



I N F O C U S

A Publication of

THE SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Celebrating 40 years in 2023

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December 2023

**PHOTOS FROM NEAR AND FAR
NC FAR: FALL FIELD TRIP – PILOT MOUNTAIN
PHOTOGRAPHER: CINDY MURPHY**



PRESIDENT'S NOTES – *JACQUES WOOD*

FINIS

This is my last President's Notes as our incoming **President, Bonny Henderson**, will be in office for the next Newsletter. In my first Notes, three challenges facing the Club were highlighted:



JACQUES WOOD

- Integrating the 23 members who joined in 2022 into the fabric of the Club.
- Continued support of the photographic growth and interest of all members.
- Celebrate and publicize the Club's 40th Anniversary.

The Club met the first challenge under the leadership of **Jack Mathews**, Membership Chair. Jack organized a new member orientation program which was held on Zoom in February. New members will now take leadership roles in 2024: six chair positions and nine committee member positions will be filled by members with less than **two years** with the Club.

The Club met the second challenge by strong program and committee leadership:

- **Monthly General Meetings:** 6 excellent programs were coordinated by **Vice President Bob Mobsby**; 6 photo competitions were organized by **Bonny Henderson and Jerry Kozel, Competition Co-Chairs**. **The Average attendance at monthly meetings this year was 45 compared with 36 in 2022.**
- **Outings:** diverse Monthly outings such as Dressage in the Sandhills or an inside outing on Macro photography all organized by **Susan Bailey, Outings Chair**.
- **Workshops:** 5 Workshops on cropping, Lightroom, "Winning Images", Motion and iPhone photography, all facilitated by **Frank Lipski, Workshop Chair**.
- **Field Trips:** Field trips to Brookgreen Gardens (photographers on this trip actually "captured" a black bear in the marsh) and an Autumn Shoot to Pilot Mountain, NC, researched and led by **Susan Bailey and Gary Magee, Field Trips Chair**.
- **Exhibits:** the well-attended "Travels Near and Far" Exhibit at the Campbell House was orchestrated by **Shari Dutton, Exhibition Chair**.

The Club is well structured to support the photographic artistic and technical growth of its members.

Not so fast on that third challenge! We are not done celebrating the Club's 40th Anniversary but so far this year:

- **SPC was PineStraw's June Cover Story:** The 8-page and 36-photo article entitled "**Reflections at 40**" was researched and written by member **David Kiner**. The project was coordinated by **Marti Derleth, Publicity Chair**.

- **World Photography Day Summer Social:** 52 members and guests attended the Summer Social party at Talamore Country Club on Saturday, August 19, “World Photography Day.” This event was organized by **Gary Magee**, his wife **Gayle** and **Neva Scheve**. **Marti Derleth** arranged to have the event publicized in the “Out and About” section of the August 27th Pilot which featured photos from **Cal Rice and Susan Bailey**.

But wait, there’s more. We will complete our celebration of the Club’s anniversary at the **Holiday Dinner on December 11 at Pinewild Country Club** with some special awards. I hope to see many of you there; it will be a special evening for SPC members and guests.

I thank all the above Officers and Chairs for their dedication to, creativity and work for SPC in 2023. I also want to say thanks to the following for work done this year for essential but sometimes “behind the scenes” endeavors:

- **Susan Batts, Secretary:** Susan compiled succinct and accurate minutes of Board meetings, but equally important, she kept me and Board members “on point” during meetings. She was also the primary driver of the recently adopted SPC Record Retention Policy.
- **Alison Earl, Communications Chair:** Alison publishes 12 monthly newsletters, countless email blasts and this year a Special Edition honoring Betty Hendrix. We are so fortunate to have Alison give “voice” to Club communications.
- **John German, Website Chair:** SPC has an excellent website thanks to John German. Given club activities, John has to update it on a weekly basis. This year John was critical in contributing and organizing SPC photos for our Club’s partnership with Moore County in the development of its new website.
- **Jerry Kozel, Competitions Co-Chair:** In addition to his works on competitions, Jerry served another critical function for the Club this year: facilitator of Board “brainstorming sessions.” He facilitated two meetings to develop ideas to increase and retain membership as well as ideas for alternative revenue sources.
- **Sally Mason, Hospitality Chair:** Sally has made sure there is always something nice, sweet or savory, for members at the end of a general meeting. Thank you, Sally! My sweet tooth thanks you also!
- **Judy Nappi, Treasurer:** Judy carefully watched and reported Club finances. She with **Ira Miller** prepared the 2022 financial audit. In addition, with **Frank Lipski, Incoming Treasurer**, she developed new financial controls and transitioned Club financial records to Quicken software.
- **Neva Scheve, Ombudsperson:** Neva filled the new board position of “ombudsperson.” This position was created to allow members to present concerns or problems, anonymously if desired. Neva responded promptly to a number of such issues in 2023.
- **JoAnn Sluder, Past President:** JoAnn provided me with insights and records that made my job as president more thoughtful and complete. She also was there to help find and plan the right place and menu for our Holiday Dinner.

- **Dennis Snipes, Technical Director:** Dennis’ efforts, and expertise allow SPC to conduct “hybrid” general meetings and “Zoom” Board meetings. He has met every technical challenge with enthusiasm and dedication; thank you.

It is clear that numerous Club members are responsible for the success of our Club. Their participation and commitment are essential to the Club’s mission to promote photographic art and technology to the membership. It shows that in 2023 the Club enrolled 25 new members and this growth brings the Club membership to 115 (including the international members).

There are challenges ahead for SPC, but with the incoming Board under the leadership of **Bonny Henderson**, I am confident the Club will have continued success.

Wishing all a wonderful Holiday Season!

Go shoot some winter ...

Jacques



Treasurer’s Report - FINANCIAL REPORT 2023

TOTAL FUNDS		
	Checking	\$5,339.91
	Savings	\$3,916.27
Grand Total of all Accounts		\$9,256.18



JUDY.NAPPI



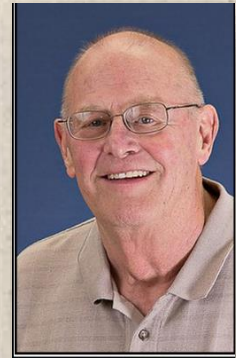
**Happy Holidays
And A VERY
HAPPY NEW YEAR**



MEMBERSHIP – JACK MATHEWS

We currently have 114 members, consisting of 83 individual members, 20 family members, 2 honorary members, and 9 contest winners.

At our regular monthly meeting on November 13, we had 28 members attending in-person and 19 members attending on Zoom for a total member attendance of 47. We also had 11 guests in the audience. Seven (7) of our guest found us by way of the Pilot articles. Total meeting attendance this year was up 28% over last year.



JACK MATHEWS

On behalf of the club, the Membership Committee welcomes our latest new member, **David Martin**. David attended the November 13th meeting as a guest and applied for membership after that meeting. David lives in Pinehurst.

We added twenty-five (25) new members so far this year. Many have already begun to take active roles in the Club's activities. Besides participating in competitions and outings, four (4) new members will chair committees and four (4) others have volunteered to serve on various committees.

The Board on November 15th approved the following definition for the **Family Membership**:
Family members include the head of household, spouse, or significant other, and dependent children at least 18 years old.
This definition has been added to the Membership page on the Club's website.



2024 SPC MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE BY JANUARY 1, 2024

Dues remain the same as last year:

Individual Membership	\$55.00
Family Membership	\$75.00
Student	\$20.00



You can renew by:

- 1) Using PayPal on our website www.sandhillsphtoclub.org
- 2) Mailing a check to Sandhills Photography Club, P.O. Box 763, Southern Pines, NC 28388
- 3) Renew by check in person at the Holiday Dinner December 11th

Remember to be eligible to participate in Competitions you must be a paid member.

Any questions please contact: membership@sandhillsphtoclub.org

PROGRAMS – *BOB MOBSBY*

Bob Mobsby, Vice President / Programs

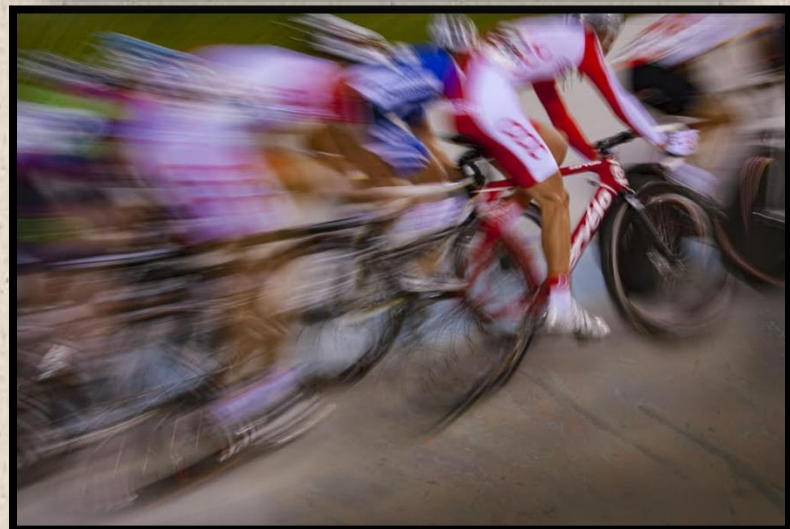
January 8, 2024 Program: Capturing Motion

Betsy Wilson will explore the world of motion photography through her unique perspective: a combination of traditional techniques of controlling shutter speed along with some non-traditional concepts using camera motion and light-painting. Betsy's discussion will include the topic of photographing water, as the theme of our June 2024 competition is "Go with the flow" (moving water).

Betsy's work can be viewed at: <https://www.letscapturethemoment.com/about/photo-recognitions-betsy-wilson/>



BOB MOBSBY



This is my final article on Programs, as **Susan Bailey** is the incoming Vice President in charge of club Programs for 2024. It has been an honor to serve the club in 2023 and I leave Programs in Susan's very capable hands.

Bob Mobsby
Vice President & Programs

COMPETITION COMMITTEE

BONNY HENDERSON & JERRY KOZEL



BONNY HENDERSON



JERRY KOZEL

The galleries for our final competition of 2023 have closed and all entries for the “Sports” competition are in. Members will vote for their favorites and the winners will be announced at the Holiday Dinner. Stoffel Award winners will also be announced, so attend the dinner and don’t miss all the exciting announcements!

Here is a reminder of the upcoming competitions and definitions for 2024:

- **(JAN) Shapes and Patterns** – This type of photography refers to the repetition of similar shapes and objects within the photo. May be shapes and patterns in nature or man-made. (3-year limit)
- **(APR) Worm’s Eye View (get low)** – Worm’s eye view photography is when a photo is taken from a lower angle in relation to the subject. Since worms live on the ground, their perspective of the world is always looking up. Take a photo looking straight up or from a very low angle. (3-year limit)
- **(JUN) Go with the Flow (moving water)** – Shoot an image of moving water: a creek, a river, a faucet, a waterfall are just a few examples. May be naturally moving water or man-made. (3-year limit)
- **(AUG) Close-Up** – Close-up photography is all about shooting smaller subjects in greater detail. It is intended to show greater detail to the viewer. The image does not have to be a true macro. (3-year limit)
- **(OCT) Abstract** – Abstract photography is defined as a style of photography where the subject in the image is not immediately identifiable or there is no subject at all. By zeroing in on the color, texture, line, shape, geometry, or symmetry of a subject, the photographer warps the perception of the real world and familiar objects. (3-year limit)
- **(DEC) Rows of Things** – Photograph a number of things arranged in a line. (3-year limit)

Jerry and I will be leaving the Competitions Committee at the end of this month. **Eugene Cottrell** and **Michael Sassano** will be the new committee and we wish them the best of luck! We have had an exciting four years while conducting competitions for SPC. The month after our first competition, we all went into lockdown for COVID and suddenly, our job had a new direction. We had to ensure that competitions would still be an integral part of the club even though we could no longer meet in person. We were able to adapt the competition format and the slideshow to fit the Zoom presentation. No longer were local judges available to come to the O’Neal School and conduct live commentaries. But, we muddled through and found some very talented and accomplished judges from around the country: David Hundley from Whidbey Island, WA; Carole Mayhoefer from Atlanta, GA; Kim Critchfield from Twin Falls, ID; Tarah Jensen from Kansas City, KS; Elizabeth George from Tallahassee, FL; and Kate Silvia from Charleston, SC just to name a few. Jerry also simplified the entry form and made it much easier for members to enter the competitions. So many of you wanted to enter competitions, we had to limit the entries to one per member. We had a fun and very busy four-year stint as the Competitions Committee, and we always appreciated your support.

Hope you had a very Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Shooting,

Bonny & Jerry

DECEMBER OUTING IDEAS

We generally do not have a planned outing in December as everyone is so busy, although we have been to several parades. I am listing several ideas for places and events to photograph.



Susan Bailey

LOCAL EVENTS

- ☑ Friday, December 1 - 5pm – 7:30pm - Pinehurst Tree Lighting – Tufts Memorial Park – Santa will be there and food vendors
- ☑ Saturday, December 2 at 11am - Southern Pines Christmas Parade
- ☑ Saturday, December 9 at 4pm – 5:30pm – Aberdeen Christmas Parade
- ☑ Saturday, December 9 at 1pm – Moore County Driving Club – Horse and Carriage Christmas parade – Southern Pines
- ☑ Saturday, December 16 at 4pm – Vass Christmas Parade
- ☑ Carolina Inn decorations all month
- ☑ Shaw House in Southern Pines decorated for the holidays
- ☑ Sandhills Horticultural Gardens – gnomes are placed throughout the gardens and are fun to photograph

JANUARY OUTINGS

Jordan Lake Dam

Date: Saturday, January 7, 2023

Time: Meet at the parking lot at 2pm.
You will be shooting very close to your car.

Address:
Jordan Lake Dam
2060 Jordan Dam Road
Moncure, NC

Directions: Take US 1 North out of Southern Pines to Exit 79. You will see signs. It takes about 50 minutes.

What: By early January we should see seagulls, herons, and hopefully egrets, hawks and eagles. The eagles build their nests in early January and the eaglets hatch 30-40 days later in this area.

Notes: You will see others in the group when you park and the water and birds are right at the parking lot. You can stay on the grass and shoot down to the water or walk down a sloped, paved sidewalk to be closer to the water. Generally, the water is surging through the dam and moving quite quickly. There is not a lot of walking involved, but the ground is uneven so you might want to wear sturdy hiking shoes. There are restrooms by the parking lot.

Equipment: Bring as long a lens as you have! A tripod is limiting as the birds are very fast and you will be using a fast shutter speed to capture the birds in flight. You may want to bring a portable chair.

Clothes: Dress warmly!

Weather cancellation: We will plan a rain date on January 21 if necessary.

RSVP: As always, I'd like to know if you plan to attend - outings@sandhillsphtoclub.org

November Outing Images – Shaw House



David Kiner



Cal Rice

Cal Rice



Bonny Henderson



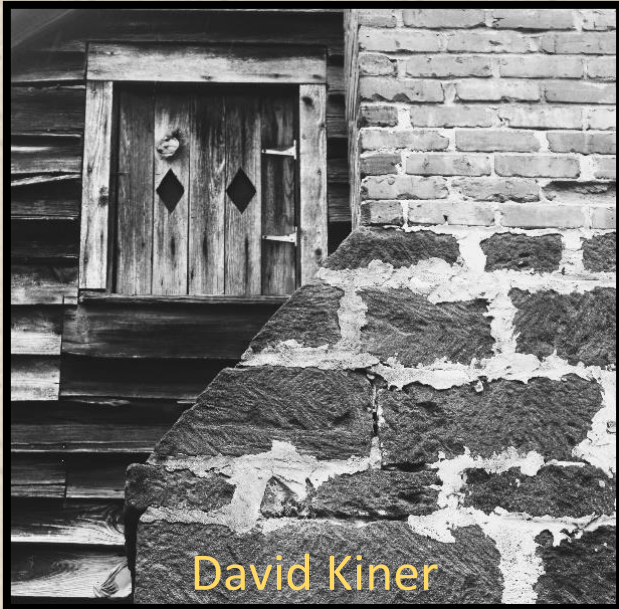
Linda Piechota



Susan Bailey



Linda Piechota



David Kiner



Cal Rice

Cal Rice



Susan Bailey



Bonny Henderson

2023 Fall Field Trip to Pilot Mountain Know what' missing???????????



Field Trip, Gary Magee
Pilot Mountain, NC





Cal Rice



Therese Kuttel



Cal Rice



Dee Willie



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



2023 SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB BOARD AND CHAIRS

TITLE	NAME	EMAILS
President	Jacques Wood	president@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Vice President	Bob Mobsby	vicepresident@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Secretary	Susan Batts	secretary@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Treasurer	Judy Nappi	treasurer@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Past President	Jo Ann Sluder	pastpresident@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Communications	Alison Earl	communications@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Competitions	Bonny Henderson Jerry Kozel	competitions@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Exhibitions	Shari Dutton	exhibitions@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Field Trips	Gary Magee	fieldtrips@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Hospitality	Sally Mason	hospitality@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Membership	Jack Mathews	membership@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
PSA Rep	Dave Powers	psarep@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Ombudsperson	Neva Scheve	ombudsperson@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Outings	Susan Bailey	outings@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Programs	Bob Mobsby	vicepresident@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Publicity	Marti Derleth	publicity@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Technical Director & ZoomMaster	Dennis Snipes	tech@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Web Administrator	John German	website@sandhillspgphotoclub.org
Workshops	Frank Lipski	workshops@sandhillspgphotoclub.org

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

Alison Earl

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