



**Tom Smith**  
**Photographer**  
**Oceanside, CA**

Photography has been a part of my life, off and on, nearly as long as I can remember. As a small child I probably had the most photographed dog in history.

I joined the COAL Gallery in 2006 and have met many fellow photographers and artists, which has helped me greatly. Since joining COAL I have received awards (ribbons and cash prizes) over fifty times there, including a "Best of Show" last year. I also have shown at the San Diego County Fair several times, winning many honorable mentions and also a third place in sports photography. My images have appeared in the online version of Shutterbug Magazine over 20 times, and also recently in the San Diego Reader's site. I have items at the Artisan Collection in San Diego and frequently have displays in a few upscale coffee shops.

After an absence from photography for several years I returned to it in the late 1990s just when the trend towards digital was arriving. Digital changed everything in cameras, the way you shoot, and the way it's processed and printed. Many of the pictures I take are printed on metal. It's not something the photographer can do himself. I do like the way it really pops the colors in the image. I also like to do my own matting and framing on many of my projects. Nearly all my photos are available in either metal or traditional framing, with a few also printed on canvas.

Since retiring in 2010 I have been able to spend more and more time working on my photography. I don't know if I could categorize any style or subject of what I like to take, I'm just kind of all over the place. Having moved from the midwest to California in 1980, I really focused in on seascapes while still enjoying sports, wildlife, landscape, macro and floral. As the saying goes, "it's all good".

I appreciate your being here and would welcome any comments at:  
[smile4thebirdie@gmail.com](mailto:smile4thebirdie@gmail.com)

Thanks you,

Tom