

Mail

Rob Neff  
Photographer of the Month





## Education & Programs



### Class Pending

#### Introduction to Canon Digital Photography by Bob Bearden

The purpose of this class is to orient students to their current Canon camera. This is an introductory course divided into four sessions and aimed at new or returning Canon DSLR or Canon Mirrorless owners. This class is on hold until further notice, but it might be offered via Zoom in 2020 or a classroom setting in the spring of 2021. Bob will provide links to online Canon Camera tutorials for Canon users to learn their camera's controls effectively (see the SIG site and/or newsletter). Look for dates and times on the Club Calendar.

For more information contact Bob Bearden [rebsctx@gmail.com](mailto:rebsctx@gmail.com)

### Workshops Pending

#### Black and White Photography by Glenn Rudd

This is the second workshop this year on Black and White Photography. Glenn will share his perspective and knowledge on how he does black and white photography. This one and half hour workshop will be held when possible. The workshop will be free. Look for the date and time on the Club Calendar and/or a blast email.

#### Shooting in Manual Exposure - How, Why, and When by Dean Ginther

This 1½ hour workshop will cover the various exposure modes of modern cameras with emphasis on the why, how, and when of using the manual mode. Bring your camera and camera manual (if needed) to practice. The **workshop will be free. This workshop might be offered via Zoom in 2020, but look** for the date and time on the Club Calendar and/or a blast email.

For more information contact [Rita Johnston](mailto:Rita.Johnston@scptc.org)

viewfinder

**2020 GEORGETOWN TEXAS PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL** DOWNTOWN ON THE SQUARE

**FEATURED PHOTOGRAPHERS & Locations**

Don Rypka, Dawa Richardson, Randy Dykstra, Kim Hancock, Emily Robinson, Todd Plybon, Anna Kraft, Cristina Schleifer, Students

Mesquite Creek Outfitters 704 S. Austin Ave, Novita Spa & Rejuvenation Clinic 109 W. 7th St, Kenz Guitars 705 S. Main St, Georgetown Visitors Center 103 W. 7th St, Handcrafts Unlimited 104 W. 8th St, The Williamson Museum 716 S. Austin Ave, Anna Kraft Photography 700 S. Austin Ave #201, The Escape Fine Crafts & Gifts 713 S. Main St, Georgetown & EV High School at the Courthouse

**March 21st 2020**

Register for Classes at: [www.williamsonmuseum.org](http://www.williamsonmuseum.org)  
\*Pre-Registration Required\*  
\*Limited Space\*

**EVENTS**

10AM-4PM Featured Photographers Meet & Greet on the Square  
10AM-3PM Photography Classes in the Court House  
Topics: Creative Lighting, Nature, Basic DSLR, Let's Instagram  
Pre-Registration required at: [www.williamsonmuseum.org](http://www.williamsonmuseum.org)

9AM-2PM Photo Walks  
Specific Walk times: 9AM-10AM, 11AM-12PM, 1PM-2PM  
Meet up at 710 S. Main St  
Precision Camera and Video will be in attendance.

Sponsored By: CharlesDenver.com Co-Hosts: David Valdez & The Williamson Museum

## May General Meeting

**May 6, 2020 will be a Zoom meeting!**  
**Members will be sent an email with instructions.**  
**Log on before and the meeting starts at 2:15 PM**

### Agenda

Welcome members  
Message from the President  
V.P. Administration Report  
V.P. Education and Programs  
Financial Report  
**Program - SIG Reports: How our SIGs will operate for the next 4 months**  
Subject of the Month Photos

### Subject of the Month

**A favorite photo taken during the stay-at-home / isolation time**

Send one image to [scphotoclub@suddenlink.net](mailto:scphotoclub@suddenlink.net)  
in JPEG format no larger than 1400 pixels wide or 1050 pixels high at 72 dpi by noon Sunday, May 3.

**Enjoy your coffee, drinks, and cookies from the comfort of your home!**



## PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE MONTH

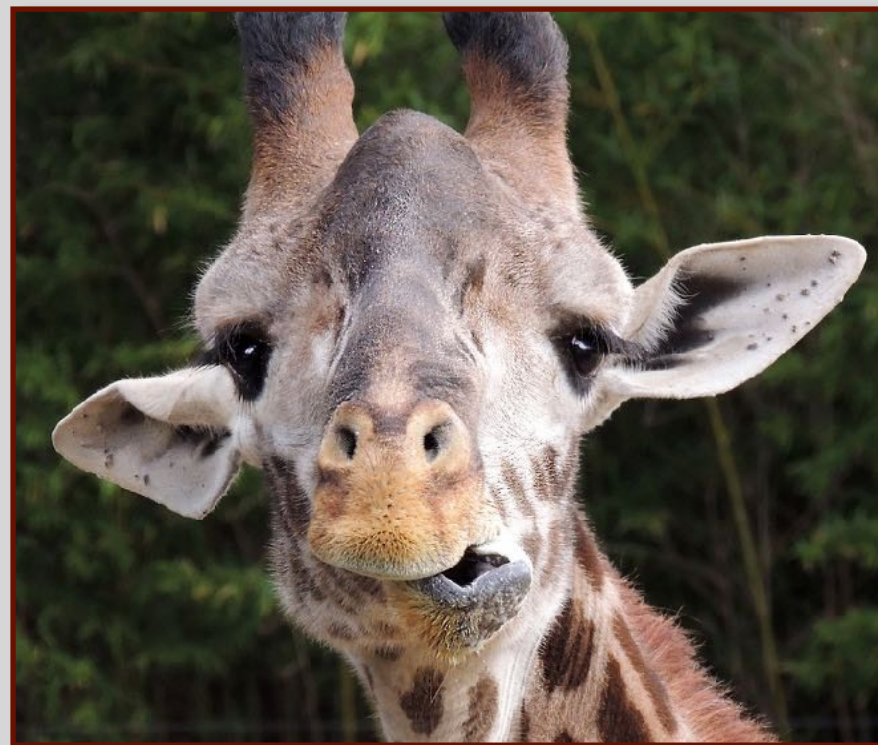


R o b   N e f f

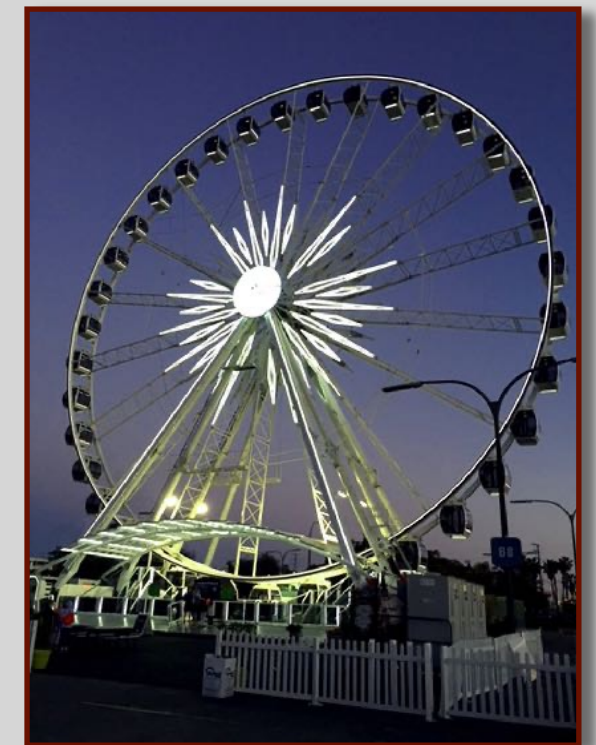
Photography has always been a part of my life. From extracurricular to freelance to family photographer. The darkroom and light meter turned into digital cameras and the auto button. When I retired and started doing serious travel, I found the auto settings didn't capture what I saw and what I wanted to share. With a lot of help I've sharpened my eye, fine-tuned my camera skills and found a comfortable balance with post-processing software. Today I'm trying less to record my trips and more to show and ask, "want to see what I saw?"



Three Heads



Howdy



Big Bills Challenge

View Rob's digital images in his [\*\*GALLERY\*\*](#) on the club's website.

# PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB NEWS



## **Dee Darius Sams** **Photographic Society of America**



Congratulations to two of our Photo Club members who received Honorable Mentions for their images entered into Round Two of the PSA Nature Inter-Club Competition:

Glenn Rudd won for his "Emerald Toucanette" image, and Jim Reichel won for his "Nectar Gathering" image

It's great that our Club was so well represented at the inter-club level!

Congratulations goes to Sue Puetz and Jerry Meinzer for completing TWO PSA On-Line Courses! Both of these individuals completed the Individualized Photography and the Image Analysis courses. Both spent many hours working on the lessons for each course, submitting the required images and lessons to their instructors and receiving critique and feedback which they found to be very helpful in improving their photographic skills.

A BIG thank you to both Allen Utzig and Mitch Michielutti for the hours they spent creating an electronic method for members of the PSA Nature SIG and the PSA Projected Image SIG to submit images for judging, viewing all submitted images, and voting for the favorites which were submitted to PSA for Round 3 of Inter-Club Competition. By Allen and Mitch going the extra mile our Club was able to participate in this round of competition even during our shut down and social distancing. Thanks again for your creativity, Allen and Mitch!

[darisams@msn.com](mailto:darisams@msn.com)

## **Photo Judges**

*By Ellen Greeney*

The group of local photographers called the Photography Judges of Williamson County has been busy these past few months. Ten of them judged the Williamson County Youth Fair in December.

Since then there have been 4-H photo contests to judge. Ted Keller, Mike Biggs, Dean Ginther and Rob Neff judged the Williamson County 4H photographers while Wes Odell judged the Leon County group. The 4-H County winners went on to a Texas District 8 photo contest. Wes Odell was asked to be one of the judges for that. The winners in the Districts will go on to compete at State and then Nationals.

Photo judges of Williamson County include Mike Biggs, Phil Brown, Jim Copps, Dean Ginther, Cheryl Janssen, Ted Keller, Bill Ledbetter, John Leek, Holly Moore, Rob Neff, Joe O'Connell, Wes Odell, Peggy Reeder, Glenn Rudd and Dee Darius Sams.

The group is an informal affiliation of local photographers who are asked to judge the photographs submitted in competitions hosted by numerous clubs and organizations such as 4-H clubs, PTAs, WilCo-AgriLife/Texas A&M County Fair, photography clubs including national and international contests and the Lone Star Iris Society.

Most belong to one or several local, national and international photography organizations including the

Photography Society of America (PSA), Texas Photography Society (TPS) and Professional Photographers of America (PPA).

For more information about this group, visit

[PhotoJudgesofWC.webs.com](http://PhotoJudgesofWC.webs.com)



## PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB NEWS (con't)

### Webmaster Position Opening

Cathy O'Connor is resigning from her webmaster duties effective October 1st. As such, the Photography Club is needing a new webmaster. Cathy will remain on board to train and help with web related issues until the end of the year.

Please contact Cathy - [cathy0114@gmail.com](mailto:cathy0114@gmail.com) or Walt Grabowski - [walt.grabowski@gmail.com](mailto:walt.grabowski@gmail.com) if interested.

### Permanent Art Exhibit

Wes Odell and James Copps recently sold and installed 50 framed photographs as permanent art in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor hallways of the St. David's Georgetown Hospital.

The photos are of local and Texas Hill Country scenes and wildflowers.

### Kudos to PSA from Sue Puetz

I recently enrolled in two Study Groups - Photojournalism and Nature - and have completed Photography Instruction and Image Analysis classes. I am currently participating in the Still Life class. In the Image Analysis class it was enlightening to learn to offer an analysis without pretending to be the judge. Instead, show appreciation for the maker's effort and intent and offer positive suggestions - if appropriate - for making the image better.

These classes are so informative and rewarding, with lessons, assigned homework and engaged feedback on submitted homework. If you want to improve your photography skills, this is a great place to start.

And this announcement in the May 2020 issue of the PSA Journal:  
Online Graduates / Individualize Photography / Still Life

**Dee Darius Sams**

## TEXAS PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



Texas Photographic Society is a non-profit organization that celebrates the photographic arts, inspires creative development and provides opportunities to engage with an international photography community.

Members share a passion for creating, appreciating and understanding all forms of photo-based media, providing a platform for artistic expression, dialogue and innovation in the photographic arts.

The Members Only Competition will be announced shortly. Join now to participate.

This note from the Texas Photographic Society to Sue Puetz:

Dear Sue,

Welcome to the Board! We are excited to have you on our team! I will follow-up with more detail but just wanted to share the good news.

All my best,

Susan

Susan Edgley | Executive Director  
Texas Photographic Society

[texasphoto.org](http://texasphoto.org)



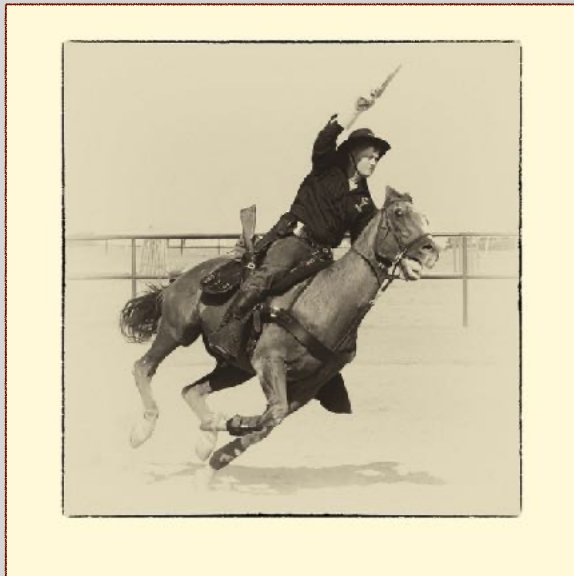
## AWARDS & RECOGNITION



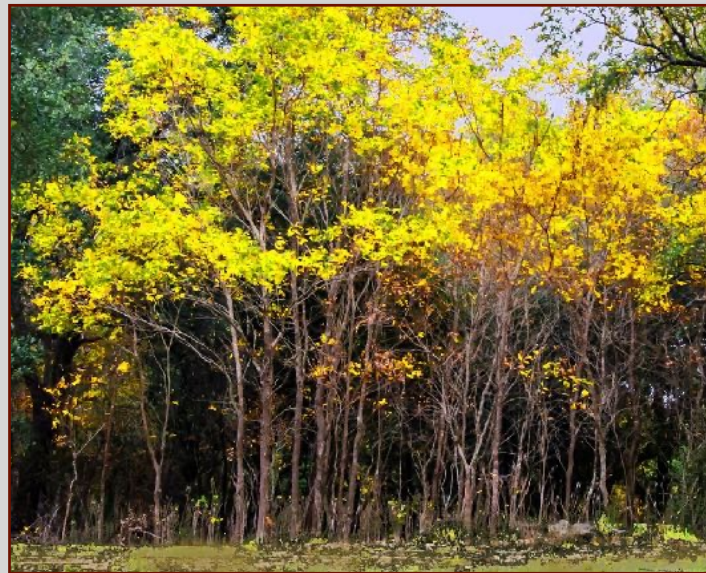
Burton Anes "Black Cat" placed 2<sup>nd</sup>  
in DPReview's Illustrate "Kitties"



Burton Anes "Sharing the Seder  
During Social Distancing" placed 1<sup>st</sup> in  
DPReview's "Environmental Portraiture"



Wes Odell's "Cavalry Trooper"  
Placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Creative Effects  
DeWitt County Shutterbugs



Randall Best Placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in (Re)Imagine  
Round Rock Arts



Wes Odell's "Sunset and an Oak Tree"  
Placed 1<sup>st</sup> in "Trees Among Us"  
Texas Trees Fondation



## ON-SITE EXHIBITIONS

*The Corona Virus lock-down has shut down our on-site photo exhibits for April and May. We are being optimistic that June hangings may be allowed. So please go to the club calendar by mid-May and click on the June hang dates for the AC, for Cowan and for Retreat. You will then be able to register to hang your photos in June. Thank you, Larry Lorimor, Director of Exhibits.*

### The Retreat Amenity Center

This venue exhibits 12-15 images each month. 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. Register on the club's calendar.

Contact Jim & Mary Campbell [maryhkcampbell@gmail.com](mailto:maryhkcampbell@gmail.com)



### The Activity Center

This venue exhibits 16 images January thru August. Register on the club's calendar.

Bing your photo to hang at a 10AM, usually on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of each scheduled month.

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



### Recognitions Gallery

In 2020 the Photography Club introduced a new mini-gallery, the "Recognitions Exhibit". This exhibit gives special recognition to those members whose photographs have garnered a significant award "outside" Sun City.

A "significant award" is one where a Judge or Jury has made the selections. These awards in national and international competitions are not trivial accomplishments for the photographer. They also enhance the artistic stature of the Sun City Photography Club amongst the local, national and international family of Camera and Photography Clubs that are considered "strong competitor clubs." The Sun City Club members have won numerous "outside awards" and this is an attempt to recognize their hard work and excellence, as well as to motivate others to follow.

As awards are won by members in contests "outside of Sun City" but not "peer selected", would the winning member(s) contact Wes Odell. There is an opportunity to exhibit that winning image for a month in this Recognitions Gallery.

Next up: Walt Grabowski and Allen Utzig

Thanks to Wes Odell for managing the Recognitions Wall.

Photo Studio AC rooms 1&2

[odellphoto11@gmail.com](mailto:odellphoto11@gmail.com)

### Solo Showcase

This year, the Photography Club has invited some of its senior members, each of whom is an accomplished photographer, to create a series of monthly "One-Person" exhibits high-lighting many of their recent award-winning photographs.

Seven of the eight who will be exhibiting this year also serve the community as "photography judges" for events like the Williamson County Fair, 4-H Clubs, PTA sponsored events, and various local, state, national, and international contests and "Salons."

The Solo Showcase is on the wall in the Activity Center just outside Game Rooms 1 and 2.

[odellphoto11@gmail.com](mailto:odellphoto11@gmail.com)



## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

COVID-19 lock-down has affected all Sun City Photography Club scheduling. Until Sun City facilities have been authorized to open and operate, check the Photo Club calendar on our website and watch for updates. Your intended event may be offered via ZOOM.



### Competition SIG

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

4<sup>th</sup> Fri every Month 9am - noon Activity Center rooms 1 & 2

[Competition SIG Webpage](#)

[Competition SIG Gallery](#)

GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATING 4<sup>th</sup> Fri

The advantage of participating in the Competition SIG is that you will receive written comments from three of our club's finest photographers. This SIG is important because it has welcoming, supportive, like-minded members who enjoy sharing positive evaluations through monthly mini-competitions. You will gain confidence and when comfortable, look forward to entering competitive venues of your choosing. Members are welcomed and accepted at any level. You do not need an image to attend this SIG. The three best photos will be displayed in the Activity Center hallway.

	<u>COMPETITION</u>	<u>REVIEW</u>
IMAGES	1	up to 6
IMAGE SIZE	~~~ 2000px on the long side ~~~~	
DEADLINE noon	Previous Fri	Thur Prior
SUBMIT TO	<a href="mailto:sc.competition.sig@gmail.com"><u>sc.competition.sig@gmail.com</u></a>	



### iPhone Photography SIG

Coordinator, Bob Bearden [rebsctx@gmail.com](mailto:rebsctx@gmail.com)

1<sup>st</sup> Fri every Month 9am - noon Activity Center rooms 1 & 2

[iPhone Photography SIG Webpage](#)

[iPhone Photography SIG Gallery](#)

This monthly SIG focuses iPhones cameras. Monthly discussions may include:

non-critical reviews of submitted images • how-to videos • photographic composition • camera modes  
Most importantly this SIG is an opportunity to get to know other iPhone camera users in the club and to share how we use our iPhones to capture our vision of the world around us.

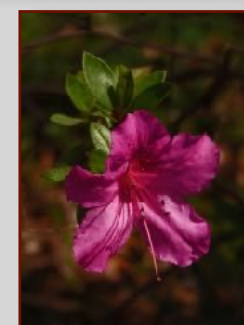
	SUBJECT OF THE MONTH
May	Spring has Sprung
Jun	Favorite Places / Faces
Jul	Architecture
Aug	Shadows / Silhouettes/ Reflections
Sep	My Vacation Highlights
Oct	Favorite Photo Locations
Nov	Remembering Halloween
Dec	Fall Color (Trees, Landscapes etc)

### Field Trips

Jim Sandham, Field Trip Director [jsandham77@gmail.com](mailto:jsandham77@gmail.com)



On March 11<sup>th</sup> our Field Trip Director, Jim Sandham, led a group of eight club members to Zilker Botanical Garden on Austin's south side. They had a good time wandering around inside the 26-acre garden capturing colorful images of plants, flowers, trees, and water features. Then they headed to the Shady Grove Restaurant for a relaxing lunch and lengthy conversation about what each of them found interesting and photogenic. All in all, a very successful field trip!



Jim Sandham



## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (con't)



### PSA Nature SIG

Coordinator, Allen Utzig [scnaturephotosig@gmail.com](mailto:scnaturephotosig@gmail.com)

4<sup>th</sup> Fri every Month 1pm Activity Center rooms 1 & 2

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



Round two of the PSA Nature Competition SIG: Congrats to Glenn Rudd for “Emerald Toucanette” and Jim Reichel for “Nectar Gathering”. Both won Honorable Mention awards.

### Round Three PSA Nature Competition



Upstream by Walt Grabowski



Courting-Gallinules  
by Dee Sams



Otter Takes A Nap by Jim Reichel



Great Egret Mating Display by Jeff Goldberg



Dinner Time by Allen Utzig



His Final Snow Storm by Carlos Rio

### PSA Round Two Honorable Mention



Nectar Gathering by Jim Reichel



Emerald Toucanette by Glenn Rudd



## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (con't)



### Nature SIG

Coordinator, Carlos Rio [scnaturephotosig@gmail.com](mailto:scnaturephotosig@gmail.com)

4<sup>th</sup> Fri every Month 1pm Activity Center rooms 1 & 2

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

I would like to have the Nature Photo Sig's "April meeting " via the internet using the free Zoom App. It will be on the 1st or 2nd week of May. You will need to download the Zoom App from the Apple or Android App Stores. Delaying the "April" meeting till May will give everyone a chance to download and experiment with the Zoom App. Watch for emails from the Photo Club or Nature Photo SIG for the procedure on when & how to login to the meeting . Email me 2 photos on the theme "From the ground up". Use your imagination.. We'll have no educational portion, just the "show and tell" of our pics. For the regular May meeting , we will hold it on the 4th Friday of May, at 1 Pm (the regular time) and the theme will be what is on the schedule: "Spring". Now, get out and shoot some pictures.

#### SUBJECT OF THE MONTH

May	Spring Colors
Jun	Animals in the Zoo
Jul	Shadows & Silhouettes
Aug	Potpourri &/or From the Ground Up
Sep	MW
Oct	PSA Nature Competition (Digital)
Nov	Patterns in Nature
Dec	Fall Colors



### PSA Digital SIG

Coordinator, Mitch Michielutti [imitchmeister@gmail.com](mailto:imitchmeister@gmail.com)

Wed, March 18 10am - noon Activity Center rooms 1 & 2

[PSA Digital SIG Webpage](#)

Our PSA Digital Image SIG meets 3 times a year to compete in PSA inter-club competition. We choose the top 6 photos submitted at our meeting in 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.

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



### Sony Photo SIG

Coordinator, Bob Bearden [rebsctx@gmail.com](mailto:rebsctx@gmail.com)

3<sup>rd</sup> Fri every Month 9am - noon Activity Center rooms 1 & 2

[Sony Photo SIG](#)

[Sony SIG Gallery](#)

This monthly SIG focuses on Sony mirrorless cameras. Discussions may include:

non critical reviews of submitted images • how-to videos • photographic composition • camera menus

Most importantly this SIG is an opportunity to get to know other Sony camera users in the club..

#### SUBJECT OF THE MONTH

May	Spring has Sprung
Jun	Favorite Places / Faces
Jul	Architecture
Aug	Shadows / Silhouettes/ Reflections
Sep	My Vacation Highlights
Oct	Favorite Photo Locations
Nov	Remembering Halloween
Dec	Fall Color (Trees, Landscapes etc)

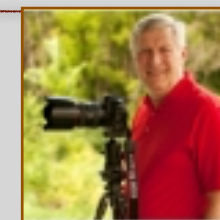


## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (con't)

### 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

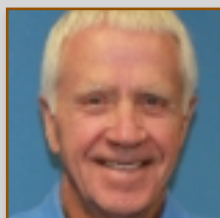
Each Group meets once a month. Please check the Photography Club calendar for the specific dates, times and locations of the meetings. Most of the meetings have been scheduled in our PC Studio (Game Rooms 1 & 2)

### PSA Print SIG

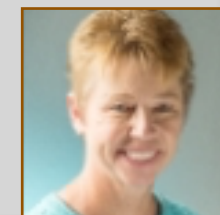
Coordinators, Glenn Rudd and Cheryl Janssen

[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.



### Travel Photography SIG

Coordinator, Dr. Howie DiBlasi. [howie@frontier.net](mailto:howie@frontier.net)

1st Wed every Month 9am - 11a Activity Center rooms 1 & 2

[Travel Photography SIG Webpage](#)



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.





## Fun Foto Social

4<sup>th</sup> Fri of the month from 4:00 - 6:00 in Meeting Rooms 1 & 2, Activities Center

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

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 per the guidelines following PSA PID and Nature Inter-club Competition requirements:

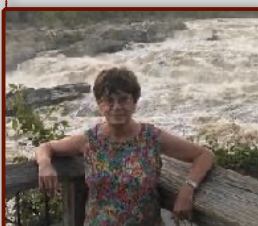
Vertical: 1050px or fewer ▪ Horizontal: 1400px or fewer ▪ JPEG format

Image file should be named **PhotogName.PhotoTitle.jpg** e.g. JaneJones.Big Meadow.jpg

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. Send them to me by the end of the Wednesday before that month's Fun Foto Social.



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



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

## Website, Calendar, Email & Newsletter

### Submission Guidelines to The Viewfinder

Articles must be received **by the 24<sup>th</sup>** for 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 sans special formatting.

Photo submissions must be attached to email (per PSA PID standards):

Tall: 1050px or fewer ▪ Wide: 1400px or fewer ▪ JPEG format

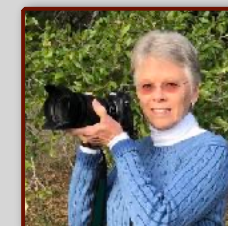
Image file must be named **PhotogName.PhotoTitle.jpg** e.g. JaneJones.Big Meadow.jpg

Photographs must be legally reproducible or licensed by the member submitting the photo.

Include relevant information, e.g. contest/show entered, award received.

DO NOT submit photos that require editing, e.g. with distracting borders.

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



**NOTE:** Consult the new guidelines for submitting photos to be published on the website and in the newsletter.