



# 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 6

June 2010

## NEXT MEETING:

**Monday, June 14, 7:00 PM**

Christ Fellowship Church

Midland Road at the corner of Pee Dee Road

Southern Pines, NC

Program: Digital Competition

## COMPETITIONS: Scott Duvall

Congratulations to **Dave Powers** and **Tom Reedy!** Their winning entries in April's Black & White print competition brought their total points won to 15...enough to graduate from Class B to Class A.

On June 14 we will hold a DIGITAL composition where any subject within competition guidelines is acceptable, but post-processing is limited to cropping and resizing. Details have been given in the April 2010 SPC Newsletter. In addition, full specifics about DIGITAL competition rules and guidelines are now included in the Competition Manual on the club's website

([www.sandhillsphtoclub.org](http://www.sandhillsphtoclub.org)). Entries for the June 14th competition must be submitted to [competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org](mailto:competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org) or given on digital media to Competition Committee members **Jill Margeson** or **June White** by 11:59PM on Sunday, June 6, 2010. No entries will be accepted after this deadline.

Our judge for the June 14th open competition is Melissa Southern of Naturescapes Photography. Melissa is an award-winning photographer and presenter who has been shooting since childhood and a shooting professional since 2003. She has photographed in Western Europe, across North America, and all over North Carolina. She is a member of Nikon Professional Services, Carolina Nature Photographers, North American Nature Photography Assn., and Wimberley Professional Services. Melissa is represented by MyStock with images in *Guide to the National Museum of Natural History* among others. She is the

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Len Barnard

This month I want to enlighten you on some of the SPC Board actions of which you may not be aware. Around the first of February, I appointed a Long Range Planning Committee made up of five or six of our members. This committee consisted of some members who had been members for only a few months and some who had been members for several years. Only general ideas or suggestions were to be studied and evaluated, but basically the door was open for any subject to be reviewed, critiqued and recommendations made for improvement. I did not want the committee to have their hands tied to any preconceived ideas.

The resulting list of suggestions was longer than I expected. After receiving the LRP Committee report, I grouped and consolidated similar items together to make it more manageable. This resulted in eight different areas for the SPC Board's study and response. For the first item, and what I considered the most important, I have a committee working on that suggestion and should have an answer in the next couple of months.

Therefore, it is my intent this month to share with you action taken on the second suggestion: *business portion of regular meeting is too long*. The points made were: 1) limit bus. mtg. to 15 minutes; 2) chairpersons to be given a limited amount of time to speak; 3) have new members and guests introduced and say a few words; 4) reinstate "tech moments" from prior years for 8 to 10 minutes each meeting and 5) include youth programs in our monthly meetings. All are very good suggestions and recommendations.

Action is being taken immediately on items 1 through 3. If you were at our last regular meeting on May 10, you will recall that at the start of our business meeting I stressed that all presenters be aware of their time and keep it short and simple and use handouts where appropriate. In the future you will also hear me stressing that "you" read the newsletter each month. For item 4, *reinstate tech moments*, the Board did not feel that would or could be beneficial with such a time constraint. This, hopefully, will be answered with some changes currently being made to our web site. Stay tuned for future announcements.

The fifth item, *include a youth program*, we feel that would fit more with one of the special interest groups that are forming. If you are interested in being involved in this area, please contact me and we will discuss. My email is: [lbarnard@nc.rr.com](mailto:lbarnard@nc.rr.com), my phone is 673-2135. Let me hear from you!

forensic photographer in Raleigh, N.C. Many of our club members know Melissa. She gave a presentation on macro photography to our club earlier this year.

In July 2010, we will have an ONLINE competition where SPC members will be the judges. The subject is "Parks" with photographs of local, state, or national parks of any country. The images can be of any subject or activity found within a park. Like the June 14th competition, two (2) entries are allowed but must have been taken within three (3) years (during or after July 2007). Digital entries should be submitted to [competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org](mailto:competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org) or given to Competition Committee member **Gene Lentz** starting June 15, 2010, but no later than 11:59PM on Monday, July 5, 2010.

The entries should follow DIGITAL competition rules and guidelines listed in the Competition Manual. The entries will be posted on the club's website ([www.sandhillsphtoclub.org](http://www.sandhillsphtoclub.org)) where members can view them beginning Tuesday, July 13th. Members can send their votes for first, second and third places and two honorable mentions in Classes A and B to me at [duvallse@earthlink.net](mailto:duvallse@earthlink.net) from July 13, 2010 to 11:59PM, July 31, 2010. Winners will be announced and ribbons awarded at the club meeting on August 9, 2010. This ONLINE competition will count towards advancement and awards.

Also at the August 9th meeting, we will have a DIGITAL competition on the topic of "Stop Action." Photographs can be of any subject, but they must show that you've stopped the activity, action or motion. Emphasis should be on how well the action is stopped as well as the technical quality of the photograph. Up to two entries may be entered that have been taken on or after August 10, 2007. The entries should follow DIGITAL competition rules and guidelines listed in the Competition Manual.

#### **PROGRAMS: Jim Davis**

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

<http://wildnaturephoto.com/>

Our September program will be presented by Dr. Molly Gwinn from Pinehurst. Molly was the judge for our April club competition. She will present a program on the history of photography entitled "The First 100 Years of Photography." Molly will cover the period 1850 - 1950. This includes discussion of early pioneers in photography and how the use of photography has changed over this 100-year period, which includes the Civil War and World Wars I and II. This should provide an interesting insight into photography.

#### **WORKSHOPS: Bill Matthews**

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

#### **EXHIBITS: June White**

##### ***"Through the Lens"***

This is a reminder to members that we will have the opportunity to exhibit our work at the Campbell House in September of this year. As you are out photographing, keep in mind this opportunity to demonstrate the creativity within our club.

At the next two meetings I will be passing around a list of ways, you can help at the reception. Please do sign up, as your help will be most appreciated. Our opening reception is always well attended and well received by the community.

At the June and July meetings, I will be passing around a sheet for you to sign if you plan on exhibiting. If you do not plan to attend those meeting, you can let me know by emailing me at [juncwhite@embarqmail.com](mailto:juncwhite@embarqmail.com). Please include the number of photographs you will submit. This information is not binding but will give the Campbell House an idea of how many might be on display.

**Q & A with Dave Verchick** - a question and answer session for beginning and intermediate photographers is set for Sunday, **July 25**, 2:00 to 4:00 PM, at the Burlingame Room and Gardens, Sandhills Community College Horticultural Center. Did you ever wonder what "RTFM" means? Or what f-stop should I use? What's an f-stop, anyway? Well, this is your chance to ask all those burning digital photography questions that you have. Sure you can Ask Jeeves or Google, but that is not nearly as much fun or interactive as coming out to the SCC Horticultural Gardens with other SPC members. Dave is sure that if there is a mistake you can make while taking pictures, he has made it and has the picture to prove it, so don't make the same mistakes. Come and learn from his experiences and problem solving abilities. Dave will open with a very brief overview of some photography basics with photo examples and then jump right into your questions. This should be a lively, informative discussion. Then class will move out to the gardens for some hands-on shooting, so be sure to bring your camera equipment and **\*BRING YOUR MANUAL\***. You think you know your camera, until you read the manual! Dave will help you decipher it as well. If you have particular photography questions or problems and you would like to email them to Dave ([LeadPhoto@embarqmail.com](mailto:LeadPhoto@embarqmail.com)), he will try to include some example images or setup shots in his response. Even if you don't have any questions, come out and enjoy a Sunday afternoon shoot and you are sure to have a couple before you leave!

**Additional workshops this year:**

- **Artistic Composition** with **Mike Stratil**, Saturday, **Sept. 18**, 9:00AM – 12NOON, in the Burlingame Room, Sandhills Community College Horticultural Center.
- **A Brief History of the Camera, Basic Photography and Resizing & RAW Revisited** with **Bill Matthews**, Saturday, **Oct. 23**, 9:30 – 11:30AM in the Burlingame Room, Sandhills Community College Horticultural Center.
- **A Photoshop topic TBA** with **Bob Biamonte**, Saturday, **Nov. 13**, 10:00AM – 12NOON in the Sandhills Community College Computer Lab.

Suggestions for workshops are always appreciated. Please pass them on to **Bill Matthews**, 692-8254 or [wmatth@embarqmail.com](mailto:wmatth@embarqmail.com).

**MEMBERSHIP:** Alison Earl



As of the May 2010 meeting we are at **96** paid members, along with our five (5) honorary members, bringing us to **101!** By our count we had 49 people at our May presentation!

**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](mailto:theearls@nc.rr.com) or call at home (910) 215-0316. Thanks!

**LIBRARY:** Gisela Danielson

**The Library is underutilized!** Please check out our website <http://www.sandhillsphotoclub.org/>, go to Library and open the drawer. The index will give you a quick description of all our library books.

You may borrow books and/or DVDs/CDs. Place your order via email, [gdanielson@nc.rr.com](mailto:gdanielson@nc.rr.com) or call me, 673-0521. Your order will be ready for pick-up at the next SPC meeting and is due the following month.

**Wildlife Focus Group:** Tom Reedy

We are set to have our "Wildlife on Location" slideshows on Saturday, **June 26** from 9:00AM to 12NOON at the Horticultural Center at the SCC. It should be a great morning. We have the following slideshows.

- **Glenn Gilchrist** -- Arctic Polar Bears, Alaska Eagles
- **Chris Christiansen, Jill Margeson, Nancy Wehr** -- Ecuador (Hummingbirds), Galapagos, and more
- **Gary Magee** -- Florida Alligator Farm, Bird Rookery
- **Bill Newton** -- Dolphins in Calibogue Sound, SC

All members of the Sandhills Photography Club are welcome. You will see some interesting wildlife and some great photography.



SPC Members **Gisela Danielson** and **June White** look for some exciting shots during the Spring Field Trip in April at the State Nature Park in Myrtle Beach, SC.

#### WHO ARE THE MAC USERS IN SPC?

I know there are a number of club members who use a Mac. Anybody interested in forming a SPC Mac group to share ideas?

Please contact **Gisela Danielson** at: [gdanielson@nc.rr.com](mailto:gdanielson@nc.rr.com).

#### MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT: Dave Verchick

##### Monthly Financial Report Regular Account

March 31, 2010	Beginning balance	\$5907.22
April 30, 2010	Ending balance	\$5144.88

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:**  
**Thursday, June 17, 2:00 PM,**  
**Sandhills Community College**  
**Horticultural Gardens Visitor**  
**Center.**

#### PHOTO EQUIPMENT CLASSIFIED

If you wish to buy or sell photo equipment, send your ad to **Ann Stephens** at [astephens95@nc.rr.com](mailto:astephens95@nc.rr.com). Ads run for two issues unless you request otherwise.

#### 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