



# IN FOCUS



A Publication of  
THE SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB P.O. Box 763, Southern Pines, NC 28388  
Enriching Our World Through Photography

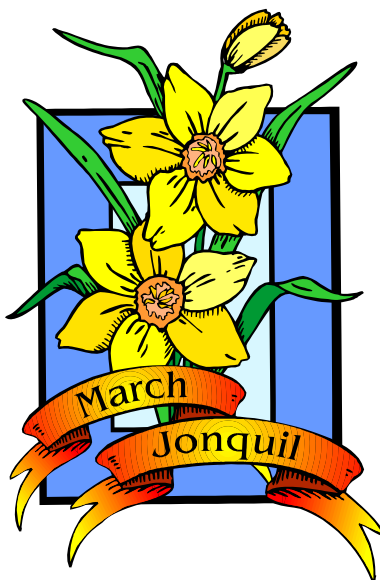
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MARCH 2014

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NEXT MEETING

- March 10<sup>th</sup> – Susan Bailey

### BOARD MEETING

- March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2pm

### PROGRAMS

- March: Susan Bailey. “A Critique Of Photos Submitted By Our Club”

### COMPETITIONS

- April: Things We Love
- June: Fog, Haze, or Rain

### EXHIBITIONS

- Ongoing: Local Artists: The Pierce Gallery
- Ongoing: Quail Haven Village
- April: Double Takes
- Fall: SCC Exhibition

### WORKSHOPS

- March 22: “Options for Matting and Framing Photos” *Betty Hendrix*
- April 12: “Pre and Post Processing for Special Effects” *Matt Smith*
- May 17: “HDR Photography”, *Dave Verchick*
- June 21: “Creating a Photo Montage”, *Gisela Danielson, Jill Margeson, Neva Schreve*

“When you photograph people in color,  
you photograph their clothes. But when  
you photograph people in Black and white,  
you photograph their souls!”  
– Ted Grant

## PRESIDENT'S NOTES, *Jill Margeson*

I am sure thankful there are people in our club who don't mind giving up their free time to work on things that really aren't that much fun, but essential to our club:

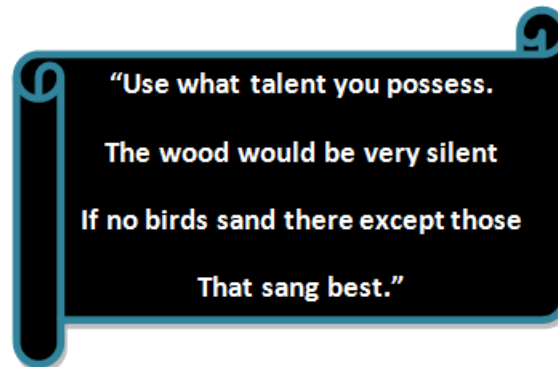
I am thinking of **Grace Hill** and **Debra Regula** working to update and revise the Competition Manuals along with their committee members. Also have in mind **Marilyn Owen** and the many demanding hours she has spent making SmugMug work for our club "Out and About" and competitions.

**Neva Scheve** put in countless time fine-tuning the "Out and About" activity and being available now that it is launched. **John German** takes time from his other duties to be diligent keeping our website up to date and full of pertinent information. And then there is **Dave Powers** who takes time from his trips to interviewing people for our programs. **Linda Piechota** has already organized several workshops, taught one herself last Saturday, and made a trip to our spring field trip destination.

Well, I can't leave off **Bill Matthews** getting our equipment where it needs to be (almost at every function now) and **Alison Earl**, stuck at her computer to edit and enter our last minute newsletter articles each month. And of course, there are other worker bees too that will be recognized another time.

These hard working people are only asking that you participate... in the workshops, competitions, trips, and hopefully the "Out and About" activity too. If you enjoy yourself and learn some photography along the way, all their work time is worthwhile, and all will be happy!!!

And keep in mind this quote I have hanging on my wall by an unknown author:



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS, *Judy Nappi*:

Our February meeting had four guests and 4 new members. Our new members are **Susan LaCoursiere, Tobe Saskor** and **Linda and Jim Dalton**.

Susan is from Whispering Pines and heard about us from member **Daniel Owens**. Tobe Saskor is a semi-professional photographer specializing in equine and sport photography, who would like to expand her talents towards artistic photography. Linda and Jim Dalton are from West End and hope to expand their skills in taking photos.

Our membership now stands at 132 paid memberships and 5 honorary memberships. If you have not yet paid your dues, remember to get them in either by mail or at the next meeting.



**PROGRAMS, *Dave Powers*:**

**MAY PROGRAM INFORMATION**  
**“ENHANCING YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY WITH FLASH”**  
**BRIAN OSBORNE**  
[WWW.THEPHOTOCLASSROOM.COM/](http://WWW.THEPHOTOCLASSROOM.COM/)



I am pleased to announce that **Brian Osborne**, owner of The Photo Classroom in Charlotte, NC will be our speaker. Brian is a graduate of the photography program at Randolph Community College and is a highly recommended speaker. The topic will be “Enhancing your Photography with Flash”. This was the number one topic requested based upon the survey completed by the club members.



Brian Osborne

The Photo Classroom specializes in training photographers in all aspects of digital photography. Brian and his staff have been teaching photography for 14 years with a combined 60 years of professional teaching experience. Classes are offered on 35 different subjects.

This program will be unique to our club because it offers a workshop the following day to practice the techniques that were covered in the meeting. Brian has agreed to conduct a workshop to be held at the Sandhills College Gardens from 9:00 to 11:00.

Because of the increased costs involved with Brian staying over to do the workshop, the board has approved a \$10 registration fee for the workshop. This instruction would be significantly more expensive through his company and we are fortunate to have this opportunity to learn from Brian. Please go to his website to learn more about Brian and his company. Please read the article Brian wrote for the Carolinas Nature Photography Winter 2014 Quarterly Magazine titled “Flash has a Role in Nature Photography. **See article on next page**

**Mark May 12 and 13th, 2014** on your calendars to learn more about



**March Program—Susan Bailey—Critiquing Your Photo**  
**March 10, 2014**



Thank you for your great response for photos for Susan to incorporate in her program on “Critiquing Your Photos” We received 53 photos from 29 photographers.

My sincere appreciation to **Jim Davis** for suggesting this program and for graciously agreeing to receive the photos for Susan. Great job, Jim.

Susan Bailey

If you would like to see Susan’s work, go to  
[www.sunrisedesigns.smugmug.com/](http://www.sunrisedesigns.smugmug.com/)

## Flash has a role in nature photography

By Brian Osborne  
Charlotte Region  
brian@thephotoclassroom.com

I've taught hundreds of students and I have found that the use of the flash is one of the most misunderstood and under-utilized aspects in photography.

Photographers are "painters of light." There are only two types of light (available and flash). The reality of photography is that we can rarely control and shape available light. How often can we change the intensity, direction, contrast range, color and quality of light that is natural?

Flash provides us with almost total control over the same factors. What is needed is increased knowledge about how a photographer can employ this tool to improve the quality of their images.

This is where "fill flash" comes in. "Fill flash" can provide several benefits.

Fill in the shadow areas of the image

This is in essence not just making shadows brighter to show more detail in these areas. As a larger idea, it is the reduction of the contrast range (dynamic range). This flattening of the contrast allows the camera to be able to record the full range of tones where otherwise it would not be able to. We know that the contrast from the brightest to darkest tones in many scenes is well beyond what any camera can record and so the only solution is to reduce this range.

Improve the color accuracy and vibrancy

Every light source has its own color balance (white balance), but many times the camera does not see this accurately. Subjects in the shade or on an overcast day tend to be blue. Photos produced at the "golden hour" of the day are yellow. Sometimes this is desired by the photographer.

There are many times when it is not desired. The color of the light is not correct and must be changed with the white balance on the camera or with software in post-processing. The issue that arises



Squirrel without flash

Squirrel with flash

with color is the difficulty of not only identifying a color cast but also correcting it properly in the field or on the computer.

Two things take place when the flash is fired. One is that light is provided with a Kelvin temperature the camera expects so auto white balance can be used. The second is the camera is aware of when the flash fires and adjusts itself to correspond to the lighting of the subjects. In essence, using the flash warms up or cools off the color in photos.

Add a catch-light

A catch-light (or sparkle) is an expected element of good portraits. Even in wildlife images, the light in the eyes of the animal is critical because it adds detail to the eyes of the subject. The use of flash is the easiest way to produce this.

The leaf example is another vivid example of the flash helping to reduce the harsh contrast range of the light. The inside of the leaf and the end of the log are filled in nicely while the backlight effect of the sun is still evident. It is as if we are augmenting the best of natural light with the control of the flash.

The white squirrel picture demonstrates not only the successful capture of both bright and dark areas of the subject with the fill flash but also the increased depth of field that often takes place when adding light with a flash.

In both the examples shown, the fill flash was provided by the built-in flash on the camera. Sometimes it is just easier to use the flash on the camera rather than get out the accessory flash. I have found any flash is better than no flash at all.

What really strikes me about "fill flash" is it makes photography easier. All of the images were shot in program or aperture priority mode, auto white balance and TTL on the flash unit. It allows more concentration to be given to the composition and detail of a shot and less to the technical components of the photographic process that so often, if missed, lead to poor image quality or lots of post-processing.

Applying "fill flash" to a wide range of nature subjects can improve images and gives us greater creative control in other aspects of photography. The next time you go out to shoot, think about how you might use flash to improve your nature photography. After all, it is often the only controllable light source we have.



Leaf Without Flash

Leaf With Flash

## WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED FOR 2014. *By Linda Piechota, Workshop Chairman*

### March 22 - "Options for Matting and Framing Photos" (Class is full)

- 10am - 12 Noon
- Instructor: Betty Hendrix

Location: Home Studio of Betty Hendrix, 140 Pine Ridge Drive, Whispering Pines. Betty is a well-known local fine artist and photographer who has been a member of our photo club since 1989. She is knowledgeable in all areas of matting and framing and is an excellent teacher. Questions? Email Betty at: [bettyhendrix@charter.net](mailto:bettyhendrix@charter.net)



### April 12: "Pre and Post Processing for Special Effects" 9am-12 Noon (No Limit)

- Location: SCC Horticulture Welcome Center on Airport Road
- Instructor: Matt Smith Sign up at the March 10 Club Meeting

Sandhills Photography Club member, Matt Smith will share his techniques of pre and post-processing. The workshop will include live demonstrations of creative/special effect camera set-up and editing. Matt would like to keep the workshop interactive, so bring your questions. Cameras with manual settings and tripods are welcome if you would like to practice during the demonstrations.

### May 17: "HDR Photography" 9am - 12 Noon (No Limit)

- Location: SCC Horticulture Welcome Center & Gardens, Airport Rd.
- Instructor: Dave Verchick Sign up at the April 14 Club Meeting

HDR Shootshop (means you will be shooting not just learning)

Bring your camera, tripod and cable release if you have one. If you are unfamiliar with shooting modes of your camera bring the instruction manual. We will be bracketing shots in aperture and/or manual priorities using exposure compensation.

<u>First Hour</u>	<u>Second Hour</u>	<u>Third Hour</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why HDR or Tone Mapping</li> <li>• Gear</li> <li>• Setup methods</li> <li>• Situational awareness</li> <li>• Software I use</li> </ul>	Shoot series	Process the series

### June 21: "Creating a Photo Montage" 9am - 11:30am (No limit)

- Location: SCC Horticulture Welcome Center on Airport Road
- Instructors: Gisela Danielson, Jill Margeson, Neva Schreve
- Sign up at the May 12 Club Meeting

Jill, Neva and Gisela are in the process of designing an exciting experience.

Participants will learn how to make a Montage using layers. Knowledge of Photoshop and/or Elements is highly recommended, however all SPC members are invited to attend. Creating a Montage can be lots of fun.

**TREASURER'S REPORT - Joanne Lentz**

FINANCIAL REPORT as of JANUARY 31 2014

<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT</b>	
<b>STARTING BALANCE (DECEMBER 31, 2014)</b>	<b>\$4,036.57</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
JAY CAPERS - JANUARY SPEAKER	\$50.00
DAVE POWERS - JANUARY SPEAKER DINNER	\$21.60
GRACE HILL - COMPETITION COMMITTEE SUPPLIES	\$30.67
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$102.27</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	
DUES	\$1296.00
INTEREST	\$.03
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$1,296.03</b>
<b>ENDING CHECKING BALANCE (JANUARY 31, 2014)</b>	<b>\$5,230.33</b>
<b><u>SAVINGS ACCOUNT</u></b>	
<b>STARTING BALANCE (DECEMBER 31, 2013)</b>	<b>\$4,881.91</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	
INTEREST	\$0.12
<b>ENDING SAVINGS BALANCE (JANUARY 31, 2014)</b>	<b>\$4,882.03</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS (JANUARY 31, 2014)</b>	<b>\$10,112.36</b>

**REFRESHMENT LIST**

MARCH	Jean Sundstrom	235-3727
APRIL	Jennifer German	245-3177
MAY	Lana Rebert	949-1115
JUNE	<b>OPEN</b>	
JULY	<b>OPEN</b>	
AUGUST	<b>OPEN</b>	
SEPTEMBER	<b>OPEN</b>	
OCTOBER	<b>OPEN</b>	
NOVEMBER	<b>OPEN</b>	
DECEMBER	<b>NO MEETING - Christmas Party</b>	

Contact: Bill Sheppard

## EXPERTS FROM THE EARLY DAYS OF PHOTOGRAPHY: THIS MONTH EDWARD WESTON

*by Jill Margeson*

Don't be surprised if you see some comments from **Edward Weston** in *Out and About*. He is one of the most influential American photographers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. One of our members has a great respect for this photographer and has chosen to offer critiques and comments using Edward Weston's name. Mr. Weston actually died at 72 in Carmel, California, in 1958.

Edward Weston has a reputation for being a pioneer of 20<sup>th</sup> century art. He became famous for using the unmanipulated, sharp-focused realism of "straight" photography to capture the essence of his subjects. Weston is well known for the tonal beauty and technical precision of his nudes, close-ups, natural forms, portraits and landscapes.

His father gave him a camera when he was 16, and he continued photographing until he developed Parkinson's disease and took his last photo in 1948. Possibly we can benefit from the words of Edward Weston:

- ☞ "If I have a message worth giving to a beginner, it is that there are no shortcuts in photography."
- ☞ "Anything that excited me for any reason, I will photograph; not searching for unusual subject matter, but making the commonplace unusual."
- ☞ "Photography for the amateur is recreation; to the professional it is work, and hard work too, no matter how pleasurable it may be."
- ☞ "This then: to photograph a rock, have it look like a rock, but be more than a rock."
- ☞ "Anything more than 500 feet from the car is not photogenic."
- ☞ "I see no reason for recording the obvious."

*Two Shells* by Edward Weston 1927; Sold for \$4,219  
2001 this work was produced in a US 37 Cent postage stamp  
and included in the Masters of American



### SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB'S WEBSITE

*The club website has ample room for member galleries. These are slideshows to showcase our membership's work. Members who would like a gallery should let me know at [jojegerman@embarqmail.com](mailto:jojegerman@embarqmail.com), and I will send an upload link to them. All you have to do is drag and drop your images to the site. The images should be jpg and, if you would like the titles to show, please name the image file as the title name.*

*Take a look at the current galleries at [www.sandhillsphtoclub.org](http://www.sandhillsphtoclub.org). Click the Member Gallery tab and then click the member's name. When you reach their gallery be sure and click the full screen handles at the bottom right for a full screen slideshow. The images are right click protected. The galleries look very nice and I would like to thank the current participants.*

***Neva Scheve** and **Willy Chu** have recently added galleries to the SPC Member Gallery page. Please take time and view them. Just go to [www.sandhillsphtoclub.org](http://www.sandhillsphtoclub.org) and click on the member galleries tab.*

*Thank you,  
John German*

## 2014 COMPETITIONS, *Debbie Regula and Grace Hill:*

The Competition Committee is happy to announce that the **CLUB COMPETITION MANUAL** has now been revised, brought up to date and been approved by the Board. It is on our club website [sandhillsphtoclub.org](http://sandhillsphtoclub.org). To read it, look for the COMPETITION MANUAL link on the right-hand side of the 1st page of the web site under the red "Out and About" link. Grace Hill put hours and hours of time working with the Competition Committee to get this revision ready for the members. ALL members need to read the manual for information on how to submit entries and for the rules concerning our competitions. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Grace Hill or Debra Regula at [competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org](mailto:competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org).



We are happy to announce that we have secured a very qualified Judge for our April Competition. The Judge will be identified in the April newsletter.

WE WILL BE USING SMUG MUG FOR THE APRIL COMPETITION which hopefully, should make things a bit easier for all of us. Please consult the COMPETITION MANUAL for directions on how to submit entries using this new process. The instructions start on page 6 of the manual.

Our upcoming competition is APRIL 14<sup>th</sup>:

**Things We Love:** Show us what things, objects or activities you really enjoy. We know you love your family members and people can be in your images, but save the formal family portraits for another time. **Deadline for entries: 6:00 pm March 30<sup>th</sup>. SMUG MUG WILL BE OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS SUNDAY MARCH 16<sup>th</sup> AND WILL CLOSE 6:00PM MARCH 30<sup>th</sup>.** Digital; Standard / Minimal post processing, following Competition Manual regulations; 4 year time limit, 2 images

### **THIS IS REQUIRED:**

**Change the file name to Comp\_Class\_Last Name\_First Name\_Title**

For this competition you will need to change your photo's file name to: TWL\_B\_Doe\_Mary\_Puppies.jpg (TWL is the accepted abbreviation for "Things We Love" to save space in file names, please use TWL for competition name). **\*Please remember to change your file name on the photo in this way or we will not know who entered it.**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** You MUST include in your metadata the DATE THAT THE PHOTO WAS TAKEN or your photo will not be accepted. There is a 4 year time limit on this competition and that photo must be taken within 4 years of the competition meeting date, April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Our next competition will be:

**JUNE 9<sup>th</sup>:**

**Fog, Haze or Rain:** Your subject for this theme can be fog, haze or a rainstorm or it could be objects or people seen through a fog, haze or on a rainy day. Deadline for entries: 6:00 pm May 25<sup>th</sup>. Digital; Standard / Minimal post processing, following Competition Manual regulations; 3 year time limit, 2 images



## CLASS A WINNERS – EMOTION



**Neva Scheve - Camera Shy**  
1st Place



**Donna Ford – Fierce**  
2nd Place



**Diane McCall - Celebrate with the Graduates**  
3rd Place



**Kathy Green – Mischievous**  
Honorable Mention



**Tom Reedy – Affection**  
Honorable Mention

## CLASS B WINNERS – EMOTION



Pat Anderson – The Love of a Grandmother  
First Place



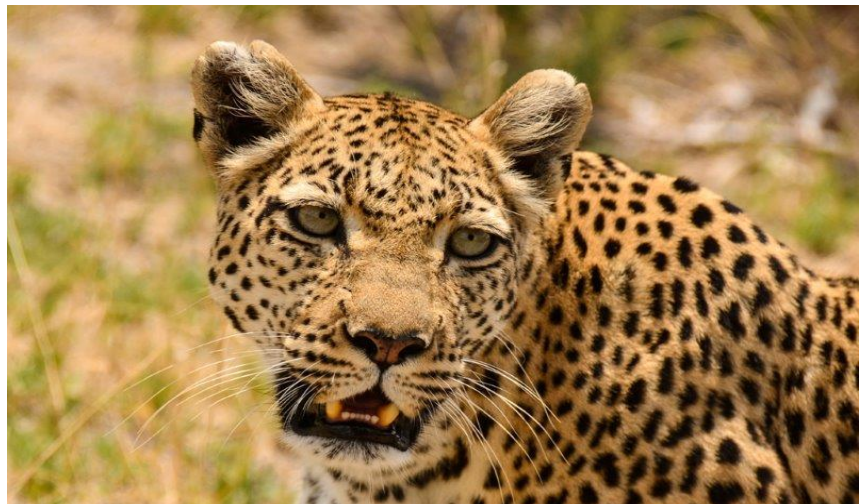
Mary New - Pink Surprise  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place



Marti Derleth - Missing My Dad  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place



Mary New - An Angry Heron  
Honorable Mention



Pat Anderson – Confidence of a Predator  
Honorable Mention

**“OUT AND ABOUT” PROGRAM; by Neva Kittrell Scheve**

We are happy to report that the first *Out and About* “Window Light” gallery is up and running. We have had a good response so far and new photos are being uploaded every day. If you haven’t visited the gallery, please do so and check out the really beautiful images. Even if you aren’t going to upload your own photos, stop by and encourage our members by making some comments to let them know that you appreciate their work. If you read the comments, it can also be a learning experience for you.



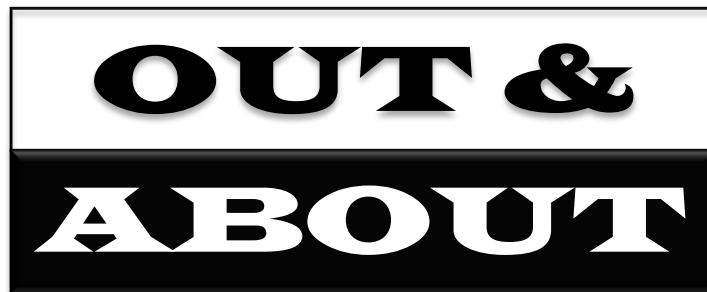
The Window Light gallery will close for uploading images on **March 10**, which is the day of our next membership meeting, and a new prompt with a new gallery will be announced. But, the gallery will stay open for viewing and commenting. So, if you want to enter a Window Light photo, do it before the gallery closes for uploads.

The critiques by our “anonymous” advanced photographers will be made later in the month to give time for everyone to get their photos done and uploaded. They will be signing their names with the names of famous deceased photographers. Professional photographer **Carol Leigh** will also start choosing some photos for critique.

To get to the gallery, go to our website [www.sandhillsphtoclub.org](http://www.sandhillsphtoclub.org) and click the red *Out and About* button. You will find the link to direct you to the uploader and another link to visit the gallery without uploading a photo (password is **spcmember1234**).

Remember, this is NOT a competition. Don’t be shy about uploading a photo or two. Give it a “shot”!

*Neva Kittrell Scheve and Linda Piechota*



**EXHIBITION PLANS, *Tom Reedy***, wreedy1@nc.rr.com:

We will be participating in the ***Double Takes*** exhibition at the Eye Candy Gallery in May, 2014. Notifications to photographers about photos that have been selected have begun to be mailed by the gallery.



The reception date for the artists and photographers (family and friends too) is Saturday, May 10. 7-10pm. The exhibit will actually open to the public on Friday, May 2 (6-9pm) for the First Friday event roster. Photographers and artists are more than welcome to attend that evening. Based on a lack of parking (because of First Friday) and the SPC field trip, the gallery opted to do the later reception instead. There will be live music for that evening (May 10) so it is sure to be a fun time. Please come if you can.

The framing workshop dates are:

- Saturday, March 8 from 2-3pm
- Thursday, March 20, 11-12
- Tuesday, April 1, 1-2pm

For now the gallery is limiting these complimentary workshops to 6 participants for each session. They prefer that these 3 workshops be for Double Takes participants. If demand is larger they will add workshops prior to the Double Takes opening. The gallery is planning on offering the same workshop on a regular basis in the future to anyone that wants to participate.

We have also confirmed a date for our fall exhibition at ***Sandhills Community College***. It will run from Thursday September 4 (with a reception) until the end of October. The gallery can accept about 40 to 50 photographs. We will limit the number of photographs to one per photographer and strongly encourage everyone to submit your best work. For this exhibition the photographs will be mounted and matted but they do not have to be framed. Also, the SCC does not take any commission on the works that sell. The money goes directly to the photographer. I will provide more information in a future newsletter.

As of now the exhibitions for 2014 by the club or its members include:

Name	Club or Members	Venue	Date
<b>2014</b>			
<b><i>Double Takes</i></b>	Club	Eye Candy Gallery	May 2014
Sandhills CC	Club	SCC Library	September, October 2014

## SPRING FIELD TRIP TO NORTH CAROLINA'S NORTHEAST CORNER, *by Linda Pietchota* Thursday, May 1 - Sunday, May 4 (3 nights)

SPRING, 2014 Field Trip - If you are new to the club, you might not know that for years, we have had a Spring and a Fall Field Trip, usually 2 or 3 nights, to a location that seems to offer good photo opportunities. We have had as few as 10 and as many as 36 participate in our field trips. Join us in May for a fun-filled 4 days.

### May 1 through 4, 2014 Field trip to Elizabeth City, NC and surrounding areas

- Staying at Hampton Inn, Elizabeth City for 3 nights. (3.5-4 hour drive)
- Room cost per night: \$111.63 including tax. Non-smoking, 2 beds, free breakfast
- Reservations: Call: 252-333-1800 and ask for a room under name Sandhills Photo Club
- Deadline for Reservations is April 1.
- E-mail Linda Piechota (lp7611@embarqmail.com) to tell her your reservation has been made.

This trip should offer something for everyone, no matter what they like to photograph. Within 30 miles of Elizabeth City, visit beautiful historic waterfront towns, drive to the Outer Banks. visit numerous Wildlife Refuges, the Great Dismal Swamp and more. Maybe you'll get a bear photo because the largest bear population in the Southeast is right there!

### ROVING REPORTER, *submitted by John Ambrosio*

REVIEW OF FEBRUARY'S CLUB MEETING

The meeting started out with the launch of the first theme for our "Out and About" project: We are to try photographing with the use of "Window Lighting". Printed directions were handed out and are to be emailed in a blast to all. Directions and "how to" tips are also available on the club website: [www.sandhillsphtoclub.org](http://www.sandhillsphtoclub.org).

Then it was time for the main event which was the photo competition, "Expressions and Emotions". All the photos were a mixture of people and animals portraying all kinds of different expressions and emotions. Each photo was judged for impact, composition, and technical aspects. The judge for the competition was Don McKenzie.

However, he wasn't present due to another commitment. So Chairmen Grace Hill and Debra Regula read Don's comments and results.

The first set of photos was Class B with 23 entrees. There were first, second, and third place winners along with two Honorable Mentions. The second set was Class A with 25 entrees. Again, there were first, second, and third place winners along with two Honorable Mentions. I also noticed there were two photos with ten points and four photos with nine points in class A.

The most common criticisms were:

1. Photos of people and animals too far way for emphasis on the expression
2. Showing too much of things other than the subject that didn't really add to the photos but instead became distractions. The photos needed to be cropped in to focus more on the faces.



## “TELL THEM TO LOOK PERPLEXED!” *By Jill Margeson*

That is what **Al Reeder** told us at his portrait workshop on Feb. 1. It's a good way to catch those reluctant portrait subjects with a smile. Problem with reflections in those people with glasses? Take two shots in a row—one with glasses on and one with glasses removed. Later in processing you can cut and paste some eyes and block out the reflections. Don't cut off at the joints. If you are going to crop, crop a lot to make it look intentional...

...and my notes include so many more helpful tips as Al demonstrated the use of his equipment, shared his pointers and experience at capturing good portraits of individuals, and large and small groups. He very patiently answered our questions, and provided realistic solutions for good portraits without umbrella lights, professional backgrounds and expensive lenses.

Other things I'll remember? Pose people by telling them you are a mirror. Then they will copy your head tilt, shoulder angle and eyes. Wrinkles look better from the front rather than side lighting. Try black and white. Window light is great with reflector for fill light. Matt paper is best for prints. A 50mm lens and f/8-f/11 works well. Make sure the master flash is brighter than the room lights. Never shoot down on a child. Catch lights in the eyes are good. Check focus by looking at sharpness on eyebrows.

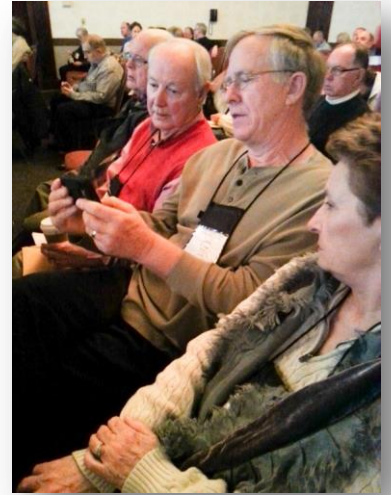
Thank you, Al, for your wonderful workshop and emailed handout you sent of tips. I am actually looking forward to taking our annual Thanksgiving family portrait! This year heads will be closer together and facing toward the center with shoulders turned 2/3. I will leave the house lights on, I will reflect some light to the back, put the men behind the women, ...it will be an awesome shot for the scrapbook!



## **BASIC PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP, by Roving Reporter, John Ambrosio**

About 15 members took advantage of **Linda Piechota's** workshop on Saturday, February 12. They got some exposure to terms that are handy to know: Aperture, shutter speed, ISO/ASA, white balance, macro, prime lens, infinity, live view, histogram, mirrorless, shutting down and opening up the lens, to name a few.

Linda used Bill Stoffel's "Seeing Artistically" slide show to illustrate camera basics, elementary "rules" of composition, and the elements of an artistic photo. She stressed that photography should be a happy, creative experience. As beginners advance in skills, they should strive toward making a photo depicting a subject in an imaginative way that no one has seen before. Take pictures to satisfy yourself! Be happy that no one else can have a picture like yours. **Note is that the slide show presented in the workshop will be on the website.**



**From a new photographer and your Roving Reporter, John Ambrosio:  
There were 13 different things I learned:**

1. Tiffs images are large files and could be saved to Jpeg.
2. "Green Zone" on a dial is usually the automatic setting.
3. "Depth of Field" means how much of the image is in focus-use blurry backgrounds for creative shots.
4. Use spot metering with Macro.
5. The shutter speed affects action. If the speed is 125 or more, the action will be stopped. If the speed is lower than 50, a tripod is needed for sharp focus.
6. Bracketing is good because one of the 3 shots should be perfect. Start bracketing at +1/3 stop, right on, and -1/3 stop.
7. Exposure can be aided by circular polarizer and a neutral density filter.
8. Contrast is too much on a bright sunny day; A bright day with cloud cover is best for photos.
9. Fill-flash is for shooting in front of a light background.
10. Balance is important but not necessary for symmetry.
11. It is good to break up circles to keep the eye moving through the picture. Create rhythm with repetitive circles.
12. Positive and negative spaces create balance but should be kept simple.
13. A hoodman loop is good to get for seeing your monitor better when outside.

John Ambrosio, Roving Reporter





## CAROLINAS' NATURE PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION

### CAROLINA NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE FOR 2014 IN RALEIGH BY ROVING REPORTER

The snowstorm changed around the CNPA 4-day schedule a bit, but the show still went on. Club members attending were **Gary McGee** and **Jim Smith, Jim Davis, Neva Scheve** (husband Tom was there but not involved with CNPA programs), **John and Jennifer German, and Chris Christiansen and Jill Margeson**. The hotel was very nice, breakfasts and lunch buffets were good.

Presentations for this year by main speakers Charles Needle and Les Saucier mainly covered "iPhoneography"-using your iPhone as a handy camera.

There are now an incredible number of free and inexpensive Apps and lenses, available for camera phones: Favorite apps are: [PureShot.app](#), [ProHDR](#) app, black and white from [Hueless app](#), supercool effects from [Painteresque.app](#). You can do simple post-processing in the phone camera using "[Snapseed](#)" and other programs. Post processing fun stuff can create textured backgrounds [Mextures.app](#), for cloning [TouchRetouch.app](#), and [Big Lens app](#) will blur cluttered backgrounds. You can find books for Artistic iPhoneography like [The Art of iPhone Photography](#) and free apps and tutorials at [TheAppWhisper.com](#).

Some participant names you will recognize: Joel Collins was there giving an evening talk about Thailand, Mark Buckler showed some short features. Charles Needle demonstrated creative macro photography using his smart phone to produce the photos. Susan Bailey is active in the running of the conference. Kevin Adams drove through the snowstorm to give his Night Photography talk on the first evening. He mentioned that he was really wishing he could be out photographing the snow scenes all that time.

Hundreds of North and South Carolina CNPA members attend these annual meetings. The main presentations are given in a large ballroom, with 3 screens and 3 projectors. On the last day they have a business meeting, followed by lots of raffle items. You have to attend the business meeting to have a chance in the raffle. Our very own lucky **Neva Scheve** won a set of Plamps, very useful for indoor and outdoor photography.



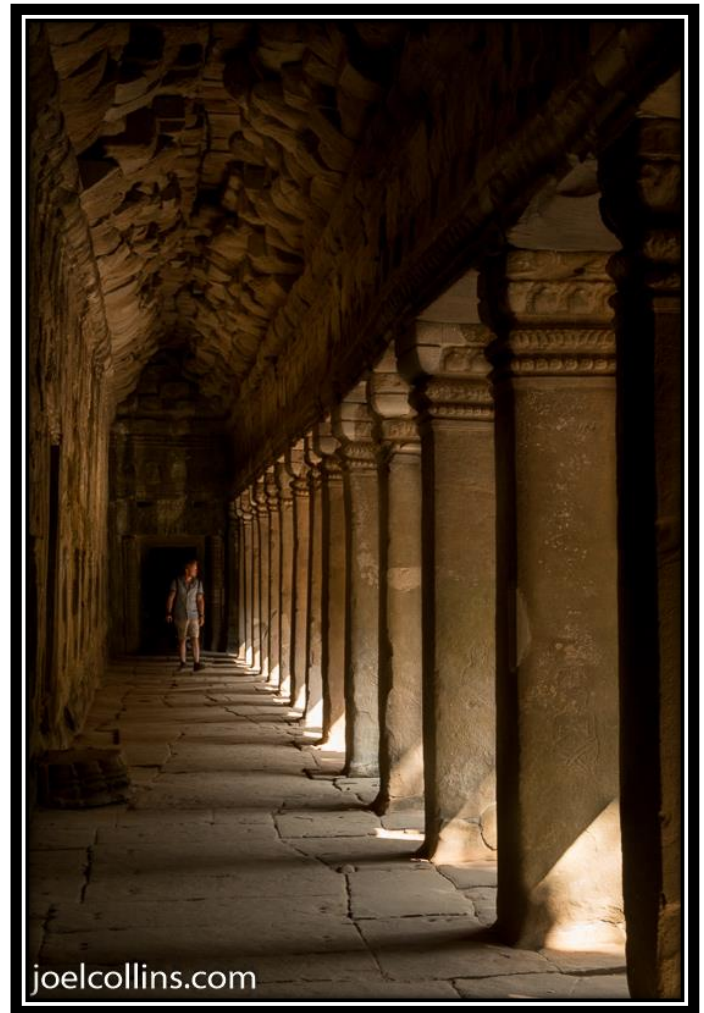
## THAILAND AND ANGKOR WAT WITH JOEL COLLINS, *Contributed by Gisela Danielson*

**LAST CHANCE** to reserve a spot  
on the **SPC tour** to  
**Thailand and Angkor Wat** with **Joel Collins**.

Are any of you still on the fence about signing up for this custom designed photography tour? Please contact **Gisela Danielson**, [gdanielson@nc.rr.com](mailto:gdanielson@nc.rr.com) **asap**.

The tour will be available for booking by the general public March 15, 2014. Please check all the details in the January and February Newsletters.

Here are two more photos Joel Collins captured a few weeks ago while visiting Cambodia.



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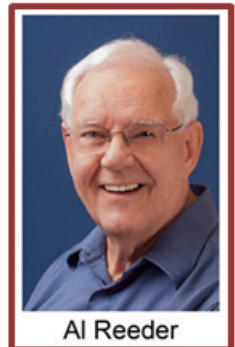
Marilyn Owen



Joanne Lentz

## DIRECTORY OF MEMBER PORTRAITS

All SPC member photos throughout newsletter have been taken by Club Photographer, **Al Reeder!!** Please see our directory:



Al Reeder

<http://al-r.smugmug.com/Clubs#!i=1922859778&k=smhmFPw>

**CONTACT "IN FOCUS"**

EDITOR Alison Earl with any questions, concerns, ideas, submissions (including images), etc. @ [alisonspcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:alisonspcnewsletter@gmail.com)

*Thanks, Alison Earl*