



INFOCUS



THE SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

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

Enriching Our World Through Photography

VOL XXVIII, NUMBER 1

www.sandhillsphtoclub.org

March 2012

PRESIDENT'S NOTES, Scott Duvall:

Our Membership Chairperson, Gisela Danielson, reports that 74 members attended the February 13th Club meeting, and that this is a new record. To put this in perspective, 49 members attended the meeting in February, 2007. Long time Club members remember when 15 to 20 people was a big crowd. Our Club membership has steadily grown also. We had 103 members in November, 2009, 114 in November, 2010, and 124 in November, 2011. It appears that attendance for the upcoming Spring Field Trip to Savannah may also set a record.

I am frequently asked if the Sandhills Photography Club is getting too large. There are concerns that we are running out of space at Christ Fellowship Church, our meeting place. Some feel that we are losing the intimacy we once had as a smaller organization. Competitions are getting more entries and taking longer to conduct. There have been opinions that we should limit membership and have a waiting list to join.

I believe this would be a big mistake. Growth makes our Club healthy and vibrant with a steady infusion of new talent and energy. Our Club must continue the policies that encourage an expanding membership. Having said that, we must address the issues that growth creates. This is one of my major challenges as Club President.

We need to find a larger place to meet. A while ago, Don Hiscott led a group that scoured the Pinehurst area for larger meeting places. None was found that had the benefits of Christ Fellowship Church. In 2012, we will search again while considering compromises that may have to be made.

We don't want to lose the intimacy and fellowship that a smaller Club had. Today, we can all relate with the comment that "I recognize the faces but have no idea who they are." Our Club Photographer, Al Reeder, is working to solve that problem by photographing every member. He will then work with our Newsletter Editor and Publisher, Alison Earl, to distribute a club roster with these photographs to all members.

The Club is starting to have activities in smaller sub groups that involve specific interests of portions of the membership. For instance, Tom Reedy has organized a Wildlife Focus Group that has become very exciting with special trips and events. Additional Focus Groups may form in the future. Debra Regula and her New Member Development Committee are working to get new members to know each other and also to develop friendships with existing members who have similar interests. These activities will help to maintain our feelings of intimacy and fellowship with other club members.

Continued next column→



UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

- March 12th – *Johnny Horne* – Night & Low Light Photography

BOARD MEETING

- Thursday, March 15th, 2pm

PROGRAMS

- May 14th – *Edward Smith* – Nature Photography
- July 9th – *Eric Ton* – Fractal Art

COMPETITIONS

- April - Night/Digital/3 year and Class A Still Life
- June - Nature/Digital/3 year
- August - Abstract/Digital/3year
- September - Reflections/Online/3year
- October – Open/Print/No time limit

SPRING FIELD TRIP

- April 15-18, 2012 – Savannah, GA

WORKSHOPS

An Introduction to Lightroom with Hunter Rudd
Saturday, March 3, 9:00 to 11:00 am

Happy St. Patrick's Day

The growth of entries in Club competitions will also have to be addressed. Our Competition Chairman, Bill Newton, and the Competition Committee will be looking for equitable solutions to this issue as they plan future competitions. One possibility is to limit competition entrants to only one entry. In addition to controlling the length of competitions, it would allow time for judges to give more thorough critiques.

We have an exciting club that is growing not only in membership but also in activities. The Club has an impressive role in the Palustris Festival this March through participation in the "Double Takes" Exhibit at the EyeCandy Gallery in Southern Pines. March also brings out the leprechauns, but I don't think Gisela will accept any as new members.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

TREASURER'S REPORT; *Dave Powers*

BALANCE	12-31-2011	\$5858.85
	January Receipts	\$2258.35
	January Expenditures	\$ 388.56
BALANCE	1-31-2012	\$7728.35

The finances of the Sandhills Photography Club are very sound at this time. Several factors have played a role to allow us to be in this condition. First of all, the increasing membership and the resulting increase in the dues received has allowed us to fund the 2012 operating budget. Second, the Photo Card project, led by Gary Magee and his team was extremely successful, yielding over \$1500 in revenue.

With this being said, the club must always plan for the future. Our operating budget for 2012 is \$3955. New technology, both software and hardware, will not be cheap, and to present our images in the best possible manner, we must plan for the future.

The board has reviewed the finances and has decided to allocate our finances in the following manner, based upon our January ending balance:

OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2012	\$4350.00
(Budget plus 10% contingency funds)	
RESERVE FUND	\$3378.35
TOTAL FUNDS (1/31/2012)	\$7728.35

Our President, Scott Duvall, in his "NOTES" in the February newsletter, did an excellent job of defining the anticipated future technology needs of the club. Please take a few minutes to re-read his letter to the membership concerning this issue.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your treasurer for 2012. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about the finances of our club.

PROGRAMS, *John German*

Our March program: **Johnny Horne** is the photo editor for the Fayetteville Observer, where he has worked since 1972. Johnny has been an amateur astronomer since age 10 and is a contributing editor for Sky and Telescope magazine.

He has led astronomical expeditions for the magazine to Mexico, Africa, the Caribbean and Iceland. In 2004, the International Astronomical Union recognized his work by naming asteroid (11132) Horne in his honor.

For his work as the photo editor of the Fayetteville Observer and author of the monthly column Backyard Universe, for amateur astronomers, Horne has won numerous awards and is recognized as one of the top "astro-photographers" in the country.

Horne's "Astronomical Images" convey the mystery and majesty of the night sky and are collected by art lovers as well as by amateur astronomers.

Recently, Horne has been achieving spectacular photographs of local scenes and landmarks using unusual angles and lighting. He is also the artist behind the "Market House Sunrise" photographs that have appeared everywhere from walls to postcards in Fayetteville.

See some of his work at
<http://citycentergallery.com/horne.htm>.

And a slide show at:
<http://photos.fayobserver.com/mycapture/folder.asp?event=195197&CategoryID=1505>

Membership News: *Donna Ford*

Our newest member is **Cathy Locklear** from Aberdeen. Cathy joined our club at the February meeting. Membership now stands at 108 paid and 5 honorary members.

Please join me in welcoming our newest member.

Linda Piechota, Club Historian, is collecting articles, photos, etc. for the club archives in an ongoing effort to have a complete file about our activities. If you have such material that can be included, please email Linda (lp7611@embarqmail.com).

2012 SPC Board Members

President	Scott Duvall
Vice President	John German
Secretary	Tom Reedy
Treasurer	Dave Powers
Past President	Jim Davis
Programs	John German
Competition	Bill Newton
Exhibitions	Tom Reedy
Hospitality	Bill Sheppard
Publicity	Susan Capstick
Workshops	Bill Matthews
Newsletter	Alison Earl
PSA Rep	Susan Capstick
Membership	Gisela Danielson
New Member Development	Debbie Regula
Website	Brady Smith
Club Photographer	Al Reeder
Spring Field Trip	Jill Margeson, Linda Piechota
Fall Field Trip	OPEN
Day Trips	OPEN
Wildlife Focus Group	Tom Reedy
Historian	Linda Piechota

Hospitality - Bill Sheppard

February	John German
March	Paula Taggart
April	Scott and Ethel Duvall
May	OPEN
June	OPEN
July	Janice Huff, Diane McCall, Susan Angelier
August	OPEN
September	OPEN
October	Carol Smetana, Joan Herrmann, Sandy Bachofner
November	POT LUCK
December	CHRISTMAS DINNER – NO MEETING

Please see Bill (Sheppard) at the next meeting to sign up for a month OR contact him at beeboy@pinehurst.net.

Your help is needed in keeping our 'social time' going. It's a great time to talk to the other members, share stories, get hints and discuss what went on that night! Bill and Sandy do a great job setting it up each month (they provide the paper products, ice, etc.), just light snacks are requested and help in cleaning up afterward.

COMPETITION COMMITTEE, Bill Newton

The Class A Still Life competition was postponed and will be held at the April 9th, 2012, meeting. Gwen Dumas will be the judge.

Also, on Monday, April 9, 2012, there will be a competition on Night Photography. This is a digital competition. Members can submit two entries taken within the past three years. The images in this competition should appear to have been taken outdoors at night.

This competition can include any subject. The focus should be on the skill and technique used to acquire the photograph. Examples include: moon/stars, buildings/structures, animals, plants/flora, and people, but should NOT be of sunrises or sunsets.

Entries must be submitted by 6:00 pm, Sunday, April 1st, 2012, by email or other digital media to competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org. Please refer to the Guidelines for Digital Competitions which can be found on the Club website, www.sandhillsphtoclub.org.

If questions arise, please contact Bill Newton at 910-534-1376 or bnewton40@gmail.com. James Weil from Raleigh, NC, will be the judge.

NOTE: GMAIL WILL NOT RECEIVE ZIP FILES!!!!

WORKSHOPS: *Bill Matthews*

An Introduction to Lightroom

Hunter Rudd

Saturday, March 3, 9:00 to 11:00 am

Burlingame Room, Ball Visitors Center, Horticultural Center, Sandhills Community College

Since Lightroom was one of the most requested topics in the responses to the workshop questionnaire sent out earlier this year, we are pleased to offer this introduction to Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 3. The Import and Export Process will be demonstrated with a focus on emailing images and preparing them for SPC competition submission. In addition, we will explore the Library, Develop, and Print Modules to show how Lightroom can fit into your workflow from capture to the creation of beautiful prints.

For more information please contact Hunter Rudd at 910-992-2769 (hunter@ruddphotography.com) or Bill Matthews at 692-8254 (wmatth@embarqmail.com). Although it is not necessary to sign up ahead of time to attend, a call or email would be appreciated as an indication of how many plan to come.

The Bears and Birds of Alaska

John German, Tom Reedy and June White

Saturday, April 14, 9:00 to 12:00 noon

Burlingame Room, Ball Visitors Center, Horticultural Center, Sandhills Community College



On April 14 the Wildlife Focus Group will present "The Bears and Birds of Alaska." This workshop will be conducted by John German, Tom Reedy and June White. It will be held at the Ball Garden Visitors' Center at the SCC Horticultural Gardens. The workshop will begin at 9 am and conclude at noon. All members of the club are welcome.



In 2011 John, Tom and June all visited Alaska to see its beautiful landscapes and abundant wildlife. They will share this experience with you using images captured while they were there. The primary focus will be on wildlife, including the coastal brown bears and the birds they saw. The goal is to provide club members with the necessary information to capture good photographs of any wildlife subjects that they may encounter.

This workshop will be both a travelogue and a tutorial on how to capture good wildlife images. The discussion will include camera equipment (bodies, lenses, tripods, flash), exposure, image composition, and wildlife discovery. The workshop will be very interactive and low key. There is no need to bring any camera equipment.

If you have any questions, please contact Tom at wreedy1@nc.rr.com. Although it is not necessary to sign up ahead of time to attend, a call or email would be appreciated as an indication of how many plan to come.

Later in the Year

Lytro claims they are on track for delivery of my Lytro Light Field camera in late February or early March. If this delivery is met I hope, after a month or two for tests and experiments, to schedule a workshop in May or June. Rather than recording an *image* as conventional cameras do, the light field camera saves a record of the *light field* at the camera aperture. Then later, at the convenience of the photographer, processing of this data enables creation of *one or more images* focused on any desired object at any distance within the field of view. Impressive in theory, we look forward to finding out how well this works in practice.

Also this year we will try to offer workshops covering other requested topics - *Color Management, Digital Workflow and Processing RAW Files* - in one or two workshops. In addition this year I hope to offer : ***From Your Monitor to Club Projector - An Experiment in Color Calibration.*** Here I plan to run tests with a number of members and their cameras and monitors and present the results in a workshop in the fall.

Suggestions for workshop topics are always appreciated. Please pass them on to me, Bill Matthews, at 692-8254 or wmatth@embarqmail.com.

Spring Field Trip, Linda Piechota & Jill Margeson

Spring Field Trip – April 15 – 18, 2012, Savannah, Ga.

As of February 24, twenty-one rooms had been reserved for the Savannah Field Trip, so if you would like to make a reservation, do so ASAP even though the deadline isn't until March 16th to be sure you get in on the fun. At this time, there are 40 people definitely going to Savannah and several more who say they are going but haven't made their reservations.

Call the hotel's direct number (912-629-2001) and ask for a room in the Sandhills Photography Club block. If you ask for RON, the hotel manager, he has all the info and might make it easier to make your reservation.

Contact Linda Piechota (949-6560 or email lp7611@embarqmail.com) if you have questions or problems.

Here is the latest on the boat excursions:
Canoes - Five people have signed on and paid. Five is the minimum, but if more want to come, call Jill Margeson at 673-1497.

Middle size motor boat - Twelve have signed up and paid. The maximum for this excursion is 14. Two are waiting to decide. Call Jill at 673-1497 to see if there to see if the two spaces are available.

NEW MEMBER DEVELOPMENT, Debra Regula

I am happy to report that after our last meeting, I have had 2 more members offer their help to new members: **John German and Hunter Rudd**. John German's expertise is in "Light Room" and Hunter is very knowledgeable in "Infrared Photography" among other photographic skills. **Grace Hill** is willing to help beginner Mac users. I need more volunteers to help round out my list of experienced members who are willing to help out new members with their questions and problems with photography. I am available as the "New Member Sounding Board" and I will be more than happy to listen to any suggestions and do my best to answer questions about our club and meetings. After a spirited discussion with one of our new members I was thanked and told "No one has ever taken the time to talk with me and listen to my input before." So please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss anything or would like your ideas passed on to the Board. If there are any new members who would like to get together, maybe before the meetings or possibly one day during the month, please contact me and I will work out the details.

CLASSIFIEDS:

Club Patches still available!
\$8.00 each

See **Kathy Green**
at the next club meeting or
Ph-910-585-0190



New Sling Shoulder Camera Bag
Carry 2 extra Lenses and Flash.
Dimensions: 14.6"H, 9"W, and
7.1"D.
Retail \$65; I paid \$45; Chuck's
price is \$25.

Call **Chuck Kersey** at 673-2429

OUT AND ABOUT

Sorry, no meeting pictures this month. Our club photographer, Al Reeder, was too busy getting pictures of YOU all for his project!!!! Check back next month.....I hope!!!! ☺ See a hint of what's to come on the next page!!!!!! *Alison*

Pungo and Mattamuskeet Lakes 2012

John German

Check out his slideshow:

Slideshow Link (Done in Lightroom): [Pungo and Mattamuskeet Lakes 2012](#)



“KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR”

By Al Reeder

We are well on our way of capturing all the members of the Sandhills Camera Club. To date we have taken photos of 32 members. The concept is to photograph all the members and place them in a Photo Book with their names. The book will be available to all members on a quarterly basis in a PDF file. This should make it very easy to identify all the members of the club. The next shot will be at the next meeting starting at 6:30 pm. I am open for any suggestions; please call Al Reeder at 295-5311. Below is an example of a page:

Gisela Danielsen



Benny Henderson



Scott Duvall



Paula Taggart