



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 XXVI, NUMBER 4

April 2010

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, April 12, 7:00 PM

Christ Fellowship Church

Midland Road at the corner of Pee Dee Road

Southern Pines, NC

Program: **Black and White Print Competition**

COMPETITIONS: Scott Duvall

Our first PRINT competition in 2010 will be held at the Sandhills Photography Club meeting on Monday, **April 12**. The subject will be "Black and White Photography". Descriptions of print size and mounting /matting requirements and other information regarding this competition were detailed in the March 2010 Newsletter.

New this year is the *mandatory* requirement that all entries be registered before midnight on the 8th day before the competition (11:59PM on **April 4**, 2010, for the April 12th event). To register, the name of the photographer, class being entered, and titles of prints to be submitted should be emailed to

competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org or mailed to Competition Committee member Gene Lentz at 6117 Seven Lakes West, West End, NC 27376. Prints that have not been registered by the April 4th deadline will not be accepted on the night of the competition.

Thanks to the wizardry of **Jim Davis** and **Bill Matthews**, this event will be much more viewer-friendly to the audience...even those sitting way in the back where it's hard to see. As each print is judged, its image will be simultaneously projected onto the large screen.

The judge for this competition will be Dr. Molly Gwinn of Pinehurst. Molly received her doctorate from Rutgers University in art history. Her area of specialization was modernism, in Europe and America, and her dissertation subject was the French Symbolist artist Odilon Redon, specifically his lithographic albums of the 1880s. She has taught art history at Rutgers, the School of Continuing and Professional

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Len Barnard

I had originally planned to write about a young lady that I met on our recent Western Caribbean Cruise on the sick ship Mercury. (If you keep up with the national news, you will understand.) This will be condensed version. The young lady was Karin Muller, an author, filmmaker, photographer and lecturer. She has written three books, produced television series for PBS, MSNBC and National Geographic and lectures regularly for the Smithsonian, National Geographic and major universities. We were lucky enough to have had dinner with her one night and hear firsthand about her experiences while living and hitch hiking through Vietnam, Africa, joining Buddhist mountain ascetics, Japan's reclusive geisha and several Muslim countries. So if you want to know more, do a Google search on "Karin Muller" and read about her adventures or go to her website, <http://www.take2videos.org/>.

This past week at our monthly SPC Board meeting, Jeremy Rust, from the Moore County Planning Department, met with the SPC Board requesting our assistance in their "Moore for our Future" long range planning. Over the next 12-18 months they will have a need for photography to be used in Presentations, Brochures, Stakeholder Documents, Website, Final Plan Document and others. To accomplish this we could/ would be involved in the following manner: 1) They might be able to use some of your existing images; 2) Our members would offer advice and photograph subject matter pertinent to the planning process through Jeremy's directions while using our abilities and some creativity. Some of the subject matter would include: Abstract Images, Landscape, Built Environment, Civic Events and Festivals, Planning Meetings, Public Involvement Events necessary to update land use plan and other possible subjects. As a club would need to be timely, understand deadlines for meetings and printing.

Now the question: why the Sandhills Photography Club? More and more public planning documents are becoming more visually and image intensive. It is a way to get local photographers involved and it is another outlet to get the word out that Moore County is updating its land use plan. Benefits are twofold: Moore County gets high quality photographs for documents. The second part is the benefit that you and our club gain, notoriety. Credit will be given at presentations, meetings, and final adopted documents that could increase awareness of our club and membership! And lastly, an opportunity to participate in a public process that you would not have had otherwise.

Now we need to you sign up to help on this project. The "Moore for our Future" Point Person has already volunteered--**John German**. I will be the first to sign on with John as a volunteer. Who will be next? You can contact John at 245-3177 or at his email, jojegerman@embarqmail.com. This would be a great opportunity for our new members to get involved and maybe work with another member and learn from other members.

Studies at New York University, and the Dallas Museum of Art. Since she and her husband retired to the Sandhills four years ago, she has lectured at Weymouth as part of the Fine Arts Lecture Series and has taught at Sandhills Community College in their Center for Creative Retirement. She was a featured speaker at the recent Palustris Festival. Molly and her husband are enthusiastic photography collectors, an avocation that began when they lived in the New York metropolitan area and regularly attended the Association of International Photography Art Dealers Photography Show. In addition, Molly has written and lectured on 19th century British photographers and the work of Alfred Stieglitz and his circle.

On **June 14**, 2010, we will hold a DIGITAL competition where any subject within competition guidelines is acceptable. The objective of this event is to "level the playing field" for photographers from point-and-shooters to those with high-end equipment. It is the initial captured image that counts. Therefore digital manipulations are limited only to cropping and resizing. Photographs shot in RAW format should be processed "As Shot." Two images taken within three (3) years of June 14, 2010, may be entered by each member.

The Sandhills Photography Club "COMPETITION MANUAL" has been revised and will be appearing on the club's website. This version replaces the 2007 edition and has the latest rules, procedures and helpful information to participate in club photo competitions. We thank **Brady Smith**, **Jim Davis** and **Jim Smith** for many hours of work upgrading the club's manual.

PROGRAMS: Jim Davis

The May 10th program will feature a DVD slide show titled "Florals, Nature and Wildlife" produced by **Jim Smith** and **Gary Magee**. The program was put together as a result of a request of the Foxfire Garden Club for the SPC to put on an entertaining slide program for their January 2010 meeting. Jim and Gary used the software **ProShow Producer** by **Photodex** to produce a just under 20-minute show utilizing 248 slides. The slide images were provided by 26 SPC members. The slide show incorporates a musical soundtrack, several slide transitional effects and individual image motion effects. At the conclusion of the showing, a short presentation on the mechanics of producing shows using the software will be given.

The evening's program will conclude with a slide show presented by Frank Pierce of pictures taken by Frank a year ago on his trip to Northern Ireland to visit Southern Pines' sister community. Many of you know Frank from having prints made or taking art classes from him at A Southern Studio in Southern Pines.

The July program will be presented by Juan Pons and will include two subjects: one on improving our nature photography techniques and one on using live view and video features of recent model DSLR cameras. Several model DSLR cameras now have these features and this part of program should be of interest if you have purchased a new DSLR or are considering buying one in the future. Juan is a professional photographer and lives in Pittsboro, NC. You can learn more about him and his work from his website: <http://wildnaturephoto.com/>

WORKSHOPS: Bill Matthews

Lightroom 3 with **Glenn Gilchrist** is set for Saturday, **May 15**, 9:00 AM, in the Burlingame Room at the Sandhills Community College Horticultural Center. Lightroom 3 Beta 2 was released on March 23 and is available for free on the Adobe website. Lightroom is for anyone who wants to organize, "develop", print or display digital images, and is ideally suited for much of what Photoshop and Elements were used for in the past. In fact, unless you use Layers, Masks and Filters, you may never use Photoshop again. And if you do, the two systems work hand in hand.

Since much of the first session (last year, May 30) was devoted to the organizational and key wording aspects of Lightroom, in this session Glenn will focus mostly on processing and presentation (Develop/Print/Web Gallery). Specifically we will cover:

- Exposure, Recovery, Fill Light, Histogram
- Clarity, Vibrance, Saturation
- Brightness, Contrast, Tone Curves

SCAVENGER HUNT: Jill Margeson

Join the spring Scavenger Hunt!
This is a fun event! It is meant to get you out of a picture-taking rut and make you focus on things that you might otherwise not give a second glance. Maybe you will even learn a little more about your camera and find some hidden natural treasures at the SCC gardens! Participants will be e-mailing four (4) pictures from the six (6) topics before the May 28th deadline. Come to the workshop on June 5, 9:00-11:00 AM, and find out how you are doing in a fun, helpful, tension-free atmosphere. Get topics and directions at the April meeting, or look at www.sandhillsphtoclub.org under "Field Trips."

- Hue, Saturation, Luminance
- Split Toning
- Sharpening and Noise Reduction
- Effects – Sharpening, Noise Reduction, Vignetting, Presets
- Cropping, Red Eye Removal, Spot Removal
- Graduated Filter and Adjustment Brush
- Import, Export

This sounds like a lot, but with Lightroom it is very easy. Bring your laptop loaded with Beta 2 and a few images so you can work along.

As a special feature we will spend the last half hour doing a live studio session with the camera “tethered” directly to Lightroom via a USB cable. We will use remote camera activation to take some macro shots and watch as they appear directly in Lightroom for instant, detailed evaluation. No more discovering poor exposure or depth of field settings after it is too late. Glenn will soon be sending more information and contacting all members for signup by email. If there is sufficient interest, Glenn has offered to form a “working group” to continue working with Lightroom in more detail in the weeks that follow this workshop.

Flower Photography at the Sandhills Community College Horticultural Gardens is set for Saturday, **June 19**, 9:00 AM to 12 noon. This special workshop, a joint effort of our club and the Sandhills Community College Horticultural Society, will promote the flower photography opportunities available at the Horticultural Gardens, welcome beginning photographers and be open to the public. The opening session in the Burlingame Room will present the basics of flower photography and will be followed by photography in the gardens where members of the Photography Club and the Horticultural Society will be ready to assist with photo technique and flower identification. An impressive variety of flowers should offer numerous photo opportunities. Newcomers to flower photography are welcome. This special workshop, promoted by the college, will be open to the public. Photography Club and Horticultural Society members are free, but non-members will be charged \$5 by the college. Space is limited and all must register at the college by calling Tricia Mabe at 695-3882. For more information please contact **Jill Margeson** (673-1497) or **Bill Matthews** (692-8254).

Additional workshops currently being planned for this year include

- **Artistic Composition** with **Mike Stratil** (September date TBD).
- **Basic Photography, Resizing & RAW Revisited** with **Bill Matthews** (Fall date TBD).
- A **Photoshop** topic in an SCC Computer lab with **Bob Biamonte** (Fall date TBD).

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

SPRING FIELD TRIP: Jill Margeson

It's almost time for the spring beach trip! More information at the April Meeting! Call or email if you haven't signed up yet or have questions:

Kathy Green 585-0190 or klg1309@aol.com or **Jill Margeson** 673-1497 or pennyjill@nc.rr.com

Here is MY trip schedule:

Tuesday, April 20

- Allow about 3½ hours for the drive to Murrells Inlet
- Check into the Hampton Inn - 3:00 PM is official time for check-in
- Buy a ticket to Brookgreen Gardens (hotel has discounts, ticket good for 7 days)
- Spend some time in the gardens /beach/state park/Pauleys Island/Inlet area
- Come to the lobby for wine and nibbles and socializing at 5:00 PM
- Walk over to dinner at Carrabba's Italian at 6:00PM
- Come back to the lobby for a slide show and talk by Sean Thompson at 8:00PM

Wednesday, April 21

- Next morning have a great breakfast downstairs
- Leave for Georgetown and 3½ hr boat trip by 9:00 AM
- Eat lunch in Georgetown about 2:00PM
- Afternoon and evening free to return to gardens (open until 8:00PM)/explore/photograph

Thursday, April 22

- Early breakfast-join the group for carnivorous plant walk - leave at 7:30AM for ½ hr ride
- Hotel check out at 11:00AM; explore Conway/Myrtle beach aquarium/shop/ drive home; look at my GREAT SHOTS!

MEMBERSHIP: Alison Earl

As of the end of the March 2010 meeting, we are at **92** paid members, along with our five (5) honorary members! By our count we had **64** people at our March presentation by Scott Zigler on *Photos of the Northwest!*

NEW MEMBERS: Our new members at the March meeting were: **Lana Rebert, Sarah Wolf, Lisa Messina and Susan Capstick.**

Lana Rebert has taken several college courses and has gone to a number of workshops on photography. Lana (rhymes with Dana) has a Canon EOS 5D camera and loves to photograph children. She is hoping to gain knowledge, fun and friendship from her membership with our club and moved here from Portola Valley, California (35 miles south of San Francisco) back in January.

Sarah (aka Kiki) Wolf considers herself a beginner, and is currently using (film) Canon T50 and (digital) Olympus SP-590 UZ cameras. Her favorite subjects are people and water. She hopes to gain some technical knowledge of photography, both film and digital, based on the successes and challenges other members have experienced, along with making new friends! She has lived in this area for seven years, coming here from California, by way of Guam, Ohio, Kentucky, and Missouri.

Please join me in welcoming them all!

NOTICE: If you have any changes to your information (address, email, phone, etc) **PLEASE** let me know and I will let the rest of the board know. I keep a roster of all members and their information. Email me at theearls@nc.rr.com or call at home (910) 215-0316. Thanks!

LIBRARY: Gisela Danielson

TWO CLICKS ONLY! Go to our website <http://www.sandhillsphtoclub.org/index.html>, click on LIBRARY, click on the CATALOG DRAWER and find a wealth of educational books and DVDs. Maybe you want to check out THE DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY BOOK, #1, #2, and #3 by Scott Kelby. All three books are a great choice for new and experienced photographers.

You may borrow books and/or DVDs/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.

EXHIBITS: June White

Every other year the Sandhills Photography Club provides an exhibit of their work at the Campbell House. This year the exhibit will open on Sept. 4 with a reception for the public hosted by the club. A theme for this exhibit is still to be determined. It will be broad enough to encompass a wide range of photographic styles and interests. So keep this in mind as you are out shooting over the next few months. One of the guidelines for the show is that work displayed will not have been on exhibit in the past. More detail information will be coming in the May newsletter.

2010 SPC Board Members

President	Len Barnard	673-2135
Vice President	Jim Davis	673-7017
Secretary	Tom Reedy	295-2674
Treasurer	Dave Verchick	246-2080
Past President	Don Hiscott	295-9544
Programs	Jim Davis	673-7017
Competition	Scott Duvall	673-1501
Exhibitions	June White	692-6385
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	Alison Earl	215-0316
Website	Brady Smith	947-3946
Club Photographer	Donna Ford	295-5301
Field Trips	Kathy Green (Spring)	525-0190
	Dave Powers (Fall)	692-2539
Day Trips	Mike Stratil	949-6518
Scavenger Hunt	Jill Margeson	673-1497

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT: Dave Verchick

Monthly Financial Report Regular Account		
Jan. 28, 2010	Starting balance	\$6145.52
Feb. 26, 2010	Ending balance	5931.30

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

**Thursday, April 15, 2:00 PM,
Sandhills Community College
Horticultural Gardens Visitor
Center.**

SPC WEBSITE:

www.sandhillsphtoclub.org

Photo Tip of the Month: Glenn Gilchrist

I have found a unique and affordable resource for serious photographers at

<http://www.craftandvision.com/>

David du Chemin is a world famous travel photographer who also has a blog

<http://www.pixelatedimage.com/blog>

Recently he began publishing a series of very high quality photography eBooks covering improving artistic vision, composition, light, etc. for which he charges just \$5 or less if you buy a couple at a time. I now have several and can attest to the quality of these publications. Just today he released one on Black and White photography. These books are very hands on and practical, and appropriate for photographers at any level. And no, I am not on commission :)

PHOTO EQUIPMENT CLASSIFIED**FOR SALE - Contact Gisela Danielson at 673-0521**

Ballhead, Manfrotto Model 322RC2 Grip Action Ballhead with integrated quick-release platform. Excellent condition. Asking \$65 (B&H new price \$130). Call number above or email gdanielson@nc.rr.com.

FOR SALE - Contact Tom Reedy at 295-2674

Two Tripod Heads -- Excellent Condition

- Manfrotto/Bogen Super (Maxi) Ball Head (3038) \$80;
- Manfrotto/Bogen Compact Pro 3D Pan/Tilt Head (3410) \$90;

Both together \$150.

FOR SALE - Contact Beth Allison at 910-246-6378

Epson Stylus Photo R1800 printer: highly rated printer. Used only a few times. Price is \$250 or best offer. This includes 2 sets of cartridges.

Please make offer. Call number above or email Bethallison44@yahoo.com

FOR SALE - Contact Bill Newton at 692-7113 or 692-2110

Epson P-4000 80GB multimedia storage drive (external hard drive) w/great carrying bag \$380. Call number above or email Newtonw@mac.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.