

INFOCUS

A Publication of
THE SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Enriching Our World Through Photography

Editor: Alison Earl, alisonspcnewsletter@gmail.com

VOL XXXVIII, NUMBER 01

www.sandhillspcclub.org

JANUARY 2022



by David Powers

happy new year
2022
to our SPC Family

PRESIDENT'S NOTES – JO ANN SLUDER

It is with great admiration for the loyal and dedicated members vested in the success of Sandhills Photography Club that I am ready to serve the membership as your President for 2022. I am excited to welcome **Susan Batts** as Secretary. **Jacques Wood** will continue to serve as Vice President which also encompasses planning programs and procuring speakers. **Judy Nappi** will continue with her service as Treasurer. This Board will do everything we can to continue the success of the Club that has preceded us. We seek to enhance your experience at every opportunity. This Board was formally installed at the SPC Holiday Party on December 10th, 2021.



Jo Ann Sluder

Most of the member volunteers who served as Committee Chairs and team members last year will continue serving for 2022. I genuinely appreciate them for stepping forward. I am excited that **Jack Mathews** accepted my appointment for Chair of the Membership Committee and he, **Alan** or **Dennis** will be glad to assist you with Membership support. We appreciate two new additions, **Marti Derleth** will handle Publicity and **Sally Mason** has joined us for Hospitality. Reinstating these positions will help invigorate awareness of our Club and provide social time between members.

During 2021 the Technical Team presented how to offer our programs in a Hybrid manner (you could choose in-person or Zoom viewing for November). That was a solution to a difficult challenge. Heading into 2022, we will continue that offering, if possible. We hope Covid variants will have less negative impacts on opportunities to gather, whereby we can provide more in-person photography experiences.

I do have a request of you, our members. If you have ideas you want to share or questions you want to ask, don't hesitate, please send them to me at president@sandhillsphotoclub.org. You tell us what we can do to help you and your photography growth. You may have idea/topics we had not thought about. Perhaps we could seek out speakers, workshop instructors or even connect you with some of our members to aid you. If you have experienced interesting programs, workshops or shooting opportunities that you think may be of interest to other members, tell us about it. We will get back to you.

I look forward to seeing you on January 10th for our program: **Portrait Photography by Lolly Nazario**

We want you to get the most possible out of Sandhills Photography Club. We are here for you!

Jo Ann

Treasurer's Report - FINANCIAL REPORT 2021

TOTAL FUNDS		
	Checking	\$6,129.11
	Savings	4,934.01
	CD	\$11,063.12
Grand Total of all Accounts		



JUDY NAPPI

MEMBERSHIP – JACK MATTHEWS

As the year 2021 has come to a close, we can look back on a successful year in all aspects and functions of our Club. Our congratulations go out to all the members who contributed to a year of learning, growing, and sharing experiences in photography.

It was great to be able to maintain our monthly general meetings and stay connected virtually as well as in-person. Overall attendance increased as we became more accustomed to the hybrid style of meetings. Along the way we introduced an innovative method of signing in and issuing name tags, the EZ Badge. At the end of the year we were able to resume the annual social dinner where approximately one third of our membership attended a delicious meal and fun evening at the Pinewild Country Club. We announced the *Involved, Inspire, Invite, Introduce* program that offered an incentive for our membership to recruit new members. Close to fifty percent of new members during 2021 were the result of member referrals.

Our membership at present is 95. We are pleased to report many of you have submitted your 2022 renewals. For those who have not yet submitted, the January due date is upon us. Plans for 2022 are continuing to provide programs, competitions, and activities for a full year's calendar of events. We do not want anyone to miss out on all the opportunities to join your fellow SPC members in all activities.

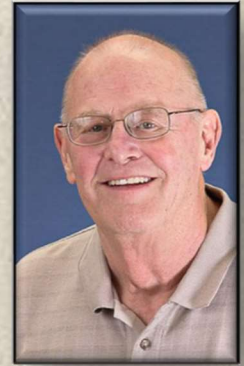
Please review our website, www.sandhillsphtoclub.org which will provide you details on options to pay by PayPal or check.

Many thanks to Jo Ann Sluder for the outstanding job and leadership as she leaves the Membership Committee to become the new Club President.

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year!
Jack Mathews, Alan Brown, and Dennis Snipes

PROGRAMS – JACQUES WOOD

Eblast to come out soon with information on January meeting and upcoming events



JACK MATTHEWS



JACQUES WOOD

FROM OUR PSA REP, DAVE POWERS:

This article was in the latest PSA Magazine. Alex Lane, an equipment reviewer, had some interesting thoughts on the latest developments of camera companies. I thought it made for interesting reading.

Hardware Review



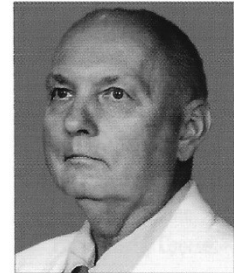
Nikon Z6 II

Nikon Z6 II. 24.5mp Sensor \$1,995.00 (Body only)

It seems like this Covid virus is sure making everything difficult! I have been having a hard time getting equipment to review. I was, however, able to obtain a Nikon Z6 II to use for a short time. Before we look at the Z6 II, I should mention some other industry news that is important to all of us photographers. It has been rumored that Olympus has just made an important change in their business model. The parent company of Olympus, which also makes high end medical equipment, has decided to make Olympus Camera an independent company. This means there will be no more R & D money from the parent company to the assist in the development of new camera equipment. It seems this has been a trend for some time now. The first major change I can recall of this type was Minolta leaving the camera market. Minolta had been a popular brand for many years but when digital came to the camera industry Minolta just did not have the finances to compete. They came out with one digital body then left the market. Sony, who had been selling point-and-shoot cameras and video equipment wanted to get into the high-end camera market and purchased Minolta. What they wanted was the Minolta lens mount so they could offer cameras with mounts that would be able use all of the existing Minolta lenses that consumers already had. They had the foresight to branch off into the mirrorless market and have been a leader in that sector to date. I recall the parent company

of Leica, which also makes high end medical equipment, making Leica Photographic Equipment an independent company. It was to stand, or fall, on its own. Not long ago, Pentax, which had been a competitor in the photo industry for many years, was purchased by Ricoh. Ricoh had some sales in the photo end of the business but, they are mostly known for office equipment like copy machines. The camera manufacturing market is surely shrinking and will probably continue to do so. One reason for all of this upheaval is cell phones! It appears that people do not buy as many consumer level cameras, or additional equipment. They use their cell phones because they have them handy! This poses a big problem to the camera industry. It may be nice to show off a 50 or 60mp full frame camera but they don't sell many of those and it costs a lot to develop. The camera industry uses ads for the "Pro" versions in order to sell a lot of consumer level cameras, which is where the profit is! When people use their cell phones instead of buying point and shoot cameras, and the profitable add on equipment, the camera manufacturers start hurting financially. When major companies start spinning off their camera manufacturing as stand-alone companies, much of the R & D money dries up and we all will start to see fewer high-end cameras and developments because there is just no money for the R & D costs. The possibility for recovering the development costs becomes smaller as the consumer level market shrinks. It also becomes more likely for camera companies to leave the industry or be purchased by a competitor. It will surely be interesting to see where the camera industry ends up in the coming years.

Now, let's take a look at the Nikon Z6 II. It feels very familiar if you had a Z6 as they are very similar cameras. I would guess the major change in the Z6 II is the addition of another memory card slot. Where the Z6 had only one slot, a QXD, the Z6 II has added a second slot for the SD card. This means that the Z6 II has slots for two different type of memory cards. Nikon used the QXD (which is very expensive about \$130 for a 64gig versus about \$20 for an SD Extreme Pro) because of its speed. The problem is, groups like wedding photographers complained that they needed two card slots more than the extra read/write speed. It will be interesting to see what Nikon does about the difference in the read/write speed of both cards. The QXD is faster than the SD and if Nikon is to have both ports have the same read/write



By Alex Lane



SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB'S WEBSITE

WWW.SANDHILLSPHOTOCLUB.ORG



Website

Notes

*This month's featured member's gallery on the club website is **Gary Magee**. Click his name to view her gallery or the link to his gallery on the website homepage.*

*You may view the club directory at: **Club Directory**. 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.

***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***

2021 OUTINGS – SUSAN BAILEY

Welcome to a new year! I'm really looking forward to our outings in 2022. I'm going to try and plan our outings on the 2nd Saturday of each month unless that doesn't work for the particular event. Most holidays fall earlier or later!



Susan Bailey

First Outing of the New Year- Birds at the Jordan Lake Dam Tailrace

We are going to the Jordan Lake Dam for photographing seabirds: definitely seagulls, probably osprey and possibly eagles all looking for fish at the Tailrace below the dam. This (fishing) video shows the tailrace with the grassy area on the right side where we can stand and photograph.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=whnSntAQwzw>

Date: Saturday, January 8th

Time: 2pm

We will meet in the grassy area by the parking area. Lighting is best from that side of the water in the afternoon. Feel free to go in the morning on your own, but you may want to cross the dam and walk down to the water for good morning light. The afternoon site is right by the parking area.

Address: 2080 Jordan Dam Road, Moncure, NC

Directions: Follow US 1 north to exit 79. Take State Road 1970 to the dam (about 5 minutes). You will see the parking area on the right as you approach the dam.

Weather: We will watch the weather and make changes to the date if necessary!

Equipment: Definitely a long lens. Explore your camera manual for continuous focus and tracking if you are unfamiliar as the birds are moving fast!

Upcoming Outings

My plan this year is to give you several months ahead so you can make your plans.

February 12th – The Painted Ponies Art Walk, Southern Pines

<http://www.carolinahorsepark.com/support/paintedponies>

Time: 10am at Train Station, Southern Pines

There will be approximately 15 painted ponies from local artists to photograph. We can think about using some images for the FACES competition in April. Of course there are lots of people downtown too! We will have lunch downtown.

March 12th – Sandhills Horticultural Gardens, Pinehurst, NC - Many flowers will be blooming already and the Easter Eggs (2-3 feet tall) should be around the garden for fun.

April 9th – Patterson Cabins, Broadway, NC – we will work on Abandoned/Decay images for the June competition.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

December Gallery

We had a great time at the **Christmas Parade in Southern Pines on December 4th**. I also saw a number of you at the Moore County Driving Club parade in Southern Pines on December 11th

This year's parade was such a celebration of festive times with many floats, dance groups, etc.



Images on this page by:

- Susan Bailey
- Joseph Hill
- Diane McCall





Diane S McCall



Images on this page by:

- Jim Davis
- Diane McCall
- Joseph Hill



Images on this page by

- Susan Bailey
- Jim Davis
- Joseph Hill



COMPETITION COMMITTEE

Bonny Henderson and Jerry Kozel



BONNY HENDERSON



JERRY KOZEL

CONGRATULATIONS!

We're throwing around **CONGRATULATIONS** like handfuls of confetti! Our first batch of congrats goes to the winners of the "Industrial" Competition:

- Tier 1 First Place-**Susan Batts**
- Tier 2 First Place-**Susan Bailey**
Second Place-**Darryll Benecke**
Third Place-**Susan Bailey**
HM-**Tobé Saskor**
HM-**Kathryn Saunders**
- Tier 3 First Place-**Diane McCall**
Second Place-**John German**
Third Place-**Dave Powers**

The second handful of congrats goes to the following Tier jumpers who have earned enough points to move to the next level:

- Susan Batts**-moves from Tier 1 to Tier 2
- Tobe Saskor**-moves from Tier 2 to Tier 3
- Tom Batts**-moves from Tier 1 to Tier 2

And finally, huge congratulations to our **Stoffel Award Winners of 2021**:

- Tier 1 **Jack Mathews** with 12 points
- Tier 2 **Darryll Benecke** with 12 points
- Tier 3 **Neva Scheve** with 14 points

Special Achievement Award Shari Dutton with 12 points earned in Tiers 1 & 2

We're awaiting the voting results of the 2023 topics. Stay tuned for the list of topics in the next newsletter!

Bonny & Jerry

INDUSTRIAL WINNERS:

TIER 1



1stplace: Susan Batts - Pipe Dreams

TIER 2

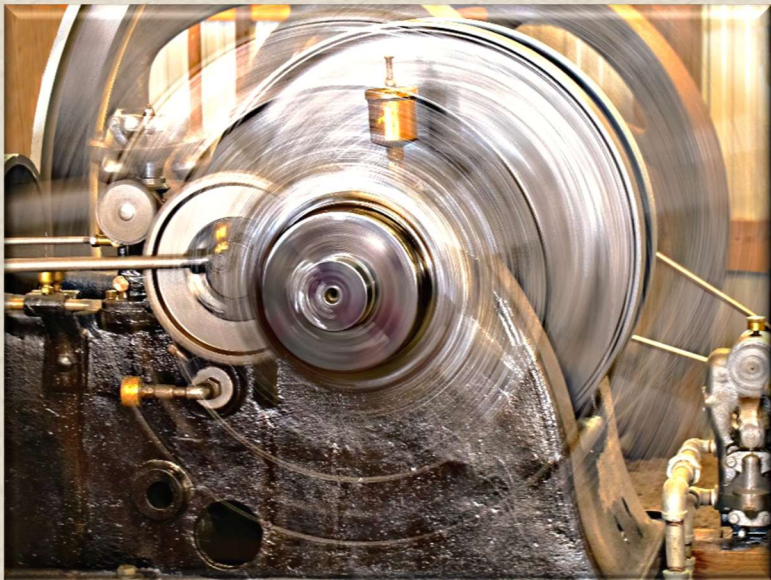


1st Place: Susan Bailey - Woman at Work



2nd Place: Darryll Benecke - Just Before the Storm

TIER 2, Continued



3rd Place: Susan Bailey - Spinning Metal



HM: Kathryn Saunders - Ironworks



HM: Tobé Saskor - Geiser Puffing

TIER 3



1st Place: Diane McCall - It's All Chicken Feed



2nd Place: John German - Glassblowing 1



3rd Place: Dave Powers - Once Upon a Time



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



2022 SPC BOARD

TITLE	NAME
President	Jo Ann Sluder
Vice President	Jacques Wood
Secretary	Susan Batts
Treasurer	Judy Nappi
Past President	Neva Scheve
Programs	Jacques Wood
Competitions	Bonny Henderson Jerry Kozel
Exhibitions	Shari Dutton
Field Trips	Gary Magee
Hospitality	Sally Mason
Membership	Jack Matthews
Newsletter & Communication	Alison Earl
PSA Rep	Dave Powers
Outings	Susan Bailey
Publicity	Marti Derleth
Technical Advisor & ZoomMaster	Dennis Snipes
Web Master Administrator	John German
Workshops	Frank Lipski

KNOW YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

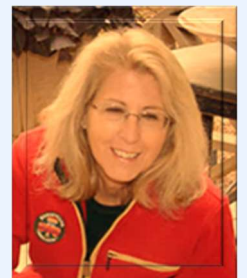


JO ANN SLUDER
PRESIDENT

JACQUES WOOD
VICE PRESIDENT
PROGRAMS

SUSAN BATTS
SECRETARY

JUDY NAPPI
TREASURER



**CONTACT "IN FOCUS"
 EDITOR Alison Earl with
 any questions, concerns,
 ideas, submissions
 (including images), etc. @
 alisonspcnewsletter@gmail.com**

Alison Earl