



IN FOCUS



THE SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

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

Enriching Our World Through Photography

VOL XXVIII, NUMBER 1

www.sandhillsphtoclub.org

February 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

February 13th, 2012; 7pm

Competition: Still Life

Images due by 6:00 PM Sunday, February 5, 2012

BOARD MEETING

Thursday, February 16th; 2pm

PROGRAMS

- March 12th – Johnny Horne – Night & Low Light Photography
- May 14th – Edward Smith – Nature Photography
- July 9th – Eric Ton – Fractal Art

COMPETITIONS

- February - Still Life/Digital/3 year
- April - Night/Digital/3 year
- June - Nature/Digital/3 year
- August - Abstract/Digital/3year
- September - Reflections/Online/3year
- October – Open/Print/No time limit

SPRING FIELD TRIP

April 15-18, 2012 – Savannah, GA

WORKSHOPS

An Introduction to Lightroom with Hunter Rudd
Saturday, March 3, 9:00 to 11:00 am

PRESIDENT'S NOTES, Scott Duvall:



Thanks go to Gary Magee for all he did in organizing and managing the Club's recent *Note Card* sale. Also, thanks to all of our members who sold cards either individually or by participating in booths where the cards were for sale at community events during the past fall. This most recent *Note Card* sale was a big success and raised a nice amount of money for our Photography Club. Thanks for making an investment in our future.

Fund raisers like this allow us to accumulate monetary reserves for purchasing new equipment and technology needed for Club activities. Over the past two years, we acquired a new projector and a laptop computer for use in competitions, presentations, and workshops. One objective was to improve the quality of projected images on the screen. While better, they are still not as good as how the images appear on a computer screen. Bill Matthews estimates that in 3 to 4 years, projectors will have improved to the point where the Club will need a replacement if we are to have the best possible image projection.

Bill also believes that while our laptop computer will be good for several more years, we will probably have to invest in upgraded software. Another requirement will be for an improved projector color calibration sensor and associated software. We also will need an upgraded sound system with wireless microphones that interface with the computer to provide audio for presentations.

The Club's PRINT competitions were made more "audience friendly" a while ago thanks to the assistance of Jim Davis and his camcorder. With it, the prints being judged were projected onto the screen so that the entire audience could see what before was visible only to the judge and a few people sitting in his or her vicinity. If the Club continues to have PRINT competitions, at some point it will be necessary to obtain an improved closed circuit video system for this purpose. Looking farther ahead, Bill Matthews wonders if we will get into video competitions since many digital cameras now have impressive video capabilities. Again, a potential future requirement for new equipment and technology.

Gary Magee's 2011 *Note Card* project gave us a good start on building up reserves to meet these future needs. From time to time, the Club will continue to have fund raising activities to invest in our future. If you have suggestions, please let me know.

TREASURER'S REPORT; Dave Powers

• Beginning Balance As Of 11/30/11	\$7646.71
• INCOME	\$915.10
• EXPENSES	\$2707.44
• Ending Balance As Of 12/31/2011:	\$5854.37

WORKSHOPS: *Bill Matthews*

We had forty members on January 21 for our first 2012 workshop, *From Camera to Competition*. In response to the questionnaire sent out before this workshop, the four most requested topics for future workshop were *Lightroom*, *Color Management*, *Digital Workflow*, and *Processing RAW Files*. So in response to your request -

Next Workshop:

An Introduction to Lightroom with
Hunter Rudd

Saturday, March 3, 9:00 to 11:00 am

Burlingame Room, Ball Visitors Center, Horticultural Center, Sandhills Community College

In this introduction to Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 3 we will demonstrate the Import and Export Process with a focus on emailing images and preparing them for SPC competition submission. In addition we will explore the Library, Develop, and Print Modules to demonstrate how Lightroom can fit into your workflow from capture to the creation beautiful prints.

Later in the Year

With anticipated delivery of a Lytro Light Field camera in late February or early March I hope to have a month or two to test and experiment and be able to schedule a workshop in June. Rather than recording an *image* as conventional cameras do, the light field camera saves a record of the *light field* at the camera aperture. Then later, at the convenience of the photographer, processing of this data enables creation of *one or more images* focused on any desired object within the field of view. Impressive in theory, we look forward to finding out how well this works in practice.

We will try to include coverage of the other requested topics - *Color Management*, *Digital Workflow* and *Processing RAW Files* - in one or two workshops. In addition this year I hope to run tests with a number of members and present the results in a workshop this fall: ***From Your Monitor to Club Projector - An Experiment in Color Calibration***.

Also, Tom Reedy and the Wildlife Focus Group have great ideas for one or two Wildlife Workshops.

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

PROGRAMS, *John German*



Johnny Horne is the photo editor for the Fayetteville Observer, where he has worked since 1972. Johnny has been an amateur astronomer since age 10 and is a contributing editor for Sky and Telescope magazine. He has led astronomical expeditions for the

magazine to Mexico, Africa, the Caribbean and Iceland. In 2004, the International Astronomical Union recognized his work by naming asteroid (11132) Horne in his honor.

For his work as the photo editor of the Fayetteville Observer and author of the monthly column Backyard Universe, for amateur astronomers, Horne has won numerous awards and is recognized as one of the top "astro-photographers" in the country.

Horne's "Astronomical Images" convey the mystery and majesty of the night sky and are collected by art lovers as well as by amateur astronomers.

Recently, Horne has been achieving spectacular photographs of local scenes and landmarks using unusual angles and lighting. He is also the artist behind the "Market House Sunrise" photographs that have appeared everywhere from walls to postcards in Fayetteville.

See some of his work at

<http://citycentergallery.com/horne.htm>.

SPC HISTORIAN, *Linda Piechota*

Linda Piechota has been given the responsibility of gathering material for a revival of the club archives. If you are in possession of copies of news articles, photos of officers or members from the past, lists of club equipment or anything else from past years that you feel could go into the archives, please contact Linda at lp7611@embarqmail.com.

She is also trying to locate the box containing the original archives that haven't been updated in several years. If you have any idea about where they might be found, please pass this information along to Linda, also.

2012 SPC Board Members

President	Scott Duvall
Vice President	John German
Secretary	Tom Reedy
Treasurer	Dave Powers
Past President	Jim Davis
Programs	John German
Competition	Bill Newton
Exhibitions.....	Tom Reedy
Hospitality	Bill Sheppard
Publicity.....	Susan Capstick
Workshops	Bill Matthews
Newsletter	Alison Earl
PSA Rep	Susan Capstick
Membership.....	Gisela Danielson
New Member Development	Debbie Regula
Website	Brady Smith
Club Photographer	Al Reeder
Spring Field Trip	Jill Margeson, Linda Piechota
Fall Field Trip	OPEN
Day Trips	OPEN
Wildlife Focus Group.....	Tom Reedy
Historian.....	Linda Piechota

NEW

NEW

Hospitality - Bill Sheppard

February	John German
March	Paula Taggart
April	Scott and Ethel Duvall
May	OPEN
June	OPEN
July	Janice Huff, Diane McCall, Susan Angelier
August	OPEN
September	OPEN
October	Carol Smetana, Joan Herrmann, Sandy Bachofner
November	POT LUCK
December	CHRISTMAS DINNER – NO MEETING

Please see Bill (Sheppard) at the next meeting to sign up for a month OR contact him at beeboy@pinehurst.net.

Your help is needed in keeping our ‘social time’ going. It’s a great time to talk to the other members, share stories, get hints and discuss what went on that night! Bill and Sandy do a great job setting it up each month (they provide the paper products, ice, etc.), just light snacks are requested and help in cleaning up afterward.

Grab a month with a friend!!!!

“One of the glories of a great still life is that it is as great in the parts as it is in the whole.”

From *The Story of Painting* by Sister Wendy Beckett; submitted by Jill Margeson.

COMPETITION COMMITTEE, Bill Newton

Gwen Dumas is a local artist who will be the judge for the February 13th competition on still life photography. The competition is open club members in A and B classes with a three year time limit from capture of the images. Two entries are allowed.

The still life topic is described as follows: Photographs of arrangements of objects, natural (flowers, food, rocks, leaves, etc.) or manufactured (books, bottles, crockery, etc.) put together or captured “as found” to create a pleasing image. The two classes will be judged separately.

Since this is a DIGITAL competition entries should be submitted electronically by 6:00PM Sunday, February 5th to competitions@sandhillsphtoclub.org. If media other than email is used contact committee chairman Bill Newton at 910 534-1376 or bnewton40@gmail.com for details.

All entries must follow the guidelines for digital competitions listed in the competition manual on The Club’s website www.sandhillsphtoclub.org.

Please follow the rules for “Identification of Images” including the digital image file name and the “Type and Size of the image file”.

Membership Dues for 2012

The membership committee would like to remind everyone that your **renewal dues for 2012 are due by January 15th, 2012**. The only members exempt are those who joined the months of October, November or December. We will be accepting dues at the January meeting or you may mail them to Dave Powers, Treasurer, at the address below.

Thank you and Happy Holidays to you all!

Couple: \$60
Single: \$45
Student: \$20

Please make your checks payable to Sandhills Photography Club and mark them **membership dues 2012**.

Mail them to: SPC Treasurer, PO Box 763, Southern Pines, N.C. 28388.

Membership News: *Donna Ford*

Our club starts 2012 off with 7 new members. Our membership now stands at 128 paid and 5 honorary members. We are looking forward to a year of continuing growth.

Please join me in welcoming our newest members:

Tommy McDonell: Tommy is a local artist who describes her level of photography skills as medium. Tommy's favorite subjects to photograph are birds, and flowers as well as her art and items with unusual composition. She moved here four years ago from Manhattan. Tommy is looking forward to gaining knowledge on presentation and printing of her work as well as meeting local photographers.

Tommy doesn't drive and would be interested in any member living near Lake Forest Drive SE in Pinehurst who might be willing to give her a ride. She is happy to pay for your assistance.

Jo Ann Sluder: Jo Ann describes herself as a novice photographer. Her favorite subject to photograph is nature, and she shoots a Nikon Pic 500. Jo Ann would like to improve her photography skills so that she can "capture the moment" with her images. Jo Ann loves nature, photography and art. She feels that looking at the world through the lens of a camera gives you a beautiful perspective to appreciate the small things around us.

Also joining this month are:

**Robert Adams,
Bob Gault and his wife Barbara,
Bobbie Benade,
Anne Stagg (Anne is the wife of Bill Stagg)
Bill joined our club this past August.**

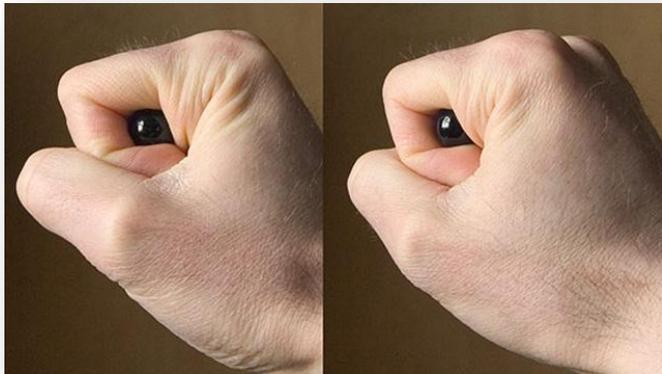


Bobbie Benade



Barbara and Bob Gault

How to Find the Perfect Portrait Lighting Using a Marble



This is a really great portrait photography trick that requires no special equipment: use a black marble to see how the light hits on the eyes of the person you want to photograph:

Just hold a fist in front of you (like holding a telescope), tuck the marble just under your forefinger, and there you have it - the same lighting an eye would get.

And since you know you want the catchlights to be up at 1 to 2 o'clock, or up high at 12 o'clock, simply turn about until you see the catchlights you want.

The neat thing is that the curves and wrinkles of your hand show you the amount of contrast and backlight. Genius and cheap. [[Photo.net](#) via [Petapixel](#)]

http://gizmodo.com/5872390/how-to-find-the-perfect-portrait-lighting-using-a-marble?utm_medium=referral&utm_source=pulsenews

(Submitted by Gisela Danielson, who got it from her daughter, who got it from a friend..... ☺)

NEW MEMBER DEVELOPMENT, *Debra Regula*

With the help of our excellent membership committee I will be welcoming new members and helping them incorporate into our club.

In the near future new members will be given my contact information and a sheet with basic information about how to access our site and a quick overview on some of the more important aspects of our activities. This will be in addition to the current email sent by the membership committee.

I am asking for volunteers to provide their contact information so our newest members will have the opportunity to have one on one conversations regarding their questions or problems they might encounter. Please include your name, email address, phone number, whether you use a PC or Mac, what photo editing program you use and your area of expertise. I know that is a lot of information but it will help me match up new member to member. I would really appreciate as many members as possible to become part of this process. This information will be included in the handout sheet also.

I will also be collecting information from our new members on what their personal interests are and what skills they possess that might benefit the club. This could be photographic experience, organizing expertise, computer knowledge and other subjects that we might need currently or in the future. The membership committee and I will share any information received and will pass this along to the Board for their consideration.

I hope that this new committee will make our new members feel welcome and shorten the time it will take for them to feel comfortable as a member of The Sandhills Photography Club. Some ideas that I am considering are a monthly new member gathering, possibly an hour before each meeting and special stickers on new member's name tags so we all will know who the newest members are at the meetings. The new members can remove the stickers when they feel they are no longer needed. I hope we will make an effort to include them and make them feel welcome.

I would also love to receive any suggestions from current and new members about this committee.

Contact me at rregula@nc.rr.com, please put a subject line in your email, as I will not open an email without one.

The creation of this committee was very well received when it was announced at the January meeting. I am looking forward to meeting all the new people who have joined the club. ***Debra Regula***

Spring Field Trip, *Linda Piechota & Jill Margeson*

Spring Field Trip – April 15 – 18, 2012, Savannah, Ga.

25 rooms are available for April 15, 16, and 17 at Comfort Suites Historic District, 630 W. Bay Street. All rooms are non-smoking, 2 Queen Beds, with sofa/coffee table, desk, large flat-screen LCD TV, free unlimited wifi, microwave, coffeemaker and refrigerator with free breakfast each morning. Rate per night is \$124.17 including taxes. Cutoff date for reservations is **March 16, 2012**.

If you are a single, try to make arrangements to room with another single member before making your reservation.

Call the hotel on their direct line (912) 629-2001 for reservations. Do not call the toll-free national Comfort Suites number. Ask for a room in the Sandhills Photography Club block. Email Linda Piechota, lp7611@embarqmail.com after making reservation.

UPDATE ON BOATING EXCURSIONS with WILDERNESS SOUTHEAST – YOU CAN STILL SIGN UP DURING FEBRUARY

Canoe Excursion:

You can explore a still, blackwater creek with a canoe partner to photograph interesting trees, floating plants, reflections, water birds, warblers, and another site for alligators. We are over the minimum number of people with 7 signed up now. More can join the group. 3 hours at \$35 per person. Monday 8AM at launch site with Tuesday as a possible rain date.

-or-

Small Size Motor Boat Excursion:

You can choose the small size motor boat with a capacity of 15 (legal capacity is 20 but they are giving us more room). Explore salt water marshes, estuary, and a bit of wild, natural beach. Dolphin sightings likely, shorebirds and log-legged wading birds on oyster bars. The minimum number of people for a \$55 fee is 7. We have 7 signed up now. More can join this group up to 15. Monday 8AM; 3 hours with Tuesday as a possible rain date.

If you are interested in either of these boat trips, pay by check to Jill Margeson BY THE 12TH OF MARCH photo club meeting. Make the check out to **Wilderness Southeast** for either \$35 or \$55 per person. Questions? Jill 673-1497; or Wilderness at 912-236-8115 or email: naturesavannah@gmail.com.

If it rains and the rain date trip is not possible, the money will be refunded. If you must cancel, and the minimum number of people is then not possible, your money will be returned minus a \$10 charge to pay for the increased fee to those remaining in the group.

The larger motor boat trip previously available has been cancelled due to low sign up. Three people signed up and we needed 14 to 25 for the \$55 fee.

New Program

By Al Reeder

This coming club meeting Al Reeder will have his portable studio set up and will take photos of all the club members for our data roster. The board feels this is a great way to recognize all the members of our club. Photos will be taken one half hour before

the meeting and for one hour after the meeting during snack time. Al plans on using a dark blue background so it would be better to wear something light colored. There will be no charge for this service.

This is an example of what we hope to accomplish only with better images.

Matthews	Bill		910-692-8254	
Matthews	Ellen			
McCall	Diane		910-690-8241	910-690-8241

Any questions please call Al at 295-5311



A rose for you all!



Happy Valentines Day!

JANUARY 2012 MEETING **OUT AND ABOUT** IMAGES BY AL REEDER



President Scott Duvall makes a point!



Tom Reedy speaks on exhibits



Donna Ford (Membership Table)



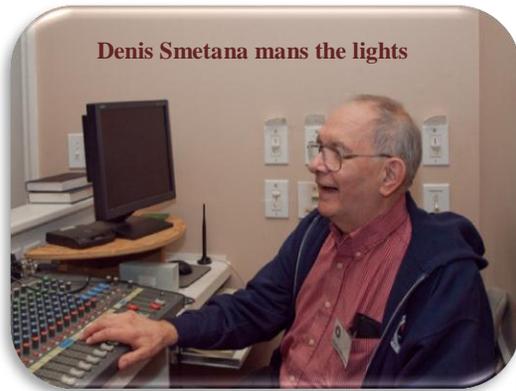
Spring Trip co-chairs
Jill Margeson and (hidden) Linda Piechota



Debbie Regula, New Member Development



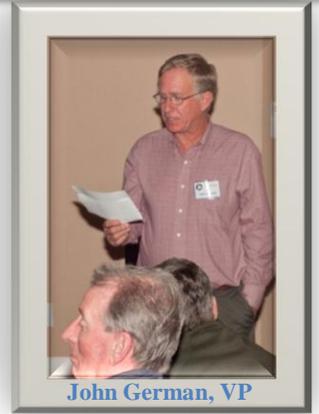
Membership/guest sign-in table



Denis Smetana mans the lights



January's presenter: Melissa Southern



John German, VP



Info on upcoming Spring trip

