



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 9

www.sandhillsphtoclub.org

September 2010

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, Sept. 13, 7:00 PM

Christ Fellowship Church
Midland Road at the corner of Pee Dee Road
Southern Pines, NC

Program: *American Photography Pioneers*
with *Dr. Molly Gwinn*

COMPETITIONS: Scott Duvall

Congratulations to **Pamela Wandrey**.

With Pam's first place finish in the August competition, she has earned enough points to advance from Class B to Class A.

At the August meeting, we held a DIGITAL competition on the topic of "Stop Action." Susan Bailey of Raleigh was the judge. In Class B, **Pam Wandrey** took first place with "Wave Runner." Finishing second was **Carole Barnard** for "Maui Black Rock Diver." In third place was **Kathy Green** with her entry entitled "Playground Bliss." **Bill Newton** received an Honorable Mention for "Banker Horses." In Class A, **Tom Reedy** was awarded first place for "Say Goodbye." Second place went to **Brady Smith** for "Forward-Flapping Mallard." In third place was **Jim Davis** for an image named "Sand Shot." Two honorable mentions were awarded: one to **Len Barnard** ("Flying High") and one to **Dave Verchick** ("Drip").

The last competition for 2010 will be held on Monday, October 11. This will be a PRINT competition on an "Architectural" topic. Details on this competition were described in the August newsletter. Entries must follow the PRINT competition rules and guidelines listed in the Competition Manual on the club's website. Please remember that prints being entered must be pre-registered at competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org by

11:59PM on Sunday **October 3, 2010**. Prints that have not been pre-registered by this deadline will not be accepted into the competition. Also, please send digital images of entered prints to competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org before October 11 so that all entries can be subsequently shown on the club website and the competition winners sent to the local media.

Special Notice to Sandhills Photo Club Members

In reviewing our plans for 2010, the Board of the Sandhills Photo Club recognized that our expenses were exceeding our revenue and slowly depleting our cash. It was at this point we felt a more detailed study was required of our expenses and revenue for now and the future. We do have a substantial cash balance in the bank; however, if our projections for 2011 and 2012 are even close to being correct, all funds will be depleted before the end of 2011. The major projected expenses for 2011 would be a new digital projector (est. \$4000). You may recall that recently a judge raised a question as to the quality of the image that was being shown on the screen versus what you see on your computer. This supports our need to replace our digital projector that is nearing its life expectancy. We have exhausted the supply of brochures (est. \$1000) that we give out to promote our Club. Other expenses are church rent (\$600), judges (\$450) and presenters (\$450) plus costs associated with our field trips. There are numerous other smaller expenses not mentioned here but based upon the total package we are projecting a negative budget of **\$4700** for 2011 and **\$255** for 2012.

At our July Board meeting the SPC Board voted and recommends a dues increase of \$10 for single membership (from \$35 to \$45) and for family, an increase of \$15 (from \$45 to \$60) effective January 1, 2011. Student membership would remain the same at \$20.

Per our By-Laws, Article IV, Section 2: "The dues schedule shall be established by the Board of Directors and approved by the membership. A notice, through the Newsletter, of proposed changes in the dues schedule shall be provided to membership prior to the meeting at which action is contemplated." To insure everyone is aware of this notice, it will be placed in the August and September newsletters, with a vote being called for at our September 13, 2010 regular meeting.

Any questions, please address to me and I will attempt to get you an answer: Len Barnard, SPC President, Email: lbarnard@nc.rr.com or 673-2135.

Addendum from Aug. 12, 2010 Board Meeting

The SPC Board added to the recommended rate changes identified above, the following, "For 2011 we will discontinue giving a half year discounted dues rate after July. The full dues amount will apply through the October Meeting. At that time any new dues paid will be applied to the following year dues." However, for the balance of 2010 we will continue the current practice of reducing our dues one half after July **but** after October any new dues **paid** will apply toward 2011 dues.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Len Barnard

If you attend all the competition meetings, five or six times each year then you will have observed, admired, oohed, and aaahed with the other members as you watched the entries being judged in both Class B and Class A. In every case, I bet you can recall some of the images that did not win but were truly outstanding. Since our Sandhills Photography Club competition is restricted to members only, I feel that we may not truly appreciate the talent that we have when compared to the entire community. You could call it "hidden" talent since, in most cases, only our members get the opportunity to see and appreciate that "hidden talent" and not our community at large.

During the month of August the Moore County Fine Arts Festival was held at the Campbell House and our members displayed some of that hidden talent. (At this point, please forgive if I omit someone.) Per my count we had seven members displaying their talent. Those who exhibited were **Bill Matthews, Betty Hendrix, Mike Stratil, Sandy Stratil, Lori Fischler, Chris Christianson and Jim McGill**. From a personal opinion and viewpoint they represented our Club in an outstanding manner in various visual arts from Photography to Drawing/Pastel to Mixed Media. To my knowledge currently one photograph has been sold and, of the seven club members that presented, four of them received an award from honorable mention to first place. Now to me, that is outstanding considering all the competition in the exhibit.

And the best for last, our own **Jim McGill** not only won first place in the Photography media, he won the "Best in Show" with his "The Village Smithy" photo and received the Sara Wilson Hodgkin's Award. Congratulation to you all!

Now, I am really looking forward to our own photography exhibit. On Friday, **Sept. 3**, our "Through the Lens" exhibition starts at the Arts Council's Campbell House Galleries on East Connecticut Avenue, Southern Pines, with an opening Reception (6:00-8:00 PM) and runs through September 24. It's a great example of our members' talents.

Incidentally, with this exhibition the Arts Council is launching its own membership drive and will be holding a Wine Gala Fundraiser at Fresh Market on Tuesday evening September 21. In this fragile economy, the Arts Council needs all the help it can get to keep the arts alive and flourishing in Moore County. Some of our SPC members may not know just how much the Arts Council does to promote arts of all kinds for all ages. Take a look at its redesigned website, www.mooreart.org. It not only outlines those many and varied programs, but also has a nice link to the SPC web site. Wine Gala tickets and membership forms for the Arts Council of Moore County will be available at the Sept. 3rd reception. Or call 692-2787 for details.

PROGRAMS: Jim Davis

On September 13, Dr. Molly Gwinn will discuss some of the contributions to American photography by pioneers in the medium, including Mathew Brady, Timothy O'Sullivan, and Lewis Hine.

Molly Gwinn received her doctorate from Rutgers University in art history. Her area of specialization was modernism, in Europe and America. She has taught art history at Rutgers, the School of Continuing and Professional Studies at New York University, and the Dallas Museum of Art. She was a featured speaker at the recent Palustris Festival and served as the judge for our April 2010 competition.

Note: Dr. Gwinn is offering a course on "Photographs as History" at the Sandhills Community College, under the auspices of the Center for Creative Retirement. Molly said she was thinking of our club when she planned this course. The discussions will concern the interpretation of photographs and the ways they supplement or enrich our knowledge of events in American history. First session is September 8 and extends through October 6, 2010. Details can be obtained by visiting the SCC/ Creative Center for Retirement website:

<http://www.sandhills.edu/coned/center-creative-retirement/CreativeRetirSchedule.pdf>

Our November program will be "A Special Evening with Your Pictures and George Butt," an opportunity to participate in a live, open evaluation on whether a picture could have been made better by using your or George's ideas...always a relaxing, fun-filled and entertaining evening where everyone gains.

Our December program will be the annual **Christmas** dinner. It is hard to believe that December 13 is so near. Mark that date on your calendar and see **page 7** of the newsletter for the form, which you should complete and give or mail to **Dave Verchick**. Deadline is **Nov. 30!**

WORKSHOPS: Bill Matthews

Art Photography with Mike Stratil
Saturday, September 18, 9:00AM-NOON
Burlingame Room,

Sandhills Community College Horticultural Center

This workshop is intended as an overview of contemporary art photography. All photography

involves artistic principles to some extent. Even the most elementary decisions in the composition of a photograph, for example, are artistic because they are efforts to influence the viewer's attention, emotion and personal relationship to the subject. Similar considerations apply to depth of field, exposure and shutter speed. In art photography, these artistic aspects become the photographer's central focus.

Mike believes that photographers can achieve a much deeper level of self-expression through an artistic approach to their work. It may not be for everyone, but some members will find it a great source of satisfaction. In the workshop, he will cover the following topics: (a) the historical roots of art photography, (b) the creative process in art photography (including the psychology of imagination, symbolism, emotion and subconscious processes), (c) a

spreadsheet grid analyzing the relationship between artistic themes vs. artistic photographic techniques, (d) examples of certain combinations of artistic theme and technique, and (e) a demonstration of artistry in still life photography.

If there is interest from members, two day trips emphasizing art photography may be held in the fall. One would be to the renovated NC Museum of Art in Raleigh, and the other would be a trip to Mike's home in Whispering Pines during which the various art objects he has collected could be used in still life photos by members. An art photography special interest group similar to the recently created group for nature photography will also be considered.

Please sign up for the workshop by emailing or calling Mike (mstratil@charter.net or 949-6518). Members who are interested in doing some preliminary exploration of art photography are referred to the web sites listed in the August newsletter.

Two additional workshops this year are:

A Brief History of the Camera, Basic Photography and Resizing & RAW Revisited with Bill Matthews

Saturday, October 23, 9:30 - 11:30AM

Burlingame Rm., Sandhills Comm. College Horticultural Center

This workshop will address a number of photography topics in response to questions frequently asked by members.

From pinholes to zoom lenses, from wet plates to silicon digital sensors, cameras have come a long way in the 200 years since a camera first produced a recorded image. Some characteristics remain the same while others have undergone radical change. A brief historical review of the evolution of the camera should help us better understand the marvelous instruments that we hold in our hands today.

Once upon a time the essential elements of picture taking - *shutter speed*, *f-stop*, focus and film *speed* - were standard terms in the vocabulary of most practicing photographers. Then came George Eastman's Brownie camera and "You push the button and we do the rest!" - the forerunner of current Point and Shoot. No, you don't have to know the difference between an f-stop and a shutter speed to take a picture, but knowledge of these basic concepts helps to develop a better understanding and appreciation of the process - and most likely will lead to more satisfying photographs.

Resizing, a necessary evil in the preparation of digital images for projection, has been a difficult concept for many club members ever since our first digital competition. In this workshop very basic graphic illustrations will be used to hopefully clarify this often-confusing subject.

RAW has become a common term in digital photography. More and more photographers now prefer to shoot in this format, but many ask, "What is it?" The details will be left to the several books devoted to the subject, but the basic concept will be explained and the pros and cons of working with this increasingly popular image format will be identified.

Please sign up for this workshop by emailing or calling Bill (wmatth@embarqmail.com or 692-8254).

The Fascinating World of LAB with Bob Biamonte

Saturday, Nov. 6, 10:00AM - NOON

Sandhills Community College, Little Hall, Room 227 (second floor)

LAB is a color space of Photoshop. Some things that are difficult to do in the RGB color space are easy in LAB. This space is terrific when working with landscapes, foliage, canyon, and mountain photos, so bring some with you to this workshop. When you need an exact color, you can do it in this space. If you have never worked in LAB color, you will want to take this workshop.

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

FALL FIELD TRIP: Dave Powers

Thank you to all the members who have made reservations to be in Asheville, NC, for our 2010 fall field trip, Oct. 12 -14. I have made two trips to scout out locations and I will be getting you this information in the coming weeks.

We have secured a speaker for the first night. Carol Leigh of Waldport, Oregon, will be speaking to us on "Setting Yourself Apart as a Photographer." Carol is a friend of **June White** and comes to us highly recommended. June and some other members of the club will be traveling to Oregon for a field trip with Carol on the Oregon coast and in return, Carol is coming to North Carolina and joining us in Asheville. To see Carol's work, go to www.photoexplorations.com/edge/creativeedge.htm or her blog at <http://carolleigh.blogspot.com>. After seeing her work, I am excited to have her join us and share some of her ideas and techniques.

For those of you who have not made reservations, please call the Holiday Inn Express at 828-665-6519. The rates are \$89 per night, plus tax. This is an excellent rate due to the fact that this could be the prime week for the fall colors. The rate is good for Tuesday through Thursday nights. Cut off is September 13, 2010 to lock in this rate. Cancellations may be made up to the date of your arrival. If you have any suggestions for our trip, please e-mail me at dpowers4@nc.rr.com or call me at 910-692-2539. This is my first trip as coordinator and I am open to all suggestions to make it enjoyable to all participants.

Remember to go to www.Exploreasheville.com for ideas on locations. See you in Asheville!

MEMBERSHIP: Alison Earl

As of the August 2010 meeting we are at **107** paid members, along with our 5 honorary members, bringing us to **112!**

We have had several new photographers join us: **Eric Kniager, Ed Krystek, Lee Blackwell, Suzanne Kirkman and Bonnie Hanly**. Suzanne and Bonnie joined at the end of the STOP ACTION competition meeting.

Carlie and Myranda Smith (Brady's daughters) joined at the July meeting and I recently got a response from Carlie. She considers herself a beginner and has a Canon 20D camera. Her favorite subjects to photograph are nature, bugs and

flowers. She has lived here her whole life (so far ☺) and doesn't have anything else she'd like to share!

Lee Blackwell connected with us through our website and joined us for his first session at the August meeting.

Lee spent six years as a photo interpreter with military intelligence, primary with film from the U-2 plane and satellite imagery. He read them and made evaluations, but did not take any of the photos himself. He has been taking picture of family for his genealogy research and currently has a Nikon D5000 with 2 sets of lens, which he JUST bought two weeks ago. He also has a Nikon Cool Pix. He is looking forward to the fellowship with experienced people in our club, and hopes to learn to take professional garden pictures. He has lived in the area since February 2009, after living in Lawton, Oklahoma, for 45 years and Manassas, Virginia. Lee has been a Master Gardener for 19 years and taught propagation classes in both Oklahoma and Virginia. He lost his wife in August 2005 after a "short" marriage of 59 years, 9 months, 12 days and 7 hours to the exact minute!

Bonnie Hanly joined after the August meeting and did some black and white photography and developing from a class in the late 1970s. She uses a Panasonic Lumix camera takes pictures of people, places, and things to paint, since she is an artist. She hopes to get more knowledge of photography and camera to produce photographs for art. She has lived in the area since May 2002, coming from the Chicago area.

Suzanne Kirkman also joined after the last meeting and considers herself an intermediate in her photographic expertise. She has a Canon Rebel XTi and her favorite subjects are macro photography, bugs, and flowers, dramatic and some abstract. She'd like to improve her skills as a photographer and potentially turn it into a career. She has lived in Carthage for 12 years. Even since she bought her first digital camera she has seen the world in a more creative way. She believes that our club can help push her creativity to new levels.

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

LIBRARY CLOSE OUT
ALL Library books are going to be
sold at \$2.00 per book!

During the **October** and **November** meetings our members will be able to purchase any library book for \$2.00. The proceeds will go towards the purchase of a new digital projector.

SPC Crossword Puzzle

*Check out the puzzle on **page 6**. It is your chance to test your knowledge about the club and some of the terrific members. If you are stuck, email or phone someone you don't know for help.*

We have so many new members this is one way to get acquainted. Time yourself as you do this. At the next meeting we can find out who is more nimble with club knowledge.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT: Dave Verchick**Monthly Financial Report Regular Account**

July 30, 2010	Beginning balance	\$4969.28
Aug. 11, 2010	Ending balance	\$4965.88

REFRESHMENTS: Bill Sheppard

Sandra and Bill Sheppard will provide refreshments for the September meeting.

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

**Thursday, Sept. 16, 2:00 PM,
Sandhills Community College
Horticultural Gardens Visitor
Center.**

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	Susan Capstick	295-1832
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	Jim McGill	295-6686
Field Trips	Kathy Green (Spring)	525-0190
	Dave Powers (Fall)	692-2539
Day Trips	Mike Stratil	949-6518
Scavenger Hunt	Jill Margeson	673-1497

PHOTO EQUIPMENT CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE - Contact Beth Allison at 910-638-5657

Epson Stylus Photo R1800 printer: highly rated printer. Used only a few times. Price is \$200 or best offer. This includes two (2) sets of cartridges.

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

The Sandhills Photography Club is offering the following equipment for sale:

- One pair Optimus wireless speakers with transmitter, Radio Shack #40-1372. \$18.00 or best offer.
- 1 Kodak Ektagaphic III AM carousel slide projector with 100-150 mm f/3.5 lens. \$35.00 or best offer.

Please contact Bill Matthews (692-8254) for more information.

*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.*

Great Show across the Atlantic

To all Palustris Festival participants who had photos in the Festival, I would like to share a note I received from Denise Baker at the Sandhills Community College:

June,

Please let all the members know how much everyone enjoyed and commented on the Photo Exhibit that opened in Newry last week. There were 18 delegates from Southern Pines in attendance. It was pretty special. The exhibit is over the first week of September and the photos will be mailed back to me. I'll let you know when they arrive.

*Thanks for making this journey between two countries so special. It was fabulous, thanks to the Sandhills Photography Club.
Denise*

Photoshop Tip of the Month: Bob Biamonte

Transform selection

When you make a selection and it's not exactly how you want it? Don't want to go all the way back and do it again? No problem. Just go to the Select menu and choose Transform Selection and you can manipulate the selection just as you would with the Free Transform tool.

WEBSITE LINKS: Linda Piechota

Our club president, **Len Barnard**, has asked me to be the Website Links Coordinator. I accepted and look forward to serving the club in this capacity. What is a Website Links Coordinator? Simply put, I will search for websites that club members might enjoy visiting, get permission to link to those sites, and give the information to **Brady Smith** to be added to our Sandhills Photography Club website.

When you open our website, you will see "LINKS," with a list of websites covering photography-related subjects. A click on a link will take you to that web page.

Our board has directed that informational links will be allowed but **NO** vendor links. The purpose of putting links on our website is to make it easy for members to find photographic instructions, camera reviews, comparisons of equipment features, etc. "LINKS" will show up soon on our website, so keep checking.

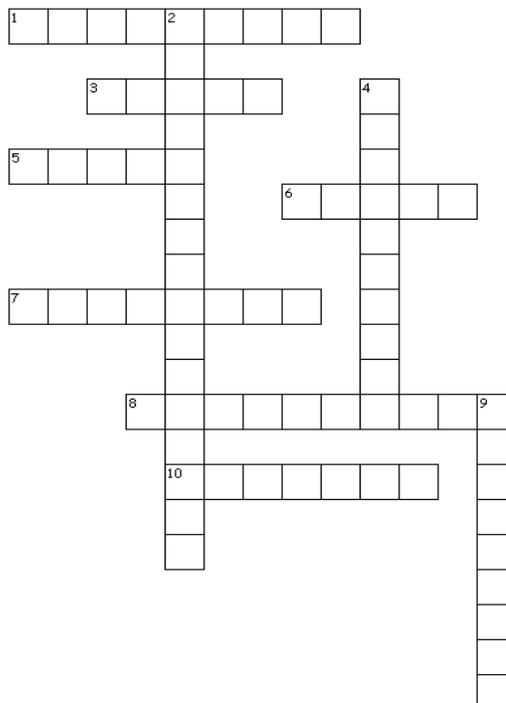
TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE SANDHILLS PHOTO CLUB

Across

1. Four-time winner
3. Online competition
5. SPC newsletter
6. Take me with you
7. Fall trip destination
8. Club president
10. End of year award

Down

2. Oldest member
4. Hard working committee
9. Pilot photographer



Sandhills Photography Club Holiday Dinner

Table on the Green

Midland Country Club, 2205 Midland Drive, Pinehurst
Monday, December 13, 2010, 6:00 PM

Hot Hors d'Oeuvres

Crab Bundle/Sweet Potatoes
Spring Roll/Chilies Sauce

Salad

Mixed Spring Salad, Balsamic Vinaigrette

Dinner – Choice of:

Filet 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

Crème Brule
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:

Dave Verchick
P.O. Box 763
Southern Pines, NC 28388

Name _____

Name _____

Entrée _____

Entrée _____

Deadline for this reservation and payment is **November 30, 2010.**