

INFOCUS

SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Editor: Alison Earl, alisonspcnewsletter@gmail.com



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www.sandhillsphotoclub.org

February 2025

PRESIDENT – CAL RICE

Are you a procrastinator? Do you delay actions until the deadline, or a little bit more? Do you think about what this does to others?

Our SPC annual dues are to be paid by December 31. As that date approaches some of our wonderful Membership Committee volunteers begin sending out reminders to those who have not yet paid. This year approximately 30% did not renew by the end of the year.

Once the new year arrives members send in their money and expect to be included in the first competition. That means someone goes to the Post Office every couple of days to see if there is another check and then notifies Membership and Competition.

By February membership roles are being updated to remove non-members from Competition, web site membership directory, newsletter mailings, etc. Of course, if you renew after that, then all those changes have to be undone.

This fall please pay your membership dues early, rather than late, to save work for our volunteer leaders.



Cal Rice

- Next Meeting: **February 10, 2025**, 7pm, **Reflections** Competition
1st 2025 Competition Results: Judge: Brian Fullington
- **Feb. 15th**: Hounds on the Ground Outing (see info inside)
- Member images from Jordan Lake Dam and S&T Soda Shop Pages 9-13

- **NOTE: MARCH'S SPC MEETING WILL BE THE 3RD MONDAY (March 17th)** due to scheduling problems with SCC Ball Ctr.



February Outing: Hounds on the Grounds, February 15th

We got rained out last year, but we are going to try again. Moore County Hounds embark on a hunt like those back in the Boyds' day.

The hunt will start at 10:00 am and is free. Come as early as 9:00am to make sure to see the riders come onto the Weymouth property. We will gather in the front parking lot at the entrance to the Boyd House at 555 Connecticut Ave, Southern Pines. (the Connecticut Ave entrance).

<https://weymouthcenter.org/event-calendar/#event=77847858;instance=20250215100000?popup=1&lang=en-US>

After, we will have lunch or brunch at Table on the Green.

<https://tableonthegreenrestaurant.com/>

Please let me know if you will be able to join us. cindy.m.8012@gmail.com



Images from Jordan Lake Dam Outing and S & T's Soda Shoppe in Pittsboro in our Out & About section, page 9-13



Reflections Competition

Reflection photography is a creative technique that captures the reflected images on a reflective surface. The reflective surface echoes the surrounding scenery. It can be a large setting (such as the ocean) or a small one (such as a raindrop). (3-year limit)



Mike Sassano

February 10th 7pm

With Judge Brian Fullington

Brian Fullington

Photographer

Brian P. Fullington is a Chapel Hill based fine art photographer with a passion for scenic and street photography. He started his photographic career as a photojournalist for a metropolitan Boston daily newspaper in the 1970's. While there he grew his compositional and lighting skills and learned to react quickly to photographic opportunities – skills that have served him well over the years. Brian then spent more than four years as a commercial photographer in Eastern Massachusetts. After a successful career in sales and marketing at IBM he moved back into photography on a full-time basis in 2008.

Over the years he has developed his talents as a fine art photographer specializing in landscape and travel subjects. He is fortunate to have the ability to be able to quickly spot strong compositional elements and then use his camera to turn them into appealing images. Having traveled extensively in Europe, Asia and the U.S. he has built a strong portfolio of scenic, travel and human-interest photographs.

Brian has won numerous awards for his photography in local competitions, was the Competition Chairman for the Capital City Camera Club for two years and judges' photography frequently (competitions include South Carolina State Fair, CNPA/Raulston Arboretum, Cary Photo Artists, Wake Forest Camera Club, Capital City Camera Club, Chapel Hill Camera Club, Lee County Fair, and Alamance Photo Club).



If you are a **new member** and you need help with entering a competition, there are two resources: the Competition Manual is on our website and offers many tips for sizing and other technical specifics; and you are welcome to email us with any questions at competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org. We are happy to help!

Mike Sassano, Jerry Kozel & Dee Williams

2025 Competitions: Topics, Dates, & Definitions



(APRIL) Old Barns/Buildings - Photograph an old livestock structure or an old home or store. The structure may be dilapidated or just aged. (3-year limit)

Judge: Jamie Konarski Davidson (New Life Photos). jamie@newlifephotos.com

Entries Open	Entries Close	Results Event
3/08/2025	3/15/2025	4/14/2025

(JUNE) M is for.... – The subject of the image should begin with the letter “M.” The title of the image must reflect the “M” name of the subject. (3-year limit)

Judge: TBD

Entries Open	Entries Close	Results Event
5/10/2025	5/17/2025	6/09/2025

(AUG) Churches/Graveyards – Photograph a church, old or new, OR photograph a cemetery. (3-year limit).

Judge: Debbie Brooks (PPG) Charlotte, NC: @dbrooks839 (Instagram)

Entries Open	Entries Close	Results Event
7/12/2025	7/19/2025	8/11/2025

(OCT) The Color Red – The image must contain a dominant overall color of red or the subject of the image must be red. (3-year limit)

Judge: Mary Presson Roberts (Fort Mill, SC, website: <https://www.themaryphotographer.com>

Entries Open	Entries Close	Results Event
9/13/2025	9/20/2025	10/13/2025

(DEC) Open – any subject is acceptable. Color or black & white may be submitted. (3-year limit)

Member judged.

Entries Open	Entries Close	Results Event
11/08/2025	11/15/2025	12/08/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SPC MEMBERS ENTERING COMPETITIONS:

NOTE: Mark your calendars with the dates above. Look for email reminders the week before the competition. The link for each competition will be sent to you just before the competition begins.

When you receive the email, please be sure to proceed as follows:

1. **Click on the link**
2. **Complete the form and upload your image**
3. **You must hit the SUBMIT button in order to receive a confirmation that the photo was sent to us.**

Finally, you will receive an acceptance email from us within 24-48 hours after submitting your image. If you don't receive an acceptance email within 48 hours please check your SPAM folder or contact the committee.



WORKSHOPS – SUSAN BAILEY

SPC Workshop Topics and Details for March 18, 2025 - Brian Osborne
Sandhills Horticultural Gardens
G. Victor and Margaret Ball Gardens Visitors Center
3245 Airport Road, Southern Pines, NC



Susan Bailey

1

Good Foundations Create Fantastic Photos Tuesday, March 18th from 9-11:30am

This class will help photographers of all levels learn how to be more intentional in the



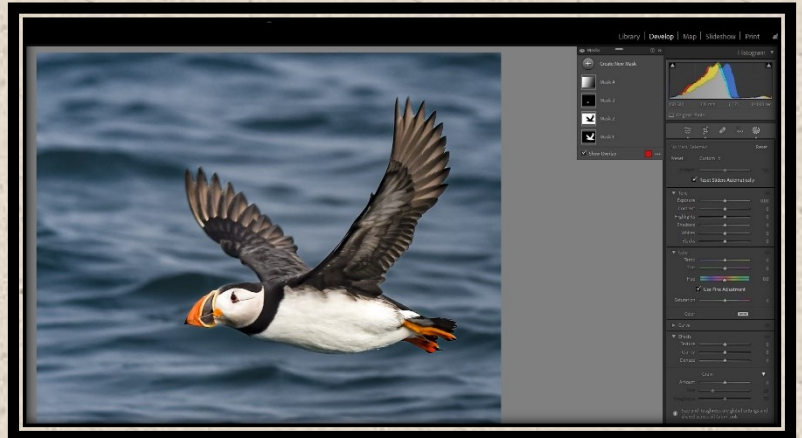
images they create. Making sure that foundational photography concepts such as modes, depth of field, motion, exposure (especially using the histogram) and proper white balance are able to be applied in the field quickly will encourage participants to capture excellent photographs in camera. We will also talk about how composition plays into all situations. There will be hands-on illustrations and exercises in the classroom to reinforce the material and the last 30 mins will give us the opportunity to go outside into the garden to work on what we have learned.

The cost is \$60 and registration is available on The Photo Classroom website. (Minimum 8 students and maximum 16)

2

Intermediate Lightroom and Photoshop Editing Tuesday, March 18th from 1-3:30pm

This class will introduce those who have some experience with Lightroom and/or Photoshop to some additional workflow techniques (such as renaming files correctly and more) while also demonstrating the powerful new masking and AI tools of both Lightroom and Photoshop. We will also cover Generative AI in



both software programs and various applications of this tool. Printable materials will be provided to help follow along with the class demonstrations and the last 30 mins of the class time will be set aside to have participants work on their own photos on their laptops applying what they have learned with the instructor assisting.

The cost is \$60 and registration will be available on The Photo Classroom website. (Minimum 8 students and maximum 16)

REGISTRATION

Brian is handling the registrations for both classes. The link for each class is <https://thephotoclassroom.com/sandhills-photography-club-class-offerings/>

Click on the class you want and click on March 18 and choose which class(es) you want to attend.



Deb Castle

Link for HOTEL: [Courtyard Hotel](#) (deadline 3/7)
Deb's Contact Info: fieldtrips@sandhillspgphotoclub.org

**SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB
SPRING FIELD TRIP
NEW BERN, NC
APRIL 8-10, 2025**

Courtyard by Marriott
218 E. Front Street
New Bern, NC 28560
877-863-2116
**Riverfront Location*
**Complimentary Parking & WIFI*
**Outdoor Pool and Fitness Center*
**Bistro and Bar*

Only 20 rooms reserved.
\$179 for non-balcony rooms
Can add two additional nights (7th. or 10th)

Reservation Deadline - March 7!

Call number above and mention Group Code SAN or Sandhills Photo Club



Activities include:

Tryon Palace,
Galleries & Gardens

Downtown
Historical Tours

Birthplace
of Pepsi Cola





Mary Bonsall

Happy New Year and welcome again to our new members (8 in 2025) and all returning members.

We are at 101 members today, 1/23/25. It has already been an exciting year ripe with snowy and icy photographic opportunities that some brave souls have taken advantage of by getting out amongst nature. On the first occasion, I wimpily took photos behind glass and screens but this time I bundled up and ventured out and was met by the treasured gift of SILENCE. In our busy lives, it's so hard to find the stillness that a snowfall brings. Traipsing around my yard and the woods, it was so peaceful and fun to decipher the footsteps of animals who took the same paths before me. Watching finches and black-capped chickadees at the bird feeder and walking along nature's stillness brought a serenity that was quite a rare treat. I encourage you to get out and explore safely. While it is beautiful, it can also be treacherous so watch your step!

We are happy to welcome our new members in January:

**Jameson Everett,
Robert and Rebecca Harris
Daniel Kivlehen
Dennis Mally
Julie Martin
Shannon and Whit Newton**

I hope you enjoyed our January program which felt like a tour of the Outer Banks. We resided in Kitty Hawk for ten years but the program still made me want to go back and look for the elusive bears in Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. ...Steve and I were only good at finding bear SCAT!

Finally, as we look to grow our club, we'd like an Instagram presence. If you have knowledge of setting up and administering an Insta site and the time to do it and sustain it, please contact us at membership@sandhillsphotoclub.org or David Kiner at dbkiner@gmail.com.

I'm looking forward to our next meeting and the review of 'Reflections' competition. Our team always provides a myriad of perspectives on the subject and the judges view is also educational.

Until then, enjoy our second month of winter safely,

Mary



John German

SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB'S WEBSITE

WWW.SANDHILLSPHOTOCLUB.ORG

Website Notes for February 2025:

This month's featured member's website on the club website is [Diane McKay](#). Click her name to view her website or the link to her website on our website homepage.

Club Directory

You may view the club directory at: [Club Directory](#). You will need the password from Alison's Upcoming Events Page sent in conjunction with this newsletter. If you would like to have your photo added to the directory, or change the one in the gallery, just send a favorite to me at [John German](#). I will add it to the gallery.

Member Galleries

*Members who would like a personal gallery should let me know at website@sandhillsphotoclub.org, and I will send an upload link for their use. See the website "Member Galleries" page for instructions on sizing, etc. **This link will continue to work but if you wish to change images, I must delete the old ones. You can upload at will. If you have lost your link, just let me know and I will resend it to you.***

Member Websites

If you have a personal website, please let me know and I can provide a link on the "Member's Galleries" page for you. Please view the member's websites & galleries on this tab on the club website.

Thank you,

John German

PS: Please email any errors that you may notice on the website. I will correct them as soon as possible. website@sandhillsphotoclub.org

Jordan Lake Dam
and
S & T's Soda
Shoppe in Pittsboro

out & about

Photographers:
Cindy Murphy, Neva Scheve,
Jacques Wood, John German,
Mary Bonsall, Lynn Goldhammer,
and Susan Bailey



Neva Scheve



Cindy Murphy



Jacques Wood



Lynn Goldhammer



Susan Bailey



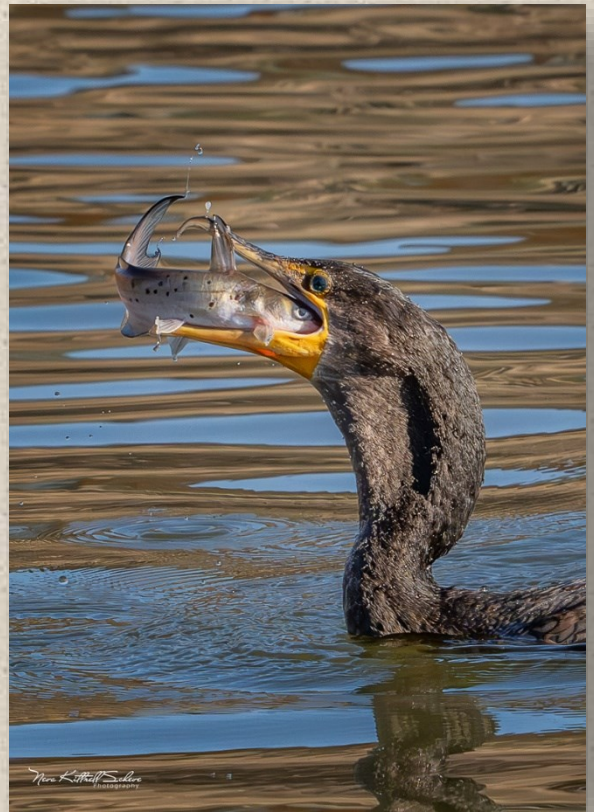
John German



Susan Bailey



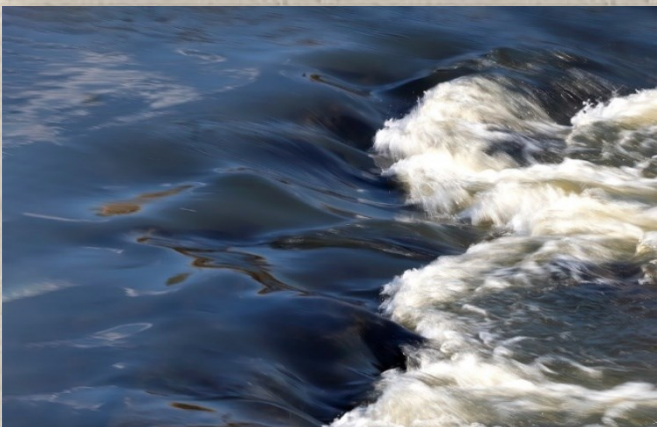
Neva Scheve



Neva Scheve



Neva Scheve



Susan Bailey



John German



Cindy Murphy



Mary Bonsall



Cindy Murphy



Cindy Murphy



Mary Bonsall



John German



Susan Bailey

Susan Bailey



Mary Bonsall



Mary Bonsall



Jacques Wood



John German



John German



John German



Jacques Wood



John German



Website: www.sandhillsphotoclub.org
 Newsletter: alisonspcnewsletter@gmail.com



2025 SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB BOARD AND CHAIRS

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 (including images), etc. @
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Alison Earl



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