



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 5

May 2009

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, May 11, 7:00 PM

Christ Fellowship Church

Midland Road at the corner of Pee Dee Road

Southern Pines, NC

Program: **Magazine photography with Frank Pierce**

COMPETITIONS: Brady Smith

On April 13th at the club meeting we held a **Digital** competition on the topic of **Animals**. There were 66 images submitted, but due to an error on my part, only 65 were included in the competition. My apologies again, DR. Forty-two (42) were for Class B and 23 were for Class A. Here are the winners:

Class A

1st - Smith, Brady - I've Got My Eye on You

2nd - White, June - Trust No One Without Fur

3rd - Ford, Donna - Hawkeye

HM - Smith, Brady - My Pet Climbing Lizard

HM - McGill, Jim - The Great Profile

Class B

1st - Wandrey, Pamela - The Biggest Pads in the Jungle

2nd - Osmar, John - Sooo Tired

3rd - Davis, Jim - Winter Nap

HM - Gilchrist, Glen - Playing Bear

HM - Derleth, Marti - Easy Head Rest

HM - Walker, Jean - Hi, My Name is Leo

HM - Powers, Dave - All Wrapped Up

HM - Verchick, Dave - Hmmmm

HM - Wandrey, Pamela - A Little Drink Before Dinner!

None of the awards for Class B resulted in a change to Class A, but Glenn Gilchrist is close with a total of 14 points.

Don McKenzie was our judge and did a spectacular job. We truly appreciate him and all of our judges for taking time out of their lives to give us criticism, both constructive (and otherwise).

Our next competition is on **June 8** with a topic of **Travel**. This will be a **Print** competition. Images should capture the feeling of a time and place and portray a land, a people or a culture in its natural state. Travel images have no geographical limitations: they are not limited to other lands, and may include those of domestic situations. Titles with the name of the place are encouraged. For this competition, we are still allowing only two (2) images per member, but they can be up to five (5) years old.

PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS: Don Hiscott

My golf game is terrible and getting worse. I'm not sure whether it's because of my increasing years or if there may be other factors coming into play. I'm not as limber as I once was. Who is? Maybe the courses are longer and harder.

A major accomplishment for older golfers is to shoot their age. I can't do that but I like the summer, when the temperatures rise, because then I can shoot the temperature. For you non-golfers I can explain later.

Well, I thought this was going to be The President's Message for the Sandhills Photography Club, not for the Old Duffers Golf Association. I'll get on the subject right now.

Brenda and I have attended some very good seminars this year. One of them was by David Middleton and the other was a John Shaw Workshop. Both of these Master Photographers said in no uncertain terms that we should "Practice, practice, practice." That's what's wrong with my golf game.

This has been a beautiful spring with lots of azaleas, dogwoods, tulips and many other flowers. What a great time to get our cameras going and practice, practice, practice.

A few years ago, before the advent of digital, I took my son to a workshop given by a professional photographer. He said that he would go on a photo shoot and use 20 rolls of film to get one or two good shots. That was expensive. Think of how many shots we can take with our new digital cameras. A whole lot more than that.

Getting back to my golf game: the problem is that I don't practice as much, if at all, as I should.

We have so many opportunities to get out with our cameras. I guarantee that we will all get better if we get out and experiment with our wonderful equipment. Look at the beauty around you. It's everywhere!!!!

Go get'em!!!!!!

For those of you who are new members, and even for those who are longer in the tooth, please review the Competition Manual on the club's website, under the heading "Rules of Entry" for details on how to submit images for a Print competition. Here is the web address for the manual: http://sandhillsphotoclub.org/SPCRules_2008.pdf

And don't forget about our first **Online** photo competition. This is 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. You may start sending me images now, although those images will not be shown until later.

To send images, just use the same procedure outlined in previous Newsletters for digital competitions. Just be sure you put Online Competition in the subject of the email and don't send them with images for one of the other competitions. *Again, please note that images will not be viewable on the website until **September 1**.*

Looking ahead... Upcoming competitions are:

Aug - Magazine Photography / Digital

Oct - Landscapes / Print

HAPPY SNAPPING!

PROGRAMS: Len Barnard

May 11: Frank Pierce, owner of *A Southern Studio*, will present a program on preparing for and doing a magazine photo shoot with thoughts and ideas toward our upcoming magazine photo competition. Frank will be the featured artist at the Artist Alley on Friday, April 3. Frank has been involved in the art field since he was 16. He is proficient in oils, watercolors, and acrylic and currently has a photography and graphic design studio and custom frame shop at 275a NE Broad Street. As an extra benefit for our club members, he will start giving a 10 percent discount to all Sandhills Photography Club Members. At this point just tell him you are member to receive the discount. In the future we hope to develop a way that will allow him to know our members.

July 13: Tina Wrona of *Tina Wrona Photography* will present a program that will give parents and grandparents pointers on taking quality family photos—not just snap shots.

September 14: Scott Zielger, author, will discuss photography related to his published photography book.

November 9: "Take a Second Look with George." More info later but save any photos that you want help in improving.

WORKSHOPS: Bill Matthews

Enhancing One's Photographic Creativity with Mike Stratil is scheduled for Saturday, **May 16**, at the Sandhills Community College Landscape Gardening Center, 9:30-11:30 am. This workshop will explore the dependence of the quality of photographic work on the imagination, symbolism and emotional message that the photographer brings to the task. You may find more details in Mike's announcement included with this Newsletter, or call him at 949-6518 for more information. A sign-up sheet will be circulated again at the May meeting.

Lightroom Basics with Glenn Gilchrist is scheduled for Saturday, **May 30**, at the Sandhills Community College Landscape Gardening Center, 8:30–11:30 am. If you have ever had trouble organizing your images, or if you sometimes have to quickly process a large number of images at the same time, Lightroom may be for you. Lightroom also replaces Photoshop for those PS users that do not make use of masking, layers, and filters. Glenn will review the Library Module and how it is used to assign images to collections, how to sort and rate images, how to keyword them, and updating metadata. He will describe some features in the Develop Module that allow you change white balance, exposure, color, contrast and sharpness, both for individual images or globally for entire groups.

For more details see Glenn's announcement included with this Newsletter or contact him at 910-725-0112 or glenngilchrist@nc.rr.com. You may sign up on the sign-up sheet to be circulated at the May meeting or by contacting Glenn.

Understanding the RAW Digital Camera Image Format and Getting Your Monitor Calibrated with the SPC Projector, a two-part workshop with Bill Matthews, is scheduled for Saturday, **June 27**, 9:30-11:30 am, at the Sandhills Community College Landscape Gardening Center. Details to follow.

EXHIBITIONS: Betty Hendrix

Reminder: Deliver your 2 photos to Appalachian Physical Therapy at Olmstead Village in Pinehurst between 2:00 and 3:45 pm on Friday, May 8. The business closes at 4:00 pm so we must be out by then.

Twenty-two of our members will be showing about 44 works in all. The list of photographers is set. All work *must* be properly framed and wired prior to delivery. Anything delivered improperly will be omitted from the show.

Please e-mail or call Betty Hendrix: bettyhendrix@charter.net or 949-4131 if you have any questions.

Potential additional opportunity to show photos:

Weymouth Center for the Arts and Humanities is considering having a display of photographs of their buildings and grounds in the large second floor room of the mansion--probably this summer and fall. This is not firmed up yet. However, this is a perfect time to get out and photograph the variety of gardens, trees, buildings/architecture, horses and carriage house, etc. there. The Weymouth Center is across the street from the Campbell House on Connecticut Ave. in Southern Pines. The board suggests anyone interested get out and take some shots this month. We'll have more information at the meeting or the June newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP: Alison Earl

As of April 15, we now have 87 paid members, along with our two honorary members.

We are very pleased to welcome the following new members: **Jay Santini, Scott and Ethel Duvall, Joyce Bramwell, Catherine Foehrkolb**, and returning members **Bob Cunningham and Dave Mathias**.

Jay Santini has been in the area for six months, moving here from Yountville-Napa Valley, California. Jay did wedding photography for about eight years while he lived in California, along with taking many photography classes. He owns various Cannons, including the Powershot S5, 2 EOS30Ds and a Rebel Xti, and enjoys photographing butterflies, birds, landscapes, family and friends. He hopes to gain improved knowledge and techniques through his membership in SPC, and hopes to participate in contests, exhibits and outings. His future plans are to continue his studies toward a degree in biology, and eventually entomology. He has completed an Adult Ed class in Photoshop at SCC and is working on mastering the techniques.

Barbara Milson (who joined in March) considers herself an amateur with several years experience. Her camera is a Canon Rebel Xti and her favorite photographic subjects are her family, animals, and travel. She hopes to learn more about photography and her camera through her membership.

Hopefully we'll have more info on our other new members soon. We welcome them all!!!

LIBRARY: Gisela Danielson

Our library is growing and easy to use. You may borrow books and/or DVD/CDs. There is a link to the Library Index on our Website: <http://www.sandhillphotoclub.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 and CD/DVDs are always appreciated.

PHOTO EQUIPMENT CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Ballhead, Bogen/Manfrotto Model 3262QR ballhead with integrated quick-release platform, and a mating camera mount platform. Condition is excellent. Asking \$60.00. 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.

REFRESHMENT ASSIGNMENTS: Bill Sheppard

The following are refreshment providers for the next three months:

May Lori Fischler
 June Alison Earl & Kathy Green
 July Linda Piechota

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

February 28, 2009	Starting balance	\$5,394.63
	Expenses	-\$260.00
	Income	\$105.11
March 31, 2009	Final balance	\$5,239.74

Expenses were for an increase to our annual gift to the SCC Foundation for a one-year scholarship, our annual PSA dues and our quarterly rent.

Income was from '09 dues from three members and interest on our checking account.

Monthly Financial Report Projects Account

The Projects Account was folded into the Regular Account but a separate accounting will be kept. Thus the actual balance of the Regular Account (including the Projects Account) is \$5,402.39.

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

Photo Tip of the Month

When you have been shooting in damp or rainy weather, remember to dry out your equipment after bringing it inside and before putting it away. Open your camera bag and take out your camera and other items you have used that day. Leave the photo bag open overnight to dry it out as well. Don't forget to open your tripod so that it can air out, too. This tip was suggested by Vinny Colucci and Melissa Southern, professional wildlife photographers, who shoot in all kinds of weather!

If you have a photo tip to share with SPC members in the newsletter, please e-mail Ann Stephens at Astephens95@nc.rr.com

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Thursday, **May 14, 2:00 pm**
 Sandhills Community College
 Horticultural Gardens
 Visitor's Center.

SPC WEBSITE:

www.sandhillsphtoclub.org

Enhancing One's Photographic Creativity

with Mike Stratil

Saturday, May 16, 9:30-11:30 am

This workshop will focus on techniques for enhancing the creative aspects of one's photography. It will be guided by the following principles:

- (a) As an art form, the quality of photographic work depends partly on the imagination, symbolism, and emotional message that the photographer brings to the task;
- (b) These capacities are often suppressed by deeply ingrained habits and social pressures;
- (c) The individual photographer can learn to release these suppressed capacities by participating in activities that promote self-awareness and artistic spontaneity.

After an opening discussion of these ideas, the workshop will move to active participation. Attendees will use finger painting to express their deeper thoughts and feelings about selected photographs. Attendees are asked to bring the following materials:

- (1) One of the favorite photographs they have taken (at least 8.5" x 11" in size)
- (2) Two magazine photographs that they find particularly interesting, stimulating, educationally informing, or emotionally arousing
- (3) A set of finger paints
See: <http://www.michaels.com/art/online/displayProductPage?productNum=kd0288>
- (4) At least 6 sheets of paper suitable for finger painting (e.g., copier/coated inkjet paper at least 8.5" x 11" in size). They should wear informal clothing, and they should arrive in a spirit of childlike openness and enthusiasm.

Lightroom Basics

with Glenn Gilchrist

I will be giving a workshop on the basics of using Adobe Lightroom on Saturday, May 30 from 8:30 to 11:30 am at the Sandhills Community College Horticulture Center.

Learning any sophisticated software system can be daunting, so the workshop will be designed to permit attendees to bring a laptop and work along with the presentation. If you don't currently own Lightroom, you can download a 30 day trial version from Adobe's website.

Adobe Lightroom handles every aspect of digital image workflow, from importing files from the memory card, to organizing, keywording, processing, and displaying images, including slide shows, prints and web galleries.

Many photographers are confused about the need for the Lightroom software, and how it interacts with Photoshop and Elements. In this workshop we will address this issue, and carefully go over many of the system's features. We will look at image import, the difference between your camera's raw files, DNG and global raw image processing.

We will review the Library Module and how it is used to assign images to collections, how to sort and rate images, how to keyword them, and updating metadata. We will look at some features present in the Develop Module that allow you change white balance, exposure, color, contrast and sharpness, both to individual images or globally to entire groups. If time permits, we will also look at the remaining modules.

If you have ever had trouble organizing your images, or if you sometimes have to quickly process a large number of images at the same time, Lightroom may be for you. Lightroom also replaces Photoshop for those PS users that do not make use of masking, layers, and filters.

Please sign up for the workshop at the May meeting or by contacting me directly. Be sure to include an email address, as I will be using email as the workshop date draws near to coordinate with laptop users to insure that we can all work together during the workshop.

For more information please contact me at glenngilchrist@nc.rr.com or 910-725-0112.