



IN FOCUS



Member

A Publication of

THE SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB P.O. Box 763, Southern Pines, NC 28388

Enriching the North Carolina Sandhills through Photography

VOL XXV, NUMBER 10

October 2009

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, Oct. 12, 7:00 PM

Christ Fellowship Church

Midland Road at the corner of Pee Dee Road

Southern Pines, NC

Program: **Print Competition - Landscapes**

COMPETITIONS: Brady Smith

Time is running out to get your votes in for the club's first **Online Photography Competition**. Here is what I sent in my blast email of September 1:

I have received all the photos for our inaugural Online Competition and have uploaded those images to the following website: www.sandhillsphtoclub.org/competitions

All current members of the Sandhills Photography Club are invited to view the photos and follow the directions on how to send your votes for those photos you like the most. This site will be up and running throughout the month of September. I will not accept any votes after midnight of the night of the 30th of September (in other words, 12:00 AM on 10/01/09). Remember, you can only vote once. If spouses share one email address, send me two files, but make sure it is clear who is voting.

The files are large, so please be patient as the photographs load. Despite how large they are, they are intended to be view at 1024 x 768, just like our digital competitions.

If you have technical problems, please email me immediately so I can see if it is the website or just your computer.

The winners of the online competition will be announced at the October club meeting. Remember, awards for this competition will not count toward your annual points balance.

Speaking of October... our next competition is on **October 12** and will be a **Print** competition on the topic of **Landscapes**. These should be photos of an expanse of scenery that can be seen in a single view, a picture depicting an expanse of scenery. The hand of man is acceptable as long as it is only an element in a much larger scene. Panoramic photographs are acceptable, as long as they fit within the minimum and maximum size requirements. Entrants can submit up to **two (2) pictures** taken within the last **three (3) years**. Please follow regular guidelines for submitting print images. If you have questions about these guidelines, which can be found in the Competition Manual (http://sandhillsphtoclub.org/SPCRules_2008.pdf), please let me know.

Please Note: To help ensure that the competition night goes smoother, I would like to have information about your print entries sent to me before the meeting so we don't take so long getting them in the computer for scoring. Please email me the following information about your entry(ies):

1. Your name
2. Image title
3. Your competition class (A or B)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Don Hiscott

Sometimes we take ourselves too seriously. I know I do. When it comes to photography we should concentrate on having fun. I bet we could often get better, more pleasing results.

Along that vein I read with interest the article in *The Pilot* on September 27 by Allan Jefferys. He has given me permission to use part of that article. His title referenced "It's the Fling That Matters." He refers to an article by Dewitt Jones in *Outdoor Photographer*. It goes as follows:

"He adds a story about watching an old TV show in which a character wants to build a giant catapult and fling a cow across the Arctic Tundra. He is crushed when he learns that Monty Python already did this. He's about to give up when he decides to fling a piano. His theory: "It's not what you fling, it's the fling itself."

It sure is!!!! Have fun and don't take yourself too seriously, you might be amazed with the results.

Special thanks to all who have sent their best wishes, flowers, food, etc. to Brenda in the time of her illness. We feel as though we are in good hands with the doctors and staff of UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill. I know Brenda looks forward to a speedy recovery.

Please submit the above information about your photo(s) to the competition email address: competitions@sandhillspgphotoclub.org.

As discussed in the September club meeting, we not received enough interest in the idea of adding a Class C designation to continue the idea. I told the board in September that we are dropping the suggestion for now. However, if you are interested in the club having a critique-only class, please let the competition committee know.

You will find attached to this newsletter (page 7) the official release of the 2010 Competition Topics with full descriptions. We really look forward to next year's competitions and hope everyone will take the opportunity to shoot fresh, creative images for these competitions. You may notice that there are six topics. We have scheduled an online competition (Parks) to be our first official online competition that will count toward your annual points balance.

Also, please note the titles of the proposed 2011 competition topics, which still need to be reviewed in our next board meeting: **Birds, Transportation, Just Add Water, Portraits, Sports, and Nature**. More detailed information will be given next year about this time. *HAPPY SNAPPING!*

PROGRAMS: Len Barnard

November 9: "Take A Second Look With George." This program will be a very informative and, if you know George Butt, entertaining. To allow George time to provide constructive critiques you will be allowed to submit **one** of your images that you want critiqued or you need help with. Everyone will have the opportunity to comment or ask questions. The time devoted to each picture will be determined by the number of entries.

The subject is open and time limit waived. This is not a competition, but it should be a fun-packed evening hearing George's expert, humorous comments gained from over 60 years of participating in worldwide photographic competitions and exhibitions.

Images should be submitted electronically as is normally done for our digital competition and detailed below. **To allow George ample time to organize and to preview the images before the meeting, the deadline for submission is Friday, October 30.** Please submit your images as an attached file to Bill Matthews at wmatth@gmail.com. Images should be JPEG format, maximum file size 2 MB, and the file name should include the title.

(Abbreviations allowed). The smaller dimension should be at least 758 pixels. Color space should be sRGB for best compatibility with our projector. All submissions will be acknowledged. Please contact Bill Matthews, 692-8254 if you have any questions.

December 14: This is the date for our **Christmas dinner**. It will be a **Jolly Good time!!!!** See the attached menu and reservation form (page 6) and make your reservations before November 30. **Table on the Green** needs an accurate count for the dinner and I need time to prepare the cards with your entrée selection so that the servers can server you your correct entrée.

FALL FIELD TRIP: Kathy Green

The Fall Trip to Cherokee and the Smoky Mountains is **October 19 - 21**. It's almost time so here are the final details:

- Make your reservations at the Holiday Inn as soon as possible at the special club rate of \$70.00 + tax. Hot cooked breakfast included. Call 1-828-497-9181. The rooms fill up FAST in October. It is their prime time because of the beautiful fall colors. Request a ground floor if needed. There is no elevator. We need at least 10 rooms booked for the special rate (regular rate is \$110.00 + tax).
- Dinner on **Oct. 19** at 6:30 pm at the hotel restaurant, The Chestnut Tree; afterwards there is a slide show presentation by local published photographer Jerry Jaynes in the hotel conference room. Jerry will show local area photos and tell us the best time to go for good light.
- **Oct. 20** – optional dinner at 6:30 pm at Selu Gardens Restaurant at Harrah's Casino then off to play and have fun at the Casino or maybe sunset shots.

WORKSHOPS: Bill Matthews

Sharpening Images in Photoshop with **Bob Biamonte**, Saturday, **November 14**, 10 AM till Noon, Sandhills Community College, Van Dusen, V-106.

What does Photoshop do when it sharpens a photo? When I scan a photo should I sharpen it while scanning? What about sharpening in the digital camera? The answers to these questions and how to use Photoshop in different ways to sharpen photos will be covered in Bob's next workshop. We will learn about selective and global sharpening, using the high pass filter, and selective edge sharpening. This workshop will be using Elements 7 so it will be applicable to both Photoshop and Elements users. Bob will have a signup sheet at the October meeting. The lab can seat 20 people.

- **Oct. 21** – On your own. Enjoy some of the beautiful scenic drives: drive to Gatlinburg across the Smoky Mountains or to Townsend and spend the night. Townsend is only 15 minutes from the gorgeous Cades Cove. It has beautiful scenery and wildlife. Cades Cove opens at sunrise.
- Recommended hotels in Townsend, Tn: River Stone Lodge at 865-448-6677 and Tally Ho Lodge at 865-448-2465
- Questions??? **Kathy Green** at 910-585-0190 or klg1309@aol.com

EXHIBITIONS: Betty Hendrix

**Weymouth through the Lens: A Photographic Essay
August 30 to October 29, 2009**

Pick-up your photos **Oct. 30** between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm. The Boyd House at Weymouth is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays. The exhibit is on the second floor in the St. Andrews Room (also known as the board room or conference room). Eighteen members brought 34 photos to display in the show. Please go to see the exhibit and invite friends and neighbors as well.

The opening reception was a big success. The day was delightful and we had a good turnout. **Len Barnard** and **Jim Davis** were splendid hosts serving wine and lemonade to everyone. Many of our members provided wonderful platters of afternoon nibbles that were enjoyed by all. Several members donated wine and beverages and helped with the set-up and clean up. Thank you all!!! **Dave Verchick** donated one of his photographs to Weymouth. They selected his photo of the shutter latch. This is much appreciated.

THINK SPRING!!! -- MORE PHOTOS TO EXHIBIT!!!

Our next exhibition will be in **March 2010** at Sandhills Community College. The college has asked that our club participate in a joint show as part of the **Palustris Festival**. Denise Baker is organizing a show, which will team up photographs with the sister city in Ireland and us. She is putting together a prospectus and will be the one to jury what pieces will be included. This fall would be a great time to get out and take photos that could be possibilities for this show. Denise really liked the photos at the Weymouth Exhibit.

The photos may be from Moore County, but she is looking especially for a concentration of photos in and around Southern Pines, which is the official NC sister city. Denise plans that this will be a festive event with a very special reception for the public. Photos will be printed and matted, but not framed. They will be put in Crystal Clear Bags for the hanging. They will probably be limited to mats of two sizes: 11x14 or 16x20 outer dimensions so that we may provide just one or two bag sizes and purchase in bulk. There will be more details in a couple months.

Ireland will be shipping a box of their photos here for this event. When this show closes, their photos plus our photos will be shipped to Ireland for a similar show over there.

MEMBERSHIP: Alison Earl

As of the September meeting we are still at 100 paid members, along with our 2 honorary members!!!!

I haven't received any news from any of our newer members to share with you, but I would like to take this quiet time to again thank **Bill** and **Eva Ball** for all their help in the Photography Club over the years. I know they worked with **Marilyn Owen** before me, and they were a big part in my decision to take over the membership chair. They very quietly sat in the back of the room and distributed nametags; made sure you returned the nametags (by chasing you around the reception hall!!!!); and re-alphabetized the nametags each month prior to the next meeting. While occasionally you may have been a little annoyed that you had to wait for a moment or two to get your nametag, realize that for 10-15 minutes each and every meeting, they were *SWAMPED* with everyone arriving at the same time (we believe you purposely gather outside the Church Hall and come in all together!), and each of you expecting your nametag immediately! ☺ In addition they had to deal with the occasional missing nametag, which is always disturbing for both you and us. We never know if it went home with you or we misplaced it. They handled the good and bad each and every month with a smile.

The Balls are moving to Missouri to be closer to their family. I will miss sharing the back table with them, and wish them all the best in their move.

Meet Happy!

Jill Margeson would like you to meet Happy, the traveling Bluebird. Find out how Happy can join you on your next trip around town or to more distant destinations. See the attachment on page 8.

LIBRARY: Gisela Danielson

NEW BOOK: The Digital Photography Book, Volume 3, by Scott Kelby. This book has just been published and is a great addition to our library. We now own all three volumes.

You may borrow books and/or DVD/CDs. Place your order via email, gdanielson@nc.rr.com or call me, 673-0521. Your order will be ready for pick-up at the next SPC meeting and is due the following month.

Donations of gently used and **recent** photography related books and CD/DVDs are always appreciated.

REFRESHMENT ASSIGNMENTS: Bill Sheppard

The following are refreshment providers for the next three months:

October Carol Smetana & Joan Herrman
November Pat Murray
December Christmas Party

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

**Thursday, Oct. 15, 3:00 pm,
 Sandhills Community College
 Horticultural Gardens
 Visitor's Center.**

SPC WEBSITE:

www.sandhillsphtoclub.org

2009 SPC Board Members

President	Don Hiscott	295-9544
Vice President	Len Barnard	673-2135
Secretary	Donna Ford	295-5301
Treasurer	Denis Smetana	944-8124
Past President	Bill Matthews	692-8254
Programs	Len Barnard	673-2135
Competition	Brady Smith	947-3946
Exhibitions	Betty Hendrix	949-4131
Field Trips	Brenda Hiscott (Spring)	295-9544
	Kathy Green (Fall)	585-0190
Day Trips	Jill Margeson	673-1497
Hospitality	Bill Sheppard	944-1219
Publicity	Ann Stokes	235-0950
Workshops	Bill Matthews	692-8254
Newsletter	Ann Stephens	673-2091
Library	Gisela Danielson	673-0521
PSA Rep	Jim Smith	673-4744
Membership	Allison Earl	215-0316
Website	John Wynton	673-1084
Club Photographer	Jim McGill	295-6686

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT: Denis Smetana**Monthly Financial Report Regular Account**

Aug. 1, 2009	Starting balance	\$5,423.66
	Expenses	-\$354.73
	Income	\$10.08
Aug. 31, 2009	Final balance	\$5,079.01

The expenses for August were for fall pre-trip expenses, a book for the library and dinner and fuel expenses for the August judges. Income was from sale of a book at the August meeting and interest on our checking account.

Monthly Financial Report Projects Account

There was no other activity in our projects account so the beginning and end balance was the same at \$162.65. The balance of the Regular Account (including the Projects Account) is \$5,241.66.

PHOTO EQUIPMENT CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Epson P-4000, 80 GB Ext. multimedia storage drive/viewer with carrying bag, \$400, Contact Bill Newton at 692-7113 (home) or 692-2110 (office) or newtonw@mac.com.

FOR SALE: Ballhead, Bogen/Manfrotto Model 3262QR ballhead with integrated quick-release platform, and a mating camera mount platform. Condition is excellent. Asking \$55.00. Contact Jim Smith at smithjf@aol.com.

FOR SALE: Mat Cutter, Logan Model 301-s comes with two cutter heads, a bevel cutter and a straight edge cutter. Will accommodate up to 30-inch cuts. Included are extra blades, a DVD video instruction and a VHS instructional videotape. If needed, I will demonstrate how to use to a potential buyer. Asking \$50.00. Contact Jim Smith at smithjf@aol.com.

If you wish to buy or sell photo equipment, send your ad to **Ann Stephens** at astephens95@nc.rr.com.
Ads run for two issues unless you request otherwise.

Photo Tip of the Month: Jill Margeson

SPC Twenty Years Ago

In spring of 1989, **Tommy Iorio** was planning a field trip to the Cades Cove area of the Smoky Mountains for the club. A room in Townsend, TN, cost \$43 per night. Also a one day field trip to Old Salem in Winston-Salem, NC was being organized. This is an 18th century restored Moravian town. Fees for tours to all buildings was \$12.

The February competition theme was "Carolina Yesteryears," calling for photographs of "historic structures and their grounds, early farms, or homes or portions thereof.." Members submitted four slides as they walked into meeting and took them home as they exited. Winners were Dick Petty for 1st and 2nd, with honorable mentions going to Tommy Iorio, Dick Otis, and Linda Piechota.

Linda Piechota was writing and mailing newsletters; **Chris Christiansen** was competition and secretary for the year.

If you have a photo tip to share with SPC members in the newsletter, please e-mail to Ann Stephens at astephens95@nc.rr.com

Sandhills Photography Club Holiday Dinner

Table on the Green

Midland Country Club, 2205 Midland Drive, Pinehurst
Monday, December 14, 2009, 6:00 PM

Hot Hors d'Oeuvres

Crab Bundle/Sweet Potatoes
Spring Roll/Chilies Sauce

Salad

Mixed Spring Salad, Balsamic Vinaigrette

Dinner – Choice of:

Fillet of Salmon,

Broiled with White Wine Lemon Butter, Capers and Orange Segments

Sautéed Chicken Breast

W/ Champagne Sauce, Wine Shallot Reduction

Pan Seared Filet Mignon,

W/Red Wine Shallots and Mushrooms

Served with Potatoes Au Gratin and Sautéed Vegetables

Dessert

Tiramisu
Coffee, Tea

Chicken \$22.00, Salmon \$23.00, Filet 5 oz \$25.00 (price includes tax & gratuity)
Cash Bar throughout the function

Reservation Form

Our Holiday Dinner will be held at the Table on the Green again this year. The cost must be prepaid by cash or check. (If check, make payable to the Sandhills Photography Club). Please complete the form below and mail or deliver to:

Denis Smetana
219 Edinboro Drive
Southern Pines, NC 28387

Name _____

Name _____

Entrée _____

Entrée _____

Deadline for this reservation and payment is **November 30, 2009.**

2010 Competition Topics

The following topics and descriptions are being provided for you to start working on taking fresh new photos or rummaging around your collection for photos that fit the topic and the time frame.

Month	Topic / <u>Type</u>	Description	Entries Allowed & Time Frame*
Feb	Macro / <u>DIGITAL</u>	Macro photography is the art of taking pictures of subjects close up. It can be of relatively large subjects such as a humming bird or of very small subjects such as the eyes of an insect. The picture could also be a small portion of a large object like the patterns of a piece of cloth or portion of a building. The key is getting up close for the photo.	2 Entries 3 Year Limit
Apr	Black & White / <u>PRINT</u>	This is a chance to show photographs that are enhanced by using black and white photography. Any subject is acceptable as long as the finished print is black and white. Sepia or other color variations will not be accepted.	2 Entries 3 Year Limit
Jun	Open / <u>DIGITAL</u>	Any subject is acceptable, within competition guidelines. Digital manipulations are limited <u>only</u> to cropping and resizing. Photographs shot in RAW format should be processed "As Shot".	2 Entries 3 Year Limit
Jul	Parks / <u>ONLINE</u>	Photographs of local, state, or national parks. The image can be of any subject or activity found within a park. This online competition will count towards advancement and awards.	2 Entries 3 Year Limit
Aug	Stop Action / <u>DIGITAL</u>	Photographs can be of any subject, but must show that you've stopped the activity, action, or motion. Emphasis should be on how well the action is stopped as well as the technical quality of the photograph.	2 Entries 3 Year Limit
Oct	Architectural / <u>PRINT</u>	The main subject should be man-made buildings or structures. People and other objects may be included in the photograph, but the main subject should be architectural in nature.	2 Entries 3 Year Limit

*Subject to change.

Version: 1 – Dated: 09/23/09



Take ME! Take ME!

Your camera club now has a bluebird who would like to join you on your next trip out of this area. "Happy" is a very light, small, unbreakable bird who comes with his own small carry bag. He likes to see other states, take plane rides, or do something fun near home. Happy has already been to Asheville, Ireland, Oregon, and Montana.

Take a picture that shows our bird in the foreground, and some scenic area of interest in the background. Send us something "arty," some funny ones, seriously scenic, or maybe a group shot if several members are present. Use your imagination! Below is a shot of Happy in Ireland with **Kathy Green** and, at left, Happy is at the NC Zoo with **June White**. Happy is on her shoulder.

Call to schedule Happy as soon as you know your exact travel dates. Call whoever is closest to your house: **June White** in Southern Pines (692-6385) and **Jill Margeson** in Seven Lakes areas (673-1497) to get on the calendar. Arrangements can be made to get "Happy" to you for packing. Directions are on the bag for emailing the picture and details to Jill at pennyjill@nc.rr.com when you have returned from your trip.

