



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 1

January 2009

NEXT MEETING

Monday, January 12, 7:00 PM

Christ Fellowship Church

Midland Road at the corner of Pee Dee Road

Southern Pines, NC

Program: Bill Stice – *Macro Photography*

LOOKING AHEAD: What's Inside

January

12	Club meeting	Macro Photography with Bill Stice
15	Exhibition	SCC Library through Feb. 25
24	Workshop	Sizing with Brady Smith

February

9	Digital competition	Moore County scenes
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March

14	Workshop	N.C. Zoo with Vinny Colucci
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Don Hiscott

It's hard to believe that a new year has begun. The 2008 year was very successful with an increase in membership, lots of good programs and competitions.

It will be hard to top those accomplishments.

We have been under the careful watch of an enthusiastic President in Bill Matthews supported by a strong Board giving guidance and direction as needed. Several of the 2008 Board members are returning and others are coming on with new energy and ideas.

We welcome them. If you look elsewhere in this issue you will see the names of your Board Members. Feel free to contact them to share your ideas and look for answers to your questions.

I am excited about being your new President and I look forward to leading the club through 2009. I know that with the support of the Board and the general membership we will have fun and will continue to learn and have fun with our chosen hobby.

PROGRAMS: Len Barnard

The programs presented in 2008 were great and I hope I can keep the trend going.

January Program: Macro Photography

For January 12, 2009, we will have a program on macro photography presented by Bill Stice. Bill has been involved in photography for over 30 years, starting as an undergraduate in botany and currently an active member in numerous national photography groups. Bill has had images published in magazines, textbooks, newspaper, calendars and scientific journals and has a portfolio of over 20,000 images. Bill is an accomplished photographer, using 35mm, medium format and large format cameras for his photography.

March Program: Wildlife Photography

For March 9, 2009, we have Vinny Colucci, a professional wildlife photographer, who will do a program on wildlife photography. (<http://www.naturescapesphotoworkshops.com/>). As you may recall, Vinny is the professional photographer that gave a program during our fall field trip on the finer points of using your histogram to correct your exposure and then took some of the travelers to Grandfather Mountain for a sunrise shoot. Also Vinny has agreed to do a one-day photo workshop with instructions at the Asheboro Zoo on March 14. For information on this, see the note in our newsletter about workshops.

EXHIBITIONS: Betty Hendrix

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2009 EXHIBITION

SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HASTINGS GALLERY – at the library

Deliver your photos to the gallery:

January 13 from 3:00 to 5:00

It is easier to park in the faculty lot between 3 and 5

January 14 from 9:00 to 11:00

There must be a card on the back of each photo with your name, the title, and the price or NFS (if not for sale). **These must match the lists you submitted in December.**

The exhibit will be hung and labeled Wednesday afternoon. The show will be open to the public from **January 15** to **February 25** during library hours.

We will be passing around a sign-up sheet at the club meeting for volunteers to bring cookies, crackers, or nibbles to the reception. If you will not be at the meeting, but will be at the reception, you may volunteer by calling or e-mailing Betty Hendrix that you will bring something. It does not need to be a lot or fancy. It does need to be on a platter ready to serve.

Reception in the lobby on January 15 from 3:00 to 5:00.

There will be invitation cards for the reception at the club meeting for you to pick up and give to friends or neighbors. There is also an invitation to the reception and exhibition available on the website and on page 6 of this newsletter which you can print immediately and mail or give to friends. It's wonderful to see a nice crowd on the opening afternoon. Between 3:00 and 5:00 pm, the college permits us to park in the faculty lot at the Owens Auditorium and the Boyd Library.

COMPETITIONS: Brady Smith

Well, the headhunters I paid to find two people for the Competition Committee finally conned a couple of poor saps into accepting the position. Jim Smith and Jim Davis are the lucky dogs who have to work with me and my foibles over the next year. I truly look forward to it. From now on, we will be known as **Jim & Jim Smith & Smith**.

Our first competition of 2009 will be held on **February 9** and it will be a **Digital** competition. The topic is **People & Scenes of Moore County, NC**. Photographs will be judged on how effectively they capture the feeling and spirit of Moore County. Emphasis will also be given on the quality of the image. Regular quantity and time rules apply: up to **two (2) entries** per entrant, taken within the last **three (3) years**.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, the rules for sizing your images for digital competitions have been slightly rewritten with the hope that I will not receive files that are too small. Since I will be resizing all images to fit within a 758 x 758 square, while keeping the aspect ratio the same as your original image, I can receive them a little larger. Just don't get crazy and send me full-size images, especially those taken with the new 60-mega pixel Hasselblad.

1. Size your image so that the shortest dimension is a minimum of 768 pixels (1024 x 768 pixels is okay, but 768 x 576 is not. The smaller of the two numbers should be 768 or larger).
2. File type should be JPEG or TIFF and should not exceed 2MB in size, if you can help it.
3. You must include the following information in your email:
 - Image title
 - Your name
 - Which class you're in (A or B)
4. You may also include a brief description of the photo.
5. Please submit your photos to the competition chairman email address:
competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org.
6. You must send them before midnight on **February 2** to be included in the competition.
7. You may also give/send me a copy of your submissions on a disc or flash drive (but please don't wait until midnight on the 2nd to give it to me!).

Starting in March, you will be able to submit images for our first **Online** photo competition. This will be a completely **Open** competition with **no time limit** for how long ago photos were taken. You will be able to submit **two (2) images**, which will be judged during the month of September by all club members who wish to judge. Winners will be announced during the October club meeting. I will provide more specific information in the February or March newsletter.

Looking ahead... April's **Digital** competition topic is **Animals** and will be held on **April 13th**. Images can be one or more animals of all sorts: from the wild, in captivity, or family pets. Insects are not included (even if they are family pets). Regular quantity and time rules apply. **HAPPY SNAPPING!**

WORKSHOPS: Bill Matthews

Preparing, Sizing and Submitting Image Files for Digital Competitions with Brady Smith will be our first workshop for 2009. It will be held at the Sandhills Community College Landscape Gardening Visitors Center on Saturday, January 24, 10:00 am to 12 noon. More information will be provided soon.

North Carolina Zoological Park Workshop with Vinny Colucci has been arranged by Len Barnard.

This special paid all-day workshop with professional wildlife photographer Vinny Colucci will be held on March 14 at the North Carolina Zoo. Vinny is also presenting the program on wildlife photography at our March 9 general meeting.

The \$60/person cost includes the entrance fee to the zoo and a catered lunch. This cost will be reduced for Zoological Society members. A minimum of 15 participants is required and the upper limit is 24.

During the workshop we will explore both the North American and African Exhibit for photo ops, have field discussions of the challenges faced while shooting in captivity and tips for designing a photograph to look more natural. We will end the day at the lion exhibit. A special activity will be provided by the zoo to present unique photo opportunities. During our lunch at the W. David Stedman Educational Center, which is included in the price, there will be classroom discussion.

Details and a sign-up sheet will be presented at the January meeting, and Len Barnard may be contacted for more information at lbarnard@nc.rr.com or 910-673-2135.

Additional workshops being planned for 2009 are listed below. Specific dates for most of these will be published in the next newsletter. Please let me know if you have any additional workshop subjects that you would like to suggest.

Mat Cutting & Mounting (if there is sufficient interest)

Tone Mapping, HDR and related digital darkroom techniques with Glenn Gilchrist, in February or March. This workshop will present an overview of the latest shooting and digital darkroom techniques that allow you to capture a wider range of light values while providing greater control over local contrast and resulting in images that display a rich and greatly enhanced tonal range.

Understanding the RAW Digital Camera Image Format and Getting Your Monitor Calibrated with the SPC Projector with Bill Matthews.

A Creative Imagery Workshop with Mike Stratil.

A Photoshop Workshop at SCC with Bob Biamonte.

SPRING FIELD TRIP: Brenda Hiscott

I'm working on plans for a spring field trip to New Bern, NC at the end of April. The town was settled in 1710 and its picturesque downtown waterfront district is still home to many historic buildings, shops and homes of that era. One of the best-known buildings is the Tryon Place, the restored home of the royal governor. Oriental, "The Sailing Capital," of North Carolina is only 30 minutes away from New Bern. In Oriental, sailboats outnumber citizens by three to one. More later.

MEMBERSHIP: Alison Earl

First, I'd like to thank **Marilyn Owen** for her terrific job as Membership Chair. She did a wonderful job and I'll do my best to fill her shoes!

We currently have had 61 members renew for 2009. This is a gentle reminder for those that have let their membership renewal slip by, as it's easy to do at this busy time of year. Please print this page and cut out the coupon. Mail to Treasurer **Denis Smetana** at the address below, or bring to the meeting. Also, *please* fill out the lower section indicating areas in which you would be willing to serve the club. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

It's Membership Renewal Time for 2009!!

2009 MEMBERSHIP COUPON FOR DUES:

Couple: \$45.00 _____
Single: \$35.00 _____
Student: \$20.00 _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
E-Mail: _____
Telephone: _____

Make checks payable to Sandhills Photography Club and mail to:

Sandhills Photography Club
Denis Smetana, Treasurer
P.O. Box 763
Southern Pines, NC 28388

The strength of an organization depends upon the active support of its membership. **Please** indicate your areas of interest by checking one or more of the following committees:

- _____ Christmas Party
- _____ Competitions
- _____ Exhibitions
- _____ Field Trips
- _____ Hospitality
- _____ Meeting Set-up
- _____ Membership
- _____ Newsletter
- _____ Programs
- _____ Publicity
- _____ Website
- _____ Workshops

LIBRARY: Gisela Danielson

Our library is growing and easy to use...

Please take advantage of our new library arrangement. We now have 40 books and 11 DVD/CDs. For your convenience there is a link to the Library Index on our website: <http://www.sandhillspphotoclub.org/>

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.

Donations of gently used and fairly recent photography related books are always appreciated.

PHOTO EQUIPMENT CLASSIFIED

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.

KUDOS

Congratulations to SPC Member **Glenn Gilchrist** who won honorable mention in the latest quarterly competition of the Carolinas' Nature Photographers Association – Triangle. To see his winning photo, "Endangered in Kaktovik," go to <http://www.cnpa-triangle.org/>

REFRESHMENT ASSIGNMENTS: Bill Sheppard

The following are the refreshment providers for the first quarter of 2009:

- January** **Bill & Sandra Sheppard**
- February** **Pat Murray**
- March** **Nancy Wehr & Sarita Stevens**

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

November 1, 2008	Starting balance	\$4,435.73
	Expenses	-\$642.76
	Income	\$2,180.20
November 28, 2008	Final balance	\$5,973.17

Expenses were for Newsletter postage, fall pre-trip expenses, Website hosting, and speaker's room.

Income was from '09 dues from twenty-four (24) members, forty-six (46) Christmas dinner reservations and interest on our checking account.

Monthly Financial Report Projects Account

There was no activity in our projects account so the beginning and end balance was the same at \$162.65.

SPC WEBSITE:

www.sandhillsphtoclub.org

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Thursday, January 15, 1:00 pm, Sandhills Community College Horticultural Gardens Visitor's Center. Please note time change for this meeting.

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
Day Trips	TBD	
Hospitality	Bill Sheppard	944-1219
Publicity	Ann Stokes	235-0950
Workshops	Bill Matthews	692-8254
Newsletter	Ann Stephens	673-2091
PSA Rep	Jim Smith	673-4744
Membership	Allison Earl	215-0316
Website	John Wynton	673-1084
Club Photographer	Jim McGill	295-6686

You're Invited to the
Sandhills Photography Club Exhibition
Opening Reception
at the
Hastings Gallery

Sandhills Community College Library

Thursday, January 15, 2009

from 3:00 to 5:00 pm

(You may park in the lot for faculty at library & auditorium)

The exhibition is open to the public

during Library Hours

from January 15 through February 25

Penick Village Art Show and Sale

Sandhills Photography Club members are invited to exhibit at the 4th Annual Penick Village Art Show and Sale February 27 through March 1, 2009. The show is held at Penick Village, a retirement community in Southern Pines. The entire proceeds of art sales are donated to the Benevolent Assistance Fund, which supports residents who have outlived their financial means. Last year the show attracted 60 area artists, photographers, and potters, including entries from a number of Penick Village residents and several Photography Club members.

Photographers may enter two works, which must be framed and ready to hang. Penick Village takes a standard commission of 30% on all sales during the show. However, artists are urged to consider donating the entire proceeds of their sales to the Benevolent Assistance Fund, particularly this year. An entry form is attached. For more information contact Molly Gwinn, Art Show Chairperson, at 910-215-8182 or mollygwinn@embarqmail.com.

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ENTRY FORM

A PENICK VILLAGE ART SHOW AND PREVIEW PARTY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2009, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

ART CHECK-IN: Wednesday, February 25, from 11:00 to 4:00 p.m., in the auditorium of North Building, Penick Village.

ART PICK-UP: Sunday, March 1, after the closing of the show, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Your art must be framed and ready to hang. Please attach identification to the art works. Return the information below to Molly Gwinn, PO Box 2338, Pinehurst, NC 28370.

LABEL INFORMATION

TITLE _____

ARTIST _____

PRICE _____

MEDIUM _____

DIMENSIONS _____

TITLE _____

ARTIST _____

PRICE _____

MEDIUM _____

DIMENSIONS _____

Please note: our pricing structure is 70% for the artist and 30% for Penick Village.

Again, we hope that you will consider donating the entire proceeds of this artwork to Penick. Please check here if you would like to do so.

Signature

Date