



The Rooster Tails Fishing Club of Northern California, Inc.

Educate ~ Entertain ~ Enhance

Volume 9, Issue 6—June 2019

Rooster Tails Fishing Club of Northern California, Inc.
PO Box 7441

Auburn, CA 95604

www.roostertailsfishingclub.org

- Just one perfect photo will tell it all!
- Practical hands-on classes focus on topics the average photographer would actually use
- A picture is worth a thousand words
- Jordan believes that ANYONE can learn to take better or even great photos!

Capture Your Fish with a Camera! Jordan Farmer, PhotographyMyWay

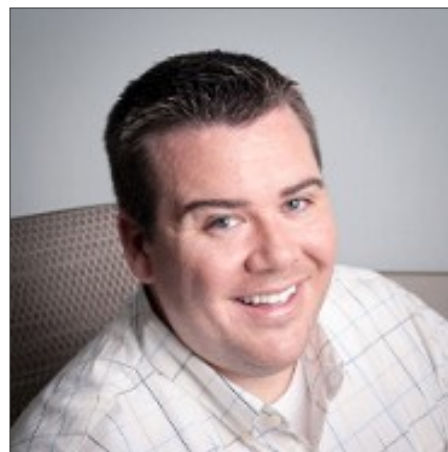
Long after the details of your magnificent fish fades, the photograph you took will allow you to relive the excitement of the fight, the challenge of netting, and maybe even the fantastic dinner that was made from it. A quality image of that moment-in-time freezes the excitement and happiness that will allow you to relive the catch over and over again (besides providing proof of your fish story!). Some people might argue that we have become obsessed with taking "selfie" pictures with our smart phones rather than living in the moment. However, just that one perfect photo will tell it all!

Make plans to attend the Rooster Tails Fishing Club's **June 21st breakfast meeting** and the learn the basics on how to use a camera to take better fishing photographs. We are proud to host **special guest speaker professional photographer and photography instructor Jordan Farmer, owner of PhotographyMyWay**. Jordan has taught thousands of people over ten years how to use their cameras.

PhotographyMyWay has 4 locations in the Sacramento region committed to offering practical hands-on classes focused on topics the average photographer would actually use. Most classes are capped at 8 students and offer continued support outside the class via

phone, Email or Facebook. In addition PhotographyMyWay has a large community of students sharing ideas and images for years to come!

These days we frequently take photos on our smart phones for granted. But just think about that for a minute..beyond fishing photos, how amazing is it that you could capture your grandchildren doing something wonderful so that special memories will be there to hold and share forever. Please bring the photographer in your family to the meeting...your spouse, partner, or family members.



Jordan Farmer, PhotographyMyWay

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Calendar of Events

June 21
Speaker—Jordan Farmer
PhotographyMyWay

July 19
Speaker—James Netzel
Tight Lines Guide Service

July 24
Stampede Reservoir
Adventure Travel
Camping & Fishing

June 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						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						

FISH PHOTOGRAPHY FOR BEGINNERS

Field & Stream Magazine – by Tim Romano

Photography and fishing have been intrinsically linked throughout history. Anglers traveling to beautiful, far-away, and nearby places have documented their surroundings and trophy catches for years. And everyone knows that bragging rights must be accompanied by photographic proof. Digital cameras have gotten faster, cheaper, and a whole lot more powerful. Almost everyone owns a camera and, therefore, everyone can be a photographer. While most snapshots do a fine job of documenting a trip, why not up the ante and take better photographs? Creatively composed shots are not as complicated as one might think. By following and practicing the next twenty suggestions and tips, you'll be outshooting your buddies in no time. Just be careful you don't get too good or you might be doing more shooting than fishing. This summer, don't settle for lame grip-and-grin photos when you go fishing. Here are 20 tips from pro photographer Tim Romano that will get you some show-stopper shots on the water. **It's not as hard as you think.**

Learn what the buttons do: Sit down with your camera manual and read. You don't have to learn everything, but knowing the basics is important. Modern point-and-shoot cameras are powerful machines that combine a ton of features that are easy to use and can vastly improve your photos. Most people never take their camera off "auto," which is a shame.

Check to make sure your camera's working before you head out: Are the batteries fresh? Is everything working properly? Are your memory cards erased? Check to make sure the camera is not still switched to the "indoor light" settings from your little sister's birthday party the night before. There have been numerous occasions where my first great shot of a trip is ruined because my settings were wrong for the occasion.

Have your camera accessible: I can't tell you how many times I would have had a great shot if my camera was not buried under pounds of fishing gear, lunch or my rain jacket. Have the camera at the top of your pack, a pocket of your vest or slung around your neck. If you're worried about it getting wet, buy a small dry bag that can easily be slipped into a vest pocket. Dry bags have gotten slimmer and less expensive... easily worth the money for protecting your camera.

Be aware of condensation: Much like bringing a cold beverage out of the freezer, your camera will "sweat" and fog up if brought from the cool air of A/C out into a humid or hot environment. Some cameras will malfunction and actually shut off if the condensation becomes too much for the internal circuitry. The same goes for shooting in the winter - if it's hot inside and you march right out into the cold the same thing will happen. Let your camera get accustomed to its environment for a full hour before its first use. This image was ruined because I forgot I had left my camera in the cooler for an hour after placing it there quickly and forgetting about it.



Use your macro setting: Most point-and-shoots have amazing macro capabilities that are never utilized. On most cameras, the icon for this setting is a little flower. This will allow you to fill the frame of your picture with a fish's eye, unique markings, the fly you tied, or the lure sticking out of the fish's mouth.

Centered images are typically boring: While this is not always the case try and use the rule of thirds.

Divide your frame into thirds both horizontally and vertically. Place the center of attention on one of those "third lines."

Make the fish "pop": Use your longest zoom setting (without using digital zoom). Without going into the technical details, this "stacks" the image compressing space. Typically this will throw your background into a soft focus, drawing the viewer's eyes to the subject.

Always, always, always look for distractions in the photo: This is harder to do than one might think. It's a practiced skill, but will vastly improve your images. For example, don't let Cousin Joe's backpack into the side of the frame or your buddy's fishing rod hover into your shot from out of nowhere. Isolating your subject matter without all the distractions will improve the overall composition of the shot. This shot could have been a bit stronger without that reed cutting right through guide Johnny Quiroz's neck.

Be steady: Take a breath and hold it while you shoot. The reason most wildlife shots don't turn out is that the camera moved during the photo, producing a bit of blurring or fuzziness. Many people blame this on the camera or lens, but it is almost always the photographer who is to blame. Be especially aware of this during low light situations. These two shots were seconds apart. The top one was taken first. After I noticed how blurry it was I simply braced my hands, pulled my arms into my body, took a deep breath, held it for a second, and retook the shot.

Be stealthy and slow down: This not only helps your fishing, but your photography, too. Putting your rod down and walking very, very slowly will allow you to see some amazing things while out on the river, lake or ocean. Holding fish don't dart away, eating fish continue to eat, and birds don't flush and spook fish. Some of the hardest shots to get are fish underwater photographed from above or a fish eating a specific fly.

Take more than one shot: Take three times as many photos as you normally would. Many cameras have a setting to take more than one shot at a time. This is especially important when shooting fish as they like to flop around when out of the water - making the hero shot challenging at times. The more shots you can rip off in a couple of seconds the better. Take more than you need and if you're short on card space just erase the ones you don't like after you've released the fish.

FISH PHOTOGRAPHY FOR BEGINNERS—CONTINUED

Learn how to hold a fish for a better grip-and-grin: Remember that heroic fight, the run down the bank, the last ditch effort by your fishing partner to net the fish of a lifetime? After all that, don't waste the shot by holding the fish awkwardly. Here's a foolproof method for getting the best shot of your fish. Drop your arms to your sides, face your palms out. Now think about the fish resting on just the very tips of your fingers and letting your thumbs slide behind the fish,

partially obscuring them from view. Be very cognizant of damaging or covering up the gill cover and pectoral, pelvic, and anal fins. Position your hands behind the head and in front of the tail. If the fish is larger and you need a little bit of elbow grease to hold it, simply switch the position of your tail hand to the front of the fish grasping with your entire hand around the front of the tail. This covers a bit more of the fish but still shows the tail and makes it a bit more manageable to control large fish.

Try something different: Instead of the same old awkward holding big fish picture try something different. Take a picture of the smallest fish you caught that day. Hold the fish as far away from your body as possible with

the fish safely over and low to the water. Focus just on the fish. This tends to make them look quite a bit larger. Try taking a photo of the fish resting in the net, in just a couple inches of water. Take your first shot just as the fish is slowly being raised out of the water. Sometimes this freezes the water dripping off the fish making for a nice effect. Rest your fish in some slack water and take a couple of shots as he makes his dash for the current kicking up a wave in the process. The options are endless so get creative...

Be nice to the fish: Speaking of fish out of water, my friend Marshall Cutchin of midcurrent.com might have the best yardstick for how long a fish should be out of water. Out fishing one day his friend was trying to take pictures of a fish he caught. When he asked how long he could hold the fish out of the water Marshall replied that he should start holding his breath as soon as the fish came out of the water. When you run out of breath it's time to let the fish go. Basically, don't abuse the fish just for a photograph. Make it short and sweet.

Get closer to your subject: Look at most of your photos of fish or fishing friends or the boat. I'll bet most of them are taken

from about 10 feet back. Don't be scared, that fish isn't going to bite... to hard. Get on up in its grill and take some interesting shots. Fill the frame with angler and fish. Here's a good rule of thumb. Whenever you take your next image of friend, fish, camp, whatever, get twice as close as you normally would and take a couple of shots. In fact take a bunch. You can always erase them.

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Think "focus": Most cameras autofocus using a best guess technique. This can be difficult if the subject is partially obscured by vegetation or you want to frame off-center. One trick is to put the subject dead center, press the shutter halfway down to set exposure and focus, then

while still holding down the shutter (to maintain that exposure and focus) reframe the photo and shoot. If it is a really tough autofocus shot (obscured by vegetation) switch to manual focus if you can.

Stop and look around: Anglers get to see some amazing sights when out in nature. Colorful sunsets, sunrises, gatherings of migratory birds, strange animal behavior, incredible landscapes, and friends doing silly things...shoot this stuff. In fact, shoot this more than just your standard trophy or grip-and-grin. It can be far more interesting when looking back at your tip as a whole. Tell a story, not just a piece of one.

Try different angles: Ninety percent of pictures I see are taken at eye level. Stop being lazy... get on your knees or your stomach. If you can, get above the situation, like on the roof of your car or the bed of your truck, and shoot down. Take a picture of that fish at the level of the water - with just its eye above the water line.

Track the sun: "Keep the sun at your back" is still true with digital photography. Colors are typically much better if the fish is in sunlight rather than in shadow. Shooting into the sun will render anything other than the background as silhouette. This can work in your favor if the landscape is your main focus. A well placed silhouette can really make a photograph.

Mind the light: Keep in mind the "magic hour," which is just after sunrise and just before sunset when the sun is low on the horizon. The sunlight is traveling through more atmospheres and this provides a warmer, richer light.



**Bring your Spouse, Partner, or Family Member
to Breakfast**

June 21, 2019

Speaker—Photographer Jordan Farmer

SMART PHONE PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS

By Britton Perelman

Today, everyone is a photographer.

With smart phones in our pockets, we have the ability to photograph at any time, in any place — and often at a comparable resolution to high tech cameras. That being said, smart phones will never completely replace DSLRs or similar equipment. But if you're still prone to pulling out your phone to grab that perfect shot, here are some tips to take the best possible smart phone images.

First, if there's one rule to remember when taking smart phone photos, it's about that dreaded zoom. Whatever you do, **do not zoom in**. Smartphone cameras don't have optical lenses like regular cameras, which means that when you use the zoom function on your in-phone camera, it's a digital zoom. Instead of crisply enlarging the scene, the app "guesses" what the zoomed-in image should look like, significantly reducing the quality of the photo. It's far easier to take the "full" photo and crop it after the fact. A few other important "don'ts" when taking smartphone pictures are: **don't use the front-facing "selfie" camera**, which isn't as high quality as the regular one, and **avoid filters when shooting**. Those can be added during the editing stage. Additionally, **make sure that your HDR setting is on auto**. It's best to let the phone's camera decide whether or not the conditions are best for HDR, since it's not a function that's needed with every shot. When composing your photos, **utilize the Rule of Thirds** and the corresponding grid that most camera apps provide (*Rule of Thirds - imagine have three verticle and/or horizontal lines equally spaced. Some cameras have that grid function, if your camera has it use it. If you were taking a photo at the beach and the subject was the sand, you could either put the sand in 2/3 of the photo and the water in 1/3 or vise versa. Another way to use this rule, if you can see or image the grid you will see 4 intersecting lines, you can put the subject on one of those intersections. This technique will allow you to create balanced, intriguing images that draw in your viewers*).















Also remember to **consider depth of field**, which is a bit more complicated when shooting with your smart phone. Creating a shallow depth of field is possible, but only if the subject matter you're photographing is physically close to you. Since your smart phone only has digital zoom, depth of field is best manipulated by physically getting closer to an object (or using a regular camera). To refocus the camera on your subject matter, tap the screen on your smart phone. While taking photos, **hold your smart phone close to your body to reduce blur**, and **utilize the "burst" mode when trying to snap an action shot**. That way, you'll be able to choose the best of the best after you're finished shooting, and you won't have to worry about constantly refocusing. And don't rely your phone's flash to illuminate your subject matter — instead, utilize natural light or some kind of alternative light source.

Finally, be wary of features such as "portrait mode," which again, use filter-like effects to manipulate images in the way a regular camera does naturally. **With smart phones, it's always best to shoot unfiltered, un-cropped, and un-zoomed.**

Key takeaways:

- Don't use digital zoom when taking photos. Instead, crop after the fact.
- Try to avoid using the "selfie" (front-facing) camera.
- Utilize the Rule of Thirds.
- Make sure your camera app is using the "Auto HDR" setting.

Jackpot Fishing Contest

JACKPOT CONTEST						
	LENGTH	WEIGHT	WATER	DATE	ANGLER	
 Kokanee	14"		BULLARDS BAR	4-15	R. CORRAO	
 Landlocked Salmon	23 1/4"		FOLSOM	4-18	R. CORRAO	
 River or Ocean King Salmon	38"	28 lb	SACTO RIVER	10-18	M. Mc KENDREE	
 Striped Bass	34"		S.F. BAY	6-20	O. SOUDERS	
 Rainbow Trout	20 3/8"		COMANCHE	4-3	R. NORTHAM	
 Brown Trout	27"	7 lb 9 oz	DONNER LAKE	8-22	R. NORTHAM	
 Steelhead	30"		AMERICAN RIVER	1-12	J. LAMPKIN	
 Lake Trout (Mackinaw)	22"		DONNER LAKE	8-22	R. NORTHAM	
 Large Mouth Bass	23"	4 lb 8 oz	PRIVATE POND	8-28	Rik Cox	
 Carp						
 Catfish						
 Shad						
 Crappie	14"		CAMP FAY WEST	5-21	SHAWN COLLAN	
 Pacific Kokanee						

2019 names in Red — 2018 names in Black

KOKAANEE—Ray Corrao, 14", Bullards Bar, 4/15/19
 LANDLOCKED SALMON, - Ray Corrao, 23 1/4", Folsom Lake, 4/18/19
 RAINBOW TROUT—Richard Northam, 20 3/8", Camanche Lake, 4/3/19
 STEELHEAD, Jerry Lampkin, 30", American River, 1/12/19

Continued from left column

- Shoot without filters and edit after the fact.
- Be careful with "Portrait Mode" and remember to tap your screen to refocus the camera and engage depth of field.
- Reduce blur by holding your phone closer to your body.
- Use the "burst" function for action shots.

Annual Members-Only Folsom Lake Outing



Winners of the Folsom Lake Outing on April 24th are from L. to R. 1st place—Tom Hamada, 2nd place—Chuck Mierkey, 3rd place—Tim Reuter, 4th place—Mike Walker

Rooster Tail Members Fish S.F. Bay for Striped Bass & Halibut

On May 15th twenty members of the Rooster Tails Fishing Club gathered at Fish Emeryville to board the C-Gull II with Captain Don Wong. Most left the Auburn area around 3:30 am, and the boat left the dock at 6 am. First we cruised across the Bay to the bait receiver where 4-5 scoops of live anchovies were loaded into the live bait tank. We fished Southeast of the Bay Bridge in water 15-25' deep with a live anchovy hooked through the lower lip and nose with a six ounce weight on a 12" dropper. Everyone caught many undersized halibut (less than 22") that were released to grow bigger. Throughout the day Captain Wong said check your bait every five minutes. The boat caught 34 halibut and one striped bass. It seemed like the afternoon fishing was better than in the morning.

However **Gary Johnson** had his three keeper halibut and the jackpot fish by 9:30am. The jackpot Halibut weighed 18#'s. **Ray Corrao** gets honorable mention as he caught 7 or 8 legal halibut that went into the fish box.

We had light rain most of the day. The wind built up as the day went on, and from 1pm on it was pretty windy. A few in our group got woozy with the rolling motion of the boat. We finished fishing at 4:00pm and headed back to the marina. We had an excellent deck hand, Christian who set up the terminal tackle, netted fish, untangled lines, and cleaned the fish on the way back to the marina. Everyone had fish to take home. A similar trip will be planned for next year. We plan an ocean trip in the Fall – most likely in November. Thanks for the members that made the trip a success.

Mike Walker, Host



Top Left: Ray Corrao with a nice halibut

Top Right: Deckhand, Christian, with a scoop of live anchovies

Bottom Left: Gary Johnson with the deckhand and the Jackpot fish

Bottom Right: Early morning getting ready on the boat to go fishing

