



IN FOCUS



Member

THE SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB P.O. Box 763, Southern Pines, NC 28388

Enriching the North Carolina Sandhills through Photography

VOL XXVI, NUMBER 5

May 2010

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, May 10, 7:00 PM

Christ Fellowship Church

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

Program: DVD slideshow by **Jim Smith** and
Gary Magee

COMPETITIONS: Scott Duvall

A black and white print competition was held on April 12, 2010. There were 60 entries from 33 club members. Dr. Molly Gwinn of Pinehurst was the judge.

In Class B, first place was awarded to **Vicki Craig** for "Jenna." **Carole Barnard** took second place with a print entitled "Details in Iron." Third place went to **Tom Reedy** for "Flight." **Vicki Craig** ("Love Valley"), **Wanda Kennedy** ("Rustic Barn"), and **David Powers** ("The Quiet of Christmas Night") were given honorable mentions.

The Class A competition was won by **Jim McGill** for "Steady Big Fellow." Second place went to **Donna Ford** for "The Battle of Bentonville." **Jim Davis** captured third place with "Silver Falls." Honorable mentions were awarded to **Mike Stratil** ("A Gentle Sunbath"), **Jim Smith** ("Morning after the Storm"), and **Len Barnard** ("Fiddler on the Porch").

On June 14, 2010, we will hold a DIGITAL competition 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. Entries must be submitted to competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org by 11:59PM on Sunday, June 6, 2010. No entries will be accepted after this deadline.

WEBSITE: Brady Smith

You can now see the April Black & White photo competition files on the website www.sandhillsphtoclub.org. Click on Competitions, then on April - Black & White (Print).

Congratulations to the winners and to all who entered images. They were all beautiful!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Len Barnard

Each month I am at a total loss for a subject to expand my great literary ability (no giggles please). This month I want to talk about several suggestions and recommendations that have been made to me regarding the current and future needs for our club. We currently have 100 members and I am sorry to say that I have not met some of you to become aware of your talents. Hopefully, with this request, that will change. Therefore, I must rely on you to assist me in telling me your talents, skills and areas that interest you so I can utilize these in fulfilling ideas, requests and recommendations.

I am very proud of our 18 Board Members! They are a very hard working group dedicated to the betterment of our club and expectations. However, these 18 Board Members cannot accomplish all the tasks that need to be done without your assistance and support. If we are to complete and respond to the suggestions and recommendations, we need your involvement. You ask what areas do we need help in? To start with, each SPC Board Member needs someone as a backup to assist and share in performing the normal duties of that position. Recently a new member of only a few months, **John German**, acknowledged his desire to help the club and now he heads up the Ad Hoc committee on "Moore for Our Future" that I referenced last month in my article.

What are your interests--day trips, field trips, a technical person, have knowledge of M/S Word, Excel, PowerPoint. Do you have a special skill and would you be willing to tutor or mentor another member of the SPC?

Our club is an active and continually growing. We stand out in our community. We need everyone to help. My email is: lbarnard@nc.rr.com, my phone is 673-2135, let me hear from you!

PROGRAMS: Jim Davis

The May 10th program will feature a DVD slide show titled “Florals, Nature and Wildlife” produced by **Jim Smith** and **Gary Magee**. The program was put together as a result of a request of the Foxfire Garden Club for the SPC to put on an entertaining slide program for their January 2010 meeting. Jim and Gary used the software **ProShow Producer** by **Photodex** to produce a just under 20-minute show utilizing 248 slides. The slide images were provided by 26 SPC members. The slide show incorporates a musical soundtrack, several slide transitional effects and individual image motion effects. At the conclusion of the showing, a short presentation on the mechanics of producing shows using the software will be given.

The evening’s program will conclude with a slide show presented by Frank Pierce of pictures taken by Frank a year ago on his trip to Northern Ireland to visit Southern Pines’ sister community. Many of you know Frank from having prints made or taking art classes from him at A Southern Studio in Southern Pines.

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/>

WORKSHOPS: Bill Matthews

Lightroom 3 with **Glenn Gilchrist** is set for Saturday, **May 15**, 9:00AM, in the Burlingame Room at the Sandhills Community College Horticultural Center. Lightroom 3 Beta 2 was released on March 23 and is available for free on the Adobe website. Lightroom is for anyone who wants to organize, “develop”, print or display digital images, and is ideally suited for much of what Photoshop and Elements were used for in the past. In fact, unless you use Layers, Masks and Filters, you may never use Photoshop again. And if you do, the two systems work hand in hand.

Since much of the first session (last year, May 30) was devoted to the organizational and key wording aspects of Lightroom, in this session Glenn will focus mostly on processing and presentation (Develop/Print/Web Gallery). Specifically we will cover:

- Exposure, Recovery, Fill Light, Histogram
- Clarity, Vibrance, Saturation
- Brightness, Contrast, Tone Curves
- Hue, Saturation, Luminance
- Split Toning
- Sharpening and Noise Reduction
- Effects – Sharpening, Noise Reduction, Vignetting, Presets
- Cropping, Red Eye Removal, Spot Removal
- Graduated Filter and Adjustment Brush
- Import, Export

This sounds like a lot, but with Lightroom it is very easy. Bring your laptop loaded with Beta 2 and a few images so you can work along.

A special feature during the last half hour will be a live studio session with the camera “tethered” directly to Lightroom via a USB cable. We will use remote camera activation to take some macro shots and watch as they appear directly in Lightroom for instant, detailed evaluation. No more discovering poor exposure or depth of field settings after it is too late. Glenn has sent more information and contacted all members for signup by email. If there is sufficient interest, Glenn has offered to form a “working group” to continue working with Lightroom in more detail in the weeks that follow this workshop.

SCAVENGER HUNT: Jill Margeson

Have you gone hunting yet?

The scavenger hunt is in full swing. Get yourself out to the gardens during daylight hours from now until the last moment, May 27. Full details are posted on the website. Look under “Field Trips” and click on the links “Subjects” and “Directions.”

If you missed the handout at the last meeting, there are some left and they will be at the May 10th photo club meeting. The handout includes a page on how to critique a picture and map of the gardens as well as the website “Subject” and “Directions“.

A quick summary of this activity:

Pick four best pictures from the six subjects at SCC gardens. Subjects are **self-portrait, built object, pathway or stream, flower, perfectly lighted object or scene, abstract**. Optional bonus subjects are to do a sunburst or do one photo that combines all six topics--no photo shop on that last one. Resize to minimum of 768 pixels on shortest side, and email to jillmargeson6@gmail.com by May 27. **Workshop is June 5**, SCC at 9:00. Questions? Call Jill Margeson at 673-1497.

Flower Photography at the Sandhills Community College Horticultural Gardens 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, welcome beginning photographers and be open to the public. 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).

Additional workshops currently being planned for this year include:

- **Q&A** with **Dave Verchick**, a question and answer session for beginning and intermediate photographers, Sunday, **July 25**, 2:00 – 4:00PM in the Burlingame Room and Gardens, Sandhills Community College Horticultural Center.
- **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.

MEMBERSHIP: Alison Earl



As of the April 2010 meeting we are at 95 paid members, along with our five honorary members, bringing us to **100!** By our count we had 52 people at our March presentation!

NEW MEMBERS:

Our new member at the April meeting was: **Christine Pritchard**. Christine considers herself an amateur and has a Nikon D90. Her favorite subjects are travel photography and people. She wants to learn more about close-up and nature, along with lighting and exposure. She wants to expand her photography knowledge and is anxious to participate in workshops, etc. She is looking for a resource to learn more about post-production of her photos, having no experience in that yet, but knowing it is the next logical step. She is pleased to see there are so many people that seem to be PhotoShop and Lightroom experts! They have been coming to this area for 10 years, but just recently moved here from Petaluma, CA (40 miles north of San Francisco). They are still in a transitioning mode, but hope to be here permanently by late summer. She is really looking forward to meeting club members and gaining from their expertise.

March New Member, **Lisa Messina**, considers herself a beginner and uses a digital Samsung TL100 camera. She enjoys taking pictures of landscapes and people and hopes to gain more practice with her camera and information to help her take better pictures. Please join me in welcoming **Lisa and Christine!**

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

FOUR books on PHOTOSHOP! Our SPC Photoshop guru **Bob Biamonte** donated four books on how to use Photoshop. Please check out our website <http://www.sandhillsphtoclub.org/>, go to Library and open the drawer. The index will give you a quick description of all our library books including the new Photoshop additions.

You may borrow books and/or DVDs/CDs. 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 and is due the following month.

EXHIBITS: June White**“Through the Lens”**

Every other year the Sandhills Photography Club is asked to display their works at the Campbell House. The photographs can be pure photographs with little or no enhancements or they can be manipulated, as you desire. This is an *excellent* way for the club to display the variety of work being done by its members.

This year the exhibit will be held **Sept. 3 - 26**. The opening reception will be on Sept. 3 from 6:00-8:00PM. The reception is always well attended by community and friends.

Each member is encouraged to submit one to three photographs that have not been on display in previous shows in this area.

Additional information will be in following newsletters along with entry forms that must accompany each photograph entered.

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	Ann Stokes	235-0950
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	Donna Ford	295-5301
Field Trips	Kathy Green (Spring)	525-0190
	Dave Powers (Fall)	692-2539
Day Trips	Mike Strail	949-6518
Scavenger Hunt	Jill Margeson	673-1497

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

Feb. 28, 2010	Beginning balance	\$5931.30
March 31, 2010	Ending balance	\$5907.22

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Thursday, May 13, 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. Ads run for two issues unless you request otherwise.

Bluebird suffers temporary setback

Happy, our traveling bluebird, was enjoying a tour of Atalaya at Huntington Beach with the field trip club members when disaster struck.

“It happened so fast,” stated Happy. “I was having trouble standing up straight to pose for a picture, when I heard a crack and my foot fell off. It wasn’t due to too much wine the night before, but could have had something to do with Jill trying to move my legs. Nothing a little solder can’t fix, I am told.”

Happy is resting comfortably as he waits his turn for treatment. He will be ready to hop back on his schedule to Tokyo and France.

His past escapades are posted on the website, by the way. You will not see them on the left side of homepage. Look up to the top and notice in the right corner a circle with Happy in the middle. Click there:

<http://www.sandhillsphtoclub.org/happy/happytravels.html>