

I N F O C U S

A Publication of

THE SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Celebrating 40 years in 2023

Alison Earl, alisonspcnewsletter@gmail.com

VOL XXXVIV, NUMBER 2

www.sandhillsphotoclub.org

FEBRUARY 2023



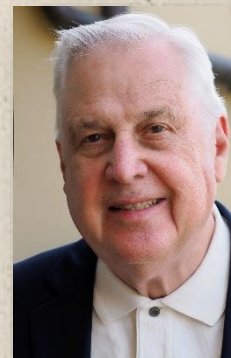
*"Lord of the Flies" by Jacques Wood
1/11/23 at Frog Heaven, Costa Rica
ss 1/1250 F/ 6.3 ISO 25,600*

NOTE: we will be using RUBY for our front page, which is the official stone for a 40th Year Anniversary.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES – JACQUES WOOD

Our first meeting of the year featured an excellent presentation on pet photography by Lisa Miyamoto. It contained specific information on how to prepare for and photograph pets in portrait and in action modes. As one who loves and lives with dogs, her offer of end-of-life sessions for our pets was a moving moment. The presentation reflected substantial time and effort on Lisa's part.

In fact, Lisa told Bonny Henderson, SPC's Competition Co-Chair, that she spent fifty hours developing and rehearsing her pet presentation. SPC's presentation honorarium is only \$150, so do the math. Of course, some speakers are hoping the presentation will lead to future business. I think most present because they want to share their experience and enthusiasm for the craft with an audience of interested photographers.



JACQUES WOOD

SPC has such an audience but going forward I hope to see more members attending our general meetings in person. At the January 9th meeting there were 43 attendees which was the average attendance for club meetings in 2019 (last pre-Covid year). In 2019, 43 members attended in person; this January the number was 23 with 20 on Zoom. Some members can't attend because of travel distance; some won't because of health concerns but some just don't attend because Zoom is just easy.

Ideas to get SPC's "in-person" attendance up are solicited. Send them to me at: president@sandhillsphtoclub.org

The SPC's Strategic Plan 2023 is close to being finalized. I can report that steps are in place to meet the challenge of integrating new members into the fabric of the club.

SPC Plan Goal No. 1: Integrate New Members into Club activities.

The following action items have been implemented to accomplish Goal No. 1:

1. The Membership Committee chaired by Jack Matthews will host a new member Zoom orientation session at 7:00 PM (EST) on February 22, 2023. More details about that session are contained in the Membership article on page 3.
2. The Chairs of SCC Committees will publish articles *In Focus* describing their responsible program activities. The Competition Committee's article and "Quick Start Guide" was sent in a standalone email blast in early January. In this month's *In Focus* on pages 7-8, Susan Bailey described what is involved in a Club Outing.
3. The creation of a new Board position SPC Ombudsperson. This position, filled by Neva Scheve (former two term SPC President), is available to address members concerns or problems. The Ombudsperson function is more fully explained in Neva's article on page 4.

I hope the above actions will help new members learn about and get involved in club activities.

On a personal note, I had a "blast" on a seven-day Photography Expedition to Costa Rica led by Brian Osborne. I shot wildlife (exotic birds and frogs for the first time), landscapes and people. I learned a lot about photography and about Costa Ricans. They are warm and welcoming people. Go, if you can, especially if you can secure an opening on one of Brian's expeditions.

For now, keep on shooting,

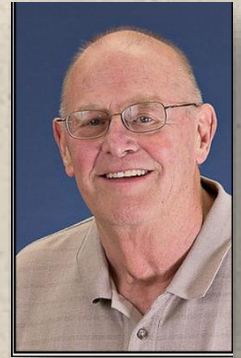
Jacques



Photo of Jacques by Brian Osborne

MEMBERSHIP – JACK MATHEWS

Currently our membership stands at 99 members. We are still waiting for a few members to renew their memberships. THERE IS STILL TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2023.



JACK MATHEWS

There are three ways to renew your membership:

- 1) By PayPal. Go to the Club's web site www.sandhillsphtoclub.org and follow the instructions found in the Membership section.
- 2) In person. By paying by check at the next General Membership Meeting on February 13th.
- 3) By mail. Mail your check to Sandhills Photo Club, P.O. Box 763, Southern Pines, NC 28388.

We welcome two new members:

Tessa Cammarata writes that she has always been interested in photography, but still has much to learn. Photography is an art that brings one back to a place and time. But the best photo's illicit emotion. It is the best subjective view of history whether true or false.

And

Lisa Vreede shares this "Photography is a passion for me. I love and am involved with most genres including portrait, event, nature and so on. The constant learning opportunity is one aspect that excites me! We are new to Southern Pines (from Michigan). I am thrilled to have found this fantastic Club! I look forward to meeting and working with you all."

ATTENTION NEW(ER) MEMBERS

All Club members who have joined SPC since January 2022 please mark your calendars for a New Member Orientation Zoom Meeting to be held **Wednesday, February 22, 2023, starting at 7:00 PM.**

Whether you joined the Club over a year ago or as recent as last month, this is the opportunity to learn more about the activities your club offers and ask your questions. So please plan to join us on February 22nd on Zoom.

OMBUDSMAN, NEVA SCHEVE

When Jacques Wood became our new president for this year, he asked me to take on a new position he created to improve communication between members and the board of directors, and I accepted. But then I had to look it up to see what it means! All those consonants strung together stick in my mouth and I have some trouble pronouncing it!



Neva Scheve

Ombudsperson. According to the International Ombuds Association, (yes, there is such a thing) the name “ombudsman” comes from Sweden and literally means “representative”. An ombudsman assists individuals and groups in the resolution of conflicts or concerns. The standard of practice and functional responsibilities can be very different for different types of ombuds.

In my case, I will be available to address any concerns or problems that members may want to communicate to the SPC Officers and/or Board of Directors. If a member wants to remain anonymous I will promise confidentiality.

So, if you have anything you would like to present, or complain about, to the Officers, contact me. I cannot promise to solve everything, but I will be impartial and do my best to help you find a solution.

Contact me and I will be your representative. Please use my official SPC email address instead of my personal email. ombudsperson@sandhillsphtoclub.org If you forget it, you can go to the SPC website. Got to the About Us> Officers and Directors> find my name on the list and click “Ombudsperson” and my email address will come up.

Also, Jacques has asked me to explore and report on the ways and means to support the photographic growth and interest of all members. To that end, I would like to hear from members with ideas to improve our club. As a member, what would you like to see in the coming year to encourage growth in the club? Things like new activities, ideas to improve communication among members, and what more can we do to encourage participation in committees and club offices. Whatever comes to mind. Once I have some input I will send out a survey for the general membership to weigh in on those ideas.

Send those ideas to the same email address. I look forward to hearing from you.
ombudsperson@sandhillsphtoclub.org

Neva Kittrell Scheve

PROGRAMS – *BOB MOBSBY*

The following presentations are scheduled for this year; still looking for presenters for September and November. Suggestions are welcome; email me at: vicepresident@sandhillspgphotoclub.org



BOB MOBSBY



March 13, 2023: Composition – Leading Lines by Brian Osborne

Brian Osborne, instructor and owner of the The Photo Classroom in Charlotte, will provide examples and pointers into using the compositional technique of leading lines to produce photographs with interest and balance.

<https://thephotoclassroom.com/>

May 8, 2023: Finding Inspiration in our Photographic Lives by Kas Stone

Do you sometimes struggle to find inspiration? Are you stuck in the photographic doldrums? Do you ever worry you won't see anything that will inspire you to pick up your camera again? You are not alone! Join Canadian photographer Kas Stone on a quest for inspiration in our photographic lives. You can view Kas' work at <http://kasstone.ca/>



July 10, 2023: Astrophotography - Deep Space Photography by Larry Pizzi

Larry Pizzi, a resident of Seven Lakes, will discuss how he became interested in astro/deep space photography, the gear and the techniques he uses to produce his striking images of our universe. You can some of view Larry's work here: <https://shop.larrypizzi.com>

Bob Mobsby, Vice President/Programs



BONNY HENDERSON

COMPETITION COMMITTEE

BONNY HENDERSON AND JERRY KOZEL

We have our 60 entries for the OPEN competition which will be held on February 13 at our regularly scheduled meeting. Our judge will be Brian Fullington of Raleigh and he will join us via Zoom. Make plans to attend the meeting and see the spectacular photos and hear Brian’s commentary.



JERRY KOZEL

Our next competition will be held in April and the topic is SOLITUDE. The definition for this topic is as follows:

Solitude is defined as the state of being alone or remote from others; the state of being secluded or uninhabited; the state of being lonely or loneliness. Let your image reflect one of the three states of solitude. (3 year time limit)

Please note the three year time limit. Photos dated 2019 or before will not be accepted.

We also want to address the importance of a good title for your photos in the competition. A good title can be an addition for your photo. The guidelines sent to each judge say that the title may be considered as part of the overall score of the image. The judges are given guidelines which state:

POINTS GUIDELINE

IMPACT: 1 to 4 points

*Does the image illicit a strong emotional response as a first impression with a feeling of mood and does it hold your eye and interest? **Does the title add to the image?***

COMPOSITION: 1 to 3 points

Is there design and balance in the image, bringing all of the visual elements together? Does it draw the viewer to look where the creator intended? Is the subject emphasized by the placement, contrast and framing with no distracting elements? Does the image have a strong point of interest?

TECHNICAL: 1 to 3 points

Proper exposure, color balance, image focus, and good tonality should exist in the image as appropriate to the subject.

Keep this in mind when thinking about a title for your images. There are some who argue that a good or clever title should not be necessary, that the image should stand on its own and not necessarily need a title to “explain” the story or the picture. We, as the Competition Committee, feel that a title is important and can add to the overall impact of the photo. Any short title will work, but a creative, humorous, or inspired title is an addition to the photo. If the title is used to explain the image, we feel the judge will recognize that and perhaps lower the impact score realizing the image alone doesn’t tell the complete story. Some judges place importance on titles, others do not.

There is a discrepancy between the judging guidelines and the Competition Manual (which does not mention titles). We will update the manual, but in the meantime, we wanted you to be aware that the judge may consider your title as part of the judging.

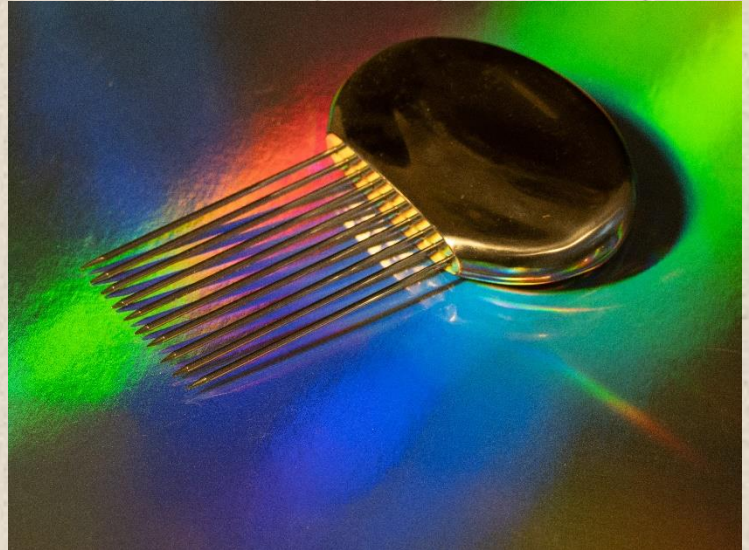
Bonny & Jerry



Susan Bailey

FEBRUARY OUTING Indoor Macro Practice

- When:** Saturday, February 18
Time: Session 1 – 10am – 12pm (FULL)
Session 2 - 1pm – 3pm (few spots left)
Where: Ball Visitor Center at the Horticultural Center
Who: Susan Bailey and Mary Doherty will be leading this practice time
What: Mary is a friend of mine from Raleigh and an outstanding macro photographer. She is coming down with some of her favorite items to shoot. We will be available to answer questions and help you with different setups. There is no formal lecture but six stations to guide your practice. There is a limit of 10 people. If there is enough interest, we will add the second session.
Cost: None. Sandhills Photo Club is paying for the meeting space.



Quick overview: One station will have items to practice with your camera to really understand aperture and how it affects depth of field. This will be especially for those with limited macro experience.

Other stations will have a light pad, light tent, continuous light, and flashlights with colored gels. There will also be foam core for backgrounds plus reflectors. Macro subjects will be abundant.

Come have fun learning more about macro and experimenting in a warm environment!

Equipment: Camera with macro lens is ideal but not necessary. Longer lenses can be fun with close up work too. iPhones are welcome and we can help you with the apps that work for closeups. A tripod is strongly recommended.

Please email me if you want to attend – susanbaileyphoto@gmail.com

Current participants – no need to contact me again

Morning Session

Dee Williams
Shari Dutton
Susan Batts
Tom Batts
Sally Mason
Bonny Henderson
Steve Sorsch
Nina Drinko
Frank Lipski
JoAnn Sluder

Afternoon Session

Gisela Danielson
Janice Huff
Linda Piechota

[Continued Next Page](#)

BROOKGREEN GARDENS
Spring Field Trip
March 28-30

We will be visiting two primary areas in Murrells Inlet, SC. We currently have 17 members signed up with 5 spouses or friends. Please let me know if you plan to attend and make sure to get your hotel room before they run out at our special rate. Current participants are listed at the end of this article and you do not have to contact me again. Thank you. susanbaileyphoto@gmail.com

Brookgreen Gardens

1931 Brookgreen Drive, Murrells Inlet, SC

www.brookgreen.org, 9:30am – 5pm

One ticket price gives you 7 consecutive days: Seniors over 65 - \$18, Under 65 - \$20

The azaleas and other flowers should be overflowing. Brookgreen has fountains and sculptures and acres of flowers. There is also the Low Country Zoo at Brookgreen. Please go to the website above for complete information.

Huntington Beach State Park

16148 Ocean Hwy, Murrells Inlet, SC

www.southcarolinaparks.com/huntington/beach; 6am-6pm

\$8 admission

<https://www.atalayacastle.com/history/>

\$2 for Atalaya

Just a few minutes from Brookgreen and our hotel you are in Huntington Beach State Park, which has great spots for birding, beach access and a tour through the Atalaya Castle.

See link above

Schedule

You are welcome to come and go at your own pace, but I am making some suggestions for group activity.

Tuesday

Arrive early afternoon and go to Brookgreen Gardens. Your ticket is good for 7 consecutive days and you will have a fun afternoon exploring. I will be on the grounds after 1pm and you can call to join up. 919-805-0635

4pm check into the hotel. Breakfasts are included.

5:30pm Dinner – arrive any time as the marshwalk is really nice.

J Peters Marshwalk Restaurant (not all seafood so should be something for everyone)

4037 US 17 Business

Murrells Inlet, SC

<https://jpetersgrill.com/menu/>

You will enjoy the Marshwalk before we eat and then sunset (7:33pm) will be available for photos after we eat.

We will hope to be seated by 6pm. It looks like we are going to have a big group so we may suggest two different times to eat but will give you details later.

Wednesday

Huntington Beach State Park opens at 6am and it's worth getting there early for the bird activity and sunrise (7:09am) on the beach.

I will head to Brookgreen about 10am probably depending what we find at Huntington and what the weather is doing!

There are many restaurants on the Marshwalk and along US 17.

Thursday

This is another full day at your leisure for the beach area and the gardens.

[January Outing Photos Pages: 12-15](#)

WORKSHOPS, *FRANK LIPSKI*

Would like to welcome the new members of the Workshop Committee for 2023: **Pam Jensen**, **Alex White** and **Cindy Murphy**. The committee had its first meeting on 1/17 and lots of good discussion occurred. Look forward to a good number of workshops this year.

The first workshop this year, Cropping, was held on January 18. There were about 20 members in attendance. Thanks to Jerry Kozel and Bonnie Henderson for running this workshop.

Brian Osborne will be the guest speaker at the March meeting. He will be holding two different workshops the next day, March 14. One will be on "Creativity in Motion" and the other is "Image Editing Workflow: Lightroom Illustrated. Each workshop will cost \$60.

→Registration for Creativity in Motion can be done at:

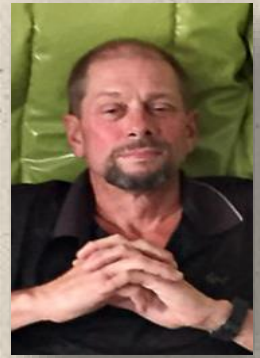
<https://www.peek.com/s/0c1dcd96-f3fa-4c3f-ab72-00efdfc59470/XDAye>

→Registration for Image Editing Workflow: Lightroom Illustrate can be done at

<https://www.peek.com/s/0c1dcd96-f3fa-4c3f-ab72-00efdfc59470/BLZKA>

A long planned but never materialized **iPhone class** will be held on **April 19th** from **9 until noon**. This class will be led by John Patota. More details will be coming out later in the year.

If you have any suggestions for a workshop or want to help the workshop committee, contact me via email, lipski@charter.net
Here are details of the Brian Osborne workshops:



Frank Lipski

In-Person Photography Workshops

In partnership with The Photo Classroom and The Sandhills Photography Club



Creativity in Motion – Tuesday, March 14th from 9-11:30am

Beyond the aperture, I believe that the next most unique part of the creative photographic process is motion. Obviously, we understand that shutter speed controls motion with a faster shutter speed freezing action and a slower shutter speed causing blur. But we must also consider how motion can be occurring at different speeds and that maybe, there is a lot more middle ground in terms of the amount and type of blur that is possible in various situations.

In this class we will start with many common scenarios and consider what would be the default shutter speed to be used in each. We will discuss how this can be accomplished in different camera modes, etc. However, we will push past these fundamentals and start to explore various techniques that can be applied to motion eventually getting into some very creative applications of not only subject motion but camera direction as well. Panning will be covered in depth and students will be challenged to think about motion blur and panning in situations they might never have considered. There will be plenty of information to challenge photographers of all experience levels. We will apply what we learn not to just sports photography but to wildlife, landscapes and more helping students see motion in situations they never noticed it before.

Registration can be done at <https://www.peek.com/s/0c1dcd96-f3fa-4c3f-ab72-00efdfc59470/XDAye>

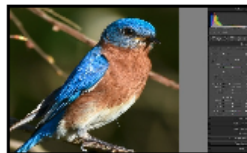


Image Editing Workflow: Lightroom Illustrated – March 14, 1-3:30pm

This class will be an opportunity for us to demonstrate the 3 step workflow that we have been teaching our students in our other editing classes. The instructor, will talk through the 3 areas that need to be addressed in all images (exposure, color and sharpening) and illustrate the application of these in Adobe Lightroom on a variety of different photos (sports, portraits, landscapes, wedding, wildlife and more). Between having the opportunity to see all of this at work virtually as well as to ask questions, this will be a great learning opportunity and reinforcement for anyone that wants to understand Lightroom better.

Registration can be done at <https://www.peek.com/s/0c1dcd96-f3fa-4c3f-ab72-00efdfc59470/BLZKA>

Both workshops will take place at The Village Chapel, 10 Azalea Rd, Pinehurst, NC 28374 (Inside Chapel Hall with parking in the back or on the road)

Cost: \$60 for SPC Members, \$70 for Non-Members

(Priority will be given for the limited spots in each class to SPC Members through Jan. 31st)



Shari Dutton

SAVE THE DATE!

We have reserved exhibit space for the month of September at the Campbell House in Southern Pines to display our works of art. The title of our exhibit will be "Travels Near and Far." That provides a wide umbrella for photos that can be displayed. The Arts Council of Moore County will be offering several programs that month that also fit into that theme.

We will share the exhibit space with potter Linda Dalton and will be hosting an opening reception the first Friday of the exhibit. Your artwork will be offered for sale (unless you choose otherwise,) so start thinking about the pieces you'd like to exhibit!

This has been a fun and popular event in the past! More information will be forthcoming regarding framing requirements and number of pieces allowed. The photos must be original pieces of work not offered or exhibited at the Campbell House in the past.

In the meantime, reach out to me if you have any questions.

Shari Dutton <shari.dutton@yahoo.com>

Treasurer's Report - FINANCIAL REPORT 2022

TOTAL FUNDS		
	Checking	\$6,358.06
	Savings	\$3,915.97
Grand Total of all Accounts		\$10,274.03



JUDY NAPPI

WEBSITE: JOHN GERMAN



SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB'S WEBSITE
WWW.SANDHILLSPHOTOCLUB.ORG

Website Notes for January:

This month's featured member's website on the club website is [Susan Bailey](#). 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](#). 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

January Outing Photos
1-7-23



Patti Cifelli



Neva Scheve



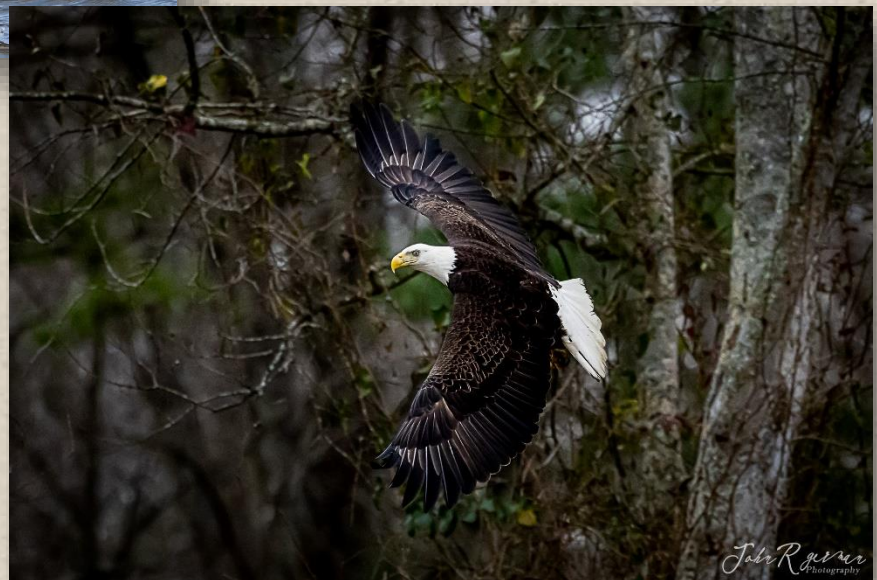
Diane McCall



Susan Bailey



Dee Williams



John German



Neva Scheve



Susan Bailey



John German



Dee Williams



Diane McCall



Patti Cifelli



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



2023 SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB BOARD AND CHAIRS

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Exhibitions	Shari Dutton	exhibitions@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
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CONTACT "IN FOCUS"
EDITOR Alison Earl with
 any questions, concerns,
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 (including images), etc. @
alisonspcnewsletter@gmail.com

Alison Earl

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