

PSSCC

NEWSLETTER



PUGET SOUND STEREO CAMERA CLUB

A Member Club

PSA
Photographic
Society of
America

Since 1984

The PSSCC exists to provide a venue for the promotion and enjoyment of stereo photography through education, presentations, and critiques. The Club meets on the second Saturday of the month at noon, September through June, at the Federal Way Senior Center in Auburn, WA. Back issues of this newsletter can be viewed by joining the PSSCC Yahoo Group at <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/PSSCC>. Please join us at our next meeting.

MAY & JUNE COMPETITION THEMES



As the end of the "club year" approaches, there are only two competitions left. The elements of wind and sun provide limitless creative opportunities, so grab your camera and bring your best images to our next meeting. A list of competition themes for the 2012-13 club year will

appear in the next issue of our newsletter. Traditionally the first competition in the fall is "What I Did During the Summer," so as soon as the Solstice arrives, you can start taking those great shots of swaying palms, Mediterranean palazzos, or the view from your cruise ship.



Don Munsil's Presentations Bring Our Members Back – Month After Month

PSSCC'S members are hooked on President Don Munsil's regular presentations of the latest 3D books, gadgets, industry news and great 3D video clips. For those of us who don't have hours to scour the web for 3D content, a technophile like Don, who works for Microsoft, is one of our club's many assets.

At April's meeting we were treated to trailers that included MIB 3D and a German promotion for *Der Hobbit*, due for release in December 2012.

It's not a one-man show of course. Without Stewart Turley and Mike Comstock at the projection table; Joyce Gordon, Joan Story, and the other dedicated members on K.P. duty (we miss you, Marilyn); and all the club members who present such great images at our competitions, we wouldn't have one of the best 3D clubs in the country.

Past issues have included 3D movie reviews of Martin Scorsese's *Hugo* – an utter visual delight, Steven Spielberg's action-packed *Tintin*, and Wim Wenders' gorgeous dance film, *Pina*.

In response to several inquiries about past issues of the newsletter, we have uploaded manageable-sized files to the PSSCC Yahoo group. Browse to <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/PSSCC>

Mart & Frank 





The Portland Duo Takes 1st and 2nd Places

In a reversal of last spring's competition, Mart McCann won First Place and her partner Frank Barnett took Second. In 2011, Frank swept all three awards with his stunning images. The

couple's entries, along with two each by Stewart Turley and Bob Venezia, will represent PSSCC at the next InterClub competition, which will be judged this month by the Atlanta stereo club.



Consistent Winner Bob Venezia Scores 3rd Place



Springtime was in full splendor on the campus of the University of Washington quad when Bob Venezia took this idyllic photo. Stewart Turley's shot of the same location will be entered in the InterClub contest.

Spoiler Alert! Jack Still Dies.

It looks like
it's coming
right at me!



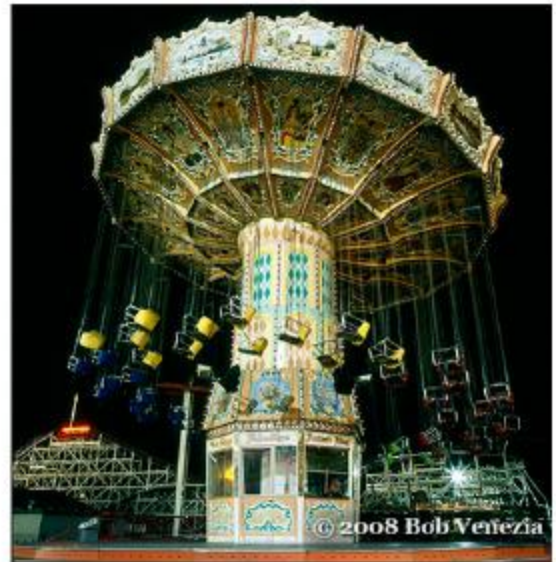
James Cameron is Hollywood's poster child for modern 3D

Movies converted to 3D in post production have had a reputation for over-doing the in-your-face effect, so who better than James Cameron to add dimension to a formerly flat film without making it look ridiculous? *Avatar*, Cameron's box office champion, used depth with subtlety, and set the standard for 3D filmmaking. The remake of his 1997 Oscar® winner gave Cameron the opportunity to apply that same standard to conversions.

The story hasn't changed – it's still a silly, overly romantic tale of high society girl meets working

class boy, rebels against pompous fiance and controlling mother, loses love-of-her-life, and survives to tell the story 84 years later. The spectacle, however, is undeniably compelling: the massive ship in Southampton harbor, the stunning interiors, and the lavish details for which Cameron is famous. One could almost feel the heat in the boiler room and the freezing waters of the North Atlantic that became the graveyard for so many of the vessel's unfortunate passengers.

RMS Titanic sank 100 years ago last month, hence the timing of the 3D release. At more than three hours, viewing the remake will require an extra box of popcorn in addition to the surcharge for polarized glasses, but – what the heck – it's worth it. The Gold Standard for 3D conversion has been set by James Cameron, and there is little question that other filmmakers will be following his lead.



North America's Largest and Best Attended Film Festival Features *Animated Amusements* by PSSCC's Own Bob Venezia – May 26th

Most of us have been fortunate to have seen Bob Venezia's delightful short, *Animated Amusements*, in 3D. The stereoscopic version had its premiere in the Stereo Theatre of the National Stereoscopic Association's convention in Loveland, Colorado, last summer, where it was presented the *Artistic Achievement* award.

It was subsequently shown at the Congress of the International Stereoscopic Union in the Netherlands. The ISU presentation has led to more requests for the piece to be shown around Europe. It was featured at the national 3D-day of the Dutch Society and the Days of

Stereoscopy in Ljubljana, Slovenia last year.

The program, "Animation for Adults," will begin at 9:30 pm at the beautiful SIFF Uptown Theater at 511 Queen Anne Avenue North. Note that this is being screened as a 2D version.

The music that accompanies this charming video is an instrumental piece called "La Gaie Divorcee" by the late Rebo Flordigan.

Club members who have not seen Bob's video should not miss this opportunity.





Lenny Lipton to Deliver the Saturday Keynote Speech at the 38th NSA Convention in Costa Mesa, California

Lenny Lipton has been a stereoscopic enthusiast his entire life. As a proponent of amateur filmmaking, Lipton authored the books *Independent Filmmaking*, *The Super 8 Book* and *Lipton on Filmmaking*, which included the chapter "How to Make Your Own 3-D Movies." Lipton's 1982 book, *Foundations of the Stereoscopic Cinema: A Study in Depth* is a definitive treatment of 3-D motion pictures, and more recently he wrote *The CrystalEyes Handbook*. After the banquet on Saturday, Lenny will share career highlights.

Come immerse yourself in some spectacular 3D over six action-packed days! In addition to the Stereo Theatre, Art Gallery, and Trade Fair, there are excursions that include an afternoon cruise on the Tall Ship *Spirit of Dana*, a tour of the Queen Mary and the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach, a visit to Mission San Juan Capistrano and the Orange County Great Park, and a full day featuring Los Angeles' downtown architecture and a visit to DreamWorks Animation Studio in nearby Glendale.

Come and pick some oranges. Info and registration at <http://www.stereoworld.org/2012>



The ad you won't be seeing in *Stereo World*. Art by Barry Rothstein of the LA 3D Club

WHAT YOU'LL NEED FOR HDR PHOTOS

1. Software



2. Tripod



3. Multiple Exposures



HDR Photography and Photomatix Pro

One of the challenges of photography is dealing with the limited latitude of film. Slide film typically can record a range of about 5 stops of light. It's not unusual, in a high contrast scene, to have both blown-out highlights and ink-black shadows in the same shot. This has always been a problem when shooting at midday in direct sunlight. The brights are too bright, the darks too dark, and the image is destined for the rubbish heap.

But the rules have changed with the advent of HDR, or High Dynamic Range photography. In HDR a series of images is taken with the exposures bracketed from overexposed to underexposed. HDR software then blends the images so you get the best of all worlds. From the overexposed image you get detail in the shadows. From the underexposed image you get detail in the highlights. You can dial in the amount of the effect that you want. And in the more extreme cases the images look like paintings.

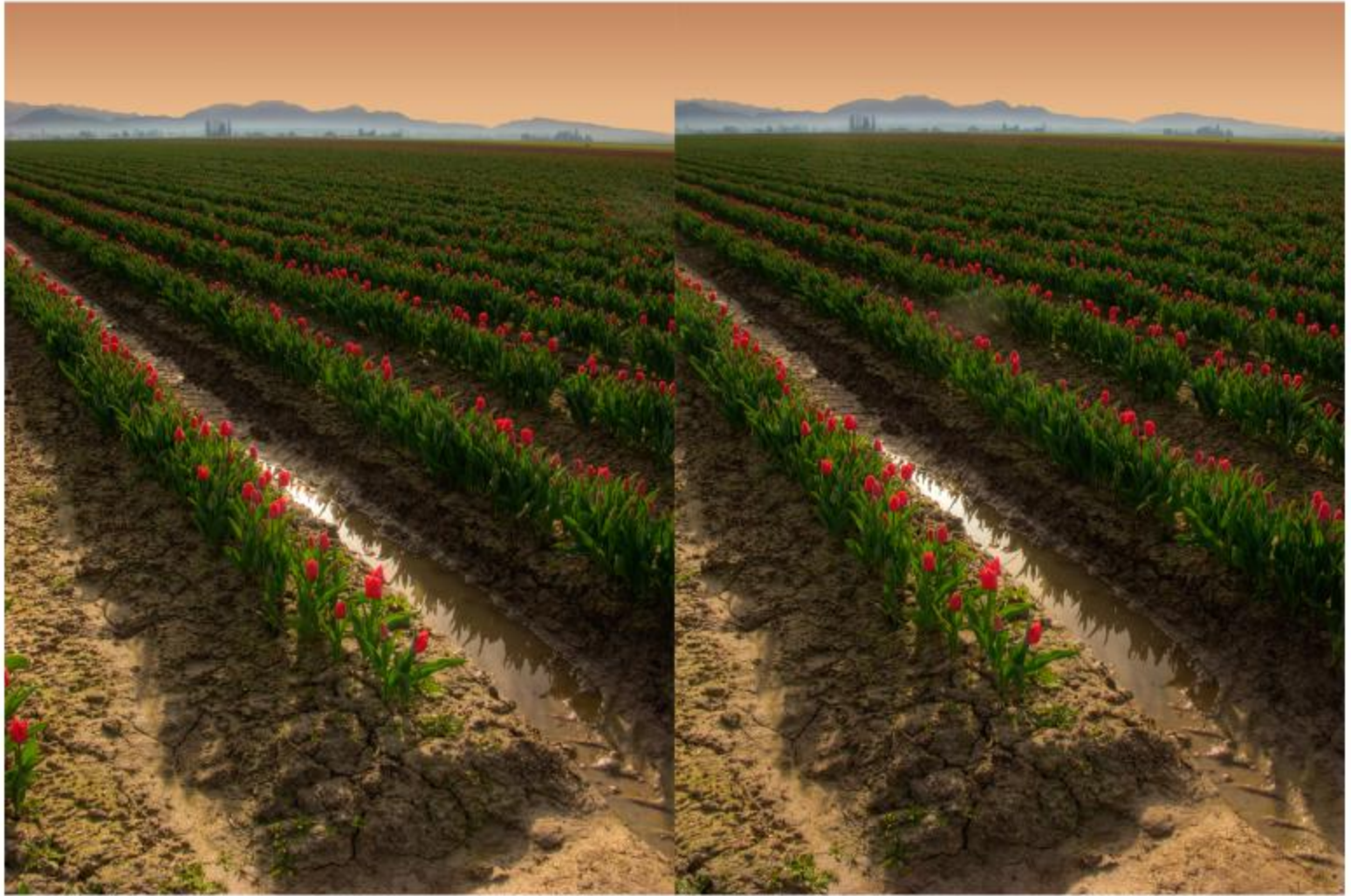
There are several programs that will produce HDR images. The one I use is called Photomatix Pro. It's commercial software and I use it because it was one of the early players in HDR and had good reviews. I can't vouch for other packages as I haven't tried them, but there are likely some free packages to be found.

One thing I find essential for good HDR is a tripod. When I'm blending images I want them all to register precisely. And when I bracket my exposure I only change the shutter speed. If your camera has different apertures you would change the depth of field by adjusting the aperture. For HDR you want to keep the depth of field constant and only change the length of the exposure. And since the overexposed shot could be a long one you have one more excellent reason to use a tripod.

Photomatix Pro software can be found at <http://www.hdrsoft.com/>



The final HDR image of tulips in Skagit Valley pictured on the next page started as a series of 7 exposures, shown here in succession. Remember, for HDR, you want to keep the depth of field constant and only change the length of the exposure.



Many of Bob Venezia's award-winning images employ the use of HDR techniques, including the Skagit Valley tulip fields pictured above, and the painterly image below entitled *Stud Horse Point* located in Southern Utah. The latter image was awarded 2nd Place in the PSSCC March club competition.





Following Don Munsil's monthly show-n-tell, our club members usually adjourn to the wonderful spread that is laid out by the kitchen volunteers, led by Joyce Gordon. Then it's good eats and good conversation as members catch up on the latest personal news. There's always a main course (sandwich makings), fruit, vegetables, and homemade desserts.

Yes, our communal meal is an important part of our club's activities. But it's no free ride. If you noticed that Joyce Gordon isn't in the picture above it's because she's slaving away in the kitchen to make sure we all can chow down on the best of noontime comestibles.

Wayne Pennington, who has been holding the fort while Marilyn is taking care of her aging mother, did the numbers. Apparently 30% of

our members are providing 80% of the food that we are now enjoying. Unfortunately, the basket that holds the contributions each month keeps coming up short. Joyce, who acts as the Hospitality Coordinator, tries to reimburse the person who brings the meat and rolls \$20 to offset the higher cost of bringing the main course.

If everyone who doesn't bring food kicks in five bucks, there will be enough to reimburse the member who brings the main dish, with some left over for our kitty that's used to purchase coffee, tea, utensils, paper plates and coffee cups.

Let's not burn out the 30% who are feeding the rest of us. Please sign up to bring a dish and when you're not able to do so, remember to kick in your fair share. Thanks!



Six images were selected to represent PSSCC in this month's InterClub 3D Competition to be judged by the Atlanta Stereoscopic Association. Images by Frank Barnett and Mart McCann are

on page 3. The first two images below are by Bob Venezia and the night scene taken by Stewart Turley on Maui is at the bottom of this page. Stewart's Cherry Blossoms are on page 11.





CLUB STANDINGS AFTER ROUND TWO

CLUB NAME	DEC	FEB	TOTAL
VICTORIAN 3D SOCIETY	55	51	106
SYDNEY STEREO CAMERA CLUB	52	53	105
DETROIT STEREOGRAPHIC SOCIETY	54	51	105
LA 3D CLUB	59	41	100
PUGET SOUND STEREO CAMERA CLUB	HOST	47	99*
ATLANTA STEREOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION	50	44	94
OHIO STEREO PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY	50	HOST	91*
CASCADE STEREOSCOPIC CLUB	51	35	86

* The host club is given a score equal to the average of the other clubs' scores. PSSCC was given 52 points for December, and OSPS received 41 points for February.

INDUSTRY NEWS

GoPro Partners with Technicolor to Incorporate CineStyle™ into GoPro's new Protune™ Firmware For HD HERO2

The makers of the amazing 3D sports camera kit and Technicolor, a worldwide leader in technology and color science, announced that they have worked to embed Technicolor's CineStyle color profile for the debut of the new GoPro Protune, a free firmware upgrade for the HD HERO2 camera, available this summer. Details at www.gopro.com.





By Frank Barnett

Photo by Frank Barnett

Mart is always on the lookout for target rich shooting environments and that's why we've added this new section to our newsletter. As you can see, she will go almost anywhere and do almost anything to get that great shot in 3D. I was really surprised to see her wrap a python around her neck. If you're looking for beautiful subjects or just weird stuff to photograph, Las Vegas is the place.

Although Vegas has 500,000 residents, each year the world's gambling Mecca welcomes over 40 million visitors who are ready and willing to part with their hard earned dollars, catch a few great shows, hop on the roller coaster at New York, New York, and 300 couples daily elect to tie the knot there, where a marriage license costs only \$35.

The first casino, the Northern Club, was licensed in 1931, the year after President Hoover signed the appropriation bill for Boulder Dam (renamed

Hoover Dam during the Truman Administration). Work was begun the very next year and the local population swelled from 5,000 to 25,000, with most of the newcomers looking for construction jobs on the dam. The workforce, consisting mostly of males, created the demand for large scale entertainment for which the city today is known.

Some was legal, some was seedy and organized crime-related, and some was just downright bizarre. In the 1950s Las Vegas advertised atomic testing as another tourist attraction, offering *Atomic Cocktails* in Sky Rooms that featured a great view of the mushroom clouds.

In 1966, Howard Hughes refused to leave his room at the Desert Inn, and instead bought the entire hotel. Hughes spent an estimated \$300 million and was instrumental in changing the image of Vegas to a more cosmopolitan city.







Photographic Society of America®

Founded in 1934, PSA has members in over 70 countries. Individual, Club, and Council memberships offer a wide variety of services and activities: a monthly magazine; online photo galleries, image evaluation, study groups, and courses; competitions; an annual conference; recognition; and discounts on photography related products and services. PSSCC participates in PSA's 3D Division that sanctions exhibitions for which points are awarded, and also sponsors the InterClub 3D Competition.

www.psa-photo.org



National Stereoscopic Association

The NSA is affiliated with the Stereoscopic Society of America. The annual NSA Convention/Trade Fair attracts members from all over the world, as well as many photographic dealers, photo historians, and experts in various state-of-the-art applications of stereo imaging. The convention is held in a different location in the United States each year, and is the high-point of the stereoscopic calendar.

www.stereoworld.org



The International Stereoscopic Union

Founded in 1975 the ISU is the only international 3D association in the world. The ISU is a club of individual 3D enthusiasts as well as a club of stereo clubs. The ISU's members currently number more than 1,050 and come from over 40 countries world-wide. Although the ISU caters mainly to the 3D amateur photographer, the ISU also has much to offer to members who are professional stereo photographers and cinematographers, as well as to those who are involved in the scientific aspects of the stereoscopic image.

www.stereoscopy.com/isu/



Federal Way Senior Center



4016 South 352nd Street
Auburn, WA 98001



Directions

From I 5, turn East at Hwy. 18 exit. Travel East and take the 1st exit at 32nd Ave. S (Sign reads Weyerhaeuser Road). Turn South on 32nd until you reach 344th St. (first left) and go East on 344th until you reach 38th Ave. S (1st right). Travel South on 38th to 352nd and turn left (East). Go 3 blocks, the Senior Center is on the North side (left) of the street.

MAY LUNCH VOLUNTEERS

The Food Providers

	Meat & Rolls	Cheese & Crackers	Fruit	Vegetables	Dessert
MAY	✓	?	?	✓	?
VOLUNTEERS	GREG P.			MART	

? Attention Members: If you can bring the items missing from our menu, please contact Wayne Pennington at 425.820.0206 or email to wayne.pennington@frontier.com

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