees, dragonflies, damselflies, ladybugs, and other insects. They were everywhere.

This is a great place to practice macro photography; the insect life is abundant. The park also offers water and running water at that, thus the name Wetlands. A great opportunity to practice using a slow shutter to smooth out the water. Amazingly the water is also crystal clear. Large fish can clearly be seen swimming around. Of course, the usual ducks are there and so are hummingbirds and other bird species. We got there at 7:30AM, before the heat set in, it quickly got hot and humid, so I suggest going earlier than that this time of the year.

The scars from the recent fires were also plainly visible. That alone could be a photo essay all to its own. The park employees are doing a great job to bring back the plants and trees that were burned. Young plant sapling can be seen wrapped in paper and watered by the staff to bring those burned areas back to life. As we are supporting the Wetlands Park Friends with their fall fundraiser, we should have plenty of images for their display and sale. The Wetlands certainly is a hidden gem in our own backyard. ☺



Join PSA

For membership information, go to

<http://www.psa-photo.org/>

or contact PSA Liaison,

Stephen Cupp

lvthunder@lvthunder.com

July 2025 Monthly Electronic Image Competition 1st Place Images

All photos © 2025 by named artists. All rights reserved.



Ken Lawrence
Tri-colored Heron Reflection

27s



Richard Bailey
Among the Giants



Steve O'Melia
Demon Under the Milky Way



Doreen Lawrence
Weathered

Blue ribbons



Janice Phillips
Color Dispersion



Anita Rama
Cool Magnolia



Philip Cenicola
Blaze

July 2025 Monthly Electronic Image Competition 1st Place Images

All photos © 2025 by named artists. All rights reserved.

Blue ribbons



Stephen Cupp
Men in Black



Hugo Pech
Havana, Where Time Stands Still



John Geldermann
Fallen Angel in the Doorway



Philip Cenicola
Waiting for the Sun



Doreen Lawrence
Mt. St. Helens



Terri Hutchings
Coming Around the Mountain



Julia Mejorada
Dolphin



Julia Mejorada
Summer Water

July 2025 Monthly Electronic Image Competition First Place Winners

All photos © 2025 by named artists. All rights reserved.



Clayton Fox
Future Transport



Linda Hicks
Tough to Get Comfortable

Blue ribbons



Juliana Stratton
Wild Mushrooms



Craig Hicks
UNLV Touchdown



Jim Ludwick
Bike Lane New York City



Stephen Cupp
Lauren at the Dry Lake



Jim Ryan
Carousel Horses - Avignon France



Chris Markel
The Skagit Rive

July 2025 Monthly Electronic Image Competition First Place Winners

All photos © 2025 by named artists. All rights reserved.



Janice Phillips
Loading Dock

Blue ribbons



Jerome Hamilton
The Cellist



Jim Ludwick
Panorama Bare Mountains, Nevada

Portrait and Glamour Specific Interest Group

by Gary Galvin, MNCC and Frank Zak, MNCC

The Nevada Camera Club Portrait and Glamour Specific Interest Group wrapped up a three-part workshop with a glamour-themed pool shoot on July 20th. NCC members working that day under the guidance of **Frank Zak** and **Gary Galvin** were **Jerome Hamilton**, **Stan Kaules**, **Dale Kavula**, **Jim Ludwick**, **Chris Markel**, **Steve O'Melia**, **Rob Raymond**, and **Ken Underhill**.

The series began on May 3rd with a planning session where participants discussed their interests and goals for the program. In June, the group met for a studio-style workshop focused on portrait lighting. Participants learned and practiced five classic portrait lighting patterns using continuous lighting and then transitioned to working with studio flash fitted with a beauty dish modifier. Hands-on practice with a model gave attendees a chance to capture reference images for future use.

The session continued outdoors, where participants worked on using reflectors and diffusers in both direct sunlight and open shade. This practical component allowed everyone to experiment with light modifiers and natural light on location.



The final session, held at a pool in July, brought together the ten NCC members and five models. Photographers were divided into rotating teams, with one member shooting while others assisted with reflectors and diffusers. Teams switched roles throughout the session and worked with different models. Using their newly developed skills, participants captured a range of images—both in the water and poolside—under varying lighting conditions.

We hope everyone enjoyed the experience, built confidence working with light modifiers and models, and came away with new skills and creative inspiration. Teamwork and collaboration were key to making the shoot a success! ☺



Scouting Like a Pro: Milky Way Edition

by Harry Ghuman, HNCC

Great photos don't just happen—they're found, studied, and captured with intent. Whether you're after a killer landscape or a perfect street scene, scouting is your secret weapon. As the prime season for photographing the Milky Way is upon us, I am focusing this note on the Milky Way in the shooting area around us. Here are the top tips to make every shoot count:



Start Digital. Use Planning Apps

- PhotoPills.TPE or Planit Pro to track the galactic core, moon phase, and elevation angles
- Schedule between March and October, with a new moon or a waning crescent moon

Composition tips by season. March to May are best for horizontal compositions, as the Milky Way is low in the sky, and it is also easy to create panoramas. July through October is better for vertical compositions as the Milky Way is visible immediately after sunset and closer to being vertical. It's an interesting challenge to undertake in August to capture the Perseid Meteor Shower and the Milky Way simultaneously. Check the moon phase. Some years are darker than others.

Scout in Daylight. (Verify restrictions to return at night, e.g, Valley of Fire)

- Look for foregrounds (arches, hoodoos, cacti, abandoned buildings, etc.)
- Note landscape orientation and safety hazards

Scouting during the daytime requires data from the apps. Most apps let you simulate when the Milky Way becomes visible at a location and provide precise geographic coordinates. In the example below, you can see at what time and direction the Milky Way would be in the orientation of interest to you. Assuming the Milky Way is visible at 10:20 pm, it would be located at 165 degrees from your current position. When you are at the location during the day, walk around with your phone's compass on. You can see what the foreground would be. If you don't like that, adjust your position until you line up your desired foreground. Take a picture with the phone and mark the spot to return to.



Initial Research
GC at 168 degrees
At 10:20 pm

Scouting Trip
Find Views towards target
168 degrees south direction

Feasible area with many
hoodoos and rock
formations found in AM

Getting set up one hour
before the target orientation
of Milky Way.

Predictably, the Milky Way
Galactic core appears and
continues to get stronger

Top Locations close to Las Vegas

Utah

- Zion National Park
- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Toadstool Hoodos
- Dead Horse Point – panoramic view over the Colorado River
- Factory Butte / Swing Arm City – dramatic badlands and expansive views
- Kodachrome Basin – unique spires under dark skies

Arizona

- Marble Canyon – secluded and close to the Colorado River
- White Pocket (Vermilion Cliffs) – alien-like rock formations and zero light pollution. Requires a high clearance vehicle.
- Coyote Buttes South (permit needed) – swirling formations, remote skies
- Wupatki National Monument – Native ruins under stars

Nevada

- Valley of Fire does not allow photography at night. Check regulations
- Little Finland (requires high clearance vehicle)
- Mojave National Preserve. Large Joshua trees, train lines
- International Car Forest, Goldfield. Unique car and bus art
- Rhyolite, NV, Just outside Death Valley. Outdoor museum
- Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Park, Ely
- Cathedral Gorge – Cathedral-like spires and a dark sky certified park
- Great Basin National Park – among the darkest skies in the U.S., Ancient Bristlecone trees, and lakes.

Continued on p. 11

California

Alabama Hills (Lone Pine) – movie-famous boulders with a Sierra backdrop

Death Valley (Badwater Basin, Mesquite Dunes) – iconic vastness and zero light. Dante’s View has expansive views, but it is also affected by distant noise pollution. It is an excellent place for viewing the Perseids meteor shower due to its expansive views.

Joshua Tree NP – Interesting rock formations and arches. Joshua trees also offer great foreground; however, you can find them much closer.

Trona Pinnacles – eerie spires with minimal ambient light

Ancient Bristlecone Forest, Bishop - Bodie (ghost town)

Mono Lake. Lake and Tufas ●

Taming the Glare: Testing Lightroom Classic Beta’s Reflection Removal

by Harry Ghuman, HNCC

Ever captured the perfect shot, only to be thwarted by distracting reflections on glass? The latest Lightroom Classic Beta introduces a powerful new Reflection Removal feature. Powered by Firefly AI, this tool applies a targeted mask over detected reflections—primarily on flat, glass surfaces—and uses learned reconstruction to recover underlying detail. It resides in the Masking panel and operates with zero manual selection, although masks can be fine-tuned after detection.

In testing, the tool performs well on from storefronts, car windows, and interior shots through glass. It preserves color fidelity and edge contrast impressively, especially in RAW files with high dynamic range. However, limitations remain with complex, mirrored surfaces, diffuse multi-angle glare, and reflections over critical subjects, such as faces.

I visited Shark Reef Aquarium at Mandalay Bay to get some pictures to test the tool. The tool performs best with mild to moderate reflections, especially in well-lit conditions. It’s not flawless—strong highlights and mirrored surfaces still pose challenges—but it offers a fast and effective solution without leaving Lightroom. I shot multiple images and tried the tool. The tool itself is pretty straightforward. You check the box to turn it on. At +100% it removes what it determines as reflections. At -100% it isolates the reflections.

In the image below, I have shown three cases. Case 1 and Case 2 are typical use cases. The program effectively detects the reflections of people and does a decent job of removing them. Case 3 is complex. In this case, it detected the subject as a reflection and was unable to handle it.



To try it, download the Lightroom Classic Beta via Creative Cloud. Look for “Remove Reflection (Beta)” in the Masking panel. It’s a promising glimpse into how AI is enhancing post-processing—one reflection at a time.

Pro tip: Combine Reflection Removal with AI Denoise and manual luminance masking to refine challenging areas further. It’s not a replacement for a polarizer in the field, but it’s a robust fallback for post.●

Nevada Camera Club Contact List

NCC Officers

President	Clayton Fox	949-838-6847
Vice President	Ken Lawrence	505-250-5930
Secretary	Roger Millett	702-459-0416
Treasurer	Mary Sheets	702-521-9569

NCC Committees and Trustees

Advertising/Resident Agent

Mary Sheets 702-521-9569

Beginners Group

Jerome Hamilton 702-682-9514

Club Apparel

Juliana Stratton 702-860-8394

Club Publications

Linda Hicks 219-477-0750

Community Liaison

Darryl Ginwright 808-782-5955

Competitions (Monthly Electronic)

Craig Hicks 702-497-5753

Competitions (Monthly Print)

Paul Bessette 702-561-7265

Education

Harry Ghuman 650-454-0751

Exhibit Display Modules

Michael Stratton 702-300-5027

Field Trips

Allan Duff 702-682-9688

House

Jon Hayslip 702-285-8950

Internet Administrator

Stephen Cupp
lvthunder@lvthunder.com

Membership

Steve O'Melia 702-497-5448

Merits

Linda Hicks 219-477-0750

Programs

Jerome Hamilton 702-682-9514

PSA Liaison

Stephen Cupp
lvthunder@lvthunder.com

Public Relations

Cindy Wilson 702-378-5354

Treasurer Emeritus

Mary Sheets 702-363-2818

Welcoming

Narcy Alprecht 702-281-2569

Trustees

Valerie Christiansen 702-375-4492

Allan Duff 702-682-9688

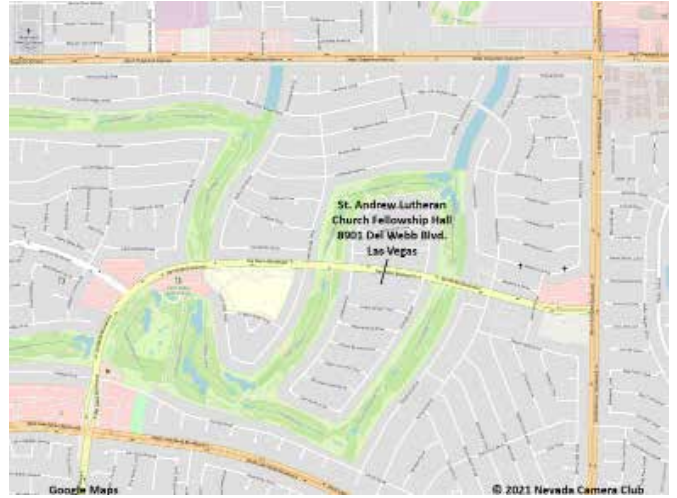
Jackie Strat 732-829-8551

Contact us at info@nevadacc.org

Membership Information

Annual dues: \$48 for adults, \$36 for juniors (under 18) and students or seniors (63 and over). Dues are prorated for persons joining after January. Members automatically receive Focal Expressions. For further membership information call Steve O'Melia, 702-497-5448.

Meeting Location Map



Change Service Requested

First Class Mail

1-866-925-1447

Las Vegas, NV 89132

P.O. Box 19451

Nevada Camera Club

