



IN FOCUS



Member

THE SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

P.O. Box 763, Southern Pines, NC 28388

Enriching Our World Through Photography

www.sandhillsphtoclub.org

APRIL 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETINGAPRIL 13 VIRTUAL

PROGRAMS

COMPETITIONS 2020

- April: Dominant Yellow**
- June: 25 Mile Radius**
- August: What's in the Kitchen?**
- October: Spontaneous Public Scenes**
- December: Less is More**

WORKSHOPS

- May 12 Creating Award Winning Images**
Donald Brown

OUTINGS

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

NEVA SCHEVE



How things have changed!! Just last month I wrote about all the cool things we had planned for our membership for the next year. But I guess, as they say, life is what happens when you are making other plans.

All of a sudden, it's a different world. We are all in this together and we will get through this. But, we all know it's going to be a rough few months at least.

So, the Board is looking for alternative ways to keep the communication going while we are "socially distancing". I hope everyone is being careful and following the CDC recommendations.

The Yellow competition will go on as scheduled. Bonny and Jerry will be reporting to us about their plan to present it online.

Susan Bailey is giving us photo topics twice a week. These are topics that we can shoot from our home and post on Facebook so we can continue to challenge ourselves and share our photography.

This month we had our March board meeting by email. It worked, but now we are looking into video chat options that might work better for the next board meeting. We are also looking at possibilities to expand that technology to present workshops and programs to the membership. The technical members of our board are working hard to figure something out. I'm confident they will come up with some good ideas.

So, stay tuned and we'll keep you all informed. Remember we have our Facebook group page for members. As I have mentioned before, Facebook is the best way to safely socialize with each other and keep up with what is happening. Of course, we will always be sending major events and notifications by email blast as they happen.

Please stay safe, everyone.

Neva

REPEAT OF EMAIL BLAST REGARDING APRIL 13th SPC MEETING:

On behalf of the entire Board, let us take a minute to send our best wishes to the SPC family during this very difficult time for everyone. As much as the world has changed, we are reminded every day that we still enjoy making photos and sharing our work on Facebook and our website, even as we practice social distancing.

Please continue to be creative and keep engaged. Together, we will get through this.

The Board is working to continue our regular club meeting schedule by offering competitions and presenters on a monthly basis. To do that, we have adopted **Zoom** as our online meeting tool. As many of you know, **Zoom** is easy to use and will allow our regular meeting to be held online, until the foreseeable future.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Monday, April 13 at 7 p.m.** During the meeting, you will be able to log in from home on your computer or tablet, see the entries of the Dominate Yellow competition and hear the judge's comments. The winners will also be announced during the online meeting.

Small group sessions are being set up for you to test your connection and equipment in advance of the competition meeting date. During these sessions, you will also be able to see and hear other members that join in. I think it will be a great way to keep our spirits high. At the same time, you can do a **Zoom** 'dry run' before competition meeting night.

Four small group sessions have been scheduled: **Wednesday, April 7 at 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.** and **Thursday, April 9 at 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.** You will receive an email, **Monday, April 6**, on how you can take part in these sessions in advance of the competition meeting night. We will also continue to keep you updated with more details on how to join the meeting, using **Zoom** and other meeting tips.

Photography has the ability to bring us together, even as the world is changing.

I hope that you will take part in a **Zoom** small group session and log in to the meeting from home on Monday, April 13.

Please stay well, stay safe and stay connected.

Best,

Neva Scheve, President
John Patota, Vice President

TREASURER'S REPORT



JUDY NAPPI

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MARCH 2020

CHECKING ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE AS OF 02/01/20		\$ 6,093.54
DEPOSITS		
Deposits	\$ 135.00	
Paypal Transfers	\$ 75.14	
Interest	\$ 0.04	
Subtotal of Credits		\$ 210.18
CHECKS & DEBITS		
Subtotal of Checks & Debits		\$ (625.14)
ENDING BALANCE AS OF 03/26/2020		\$ 5,678.58

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE AS OF 03/01/20	\$ 888.08
ENDING BALANCE AS OF 03/26/20	\$ 888.08

CD	\$ 4,015.48
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TOTAL FUNDS (ALL ACCOUNTS)

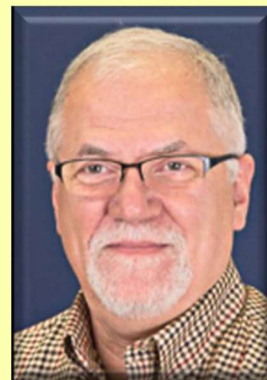
CHECKING	\$ 5,678.58
SAVINGS	\$ 888.08
CD	\$ 4,015.48
GRAND TOTAL OF ALL ACCOUNTS	\$ 10,582.14





COMPETITION COMMITTEE

Bonny Henderson and Jerry Kozel



Despite this time of disruption, our competition “Dominant Yellow” will take place on the regularly scheduled meeting date of April 13. We had 84 entries, another whopping success! We will be meeting using Zoom and you will be receiving an email about this tele-conferencing app. Do not be afraid!! Zoom is

easy to use and will enable you to view the competition from the comfort of your home. Check your email frequently as we will be offering four different times of instruction for using Zoom. It really is fun and will enable us to continue “almost normally” in these trying times. Once again, we had many beautiful images submitted for the competition and you won’t want to miss it! Before the galleries closed, we knew we would not have an in-person meeting in April. Because the competition would be online, we decided not to limit the number of entries. It may be long, but you’ll be free to get up and go to the fridge, watch in your pajamas, refill your wine glass, or just leave the meeting and go to bed! We will ask the judge to limit her comments, but it may be a long meeting. Hey, you have nowhere to go, so sit back and enjoy!

If you have spare time on your hands while being quarantined, upcoming competition topics include “What’s in the Kitchen?” and “Less is More.” See details below.

“What’s in the Kitchen?” will be the August competition topic. Take a photo of anything: patterns from the floor, dishes, cupboard; still life involving kitchens things; scene through the window into a kitchen; fancy food on a plate; design/shadows with silverware; person in the kitchen; restaurant kitchen; reflections from pans, knives. Play with light and composition.

“Less is More” will be December’s topic. The focus is on one small key element and the rest of the composition is completely clutter free.

The topic for June is 25 Mile Radius and Spontaneous Public Scenes is the topic for October. In these times of quarantine and social spacing, these may be more challenging (at least in the short term).

One final note for your consideration: Our January judge Rob Byron suffered a stroke on March 13. As you may recall, Rob’s wife is severely disabled, and he is now unable to take care of her. Their son has started a GoFund Me page and you may want to consider donating. Although we did not know Rob prior to the competition, several members have donated in an effort to help a fellow photographer. Hope everyone is staying safe!

Bonny & Jerry



SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB'S WEBSITE

WWW.SANDHILLSPHOTOCLUB.ORG



Website

On the club website, on the "Competition Photos" page, there is a slideshow of all the competition awarded photos since 2009.

Click here to view those images

Notes

*This month's featured member's gallery on the club website is for **Ira Miller**. Click his name to view the gallery.*

*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***

OCD-- John Patota

I Have OCD - Obsessive Cropping Disorder

Crop, Crop, Crop

Every photo out of your camera can be improved by using image editing software. No matter if you use free tools like Microsoft Photo Viewer, Apple Photos, Google SnapSeed or paid software like LightRoom and PhotoShop - every photo can be made better.



JOHN PATOTA

Enhance your images by applying a filter, adjust the light, straighten the horizon, boost the color, increase the clarity or how about a vignette? Add a border, insert some text, use some spot healing, change it to black and white, and crop, crop, crop.

I am far from a photography purest. Yes, I am always trying to 'get in right in-camera', but once the image is made, I'm all about making it better.

When it comes to cropping, you can make a big difference. Take a look at this original image from the 2019 U.S. Amateur in Pinehurst. It is of local caddie Keith Silva and William Holcomb, a young and likable Senior at Sam Huston State University. Not very remarkable, right?

There is an important bond between a player and a caddie. If I can get a shot of them talking, pointing, looking at the scorecard, tossing up grass or any kind of gesture, I'm happy.



Take another look at the original image on the left. Not a remarkably shot by any standard. But I knew that I could crop it later. The most important part was making sure it was in focus and catching them talking.



The Crop tool in LightRoom allowed me to get creative. Here is the same image cropped to a square, the format that works best for Instagram.



This 4 x 3 horizontal version was used on the Pinehurst website.

Continued Next Page →



Now an even tighter crop. See how it brings out their facial expressions?



Finally, a 4 x 3 vertical version that worked for Facebook and Twitter. Notice how I created some negative space for them to look in to.

Some advise about cropping.

- Get your horizon line level,
- Never crop at the joints. Cutting people at the ankles, knees, wrists and elbows make the photo look creepy,
- It is sometimes OK to crop off the top of heads, but try not to,
- Leave some space between the edge of the frame and your subject
- Crop so that your subject is looking or moving into negative space,
- Get your horizon line level,
- If there is nothing to judge the horizon line, use a vertical element,
- Keep in mind the basic rules of composition,
- Finally, get your horizon line level.

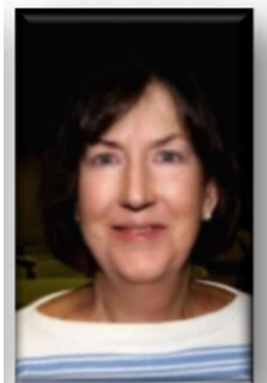
And, Crop, Crop, Crop

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HOSPITALITY, *Marti Derleth*

Obviously we need a MEETING for these treats, but we'll be back, hopefully soon.

April	Marilyn and Joe Owen
May	Potluck for those whose last names start with A – L
June	Frank Lipski
July	Hank H
August	Jill Margeson and Gisela Danielson
September	Allen Brown
October	Frank Dalmau
November	Potluck for those whose last names start with M – Z
December	Holiday Dinner



MARTI DERLETH

MEMBERSHIP NEWS, *Jo Ann Sluder*

First, we wish all our Membership, their families and friends good health and some sense of calm during these challenging times here and all around the globe.

Our membership is currently at 101 members: 74 Singles, 2 Honorary, 24 Family, and 1 Student. For this time of the year, that is a pretty good number. Unfortunately, we had some members that did not renew for various reasons and we will miss them.

We were pleased to have 48 members attend our program on March 9th. Our guests were **Dennis & Antonina Mally** and **Julie Deegan**. Diane Wehr presented a very informative program on Street Photography.

Please welcome our newest member, **Jan Kozel**. She is a familiar face to many as she is the wife of **Jerry Kozel**. We look forward to her involvement in our workshops and photography activities.

Photography is a love that gives us the opportunity to get out, just us and our camera. May we enjoy moments of serenity and view the beauty that surrounds us through the camera lens. We look forward to seeing everyone just as soon as SPC members have the opportunity to gather again.



JO ANN SLUDER

WORKSHOPS, *Jacques Wood*

Workshops Committee: David Brooks, Jennifer Maples Donovan, Frank Lipski, Gary Magee and Jacques Wood

With the onset of the COVID-19 virus and the need for social distancing planning and holding workshops is a challenge.

The **Street Photography Team Challenge Workshop** scheduled for Saturday, March 14, was postponed. It will be rescheduled when conditions are right and people are back on the street. Signed-up participants will have priority for attending this workshop.

The Committee is exploring virtual conferencing options for holding on-line workshops. We intend to announce our first on-line workshop in the very near future. Any ideas for virtual workshops are welcome. Please send any ideas to me at JWoodADR@gmail.com.

Jacques Wood
Chair of SPC Workshops Committee
JWoodADR@gmail.com



JACQUES WOOD

2020 OUTINGS - *Susan Bailey*

We are reorganizing the outings calendar to emphasize virtual photo outings. Every Tuesday and Friday I will post a new theme on Facebook with a few details (see below to start planning your shots). Please upload your favorite images to share with our club. These are meant to challenge your imagination and skills!



Susan Bailey

- **4/3 – Books**
- **4/7 – Vehicle**
- **4/10 – Garden**
- **4/14 – Glassware**
- **4/17 – Fruit**
- **4/20 – Water**
- **4/24 – Shadow**
- **4/27 – Candle**

You can post your images on Facebook and/or the website at the following links:

- <https://sandhillspgphotoclub.smugmug.com/upload/pgQzGX/VPGMarch>
Virtual Photo Gallery – March
- <https://sandhillspgphotoclub.smugmug.com/upload/Hqdmpk/VPGApril>
Virtual Photo Gallery – April

Both have buttons on the club's website on the home page at

www.sandhillspgphotoclub.org

Meanwhile, all outings are cancelled until further notice but we will get back on track and have lots of fun activities this year!

Thank you, Susan

OAXACA, MEXICO BY GISELA DANIELSON

This was an email that Gisela Danielson had sent to me (Alison) and several others and I asked her if it would be alright to share with our club. What I loved about this was not only her gorgeous pictures, but her description of what she saw. I've said WOW so many times. There's even a Competition winner in here!!!!

Here are the links and her words to this 4 Part Journey we get to join her on. I understand the trip was organized by former SPC member **JUNE WHITE**.



Photo by Gisela Danielson

Her email:

Thought you might enjoy some armchair travels to Mexico. Here are the Adobe Spark links to my Oaxaca impressions. Finally finished this project.

Gisela

- See my story: Oaxaca, Mexico Part I

<https://spark.adobe.com/page/CKC4wJkEeFCCU/>

- See my story: Oaxaca, Mexico Part II

<https://spark.adobe.com/page/AbOFcKAyYv4u5/>

- See my story: Oaxaca, Mexico Part III

<https://spark.adobe.com/page/HKmoSfqgA2qxe/>

- See my story: Oaxaca, Mexico Part IV

<https://spark.adobe.com/page/q3zVBIRraJ1ne/>

SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN'S MASTERS GOLF, *submitted by Darryll Benecke*



The South African Women's Masters Golf Tournament took place at the magnificent San Lameer Country Club from 18th February 18th – 21st, 2020 to Friday 21st February 2020. I was the official photographer for the event.

The pro-am, with three lucky amateurs playing with a professional, was on Tuesday and the pro competition started on Wednesday. I had great fun photographing the pro-am teams on Tuesday even although it rained. Each team member was presented with a mounted team photo sign by their respective pro.

Man, can these girls play, we saw some brilliant golf throughout the event and it ended with a playoff

over four extra holes(the 18th being played 4 times) before the winner was crowned.

The ladies were immaculately turned out in their golf outfits and behaved impeccably, it was such a pleasure to photographically record the progress and proceedings over the four days.



2020 SPC BOARD

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alisonspcnewsletter@gmail.com

*Alison
Earl*