

The Viewfinder

Sun City Photography Club Newsletter
April 2019



Marsha Larrabee, Photographer of the Month



President's Corner

Dr. Howie DiBlasi
2019 Photography Club President

Spring Has Sprung!

As spring begins, please check out our new Beginning Nikon Photography class, the new Photo Travel Photography SIG, a new Canon SIG, A new iPhone SIG, and 6 other SIG's. Sign up quickly because many of the classes fill in a few days from when they are announced and posted on the Photography Calendar.

We are working on offering another Android Photography Class in April. Check the calendar for April and May for the dates,

Make sure you attend the April general meeting on April 3 at 2:00 at the Cowan Center. We have a special guest speaker and a prize available for your participation in an activity.

The "What's Up Doc" segments will include; Best FREE Online Photography Courses You Can Take and a trip to Gubbio, Italy for the Gubbio Festa dei Ceri (Race of the Candles).

See you April 3.

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Photo Club Studio Availability

Activity Center, Game Rooms 1 & 2

Monday Noon - 4

Wednesday 8 am to noon

Fridays 9 - 5 pm

April at a Glance



Date	Event	Time
Mon, 1st	Mentor Discussion	Noon-2:00
Tues, 2nd	Cowan Creek Hang Date	10:00
Wed, 3rd	Travel SIG	9:00-11:00
Wed, 3rd	General Meeting	1:45 - 4:00
Fri, 5th	iPhone Photography SIG	9:00-12:00
Mon, 8th	Mentor Discussion	Noon-2:00
Mon, 8th	Photoshop SIG	2:15 - 4:15
Wed, 10th	PSA Digital Image SIG	10:00
Fri, 12th	Koffee Klatch	10:00
Mon, 15th	Android Smartphone Photography	9:00 - 11:45
Mon, 15th	Mentor Discussion	Noon
Wed 17th	Photoshop - Altered Reality	10:00
Wed, 17th	The Retreat Hang Date	10:00
Fri, 19th	Photoshop Training Group	1:00
Mon, 22nd	Mentor Discussion	Noon-2:00
Mon, 22nd	Photoshop Lab	2:15-4:15
Wed, 24th	Canon Digital Photography	9:00-11:30
Fri, 26th	Competition SIG	10:00-Noon
Fri, 26th	Nature SIG	1:00 - 4:00
Fri, 26th	Board Meeting	2:00
Fri, 26th	Fun Foto Social	4:00 - 6:00
Sat, 27th	Legacy Grille Hang Date	10:00
Mon, 29th	Mentor Discussion	Noon-2:00
Tues, 30th	Cowan Creek Hang Date	10:00

General Meeting

April 3, 2019
Cowan Creek Amenities Center

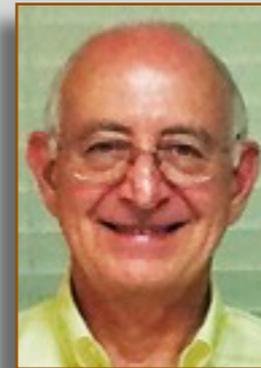
Social gathering at 1:45. Meeting begins at 2:15

Subject of the Month - Nature's Patterns

Send Photos to: SCphotoclub@outlook.com no later than March 31st.

Guest Speaker: Ted Keller

<http://photographybytedkeller.com/about-us.html>



Ted Keller has more than 30 years experience as a freelance nature photographer. His portfolio includes compelling images from: the US mainland, Alaska and Hawaii; Africa; Central America; South America; Australia; New Zealand; and Europe. For over ten years Ted applied his photographic expertise and prior corporate management experience to serve as a shareholder, business officer (corporation President

4 yrs), consultant, and teaching assistant for a major photography workshop corporation. In that capacity he was privileged to be taught by, and to photograph side-by-side with, many of the greatest nature photographers in the world. Today, Ted continues to sell and publish images, provides photographic consulting, and teaches photography classes. He especially enjoys working with beginners as a photography "Personal Trainer."



Photographer of the Month
April 2019
Marsha Larrabee



I've enjoyed taking pictures since I was a young child. Being part of a military family, we traveled a lot and also took long family vacations. My parents gave me my first camera when I was about 11 years old; an Instamatic. I've been fortunate to continue travel a lot in my life and enjoy trying to capture the essence of the new places I visit. I want my photos to tell a story about the place; the landscape, the wildlife and the people of the area. Since joining the Photography Club I've learned a tremendous amount about composition and post processing, hoping to translate what I've seen into what appears in the printed photo.

Thank you to all the mentors in the group, and a special thanks to Faith Burns for my portrait. Please see my gallery by [clicking here](#) (**Note** - you may be asked to log into the website first).

Each month a club member is featured to help all of us get to know each other just a little bit better. View Marsha Larrabee's three printed photos at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center in April. Sixteen of Marsha's digital images are posted in a gallery on the club's website, along with her biography.

A special thanks to Walt Grabowski for coordinating this exhibit.

Solo Showcase

Jaan Goad

Theme: *People, Places and Things*



A native Texan, Jaan bought his first camera, a Nikon Photomic FTN, halfway around the world in Tokyo while on R&R from Vietnam. While in the Army he worked a part-time job as photographer for a small New England weekly newspaper. He has even had a large front-page byline photo in the *Austin American-Statesman*. He now proudly uses a Nikon D810. He has won blue ribbons in Photography Club competitions and considers himself honored to have provided occasional judging for the club. Although he enjoys travel and landscape shooting, almost anything is fair game for him. This display represents a sampling of the variety of photographic interests that have come his way.

A site of mine containing other images is <https://www.imageweavers.net>



Special thanks to Holly Moore for coordinating this exhibit

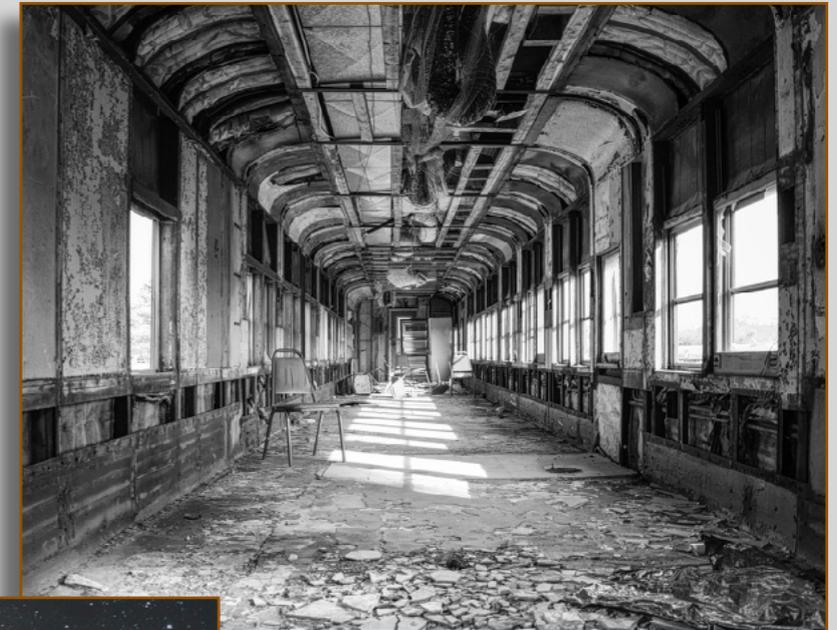
Member Awards and Recognition



PSA Inter-Club Print Competition



Photography Club member **Dee Sams** entered her first ever Photo Contest at the Taylor Art Guild's Spring Juried Show, "The Far Country." Not only was it her first show, but she won 2nd Place and a hefty cash prize with her very sharp and well composed photo from Arches National Park. The competition was large and tough, but she won big! Congratulations, Dee.



Congratulations to **Walt Grabowski** for 1st Place in the Large Monochrome category for "End of the Line."

viewbug



Burton Anes was in the top 50% for this photo, placing ahead of 3,690 submissions



Congratulations to **Allen Utzig** for 2nd place in the Creative Altered Reality" category for "Texas 56."

More Member Awards and Recognition



Burton Anes' photo 'House On Water challenge' placed 2nd in the - Minimum Wage- (non-human shot in Full Colours Only) challenge



Burton Anes won 7th place for his 'Houston Galleria Area' in the Your City - The Final One challenge



Burton Anes received 4th place in the '- Pierced/Inked- (Adult Portrait in Full Colours Only)' challenge



Mitch Michielutti received Equal 2nd place in the '-Pierced/Inked- (Adult Portrait in Full Colours Only)' challenge

Fred Adsit placed 35th for his photo, "Red Barn" in DP Review's 'Postcards challenge'.



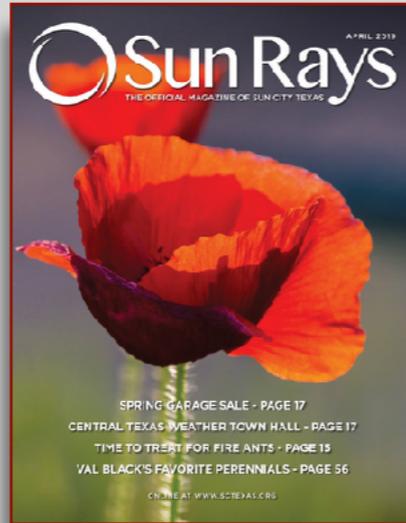
More Member Awards and Recognition



Photographs from Jim Newkirk, Glenn Rudd, Anne Marshall, Debbie Harp, Faith Burns, Sue Gavin are in the April issue of Sun Rays.



Congratulations to Dave Werner for the front cover of April's issue of Sun Rays.



Burton Anes had his photos featured for the Dulcimer's group in the March issue of Sun Rays



Faith Burns had an image accompanying the article, "Meet Dr. Mel Daniels, Composer".



Faith Burns had her photos featured for the Dulcimer Benefit Concert held this past February.

Sherry McRae had her photo of the Bat Boys accompanying the article, "They're a Hit!".



NOTE: March Sun Rays photos are mentioned here because they were not available for the March edition of the Viewfinder

On-Site Exhibits

The Retreat Amenity Center

This new venue exhibits 15 images each month. The hang date for April is at 10:00 am on April 17. Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Sherry McRae
topspin53@gmail.com



The Activity Center



The Activity Center exhibits 17 images each month. Hang date for this location is April 1st. Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Dean Ginther
dean.Ginther@gmail.com



Cowan Creek Amenity Center

This venue exhibits 15 images each month. The hang date for March is on the 5th at 10:00 at Cowan Creek. Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Sally Graham,
sgraham2385@yahoo.com

Legacy Hills Grille



This location exhibits five (5) themed photos in the foyer. The hang date for March is on the 30th at 10:00. Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Marcela Stegemueller
marcelastegemueller@gmail.com

Changing of the Guard ...

After three and a half years, the Exhibits Team at the Healing Arts Gallery in St David's Georgetown Hospital has "retired," and has been replaced by a new team. The Exhibit change on March 1st included the Central Texas Pastel Society with their "finest yet" exhibit. It will remain "up" until May 3rd, when the Sun City Photography Club will "go up." The new Team is Rob Neff, Curator and his team is Ann Neff, Peg Emley and John Emley, The retired team all received Certificates of Appreciation from Darrell Hudson, Director of Volunteer Activities. They are: Wes Odell, Curator and his team - Marge Odell, Holly Moore and Joe Moore.

We thank them all for their hard work and dedication for this wonderful venue.



Be Sure to Visit

St David's Georgetown Hospital Healing Arts Gallery Exhibit

May 3 – July 5, 2019

Registration is now Closed - We are Full!!

The Photography Club's exhibit for the St David's Georgetown Hospital Healing Arts Gallery will be hung on May 3rd and remain until July 5th. Marge Odell coordinated this exhibit.

April Classes



Dr. Howie DiBlasi
Class Instructor

Android Photography Smartphone Class

This is a class suitable for people who have used their smartphones and want to use various apps to take better photos with their phones. Knowledge of the basic and fundamental operation of the Android phone is required.

This class will show you how to use simple Photo apps that will make your life easier.

For more in-depth information, [click here](#) for the class webpage. **Note:** You will be prompted to log into the website.

Class Date: April 15, 2019

Class Time: 9:00 - 11:45

Registration is now open



Bob Beardon
Class Instructor

Introduction to Canon Digital Photography

The purpose of this class is to orient students to their Canon DSLR (EOS & EOS Rebel) and Canon Compact (Powershot S, SX & G) digital cameras. Class size will be limited to 15 students to help insure that enough one on one time with the instructor will be available to help each student learn how use their cameras. The focus of the class will be to show you the capabilities of your cameras and to show you how the instructor uses his Canon Cameras to photograph varied subjects but emphasizing Travel and Landscape photography.

Class time will be a mixture of instruction and video presentations and Q&A. This is a four month (4 class course) and you should not register to attend unless you can attend at least the first two classes on April 24th and May 22nd. This course may be offered again in the fall, so if you have conflicts in April and May, please plan to take a later offering of this class.

Class Dates: April 24, May 22, June 26, July 24

Class Times: 9:00 - 11:30 am

Registration is now open



May Classes



Dr. Howie DiBlasi
Class Instructor

Beginning Nikon Digital Photography Class

If you've always wanted to take better photos OR just get started with photography, you'll be pleased to know this is the course for YOU!

With this course, Beginning NIKON Digital Photography, you'll learn everything you need to know to confidently use your camera and take home photos you are proud to share. You'll become acquainted with the basic features of digital cameras and learn how each plays a role in creating great photographs.

THREE Nikon CLASS SESSION TOPICS:

- How your digital camera works
- Photographic Exposure Principals
- Camera Settings
- The Importance of Light
- Composition: The Art of Photography

Using non-technical language the course explains how to have fun with photography!

Class Dates: May 6, May 13, May 20

Class Times: 9:00 - 11:45 am

Registration is now open



Fieldtrips With Jim



Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 20, 2019 -- Brazos Bend State Park, Needville TX

Wading birds, alligators, marshes, ponds, and endless photo ops! Bring a long lens or a big zoom and you'll capture some impressive images. The park has miles of wide gravel pedestrian trails between the ponds, allowing you to set up your tripod and take your time. Herons, roseate spoonbills, white ibis, anhingas, egrets, etc. Did I mention gators? They're in most of the ponds. You'll love this place!

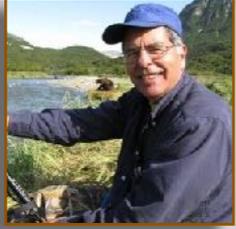
Address: **21901 FM 762, Needville, TX 77461**
<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/brazos-bend>

NOTE: Details regarding entry fees, directions, maps, lunches, etc. will be provided as each of these trips get closer. You can register for each of these trips beginning the 1st of the month in which each one occurs.



Contact: Jim Sandham,
jsandham77@gmail.com

Special Interest Groups



Nature SIG

Coordinator, Carlos Rio
scnaturephotosig@gmail.com
Nature SIG webpage

April's Theme:

Sunrise, Sunset, Fog, Lightning & Bad Weather

Meetings are generally scheduled on the 4th Fridays of the month from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Activity Center's Card Rooms 1 & 2, known to us as "The Studio". At the beginning of each meeting we hope to have a presentation/lecture related to a theme planned for the following months.

So bring your 3-4 photos on that month's theme, on a thumb-disk, at any pixel resolution (but, at least 1,200 pixels along the long edge of the picture so it projects well). After our discussions, we choose the 6 photos which the group considers the best and put them on the Photo Club's Newsletter and/or Nature Photography SIG website page. We hope to see you there!

March's Theme: Close ups and macros of small animals, plants and things in Nature



Cindy Wilkinson - Croc



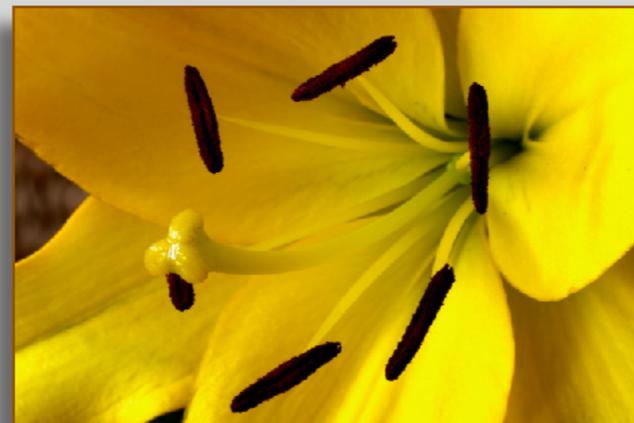
Rick Siersma - Hungry



Patty Michielutti



Dee Sams - Ladybug



Ursula Pinner - Yellow Flower



Roger Murphy - Guardian Spider

Special Interest Groups, continued



Competition SIG

Coordinator, Rick Siersma
richard.j.siersma@gmail.com

Competition SIG Webpage

Club Members are encouraged to attend the SIG's monthly meetings on 4th Friday from 10 am to noon in the Studio (Game rooms 1 & 2 in the Activities Center). Go ahead - take a chance - you will be welcomed and accepted at any level - join us in developing our photographic eye and skills.



Rick Siersma - Mariah



Jim Reichel - Cheekwood Estates Chandelier



Dee Sams - Horseshoe Bend

Special Interest Groups - continued...



iPhone Photography SIG

Coordinator, Bob Bearden
rebsctx@gmail.com

iPhone Photography SIG Webpage

This SIG's goal is to share the joy and simplicity of iPhone Photography, to improve our photo skills and enjoy sharing our photos taken with our iPhones.

Our meetings will include:

1. Photos: A review of Subject of the Month photos submitted by the membership. Education: We will review a key feature/capability of your iPhone camera each month.
2. Video of the month: We will watch informative presentations by noted iPhone photo educators to help you improve your skills.
3. Photo Editing: We will review how to use the Apple Photos app that came with your iPhone to improve the look of your images.
4. Alternative Camera or Editing apps: We will spot light popular camera and editing apps that you can use on your iPhone.

Meetings are scheduled on the 1st Friday of the month from 9am to noon in the Activity Center's Game Rooms 1 & 2.



Travel Photography SIG

Coordinator, Dr. Howie DiBlasi
howie@frontier.net

Travel Photography SIG Webpage

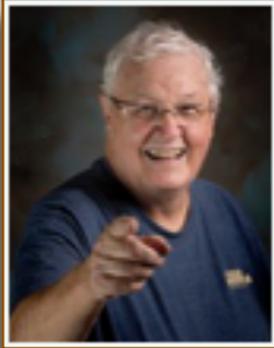
If you are passionate about photography, you love to travel, own a camera and wish to capture stunning pictures, this SIG is for you.

This is a place for people who would like to explore new places and destinations, and take great photos. Meet fellow travel enthusiasts and share your photos from around the world. Discover first-hand recommendations on new destinations and ways to travel. Learn how to take amazing photographs on your next trip. Learn about Scene modes and the other dials and menus on your camera.

Find fun, laughs - and new ways to travel to different venues. Whether you are completely new or experienced, we would love to have you. This is a chance for you to meet fellow likeminded people and find travel friends.

Meetings are scheduled on the first Wednesday of the month, 9-11 in Activity Center's Game Rooms 1 & 2

Special Interest Groups, continued



PSA Digital SIG

Coordinator, Mitch Michielutti
ibmitch@me.com

PSA Digital SIG Webpage



Our PSA Digital Image SIG meets 8 times a year to compete in PSA inter-club competition. We choose the top 6 photos submitted at our meeting in Nature and Projected Image Divisions (PID). These are then sent to PSA for judging. Great way to evaluate our photo skills compared to other photography clubs. Join us for a journey to another level of learning and enhance your skills and artistry.

Check out the 2018-2019 photos on the PSA Digital's webpage.

PSA Digital Image SIG Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10am.



PSA Print SIG

Coordinators, Glenn Rudd and Cheryl Janssen
grudd2@yahoo.com or cherylj2013@att.net

PSA Print SIG Webpage



This is both a club and individual competition. For each submittal event, there are awards in each category for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Honorable Mentions. End of Year certificates and ribbons are also given. This is an International competition with 14 clubs currently participating. Please check the club calendar. SIG meeting attendees are sent email confirmations of these dates.

PSA Print meets the third Wednesday at 8:30 am.



Special Interest Groups, continued



Photoshop SIG

Coordinator, Allen Utzig
autzig@outlook.com

[Photoshop CS-CC SIG Webpage](#)

The Photoshop SIG is made up of four different groups:

In the Photoshop Training Group, the focus is on Using Photoshop

The second group is a Photoshop lab. Drop in and come with their laptop and an image or images and I (and possibly others) will help you practice

The third group is a true Photoshop SIG where we will talk about how we might use Photoshop to improve our photos

The fourth group relates to “altered reality”, that is, compositing two or more images in Photoshop to create a new image.

Each Group meets once a month. ***Please check the Photography Club calendar for the specific dates, times and locations of the meetings.*** Most of the meetings have been scheduled in our PC Studio (Game Rooms 1 & 2)

Discussion Groups



Coffee Klatch

The coffee pot is on!! Join Charlie Byers for coffee and conversation on a wide variety of subjects. If you like, bring photos or videos on a thumb drive to share with the group. Friday, April 12th, 10am - Activities Center GR 1



Discussion Groups, continued



Mentor Discussion Group

Every Monday, Noon - 2:00 pm
Game Rooms 1 & 2, Activity Center

The "Mentor Discussion Group" is a hands-on, topic driven, gathering of members who like to discuss specific photographic topics. It is a friendly, casual, group with multi levels of experience from novice to advanced.

The group is open to all Photo Club members AND any member of the Sun City Community who is thinking of joining...you're welcome to attend two meetings to see if it's helpful before joining the Photo Club.

For more in-depth information and schedule of topics, [click here](#)

Contact: Jim Newkirk - newkirk12@gmail.com

Fun Foto Social

April's Fun Foto Social is on April 26th from 4:00 - 6:00 in Meeting Rooms 1 & 2, Activities Center.

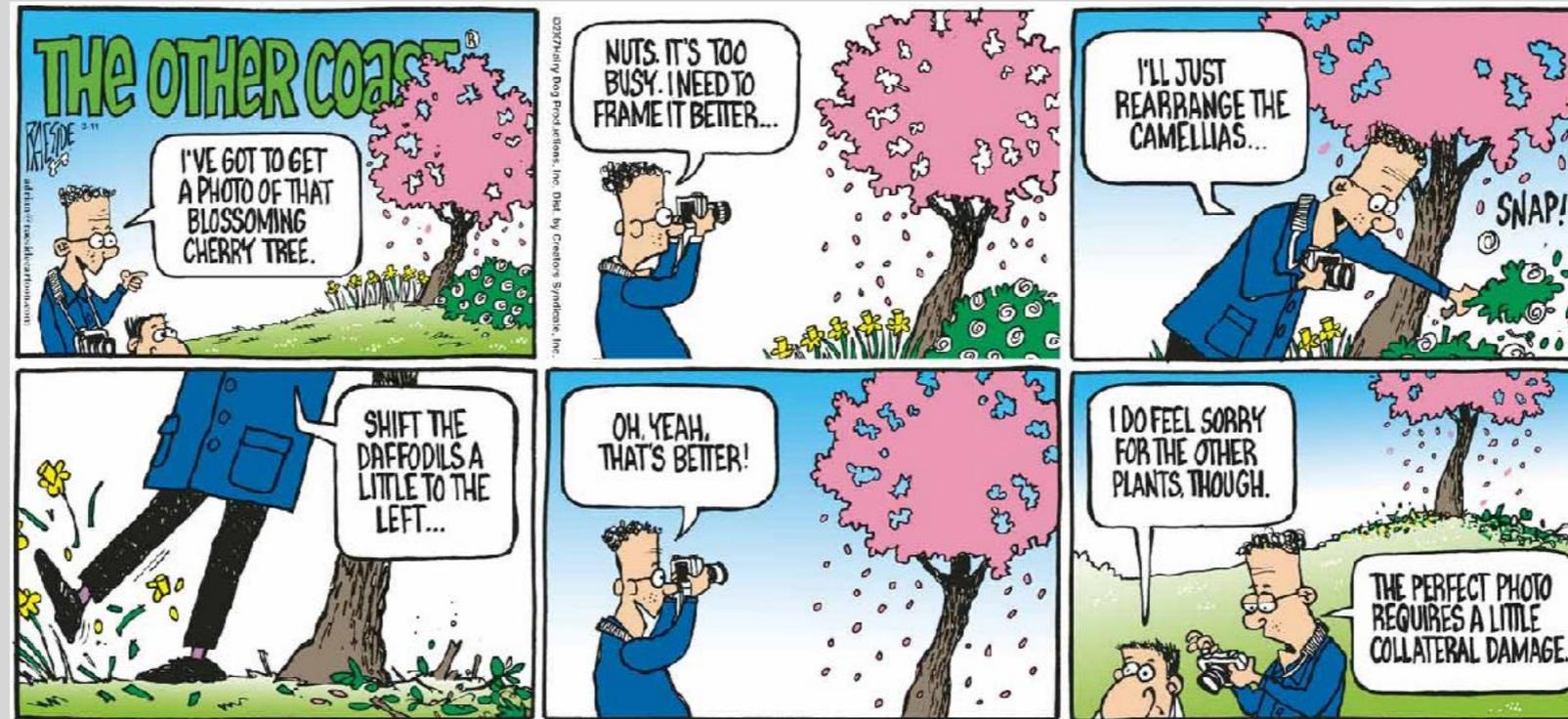
Please bring enough goodies, snacks, finger food, etc. to share with the rest of the group. As always, remember to bring your own choice of beverage, unless you just like the Activities Center water better.

Please resize your images down to 1200 pixels on the long side (which is more pixels than we need anyway). That way you can attach all of your files to a single e-mail message.

2. Attach your photos to an **E-MAIL MESSAGE** sent directly to my address: jsandham77@gmail.com That will enable me to load them onto my laptop PC well before the meeting.
3. DO NOT bring your photos on a FLASH DRIVE. That method is messy and delays the meeting for me and you.
4. Send me no more than ten (10) images each month. Be prepared to "talk to" each of the photos so we can appreciate them better.
5. Send them to me by the end of the Monday before that month's Fun Foto Social.

Contact: Jim Sandham, jsandham77@gmail.com

Comic Relief



A huge **THANK YOU** to Jaan Goad who has agreed to be the back-up webmaster in case the current webmaster gets hit by a bus, train, golf cart, deer, etc.

Submission Guidelines:

Articles must be received **by the 24th** of the month to be included in the next month's newsletter

Lengthy articles may be edited to fit space. Links will be used for long articles

Articles must be submitted digitally using e-mail

Submissions must be kept to **4** photos per SIG or event. A link to member photo galleries or albums may be used.

Photographs must be legally reproducible or licensed by the member submitting the photo. Include the Photographer's Name, Photo Title, Contest/Show Entered, Placement Received

Newsletter Editor contact: Cathy O'Connor, cathy0114@gmail.com