



IN FOCUS



A Publication of
THE SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB P.O. Box 763, Southern Pines, NC 28388
Enriching Our World Through Photography

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www.sandhillsphtoclub.org

Member
May 2013

Contents

UPCOMING EVENTS -----	1
PRESIDENT'S NOTES -----	2
PHOTOGRAPHY TECHNIQUE TIPS LINKS -----	2
COMPETITIONS -----	3
MEMBERSHIP NEWS -----	4
SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB SCHOLARSHIP WINNER ---	4
PLANS FOR ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES WITH O'NEAL SCHOOL STUDENTS -----	4
REFRESHMENTS FOR 2013-----	4
PROGRAMS -----	4
NEW MEMBER DEVELOPMENT-----	5
TREASURER'S REPORT -----	6
EXHIBITION PLANS -----	6
2013 SPC BOARD -----	7
SUGGESTION BOX-----	7
DIRECTORY OF MEMBER PORTRAITS -----	7
KNOW YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS -----	7
SPRINGTIME IN CHARLOTTE-----	8
CHARLOTTE – THROUGH OUR EYES -----	9
OUT, OUT, DAMNED SPOT!-----	13
PSA 75 th CONFERENCE -----	14
SIMULATE A DOUBLE MAT WITH PHOTOSHOP/ELEMENTS -----	15
OOPS! DID YOU MISS THE 'SCAPES COMPETITION CLUB MEETING?-----	15
PSA ARTICLES AVAILABLE-----	16
ARE YOU IN NEED OF "HOW TO" PHOTOGRAPHY HELP?-----	16
SOME OLD BUILDING HINTS-----	16
CROSSWORD PUZZLE FOR FUN AND COOKIES!!!! -----	17
CLASSIFIEDS-----	18
CONTACT "IN FOCUS" EDITOR -----	18

UPCOMING EVENTS

May						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2013

NEXT MEETING

- Monday, May 13th, 7pm

BOARD MEETING

- Thursday, May 16th, 2pm

PROGRAMS

- May: Andrew Craft, Fayetteville Observer
- July: Brady Beck, Wildlife Photographer

COMPETITIONS

- June: Old Barns and Buildings

EXHIBITIONS

- May: The O'Neal Way
- June: Water
- September: Photography as Art
- Ongoing: Local Artists: The Pierce Gallery
- Ongoing: Quail Haven Village

FIELD TRIPS

WORKSHOPS

See this and other images from the Spring Field Trip to Charlotte, NC on page 9



Joe Owen

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

By *John German*

Once again I would like to take this opportunity this month to thank people so essential to the club's success. I would like to recognize Don and Brenda Hiscott who head up the programs and the competitions for this year. Between Brenda and Don, we have had an extremely enjoyable run of speakers and competitions this year. I am looking forward to next month with Andrew Craft and the following month with the competition "Barns and old Buildings".



As you read this, the 2013 spring field trip to Charlotte is history. Thanks to **Dave Powers** for all the work in planning and execution of this trip. The trip was very enjoyable and educational. Dave chose a good restaurant and Charlotte provided many photographic opportunities. I particularly enjoyed the visit to the Light Factory and the director's presentation on the current exhibit. This brings us to the fall field trip. We need a volunteer to set this up and arrange the trip. If you would like to do this, please call me at 245-3177 or email at jojegerman@embarqmail.com.

April's competition on "Scapes" judged by Dave Verchick, a previous SPC member, was well attended. Dave's comments provided a good critique on the images submitted. I was very pleased to see and talk with him again.

I intend to continue including some links for photography techniques. Please see the article below titled, Photography Technique Tips Links. There are many online articles specific to certain types of photography. They provide good tips. If anyone has terrific links to videos demonstrating various photographic techniques, consider sending them to our editor, Alison, at alisonspcnewsletter@gmail.com. Also check out Helpful Links from our club website at <http://sandhillspcclub.org/>.

Please remember, the club is only as good as the participation and support of the membership. We are fortunate to have so many willing individuals to volunteer their time to run the club. Have a good month and good shooting.

PHOTOGRAPHY TECHNIQUE TIPS LINKS

Here are three videos I found helpful:

- Scott Kelby – ["Blind Critiques"](#)

This is a relatively long video and has a long period of advertisement at the front end. It consists of critiques of photos sent in with some demonstration of techniques to improve the images in Lightroom 4 or other image processing programs. I enjoyed it and think I learned from it.

- Mark Wallace - [Shooting Fireworks](#)

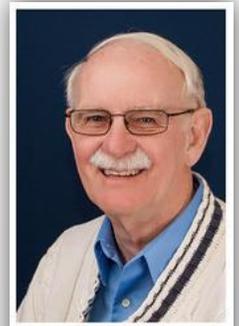
This is a short video with all you need for setup to take good fireworks images. The video covers aperture, shutter speed, ISO and other items.

- Gordon Lane – [How to Blur Water for a Dreamy Effect](#)

This provides the basics for taking silky images of waterfalls or streams. Basic information about shutter speeds, aperture, ISO and ND filters.

COMPETITIONS, *Don Hiscott*

The April 'Scapes competition went very well. I thought Dave Verchick did a great job in judging and critiquing. Congratulations to our winners.



Don Hiscott

CLASS A:

1 st	Neva Scheve	Bogue Sound Sunset
2 nd	Debra Regula	Summer Storm
3 rd	Donna Ford	Acadia Coastline
Honorable Mention	Debra Regula	Morning has Broken
Honorable Mention	Tom Reedy	Bear Country
Honorable Mention	Jill Margeson	Denali
Honorable Mention	Marilyn Owen	Canadian Reflection

CLASS B:

1 st	Chuck Kersey	Geyser Basin
2 nd	Grace Hill	On Final to O'Hare
3 rd	Susan Capstick	Setting Sun
Honorable Mention	Bill Bower	Oregon Dunes and Beach
Honorable Mention	John German	Savannah at Night
Honorable Mention	Jennifer German	Costa Rican Garden
Honorable Mention	Joanne Lentz	Tranquil Scene
Honorable Mention	Chuck Kersey	Field of Flowers

Our June 2 deadline for the next Digital composition will be coming up before we know it. The subject is **OLD BARNs AND BUILDINGS**. The main subject – the prominent object that gets your immediate attention-must be an old barn or building. The barn or building should look old by virtue of disrepair and/or dated architecture. As long as the subject meets these requirements, the photographs may have been taken night or day, any season, with or without people or animals.

As usual there is a 3 year time limit. Your image must have been taken between June 2, 2010 and June 2, 2013. You may enter two pictures, marking your 1st and 2nd choice in the file name when submitting (See example below). Resize your image to 1040 pixels on the longest side. Each picture is sent as an email attachment with a file name written in this manner:

Old_A1_Hiscott_Don_Leaning to the left for first choice picture for A division person; Old_B2_Last Name_First Name_Picture Title for a B member's 2nd choice. Resized images will be received starting after the May 13 club meeting. Entries must be received not later than 6PM on Sunday, June 2nd. Send entries to competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org. You should receive confirmation that your picture was received within 24 hours. Send any questions to the competition website listed above.

Good luck!

FIRST PLACE WINNERS

NEVA SCHEVE



CHUCK KERSEY



CONGRATULATIONS!!!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS: *Judy Nappi*



Judy Nappi

We had one new member join in March. Please extend a welcome to **Lisa Bond**. Membership stands at 111 with an additional 5 honorary members.

The Member Committee would like to have one additional member to help especially on meeting nights. Duties would include greeting members and helping them find their name tags; welcoming and enrolling new people; helping set up the Welcome Table. At the next meeting, please find Judy, Ira, or Bonnie near the welcome table and let them know you would like help their team and join in the fun!!

PLANS FOR ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES WITH O'NEAL SCHOOL STUDENTS; *Scott Duvall*

One of the ways the **Sandhills Photography Club** reaches out to and benefits our local community is by sharing the photographic talents of our highly skilled members. We recently completed a very successful program introducing a group of 7 to 10 year olds at the local **O'Neal School** to the world of photography. The School now would like to greatly expand our interaction by having us develop and teach a semester-long photography class for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. The class would become an elective in the School's Fine Arts Program.



Scott Duvall

Our members **David Cohen, Donna Ford, Grace Hill, Bill Matthews** and **Debra Regula** are working with me to create a syllabus for this course. It will cover the basics of photography in somewhere between eighteen to twenty five 50-minute sessions. They will then teach the course with classroom lectures, hands-on learning with the students' cameras, homework assignments and photography field trips. The inaugural class is planned for the fall semester of 2013.

Additional Club members are welcome to participate. Please let me know if you are interested.

SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB SCHOLARSHIP WINNER;

submitted by Dave Powers

Congratulations to **Julian Thompson** who was selected by the faculty of the Arts Department at *Sandhills Community College* to receive the **Sandhills Photography Club Scholarship for 2013**.

The club presents this award annually to a deserving student to further his study in the arts. Julian was unable to attend the ceremony but I was able to talk with Denise Baker who told me that Julian is an excellent student and is doing great work with his photography. Some of his work is being displayed in the Student Art Show at the college. According to Ms. Baker, Julian is also accomplished in painting and drawing and was highly recommended by Eric Ton, a professor at Sandhills CC and a friend of our club. Julian has served in the military and hopes to continue his studies at either N.C. State University or the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.



Congratulations, Julian. Best wishes from the Sandhills

REFRESHMENTS FOR 2013

MAY	John Ambrosio
JUNE	OPEN
JULY	Susan Capstick/Marti Derleth
AUGUST	Gisela Danielson/Jill Margeson/June White
SEPTEMBER	Jo Ann Sluder/Betty Hendrix
OCTOBER	Tommy McDonell/Brenda & Don Hiscott
NOVEMBER	POT LUCK
DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS PARTY

Note: Please let Bill Sheppard know if there are any changes to the above.

PROGRAMS,

BRENDA HISCOTT

We're looking forward to having Andrew Craft, News Photographer from the Fayetteville Observer as our speaker at the May meeting. He will talk about his experiences in the field of Journalism Photography. It should be a fun evening.



Brenda Hiscott

Please refer to April newsletter for more details about Andrew Craft, or go to www.acraftphoto.com.

NEW MEMBER DEVELOPMENT, *Debbie Regula*

Last year our club President, Scott Duval, implemented a new committee: New Member Development. I was happy to take on the job. In the months I have been in charge I have worked closely with the Membership Committee for the purpose of welcoming new members and helping them with any problems they encounter with becoming involved with the club. Problem solving with submissions in competitions was one of the much needed aspects of the committee. Alerting new members to meetings and deadlines has been appreciated by those who are new to the club.

Debra Regula



Seeking to get the impression of our club from a new member I asked **Jo Ann Sluder, a member since January of 2012**, a few questions about her experience with the New Member Committee and the club as a whole. Jo Ann joined the Sandhills Photography Club in 2012.

WHY DID YOU JOIN THE CLUB?

Because I have an interest in photography and hearing friends who were already members speaking about it, it seemed like it was a great opportunity to learn more. I wanted to pursue this as a hobby but I was unsure that just my interest was enough to join. Debra Regula and Brenda Hiscott assured me it would not be intimidating and it is a great group of amateur photographers.



Jo Ann Sluder

WHAT HAS NEW MEMBER DEVELOPMENT DONE TO HELP YOU?

The personal invitation to attend and go with friends was welcoming. Debra gave me reassurance that my photography would speak for itself. It offered me an avenue to ask questions comfortably, especially when submitting my first competition photos. The step by step guidance was most appreciated.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CLUB?

That there are a lot of "great" photographers in the Sandhills area! Wow! I am so impressed. Each photographer sees things with a fresh perspective and captures their own vision. The critiques from the professionals are so insightful and I have taken notes on almost every photograph's comments. Making the notes provides me an avenue to look a little closer and learn things I need to be conscious about when shooting my favorite shots. I have learned hints like: watching out for white out, taking the time to capture the optimal light situation to capture the best image, framing the shot, not too much sky, let the picture lead you into it. When using a tool such as Photoshop be very selective in your choices. These tools can enhance or they can detract if not used properly. So, so many things I have learned.

DO YOU FEEL YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY HAS IMPROVED SINCE BECOMING A MEMBER AND IF SO HOW?

I see the world differently. I only see the beauty and I focus on smaller aspects of the world. Framing the beauty, narrowing my focus.....that is what it has done for me!!!! Not just to photograph a shot, but everywhere I go, everything I see, I look a little closer. Having the opportunity to have MY photographs critiqued immediately boosted my confidence. It made this hobby instantaneously rewarding.

HAVE YOU ENTERED COMPETITIONS AND WERE THEY HELPFUL WITH DEVELOPING YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY SKILLS?

As above, it certainly has. I look more discerningly, watch for the lighting; yet, I have a long way to go to take the best shot. However, capturing the story, the beauty does not require solely technical camera knowledge. It is about the ability to see the shot and capture the moment.

HAVE YOU ATTENDED MEETINGS TO HEAR SPEAKERS AND WERE THEY HELPFUL AND INSPIRING? Absolutely! Each speaker has so much passion and love for photography. Whatever the speakers' specialty, the message comes across with conviction in their belief of how they approach their love for photography.

DO YOU LOOK AT PHOTOGRAPHY DIFFERENTLY SINCE BECOMING A MEMBER?

I always have loved photography and now I give it more respect as "Art". It truly is art!!!!

I thank Jo Ann for her time and sharing her enthusiasm for our Photography Club and her love of photography.

TREASURER'S REPORT, Dave Powers

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MARCH 29,2013

Dave Powers

**CHECKING ACCOUNT**

STARTING BALANCE (FEBRUARY 28, 2013) -----	5025.60
EXPENSES-----	\$423.28
PEYTON HALE-SPEAKER (PRESENTATIONS) -----	\$100.00
SANDHILLS COMM. COLLEGE-SCHOLARSHIP -----	\$300.00
DINNER FOR SPEAKER (HALE)PRESENTATIONS -----	\$ 23.28
RECEIPTS-----	\$180.04
DUES-----	\$180.00
INTEREST EARNED-----	\$.04

ENDING CHECKING BALANCE 3/29/2013----- **\$4782.36**

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

STARTING BALANCE 2/28/2013 -----	\$4880.71
RECEIPTS (INTEREST)-----	\$.12

ENDING BALANCE-SAVINGS 3/29/2013----- **\$4880.83**

TOTAL FUNDS----- **\$9663.19**

EXHIBITION PLANS for 2013, Tom Reedy wreedy1@nc.rr.com

Tom Reedy



Both “*Double Takes*” and “*In the Beginning*” exhibitions are over now. I haven’t heard details yet of sales from either the Eye Candy Gallery or Pierce Gallery. However, Frank Pierce mentioned that both of June White’s scarves were sold from the “*Double Takes*” exhibition! June White was asked by many members of the club where she got the scarf printed that was on display at the Eye Candy Gallery during the exhibit. Here is the web link. <http://www.dpi-sf.com/>. Their turn around time was about a week. Our next exhibition at the Pierce Gallery begins on June 7 and its theme is “*Water*.” Submissions for inclusion are due by May 3. The gallery (thepiercegalleryspc@gmail.com) is looking for new and creative photography, color or black and white. The exhibition at Quail Haven Village is ongoing. Our contact is Chris Pasha (cpasha@umrh.org). Please email Chris directly to set up a time to bring your photography to Quail Haven Village.

Please email me directly if you have any questions at wreedy1@nc.rr.com.

We hope that at least half our members will participate in at least one exhibit every year.

As of now the exhibitions for 2013 by the club or its members include:

Name	Club or Members	Venue	Date
<i>Out of Africa</i>	Gary Magee, Jim Smith, Lois Pollard	Eye Candy Gallery	Complete
<i>Double Takes</i>	Club	Eye Candy Gallery	Complete
<i>The O’Neal Way</i>	O’Neal Students/Club	O’Neal Campus	Ready around mid-May
<i>In the Beginning</i>	Club	The Pierce Gallery	Complete
<i>Water</i>	Club	The Pierce Gallery	Opens June 7; submissions by May 3
<i>Photography As Art</i>	Club; 80 to 90 pieces	Campbell House	Opens September 6; more information soon
Quail Haven Village	Club	Quail Haven Village	On-going; contact Chris Pasha at cpasha@umrh.org

2013 SPC BOARD	
TITLE	NAME
President	John German
Vice President	Brenda Hiscott
Secretary	Marilyn Owen
Treasurer	Dave Powers
Past President	Scott Duval
Programs	Brenda Hiscott
Competition	Don Hiscott
Exhibitions	Tom Reedy
New Member Dev.	Debra Regula
Hospitality	Bill Sheppard
Publicity	Janice Huff
Workshops	Open
Technical Consultant	Bill Matthews
Newsletter	Alison Earl
Historian/Web Links	Linda Piechota
PSA Rep	Jill Margeson
Membership	Ira Miller
Website	Brady Smith
Club Photographer	Al Reeder
Field Trip Spring	Dave Powers
Field Trip Fall	Open
Project Committees	
Wildlife Focus Group	Tom Reedy
Strategic Planning	Scott Duval
O'Neal School Liaison	Scott Duval

KNOW YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



John German



Brenda Hiscott

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

TREASURER



Marilyn Owen



Dave Powers

At our next meeting, look in the foyer for a

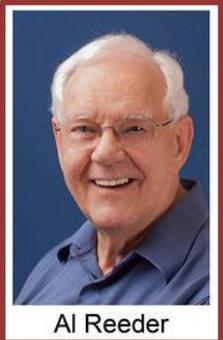
SUGGESTION BOX

Drop in your helpful suggestions, comments, great ideas, needs, interests, or observations that have to do with Sandhills Photo Club.

Sign it or not. Our President will read the notes, respond, bring before the board, or forward the comment to the appropriate person.

DIRECTORY OF MEMBER PORTRAITS

All SPC member photos throughout newsletter have been taken by Club Photographer, **Al Reeder!!** Please see our directory:



Al Reeder

<http://al-r.smugmug.com/Clubs#!i=1922859778&k=smhmFPw>

SPRINGTIME IN CHARLOTTE APRIL 21-23, 2013

Thirteen members of our club travelled to Charlotte for the Spring Field Trip. It was a busy, yet fun, three days trying to capture The Queen City. I think that when you look at the included photos, you will agree that the results are outstanding. It is certainly another reminder of the extremely high level of talent that the Sandhills Photography Club members have when it comes to capturing images that create impact and lasting memories. It is also a reminder to me of how enjoyable it is to spend quality time with fellow members in the relaxed atmosphere that a field trip offers.



SPC Members Visits Charlotte

One of the trip highlights was a tour of The Light Factor Contemporary Museum of Photography and Film. The Light Factory is one of only four museums in the United States that promotes the power of image through photography and film. It features exhibitions of photography and digital video art as well as offering more than 90 classes in photography and film making.



Setting up for the sun to go down

Dennis Kiel, the curator and interim Director of The Light Factory led the group on a tour of the current exhibit giving us insight into the creation of the show as well as information about the artists. The exhibit, “**Connected There But Not Always Here,**” examines the effect technology has on human relationships through the most fashionable networking outlets: Facebook, blogging, twitter, and interactive video. The exhibition features the work of Dina Litovsky, Gabriela Herman, Nate Larson, Marni Shendelman, Celine Latulipe, Berto Gonzalez, and Annabel Manning. Please take a look at the website www.lightfactory.org for more information about the exhibition plus the

featured artists.

Social networking is probably not a big part of the lives of those of us who attended the tour, and the photos are most likely not ones that we would choose to hang on our den walls. But the exhibit certainly achieved its design purpose of getting us to look twice and discuss the images among ourselves, which is what we all strive for with our photography.

It was a great trip and I hope you will make plans to join the group on the next field trip offered by the Sandhills Photography Club.

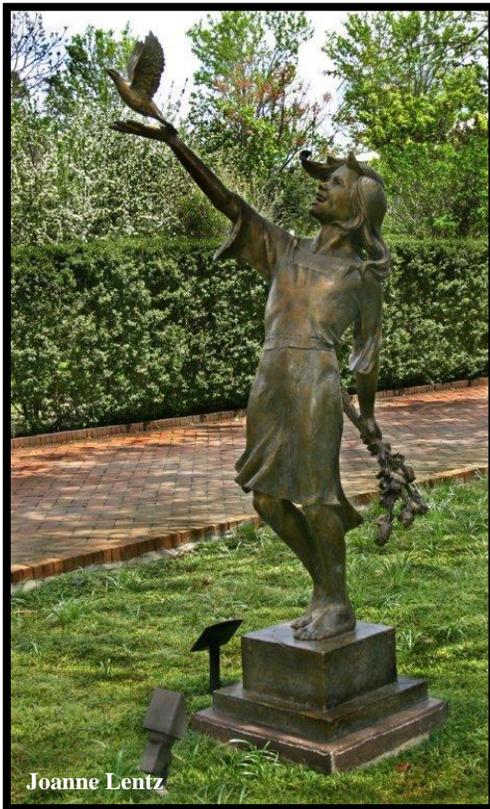
Dave Powers

Dave Powers

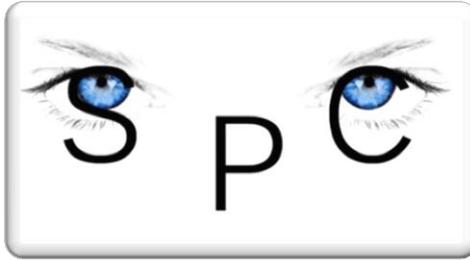


See Images from Spring Field Trip next pages →

CHARLOTTE - THROUGH OUR EYES



Joanne Lentz



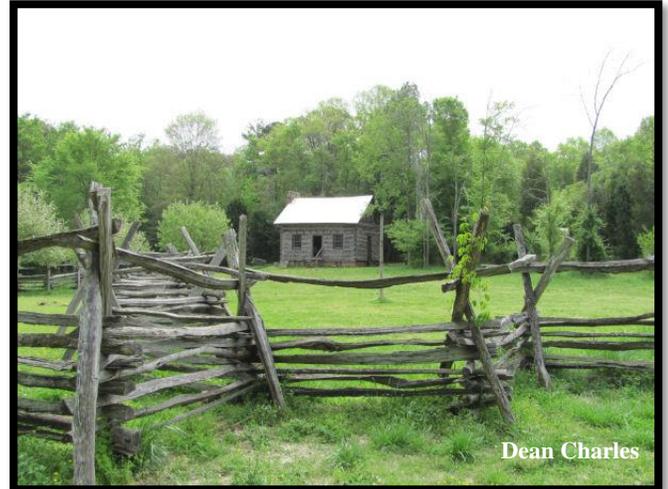
Wendell Dance



Marilyn Owen



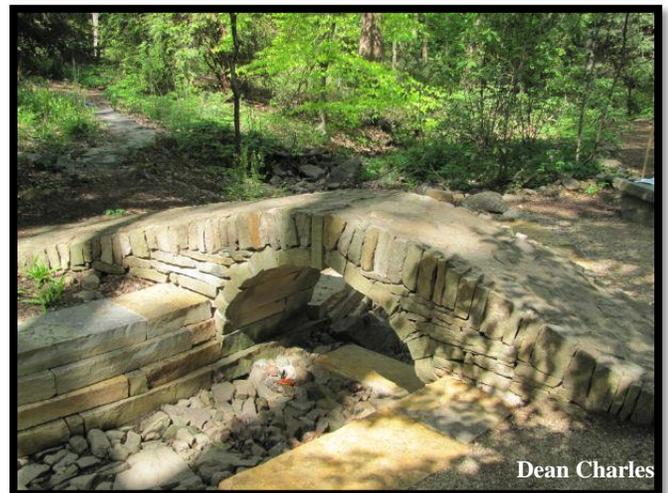
Dave Powers



Dean Charles



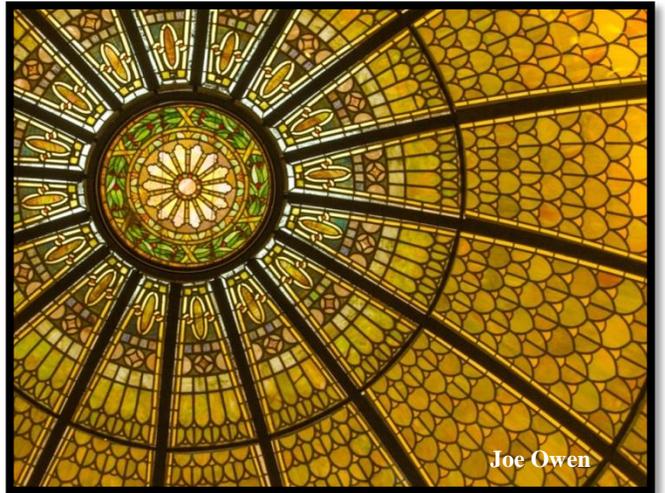
Bill Bower



Dean Charles



Paula Taggart



Joe Owen



Jennifer German



Joanne Lentz



Marilyn Owen



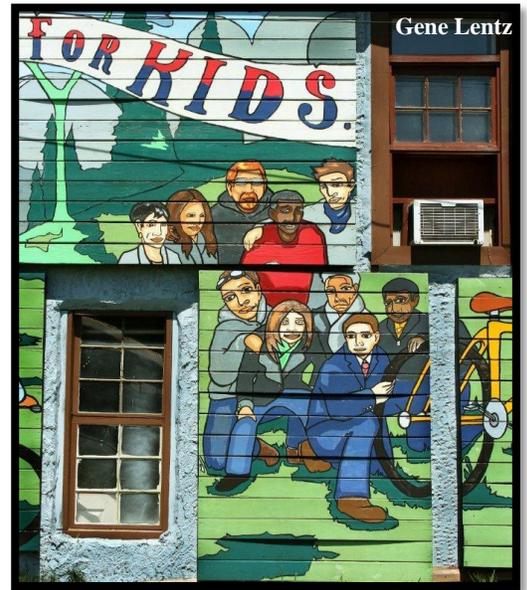
Paula Taggart



John German



Dave Powers



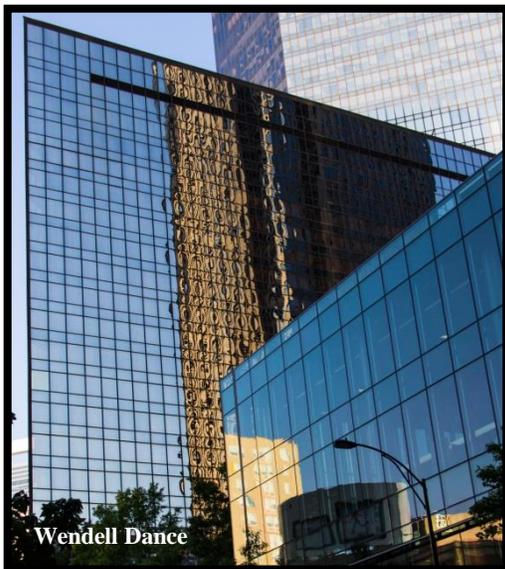
Gene Lentz



Bill Bower



Paula Taggart



Wendell Dance



Joe Owen



John German



Gene Lentz



Gene Lentz



Jennifer German



Gene Lentz



Dave Powers



John German



Bill Bower

HELPFUL HINTS

OUT, OUT, DAMNED SPOT!; *submitted by Marilyn Owen*



Marilyn Owen

In the 'Scapes competition, it was noted that some of the images contained dust or sensor spots that had not been removed. To rid your images of these, a few easy steps can be taken before tackling the job of cleaning the sensor (which is a very scary thing to do, especially the first time). If you are not using a DSLR, or do not remove the lens from the camera, you don't need to worry about the sensor.

First, you need to be aware that there are dust spots on your images. You are basically including a speck of dust in your image; because it is on a filter, the lens, or worst case, the sensor, it will be out of focus. It looks like a very small fuzzy ball when you display the image on your computer, and you will only see them in areas of very smooth color. Bring the photo up in your processing software, zoom in to 100%, and then carefully scroll around the image where the spots will show – the sky, mostly, or any large area of smooth color. If you see some, you need to do two things: use your blemish tool to clean up the image, and then remember to check the camera to get rid of the dust (see below). If possible, check more than one image taken at the same shoot to see if the spot is consistent throughout several photos. If it disappears and then reappears as you scroll through the photos, the spot is most likely dust on a filter or a lens. If the dust spot does not move when you drag the image around, then it is on the monitor, not the image ☺

Second, wait for a clear or bright but gray day. Then remove all of your filters from your lenses. Using a microfiber lens cloth, lens paper, or whatever your camera shop recommended, clean the glass on the lens and both sides of each of the filters. One of the small blower brushes may also help.

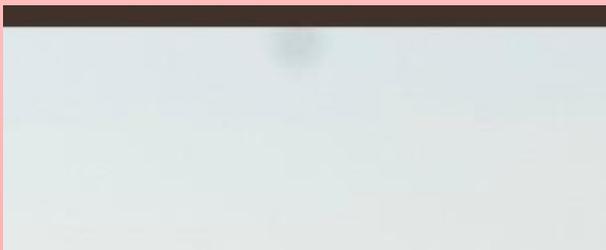
Third, verify that the dust is gone from each element. With only the lens on the camera, shoot just the sky: focus on something like a nearby roof, set the focus to manual, and then shoot just the clear blue sky – fill the entire frame with just sky. The reason for the manual focus is that the camera's autofocus system will go nuts trying to focus on the clear blue sky. Now view the photo in your LCD, use the zoom function all the way to its limit, and then carefully scroll around the image on the camera – any dust spots will show up. You can then re-clean the lens, right there, and try again.

Fourth, once the lens is clean, add the filters back one at a time, shooting the sky after each filter is added. Clean each filter (both sides) until all the spots are gone before adding the next one.

If you still can't get rid of a spot on the images, try a different lens. If the spot stays in the same relative position in the frame, then it is time to clean the sensor. Be sure you know what you are doing, though, before doing that. Good camera stores may have technicians available to clean your sensor while you wait, for little or no charge – check with them first, but verify that they know what they are doing.

A few tips to avoid sensor dust when changing lenses:

- Make sure you turn your camera OFF; just sleeping, in auto-shutoff mode, is not enough. When the camera is ON, there is a static charge on the sensor that will attract dust.
- Try to hold the camera so the front is facing down to minimize gravity dropping dust into the camera while the lens is off.
- Make sure the mirror is not locked up from your last Live View shot.
- Never, never, never change lenses outdoors during pine pollen season!
- Be very careful when changing lenses near sand; I don't think our sand is too bad, but if you're on the beach, even a little breeze can play havoc with the sand and your camera.



TWO TYPES OF STUDY GROUPS AVAILABLE FREE FOR PSA MEMBERS

Jill Margeson, YOUR PSA REP

1. **(PID DD) Projected Image Division “Digital Dialogue** is a place where PSA members gather and form small groups designed to improve the photographic skills of the participants. Every month each member posts one image for comment by the rest of the group. By sharing their work in this way, a dialogue is opened between group members and the learning begins. Conversations often include kudos for good work along with suggestions for image improvement at capture and in post processing.



Currently there are more than 50 different groups... Whatever your area of interest-we have a Group for you...beginner or seasoned pro..."

2. **(PID DSG) Projected Image Division “Digital Study Groups**...have a long history of helping those who are interested in improving the photographic skills and review techniques, through mutual assistance and interaction. The reviews generally follow the guidelines of exhibition judges, with emphasis on impact, composition and technical quality. Each group is a closed unit, password protected, which ensures that only the members of the assigned study group have access to the images and reviews, encouraging a free and open exchange.

Members with more photographic experience who are interested in helping others are welcome to get involved and can often provide more detailed assistance while honing their own skills. Having experienced members involved is very important to the learning process. Some simply serve as Commentators, providing an even more thorough critique and perspective to the group..."

Interested? Check the sources for more information: PSA website is www.psa-photo.org ; Go to Education, then select PSA study group; or www.psadigital.org; Under “groups” pick one to look at, then select a name from the right to see the month’s submitted picture, and the comments written underneath. Non-members can view any of the PID DD groups.

PSA 75th CONFERENCE

Details of workshops, bus photo tours, hotels, speakers will be available at the PSA lobby library table. Call Jill Margeson at 673-1497 if you are thinking of attending in September. Next year’s conference will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



How To: SIMULATE A DOUBLE MAT WITH PHOTOSHOP/ELEMENTS

- *Jill Margeson* (Information passed on to Jill from Len Barnard from a workshop Bill Matthews did a while ago)



1. Open image in Photoshop/Elements
2. Size image to match simulated inner mat cutout.
3. Go **Image/Resize/Canvas Size**, add 1 inch* to the **Width** and **Height** and set **Canvas Extension** color to White.
4. Go **Select/all**
5. Go **Edit, Stroke**
 - a. Set **Width to 130 pixels*** (30 pixels was about ¼ inch)
 - b. Set **Color** to color desired for simulated inner mat
 - c. Set **Location** to **Inside**
6. Cut the real outer mat opening width and height ¾ * inch greater than the simulated inner mat cutout (#2)
7. Carefully align print to the cutout on the back of the real outer mat and secure with tape.

*Dimensions above will simulate a ¼ inch exposed inner mat with a 45 degree bevel cut with 3/32 inch mat board when printing at 300ppi. Other dimensions can be used as desired.

Advantages: You can use the color picker to match something inside the image for the outside mat; Odd sizes don't require cutting your own mat; It is easy to use the clone stamp to carry something of the image out into the border after the border is complete-see example of stem on yellow flower.

NOTE: When framing, you can't put glass directly on the photo-you would need spacing strips placed along the edge to keep glass off the picture like a mat.



OOOPS! DID YOU MISS THE 'SCAPES COMPETITION CLUB MEETING?' *By your Roving Reporter*

Dave Verchick, a previous club member, critiqued and judged 70 or so entries on the topic of 'scapes'. He quipped at the conclusion of judging that, to be fair, he had a negative comment for every image! Board members present have briefly summarized the pointers delivered by our judge as he critiqued the sea, land, city, and mountain 'scapes':

1. Clean the sensors of your camera. Check for dust spots as you process your entry.
2. Use a path of some sort to lead into the scene. Have something significant at the end of the path. Keep the eye looking within the scene as much as possible-don't let strong lines lead the eye out.
3. Check your edges and cut out distracting material.
4. Keep horizons level! Don't let buildings lean!
5. Let us see detail in the very dark and light areas (HDR?). Watch out for too much information-leads to confusion and lack of focus.
6. Eliminate the sky if there is nothing in it.
7. Have a foreground, middle ground, and background. Don't let material clutter the lines between the three areas (tree branches going into the middle ground line, background buildings too close to middle ground line so perspective is lost).

Remember that you can see all the entries as well as the ribbon winners at our website:

www.sandhillsp photographyclub.org. Select "competitions" and then the date of April, 2013. Give Brady time to get them entered.

PSA ARTICLES AVAILABLE

At the May meeting in the front lobby there will be some interesting new PSA articles on:

- *Lightroom specifics*
- *Portland Maine Sept. conference information*
- *Software Review of Topaz B&W Effects*
- *Using Photoshop to Create an Infrared Effect*
- *Specifics about an African Photo Safari*



Reminder for: Wendall, Lori, Gary, Jean, Gisela, Pat, Gene, and Patti – Don't forget to drop off your articles at the library table and check out something else!

ARE YOU IN NEED OF "HOW TO" PHOTOGRAPHY HELP?

Here are three possible opportunities to get some one-on-one assistance:



1. Contact our club new- member liaison, Debra Regula, to inquire if there is anyone in the club willing to provide instruction in your specific area.
2. Join the local CNPA (Carolinas' Nature Photography Association-Triangle Division) and take advantage of their newly formed mentor program. They have 7 volunteers who can cover a multitude of topics from basic camera operations, through macro, Photoshop, Elements, Picasa, Lightroom, table top photography, and so on. You can call the mentor directly and arrange a meeting time and place. Check out the website, decide if you want to join, and then call Alan Strait alans-cnpa@alansimages.net or 919-467-3144 with your questions. CNPA website is www.cnpa.org/, will tell you about CNPA and joining. Alan Strait can answer questions about mentoring.
3. Investigate being a member of the national PSA (Photographic Society of America) and find help through their mentorship or educational programs. They have a large educational resource division with mentor services. You will see a wide range of topics listed: Art Photography, HDR, Expressive Imaging, Photo Restoration, Capturing Motion, Blacklight Portrait, Impressionistic Flowers, Portrait, Monochrome, Underwater, Storytelling, Still Life, Infrared, Insects, and many others topics. www.psa-photo.org/.

SOME OLD BUILDING HINTS *by Bill Sheppard:*

June's "Old Buildings and Barns" Competition coming fast

Have you poked around some local back roads yet looking for old buildings or barns? We have a lot of small old towns like Star, Carthage, Eagle Springs, and Wagram. Some buildings are still around from the Civil War. Hamlet and Rockingham have old mills and houses on their back roads. John Blue Farm in Laurinburg is another area to scout around for possible images. Side streets of Aberdeen, Pinehurst, and Southern Pines have some gingerbread houses and horse farms. Think about visiting the painted barns and sheds in Cameron and Vass. Look for some old mills in Asheboro, and try the National Forest in Montgomery and Randolph Counties. Most of these southerners will let you take pictures if you tell people who you are and what you want to do.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE FOR FUN AND COOKIES!!!!

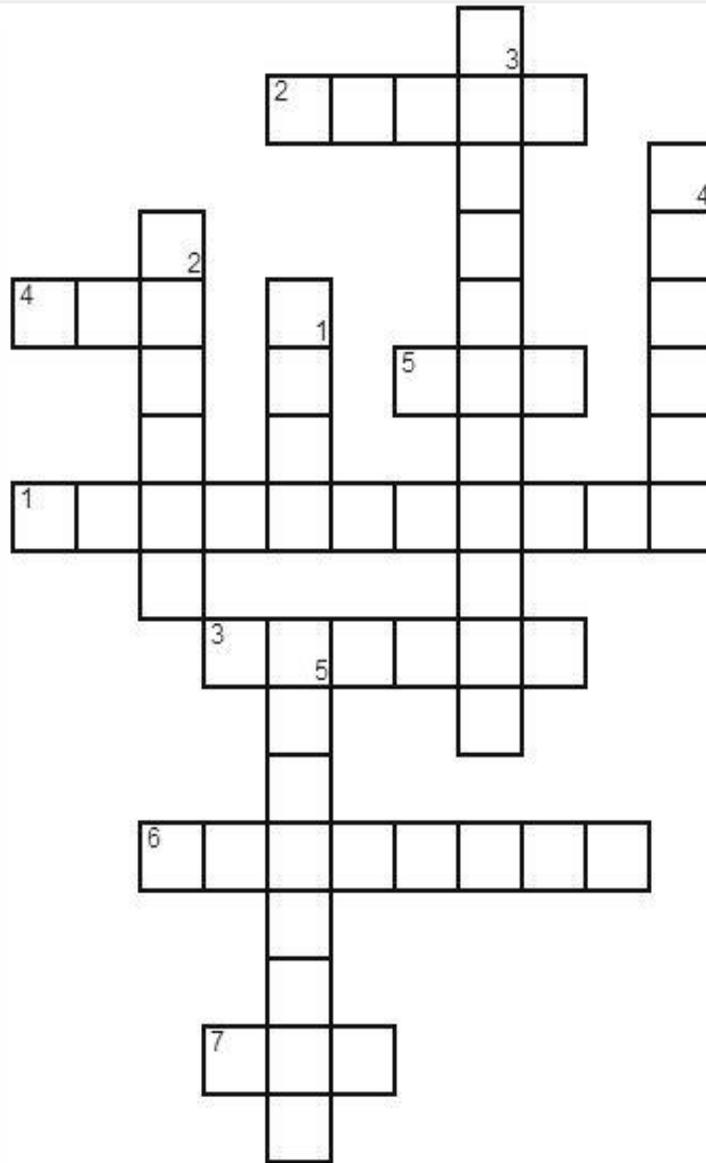
SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB – CHALLENGE PUZZLE

Work the puzzle. Snail mail the finished puzzle to:

**Jill Margeson,
2073 7 Lakes S.
West End, NC. 27376.**

The first 3 correct puzzles (earliest postmarks) to arrive in the mail will win a box of freshly baked cookies/or possibly a SPC patch.

Put your name and phone number on your puzzle.



Across

- 1/20th of a second
- Almost as good as a Nikon
- Blasting and editing at the beach
- High Dynamic Range
- Over 6000 members
- f/2.8 for example
- Points for perfect judged image

Down

- Lightroom
- Panoramas and HDR
- Important element in a photo
- We need a ____ for Fall field Trip
- Use for good macro focus

CLASSIFIEDS:



Club Patches still available!
\$8.00 each

See **Kathy Green**
at the next club meeting
or Ph-910-585-0190

I have a Phoenix 650-1300 f/8-16 Telephoto Lens for a Canon EOS (autofocus) T mount. I paid \$300 for it. I have since sold all my Canon equipment (way too heavy) and changed to a FujiFilm point and shoot (much lighter).

Asking \$150 for the lens

Walter Morris
Email: wmorris14@sc.rr.com



CONTACT "IN FOCUS" EDITOR Alison Earl with any questions, concerns, ideas, submissions (including images), etc. @ alisonspnewsletter@gmail.com

Thanks,
Alison Earl