



Zambales' Sun, Sand and Sky

By Jimmy Hermogenes

Zambales will prove to be another unforgettable On-The-Spot (OTS) trips for many of the CCP members. Photographers can choose from any of its beaches, mountains, rivers, islands, and especially, its people, as worthy subjects for a soon-to-be favorite shot. Members were welcomed by cool sunrises and warm sunsets from March 10 to 12, 2017 and met for a common lunch at Villa Kianna in San Nicolas graciously hosted by lifetime member Louie Abiva.

It pays to do your homework for the OTS, as lifetime member Manny Gaité reveals. The OTS king pre-selected the Pundaquit beach front, the Sto. Tomas and Botolan rivers where there are graphic lahar river beds, and the Botolan resettlement site - famous for the Ina ng Poon Bato. Instead of driving off to Zambales before the OTS, Manny says he used Google map "to identify the sunrise and sunset orientation, and zoom at street view to see what will be my foreground or background." By doing a virtual ocular site inspection, he already identified places of interest (POI) and did not have to waste time looking for anything interesting to shoot. Instead he spent a lot more time between shoots bonding with members at Kianna Inn. But if you did not do your homework, it pays to stick with friends who did! As Probee Renee Paraan recounts, "I didn't know where to go, places to shoot or what Zambales is known for or unique with. I panicked!" She adds, "Luckily Manny Gaité, the OTS king himself was around and so I 'attached' myself to him." The next day, Renee went with Fred DR, Lito Qimmel, Mark Burgos, Garrick Ang and Manny Gaité to take shots in Poonbato, Botolan.

Lifetime member Quincy Castillo could not agree more. He says that "it is always a clear advantage to come a day or even two before the actual contest

begins. There are many advantages. First, you can figure out where and what to shoot and what time of day or night. Second, you will have enough time to ask someone or some people in the area to be there and do what they normally do, so that you get human element into your image." As he was helping Louie Abiva host the OTS, Quincy took his photographs along the beach near Villa Kianna with the resort owner. This writer had a very interesting lunch with the two stalwarts of the Club and heard a lot of CCP stories from decades gone by. Unfortunately, as another probee not doing his homework for the OTS, this writer was booked in a hotel more than 10km away from Villa Kianna and missed a sunset shoot with Quincy and Louie. Argh! What an opportunity missed!

Master Photographer Jijo De Guzman

until sunset and it was dark already by the time they got back to San Antonio.

But no matter how much we prepare for the OTS, some things still do go wrong. Jan Aliling together with some CCP buddies got their van stuck in the sand and had to dig through the sand himself. "I didn't even realize I fell until Javi told me ang dumi ng likuran at gilid ko," Jan - who got a sprain - recalls. Another sad mishap was when Leo's drone crashed over the water. According to Garrick Ang, "when his driver rushed to retrieve it, he was carrying his camera bag which had his Hassie in it which also got wet with sea water." Raffy Santos also had to leave after the common lunch because of another mishap.



It was interesting that some members actually went to Zambales not to shoot! "I didn't go out to shoot or compete. I went out for camaraderie," says Tilak Hettige. Most of the time he chatted with Louie Abiva. "Some stuff I gathered about him and the old times in this area is fascinating," Tilak recalls.

Quincy sums up the Zambales OTS when he says "the most interesting moments is when members sit around and spend hours together talking photography and I had my fill of that in Zambales. Our club was founded in 1928 as a social club. Camaraderie among members should always be paramount. Unfortunately, during regular meetings the time together is limited. This is why I agree with Mr. Manny Gaité that we should have even more OTS's because it strengthens the bond

between members." Whether it be taking photographs of sunrises and sunsets, getting through unfortunate mishaps, or just lounging around the resort chatting, these moments are all memorable because we know these were all time well spent with our friends at the Camera Club.



shot in Nagsasa Cove and around Pundakit. He says he "wanted to just focus on a relatively small area instead of covering a big area. It's always quality over quantity for me." The trip to Nagsasa took him an hour on a banca and the ocean was quite rough at that time. He was with his wife Rae, Kakai and another friend. They stayed there

Judges Row

By Cha Valmonte

Graffiti as Wikipedia would define it, are writing or drawings that have been scribbled, scratched, or painted illicitly on a wall or other surface, often within public view. As such, the theme for March creates varied challenges for our very own photographers. Graffiti in its various forms provides insights to a variety of



emotions an artist would want to express. The rich colors, themes and messages vary as a photographer would need to capture these.

The entries for this month's theme was quite a challenge for our esteemed judges. Graffiti is art. How would one rate and distinguish one from the other? Our judges were quite unanimous in providing their criteria in choosing and or rating each photograph. Each one of them considered photographic elements such as composition, complexity and impact.

Composition in photographing Graffiti is a tricky situation wherein various distractions may exist especially with the inclusion of a secondary element apart from the wall art. The Rule of Thirds still apply along with the technical applications of the same.

The second criteria called for complexity wherein the photographer's intent, intuition and proper use of light was examined. Perhaps the trickiest part was how to play with the shades of dark and light, lines and the complexity of both the foreground and background elements with the varied colors from the Graffiti.

The third criteria common to all three judges was Impact to which the photograph produces a strong effect on someone or something. Does a photography produce a memorable experience, imbibe an emotion, create a lasting impression for its viewer? Each of the judges considered those photographs that left that lasting impression for them.

Finally, technology advances have made photography attainable for everyone. Each of our judges believe in the basic tenets of photography. Each one echoed the same sentiment, that of the need to be able to take a good shot. We are challenged to take the photo "as is" and to avoid shooting a photo with the intent of post processing the shot. It challenges each one of us to remember the basics of photography and simply reminds us to enjoy each shot and each

I attempted to visit Capones Island 8 years ago, as I had heard many compliments about it including that it was a favorite spot for surfers. The ancient lighthouse, built in 1890 was said to be its most famous landmark. I had taken an overnight bus to a nearby town and then proceeded on a tricycle to the seaside village named Pundakit beach to crossover to the Capones Island.

Visit to Capones Island Area After 8 Years

By Tilak Hittite

When I got off the tricycle, a strong gusty wind hit me hard, and sand blew in my face like bullets. Through slit-eyes I saw shore-side vendors hurriedly removing the roofs of their store-huts and carrying the skeleton frames away from the shore before the angry winds would crumble them. These early morning activities were a treat for a photographer; I began to steal a few scenes from the hustle and bustle created by Mother Nature. Besides, due to the inclement weather and the floods; the authorities had banned travel to the Island and I was stuck in Pundakit.



My second attempt to visit the area was vastly different. The weather for one, was co-operating well, maybe because we were there for the Camera Club OTS, to foster co-operation and friendship among members, while participating in a competitive activity. My travel companion was Fred Yuson. This time, even more than the unfolding spectacular scenes in the area, I was fascinated by our host Louie Abiva's stories and his restaurant. Immediately Louie and I found common interests – Louie is also young at heart and has many hobbies, as do I.

We stayed at Louie's rest house with an impressive collection of antique furniture. As we arrived there, I was instantly charmed by the welcome

drink – which turned out to be slices of mango and suman both delicacies of the locals. I knew we were off to a good start.



I was curious and simply asked him, "How do you find mangoes in the off-season?" He being a part owner of a mango farm told me the secret to the year-round mangoes. The farmers divide the land in to four sections and induce

the trees in each section at different times of the year to bear fruit. He went on to explain how labor-intensive it is to protect these delicious fruits from the flowering stage to harvesting time. It is so much work that at the end of the season, according to Louie - the landowners get only 30% of the sales value, the rest goes to the contract farmers who rent the land.

At the back of Louie's compound they raise native pigs better known as baboy damo (wild boar). Some of them look really mean – with tusks no less. According to Louie, the mama and papa pigs were originally obtained from the nearby zoo and their family has now grown into a total of 30 pigs. In our honor Louie instructed his staff to make us three types of wild boar dishes - adobo, kare-kare and lechon. We left the area with a happy hearts, satisfied stomachs and our cameras crammed with fascinating on-the-spot images. A giant in publishing industry Louie Abiva knows how to live an interesting life and entertain his guest. Thank you Louie for the memorable weekend.

CONTEST COMMITTEE

1. ELIGIBILITY RULES

In accordance with the recent reminders of our Club Treasurer and Director for Finance, everyone is reminded that (per Section 1.02):

- * Only members in good standing may enter the monthly and OTS competitions;
- * A member must have no outstanding account and have paid his first semester dues on or before the first Monday of March, to be eligible to enter the competition from that month on;
- * If the semestral dues are not paid on the deadlines mentioned, the scores gained during the affected semester will be nullified. Subsequent payment will not restore the nullified scores.

2. UPDATES ON REMAINING OTS

2.1 Roxas Boulevard

Territory covered: Roxas Boulevard from Airport Road to Anda Circle. The territory will extend to the whole area from Roxas Boulevard until the next parallel road. The Contest Committee will publish the Map during the April Meeting.

Date: 14 May 2017, Sunday
Regular OTS Rules.

2.2 TACLOBAN TO BASEA, SAMAR

Dates: Thursday, June 29, 2017 to Monday, 03 July 2017
Regular OTS Rules.

2.3 TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS AND HIGHLANDS

Territory: OTS Territory is within Tagaytay Midlands and Highlands. Not whole of Tagaytay.

Dates: Friday, July 28, 2017 to Sunday, July 30, 2017
Regular OTS Rules.

2.4 Korea OTS

Territory: Anywhere in Korea including JeJu Island.

Dates: Wednesday, 27 September 2017 to Sunday, 08 October 2017
Regular OTS Rules. Note that the monthly meeting is moved to 09 October 2017 (2nd Week).

Use of Drone in the remaining OTS are no longer allowed.

3. THEME FOR MAY 2017

THEME: "Katutubo (Philippine Indigenous People)"

FORMAT: BW

MEETING DATE: 08 May 2017

CONTEST				
ZAMBALES OTS				
RANK	NAME	ENTRY 1	ENTRY 2	TOTAL
1	Aliling, Jan	4.2525	4.5757	8.8282
2	Lagonera, Jake	4.3487	4.1912	8.5399
3	Cancio, Tony	4.2042	4.1992	8.4034
4	De Guzman, Jijo	4.1400	4.1440	8.2840
5	Bautista, Bien	3.7195	4.5440	8.2635
6	Antonio, Joey	4.2002	3.9667	8.1669
7	Yuson, Fred	3.7855	4.2147	8.0002
8	Chavez, Annabelle	3.7407	4.0425	7.7832
9	Castillo, Quincy	3.5145	4.1872	7.7017
10	Dela Merced, Melissa	3.1265	4.4600	7.5865
11	Riingen, Leo	3.1652	4.3650	7.5302
12	Arroyo, Kakai	3.3555	4.1637	7.5192
13	Santos, Raffy	3.3767	4.1332	7.5099
14	Ortiz, Rey	3.7900	3.6430	7.4330
15	Bautista, Mark	3.6305	3.7732	7.4037
16	Gaite, Manny	3.4312	3.9407	7.3719
17	Quimel, Lito	3.2982	4.0700	7.3682
18	Ang, Garrick	3.5427	3.6787	7.2214
19	Hermogenes, Jaime	3.1220	3.9195	7.0415
20	Flores, Javi	3.5902	3.4240	7.0142
21	Lagdameo, Dindin	3.7505	3.2415	6.9920
22	Apuya, Armand	3.9602	2.9637	6.9239
23	Lilles, Tony	3.1832	3.7277	6.9109
24	Del Rosario, Fred	3.1585	3.6307	6.7892
25	Garbanzos, Gino	3.3052	3.4362	6.7414
26	Sison, Bob	3.1102	3.5322	6.6424
27	Benitez, Manette	3.1927	3.3437	6.5364
28	Ner, Rene	3.1250	1.9507	5.0757
29	Paraan Renee	2.0677	2.2135	4.2812

CONTEST				
GRAFFITI				
COLOR PRINT				
RANK	NAME	ENTRY 1	ENTRY 2	TOTAL
1	Mondoñedo, Billy	4.1417	3.8047	7.9464
2	Lagonera, Jake	4.3002	3.5402	7.8404
3	San Pedro, Paul	3.7815	4.0357	7.8172
4	Venturina, Nap	3.6777	4.0150	7.6927
5	Flores, Javi	3.8065	3.8575	7.6640
6	Antonio, Joey	3.6000	4.0592	7.6592
7	Lagdameo, Dindin	4.0140	3.5340	7.5480
8	Balagtas, Kiko	4.2890	3.2067	7.4957
9	Riingen, Leo	3.6500	3.8357	7.4857
10	Lilles, Tony	3.5287	3.9430	7.4717
11	De Guzman, Jijo	3.5817	3.7405	7.3222
12	Gaite, Manny	3.7637	3.5487	7.3124
13	Sison, Bob	4.0817	3.1900	7.2717
14	Apuya, Armand	3.5920	3.6175	7.2095
15	Arroyo, Kakai	3.6320	3.5080	7.1400
16	Yu, Philip	3.5325	3.6067	7.1392
17	Chan, Ricardo	3.8202	3.2525	7.0727
18	Reyno, King	3.4255	3.6422	7.0677
19	Ang, Garrick	3.8002	3.1907	6.9909
20	Montifar, Raul	4.0812	2.9042	6.9854
21	Castillo, Quincy	2.9852	3.9777	6.9629
22	Ner, Rene	3.1830	3.7797	6.9627
23	Quimel, Lito	3.0212	3.9275	6.9487
24	Samson, Adel	3.4752	3.4240	6.8992
25	Aliling, Jan	3.6997	3.1962	6.8959
26	Camarillo, Sonny	3.6620	3.1415	6.8035
27	Viñas, Chito	3.0250	3.7652	6.7902
28	Chavez, Annabelle	3.3957	3.3135	6.7092
29	Garbanzos, Gino	3.4247	3.2787	6.7034
30	Benitez, Manette	3.4430	3.2480	6.6910
31	De Leon, Rudy	3.8345	2.8337	6.6682
32	Fidelino, Boyet	3.1037	3.5332	6.6369
33	Santos, Raffy	3.1250	3.4592	6.5842
34	Montifar, Miko	3.3127	3.2290	6.5417
35	Bautista, Bien	3.3140	3.2162	6.5302
36	Littaua, Raoul	3.0582	3.4550	6.5132
37	Garrido, Jun	3.5812	2.9137	6.4949
38	Dela Merced, Narcing	3.0082	3.4565	6.4647
39	Guingona, Jojo	3.0057	3.4432	6.4489
40	Cachero, Eric	2.9902	3.4247	6.4149
41	Juat, Necy	3.2565	3.1530	6.4095
42	Montalban, Joey	3.1367	3.2655	6.4022
43	Del Rosario, Fred	3.4792	2.8887	6.3679
44	Serrano, TG	3.6562	2.7040	6.3602
45	Barlund, Anna	3.3442	2.9625	6.3067
46	Buenaventura, Jorge	3.1325	3.0375	6.1700
47	Santos, Tito	2.5300	3.6372	6.1672
48	Villarica, Udsie	3.1875	2.9590	6.1465
49	Villanueva, Val	2.8150	3.3227	6.1377
50	Hermogenes, Jaime	3.2652	2.8475	6.1127
51	Yuson, Fred	3.1017	2.9950	6.0967
52	Dela Merced, Melissa	3.0200	3.0110	6.0310
53	Paraan, Renee	2.8375	3.1820	6.0195
54	Ortiz, Rey	3.2012	2.7372	5.9384
55	Gutierrez, Gutch	3.0772	2.8475	5.9247
56	Valmonte, Charmaine	3.0362	2.8292	5.8654
57	Cancio, Tony	2.8465	2.9050	5.7515
58	Samson, Juni	2.8697	2.8315	5.7012
59	Cruz, Gino	2.6990	2.3805	5.0795

A GENTLE REMINDER TO OUR FELLOW CCP MEMBERS to please settle your outstanding balance as of Dec 2016 (if any) and your 1st semester 2017 membership dues & other payables on or before APRIL 3, 2017. You may coordinate with Karen as we have sent billing statements via email already. You have the option to deposit your payment to CCP's BPI ACCOUNT #3561 046904, Account Name: Camera Club of the Philippines Center Inc. or pay via cash or check payable to CAMERA CLUB of the Philippines Center Inc. at the registration on April 3, 2017 c/o KAREN We will provide our Contest Committee Chairman with the list of unpaid members so they can implement what is provided in our contest rules regarding eligibility of entries.

MARAMING SALAMAT PO!
KONTI NA LANG AT MA COCOLLECT NA NATIN LAHAT.

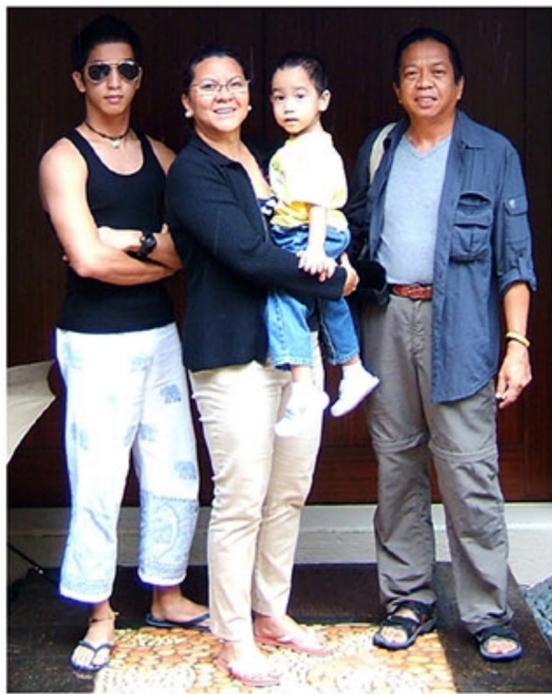
Last May 26, back to back Master Photographer Jijo De Guzman and Contest Chairman Jan Aliling organized a small photography themed workshop. Jijo shared his workflow from planning to conceptualizing contest entries up to post processing techniques. The workshop is the first of a series of tutorials that Master Jijo plans conduct in the coming months to help budding photographers develop their artistic vision and express their inner voice. All our probes were in attendance. The event was sponsored by Canon.



I was fortunate to have interviewed our pony-tailed coolest Lifetime Member Master Bien Bautista. He has been my idol for so many years, even before I became a Club probee. I was one of those lucky ones who bought his coffee table book, "Esta Bien" at National Bookstore many moons ago. Thus, when I learned that as probee my assignment was to interview him, I was excited and anxious to see him immediately at his studio in Makati.

Our appointment was at 2pm but unfortunately we got delayed due to the fire drill conducted in his building. No one was allowed to enter the building while it was going on. I was able to get in at around 2.37pm. Well, I guess it's tough luck for me!

When he opened the door to welcome me, he was in his usual self - cheerful, warm and always smiling. To me, he is one of the humblest members of the Club. In spite of his stature in photography, I could not see any hint of arrogance nor swagger in his persona considering he is one of the Club's Master Photographers.



He won it in 2001.

Master Bien or simply called "Bien" fell in love with photography at a very young age of seven. His parents gifted him with a toy film camera with brand name "Diana" which could take still photos, though blurred and not well-exposed. He vividly remembers that his first and favorite subjects were his slot cars.

Bien was a Fine Arts major in Advertising at the University of Santo Tomas. Back in the day, the most lucrative photography business was advertising lensman. Though the competition was stiff among them, the professional fee was more than enough to raise a

viewfinder
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KODAK CUP
BIEN S. BAUTISTA
2001
MASTER PHOTOGRAPHER

If Bien Bautista were a fencer competitor, he may have won the title Master Photographer many years back. But his quiet, calm personality (almost always reflected in his imagery) remained unchanging. The scramble for more points at the finish each year didn't seem to affect Bien as it did other competitors. In due course, he may be the last among his contemporaries to win the title Master Photographer. Bien is simply being Zen.

What follows is an excerpt from the foreword of Bien's forthcoming book of photographs.

"Zen in Japanese is religious meditation bridging the real world with the spirit. The spiritual blends with one's manner of seeing, and of living in Japanese traditional art. Living rooms are almost bare. Walls are of plain bamboo and paper. Music is a melancholy duet of wind and string. Restraint and ceremony (as in the tea ceremony) dominate the mood of life and visual expression. Black and white subdues aggressive hues into submissive pastels. Zen is simplicity.

"In Bien Bautista's photographs, simplicity is the rule. It's no surprise then that, given the choice, he prefers to work in black and white. He finds that controlling the tones from black—through all the intermediate shades—to white poses a more stimulating approach. Bien's fondness for shadows and silhouettes is a clear manifestation of his vision of the world from another viewpoint. His Zen viewpoint.

"Glimpses into silence are Bien Bautista's nature shots. Be it a skylark of a dying sun or a mute flinty water caressing the stones of a shallow river. They deny everydayness and affirm the miraculous breath of nature. Most of them are back or side-lighted—a recurring technique in Bien's photographs. And as we know, backlit subjects tend to drown in shadowy silhouettes, thus, again simplifying the scene. His fondness for the slow shutter also masks details that characterize the hackneyed. Thus, subjects in motion tend to float in poetic grace. The shadows and interplay of moods redefine the natural into mythical. A glimpse into a silent dimension. As the world-renowned photographer poet Gordon Parks writes, 'Nothing is more compelling than silence. The silence of Zen.'

"For sure, not all of Bien Bautista's photographs are mute. There are scenes of celebration. Of exhilaration. Even of humor! I'm certain both he and photographer tycoon Jaime Zobel de Ayala had fun working on the latter's portrait. (A la Pablo Picasso's portrait with a flashlight-drawn centaur as photographed by Gjon Mili.)"

Congratulations, Bien! Master Photographer!

- FRANCO PATRIARCA

family.

Bien was immediately smitten by the camaraderie and excitement of the Club and this was the reason why he continued to finish his probee period. In the '80s, to become a member, you have to be sponsored by two regular members. His sponsors then were Sonny Camarillo and Judes Echauz. When he was inducted as a regular member, he realized it was all worth it. He immediately clicked with Club Masters like Emil Davocol, Pancho Escaler, Waldy Cruz, Edgar Sarte, Ramon Marcos and Jaime Zobel de Ayala aka "JZA." Edgar Sarte, Ramon



Marcos and JZA eventually became his god fathers or "ninongs" when he wed his drop dead gorgeous wife, Remy (nee Carballo) back in 1982.

Bien considered one of his memorable moments at the Club was when he got married in 1982. Every member supported him especially Ernie Fajardo, Edgar Sarte, Louie Abiva and of course, JZA. He vividly recalls during his

Feature: Bien Bautista

by Boyet Tolentino

wedding that all their guests could not see them in the church and at the reception. Numerous photographers were in front of them taking their photos. They felt like celebrities. He said that the only nice photo of him during the wedding was taken by a fellow Club LM, Amang Jose, who is still active in attending our monthly meetings.

Bien and Remy Bautista, have a son, Juan Dominic or JD and they have one cute grandson. He continues to be an active member of the Club and continues to join our monthly competition. He is currently a member of "Team Pogi", composed of Master Jijo De Guzman, Jan Ailing, Adel Samson and Kakai Arroyo. Their team recently launched a collaborative coffee table book called "The Fifth Element," which was launched in Solaire Resorts and Hotel in February 2017.



It is noteworthy to mention as well that Bien, back in the day, was a member of "Grupo Singko" composed of Masters Waldy Cruz, Sonny Camarillo, Emil Davocol and himself. Wonder why they are called such when in fact there were only four members? Well, I guess we have to ask Master Bien about it.

To our LM Bien Bautista, cheers to you and your family! May God bless you more!

