

# *The Viewfinder*

*Sun City Photography Club Newsletter*  
*October 2019*



**Robert Kookan, Photographer of the Month**

Patiently Waiting





## *President's Corner*

*Dr. Howie DiBlasi*  
*2019 Photography Club President*

Want to improve your photography skill?  
Join a SIG or Take a class.

A Special Interest Group (aka SIG) is a group of people with a common interest in a segment of photography, photo editing or printing. A SIG can be created if members are interested in forming, organizing and running it. SIGs will come and go as interests change. SIG meetings will normally be held in the Activities Center, Game Rooms 1 and 2. The members of a SIG will decide when they will meet and how frequently. Check the Club Calendar for dates, times and details. Click on the SIG below for more information.

Ways to be involved the your Photography Club:

Competition SIG  
Nature Photography SIG  
Photoshop CS CC SIG  
PSA Print SIG  
PSA Digital SIG  
iPhone Photography SIG  
Travel / Photography SIG

There are also a wide variety of workshops and classes. Check them out on the calendar and watch for e-mails.

Plus, don't forget our monthly field trips.

## October General Meeting

**October 2, 2019 - Cowan Creek Amenity Center,  
Social 1:45 PM Meeting 2:15 PM**

### Agenda

Announcements  
Annual Exhibit and Contest  
Field Trip Report  
Financial Report  
Election of Officers

Program --  
Photographing the Night Sky  
Allen Utzig

### Subject of the Month

#### **My Favorite Photo Locations**

**Send one or two images that represent this month's theme to [scphotoclub@outlook.com](mailto:scphotoclub@outlook.com) no later than Sunday, September 29.**

**The club will provide coffee, water and cookies.**



**October General Meeting**  
**Membership will vote for the 2020 Board**  
**You must be present to vote.**  
*Wednesday October 2, 2019. 2pm*



Thank you to these members who have accepted the invitation to be nominated for the 2020 Board. Board positions are for one year with a maximum term of service of two years. View the candidates and the board positions below.



Bob Maher

President - Provides leadership and direction to the Club, its membership and the Board. The President shall preside at all meetings of the club and the Board. The President shall be the Club's Representative to the CA, other clubs and organizations, both internal and external to Sun City Texas.



Rita Johnston

VP of Programs and Education - Responsible for guiding and coordinating workshops, general meeting programs and other club educational activities. Coordinates the activities of Workshops, Special Interest Group leaders and Director of Field Trips.



Walt Grabowski

VP of Administration - Serves as presiding officer in the absence of the President. Coordinates the activities of the Studio Director, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster(s) and Director of Exhibits.



Marsha Larrabee

Secretary - Prepares, maintains and posts minutes of Board meetings and general member meetings where votes are taken. Prepares and maintains official club documents.



Jim Wool

Treasurer - Responsible for collecting and disbursing Club funds and for the recording of all transactions. Monitors the Club's CA account and makes regular monthly financial reports to the Board and membership. Coordinates the activities of the Welcome Committee and maintains the Clubs membership list.



*Photographer of the Month*  
*October 2019*  
*Robert Kooken*



I'm a retired neuropsychologist and have lived here in Sun City with my wife for the past three years. My dad was an amateur photographer, and he taught me how to develop film and print black and white photos when I was 8 years old. He also taught me to love the outdoors. I learned the basics of composition from looking at the photo books and magazines we had lying around the house, and by taking pictures.

I'm almost exclusively a nature photographer. I go for long walks outdoors, look for beautiful and interesting things, and take pictures of them.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view my gallery (note - you will need to log into the website first.)



*In Flight*



*Leafing Out*



*Short-tailed Weasel*

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

A special thanks to **Walt Grabowski** for coordinating this exhibit.



## Photography Club News

### *Legacy Grille Exhibit* OUT OF AFRICA

Our Photography Club and the Visual Arts Club will cohost the exhibit this month.

The five photographers exhibiting have all traveled to various parts of Africa:

They are:

Ruby Pecot, Ursula Pinner, Glenn Rudd, Keith Walkup, Joan Wilson

The Visual Arts Club member exhibiting is:

Sung Cha Brooks

Please come by and see their work. It will be hanging through November 2, 2019.

Registration for the month of November is open now.

### *Solo Wall Showcase*

In 2020 the Solo Showcase ("Solo Wall") will be coordinated by Wes Odell. There will be two Solo Wall Exhibits in July plus six others, all in the Activity Center, some a little longer than one month and some a little shorter due to the commitments to relinquish the area for two VAC exhibits and the Photo Club Competition. For information regarding exhibiting on the Solo Wall during 2020 please contact him at [wesodell@gmail.com](mailto:wesodell@gmail.com)

### Eleventh Annual Print Competition and Exhibition CALL TO PHOTOGRAPHERS

The Eleventh Annual Print Competition and Exhibition, will take place November 9, 2019 through December 28, 2019 with registration beginning October 1, 2019. This is a judged Print Competition, with ribbon awards going to First, Second, and Third Place in each of nine categories. Honorable Mention ribbons will also be awarded. There will be a "Best in Show" and a "People's Choice" award.

Acceptance of submissions is based on the order of entry. The first 120 entries will be accepted. Notifications of acceptance will be sent by November 2, 2019. Photos will be received from 9 to 11 a.m. on November 9, 2019. Judging and hanging will occur later that day.

Award winners will be announced at the exhibition reception on Sunday, November 15th from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Click [HERE](#) for details.



### *Mentor Discussion Group*

Every Monday, Noon - 2:00 pm  
Game Rooms 1 & 2, Activity Center  
Contact: Jim Newkirk - [newkirk12@gmail.com](mailto:newkirk12@gmail.com)

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.

*This feature is under repair and updating.  
Check back in October.*



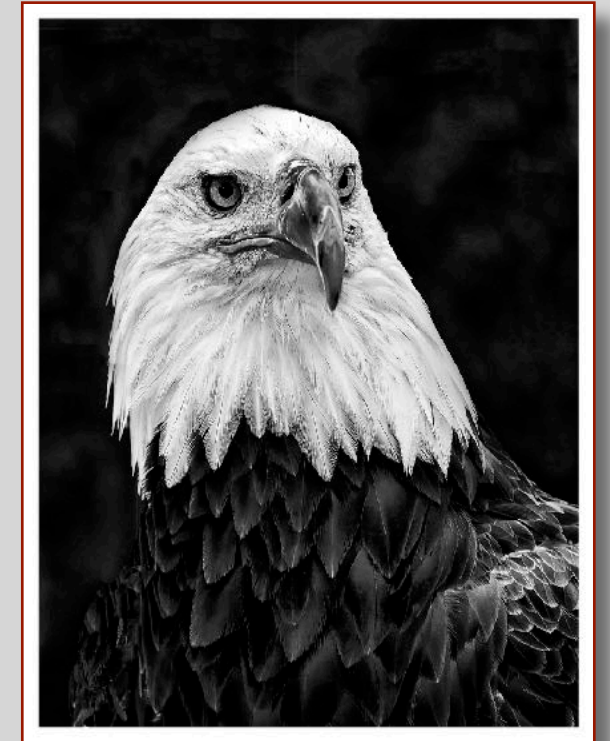
# Member Awards and Recognition



"Castle on the Hill" by Mitch Michielutti placed 4th in the Ancient Castles, Forts and Defensive Structures Challenge



'Holding Baby' by Burton Anes placed 12th in the Endless Love Challenge



The Photographic Society of America (PSA) has an End-of-Year (EOY) competition for only those images that won ribbons in the year's four "Rounds" of Inter-Club Competitions. Wes Odell's "Majestic" won an HM in Round Four and then went on to the EOY Competition where it also won an Honorable Mention.



"Monster" by Mitch Michielutti placed 10th In the Strange Challenge



"Parliament Building" by Mitch Michielutti placed 5th In the Light 'em Up Challenge



## On-Site Exhibits

### *The Retreat Amenity Center*

This venue exhibits 12-15 images each month. The next exhibit date is Oct 17. Register on the club's calendar.

Temporary restrictions: framed images are to be no larger than 16x20. Until the CA gets the slots at the top of the boards redone we can't take the chance of a frame falling off.

Contact Sherry McRae  
[topspin53@gmail.com](mailto:topspin53@gmail.com)



### *Cowan Creek Amenity Center*

This venue exhibits 15 images each month. The next exhibit date is Nov 5 at 10:00 at Cowan Creek. Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Sally Graham,  
[sgraham2385@yahoo.com](mailto:sgraham2385@yahoo.com)



### *The Activity Center*

The Activity Center exhibits will be the Visual Arts Club Competition and the Photo Club Print Competition thru the end of 2019.

Contact Dean Ginther  
[dean.Ginther@gmail.com](mailto:dean.Ginther@gmail.com)



### OUT of AFRICA

Sun City  
Photography  
and  
Visual Arts Clubs

present

Photos & Paintings

October 2019

Legacy Grille  
301 Del Webb Blvd



### *Legacy Hills Grille*

The **Out of Africa** exhibit will remain through Nov 2. This location exhibits five (5) themed photos in the foyer.

The next exhibit date is Nov 2.

Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Marcela Stegemueller  
[marcelastegemueller@gmail.com](mailto:marcelastegemueller@gmail.com)



## *Off-Site Exhibit*

### *Judges from the Sun City Photography Club*

This Exhibit runs through  
Friday October 25



Jim Copps

Glenn Rudd

Wes Odell

Peggy Reeder

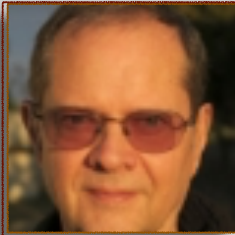
John Leek

Holly Moore

Dean Ginther



## Special Interest Groups



### *Competition SIG*

Coordinator, Rick Siersma  
[richard.j.siersma@gmail.com](mailto:richard.j.siersma@gmail.com)

#### **Competition SIG Webpage**

The Competition SIG has been put on hold for the summer; however, Rick is considering a lighting class in its place. If club members would like to contact Rick to let him know what kind of lighting they would like to experiment with that would be great. Rick's e-mail address is above.



### *Photoshop SIG*

Coordinator, Allen Utzig  
[autzig@outlook.com](mailto:autzig@outlook.com)

#### **Photoshop CS-CC SIG Webpage**

The Photoshop SIG is made up of three different groups:

Training Group: Focus is on Using Photoshop

Photoshop lab: Drop in and come with their laptop and an image or images and I (and possibly others) will help you practice

Photoshop SIG: Discussions about how we might use Photoshop to improve our photos

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)



## Special Interest Groups, continued



### Nature SIG

Coordinator, Carlos Rio

[scnaturephotosig@gmail.com](mailto:scnaturephotosig@gmail.com)

[Click Here for the Nature SIG webpage](#)

In October, Allen Utzig will be leading the selection of "Nature" photos for the "PSA Digital Nature Competition". The selection process will be during the Nature Photo Sig Meeting at 1 PM on Friday, October 25th at the usual place, Card Rooms 1 & 2 at the activity Center.

You will submit your images for the competition directly to Allen, before the October meeting.....as explained in Allen's September presentation..

September's theme was "Lines, Curves & Other Patterns in Nature. Here are photos selected by the members as their favorites.



Jim Reichel - Leaf Blade with Droplets



Dee Sams - Ladybug on Leaf



Marsha Larrabee - Fishing



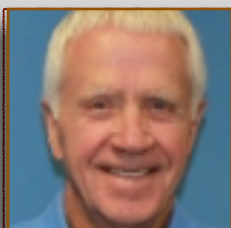
Cindy Wilkinson - Hawaiian Arch



Carlos Rio - Waving Algae



## Special Interest Groups, continued



### PSA Print SIG

Coordinators, Glenn Rudd and Cheryl Janssen

[grudd2@yahoo.com](mailto:grudd2@yahoo.com) or [cherylj2013@att.net](mailto:cherylj2013@att.net)

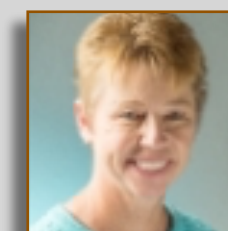
**PSA Print SIG Webpage**



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. Please **CLICK HERE** to view photos from this season

Here is a summary of the SCT Photography Club PSA Print SIG for the 2018-19 Season Competition:

Name	Round	Category	Award	Title
Sharon Grabowski	1	Large Mono	HM	Cooling in Chicago
Glenn Rudd	2	Large Color	HM	Green Crowned Brilliant
Allen Utzig	2	Creative Altered Reality	HM	Pioneer Homestead
Rick Siersma	2	Creative Altered Reality	HM	Kabucki Makeup
Walt Grabowski	3	Large Mono	1	End of the Line
Allen Utzig	3	Creative Altered Reality	2	Texas 56
Wes Odell	4	Small Mono	HM	Majestic



### PSA Digital SIG

Coordinator, Mitch Michielutti

[ibmitch@me.com](mailto: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.

## *Special Interest Groups - continued...*



### *iPhone Photography SIG*

Coordinator, Bob Bearden

[rebsctx@gmail.com](mailto:rebsctx@gmail.com)

***iPhone Photography SIG Webpage***

All iPhone camera photographers are invited to join the iPhone Photo SIG in our first fall monthly meeting on Friday, October 4th at 9AM in the Activity Center, Game rooms 1/2.

Highlighting this month's SIG will be the newly introduced iPhones, their features, prices and most importantly what changes have been made to the cameras and their software features. We will also look into a couple of photo backup options (Apple Photos and Google Photos) and begin our study of an advanced camera app for the iPhone, Camera+2.



### *Travel Photography SIG*

Coordinator, Dr. Howie DiBlasi

[howie@frontier.net](mailto: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



### *SONY SIG TO KICK OFF OCTOBER 18TH*

Attention all SONY camera users, on October 18, 2019 a new monthly SIG begins that will focus on Sony mirrorless cameras. This club forum is designed for current and potential Sony users to share their skills, challenges, techniques and most of all images with other Sony users. The schedule will include presentations by current Sony users and video reviews of Sony cameras and lenses. Come join us on Friday October 18 in Game Rooms 1/2 at 9AM and bring your camera!



# Random Thoughts



Randy Dykstra, a professional photographer, is soon to be a Sun City resident and a Photo Club member. He served as an exhibit consultant at our August meeting and is scheduled to make a presentation at our November meeting.

Randy is hosting a tour to Bosque Del Apache and White Sands National Monument in December. If you're interested in joining his adventure learn more at

<https://www.rdykstraphoto.com/bda>



## B&W Class

with Casey Holder  
Wednesday, October 9, 2019  
10am - 12pm  
The Retreat at Sun City  
No fee  
Register at [sctexas.org](http://sctexas.org)  
on the Photography Club Calendar



## Did you notice?

Ursula Pinner's photo of a Blue-footed booby on the cover of the September issue of the Sun Rays.



## *Fun Foto Social*

October 25 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.

1. 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](mailto: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 Wednesday before that month's Fun Foto Social.

Contact: Jim Sandham, [jsandham77@gmail.com](mailto:jsandham77@gmail.com)

## *Website, Email & The Viewfinder*

Cathy O'Connor, Webmaster - [cathy0114@gmail.com](mailto:cathy0114@gmail.com)

**Newly appointed positions to help Cathy.**

Marsha Larrabee, E-mail Blaster & Calendar Admin - [marsha\\_larrabee@me.com](mailto:marsha_larrabee@me.com)

Sue Puetz, Editor - The Viewfinder - [sspuetz@gmail.com](mailto:sspuetz@gmail.com)

### **Submission Guidelines to The Viewfinder**

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 via email.

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: Sue S Puetz [sspuetz@gmail.com](mailto:sspuetz@gmail.com)**