



Chihuly's Boat of Glass

Jim Reichel, Photographer of the Month



***PRESIDENT'S CORNER***  
**Bob Maher**  
**2020 Photography Club President**

Hi, I hope everyone is enjoying their summer, in spite of all of the COVID-19 restrictions. Speaking of COVID-19 restrictions, the Community Association has moved into what they are calling Phase 1 of 4 of reopening facilities. Phase 1 includes very limited capacity, basically 25% of what is normally allowed, hand sanitizing entering and leaving, masks, and social distancing. Use of the facilities is also limited to actual scheduled "activities" not "meetings." For us, activities would be things like training classes and workshops. Our SIGs and Discussion Groups fall in the "meetings" category. Phase 2 is basically the same, it just allows more people in the rooms. Phase 3 again increases the number of people allowed, will reduce the masks and social distancing requirements, we think, and opens the facilities to meetings. Phase 4 is the "All Clear." The CA hasn't yet provided any timeline or criteria for transitioning between the phases, but since we live in an "at risk" community, you can expect them to err on the side of caution and to significantly lag behind what the State and Local officials are doing. At least until the All Clear is declared.

The Chartered Club Committee (CCC) has been authorized by the CA Board to review any safety/transition guidelines the Chartered Clubs produce in regards to using any of the CA's facilities. Your Board has been working with the CCC to determine when and how we might be able to use the facilities. To that end, led by Walt Grabowski, we're developing a set of guidelines that will be transmitted to the membership and published on the website once completed and reviewed by the CCC. Basically, due to the severe capacity, social distancing, and sanitization requirements, the Board doesn't believe we will be able to effectively utilize the Studio (Game Rooms 1&2) during Phases 1 and 2. As the CA moves into Phase 3, and the facilities are opened to meetings, we will look at what is possible in the Studio and will likely resume General Meetings at Cowan Creek. We're also working on guidelines that would allow the PSA Print SIG and the Club's Annual Competition to occur later this year, regardless of what phase we are in.

So stay tuned. As soon as we have things finalized we will get the information out to you. In the meantime, if you've fled the Texas heat for the summer please be careful on the road. If you're like me and are toughing it out here in Central Texas, keep cool. And all of you stay safe, social distance, wash your hands, and wear a mask where appropriate. No General Meeting in July, and, right now, it looks like August's will be via Zoom. Unless we move into Phase 3 faster than is anticipated. Fingers washed and crossed.

**Bob Maher**

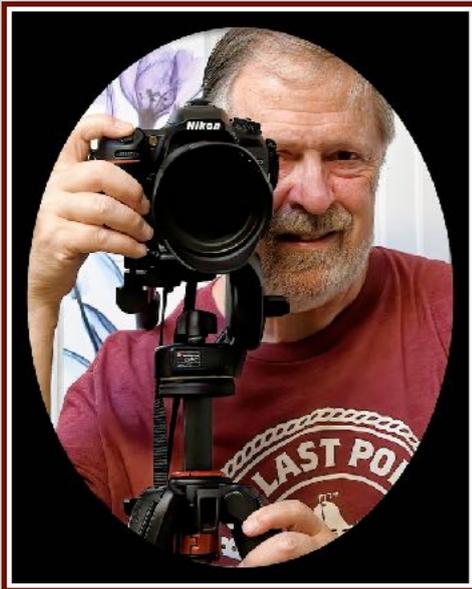
**SC Photo Club General Meetings**  
**No July monthly meeting!**  
**Next monthly meeting will be**  
**August 5, 2020.**

**Check the Club Calendar, SIG sites and**  
**emails for new summer activities.**

**Enjoy your summer and stay well.**

**Hope to see you at our August meeting!**

## PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE MONTH



Jim Reichel

My interest in photography began when I bought a Bell and Howell single-lens reflex camera in the late 1960's from a local pawn shop. That interest in photography never really flourished until my retirement in late 2015 and the subsequent move from the Chicago area to Sun City in 2018. Since joining the Sun City Photography Club in 2016, I have developed into an avid photographer. The photography club has nurtured my interest in photography and has provided valuable critiques and encouragement from many club members. Such camaraderie was not expected, but greatly appreciated.

My passion for nature, and eventual nature photography, started as a fifth grade leaf collection project. It grew watching Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom with my father. It continued growing while working as a Boy Scout summer camp counselor. This passion culminated in my career as an environmental planner for several engineering firms focusing on environmental analysis and documentation.

I have also been very fortunate to have traveled to many picturesque destinations since marrying my best friend and soulmate, Kathy. These destinations have provided numerous opportunities to photograph many unusual subjects.

**Jim Reichel**



Nectar Gathering



Is It . . . Up Or Down



Nap Time

View Jim's digital images in his **GALLERY** on the club's website.

## ON-SITE EXHIBITIONS

*The Corona Virus lock-down has shut down our on-site photo exhibits. We are optimistic that hangings will resume shortly. Please go to the club calendar and click on the hang dates for the AC, Cowan and Retreat. You will then be able to register to hang your photos. 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)



### Solo Wall and Recognitions Gallery

The Solo Wall and Recognitions Gallery Exhibits, both of which are in the Activity Center, have at this time been cancelled for June through July due to restrictions by the CA on the access to the Activity Center. August is a "likely," but it depends again on factors beyond our control. Once an "opening to the public date" has been announced, we will create a revised schedule for the remainder of 2020 and all of 2021 for these two galleries, giving preference to those whose scheduled dates were affected by the Corona Virus closure.

For more information, please contact Wes Odell or Walt Grabowski.

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



# PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB NEWS



## ***EDUCATION & PROGRAMS***

Rita Johnston  
V.P. Education and Programs

Hello members! It is July, and SC Photo Club (SCPC) activities are normally slow this time of year. Lots of members and Board members leave for the summer, and that is the case for me too. I want you to know that we are working on future speakers for the fall and workshops to offer you. Most of the speakers and workshop presenters have expressed that they want to wait to present until we can get back into the studio or Cowan Creek for General meetings. Not surprising really, but it leaves us with no July classes or workshops to offer you. If we are able to schedule some, check the club calendar and watch for e-mails.

We strive to have high quality guest speakers, but we are in a bind of not knowing future dates to ask them for. However, if you know of good photographers who we might all learn from, especially if they are willing to do zoom presentations, please let me know.

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge my appreciation of the great job my fellow Board members have done during this difficult and trying time. Bob Maher has led our efforts in supporting any and all SCPC activities we can do. Walt Grabowski has taken the lead in hosting all our zoom meetings, from our General Meeting to SIG meetings and classes. Walt has made it possible, and made it look easy, for us to continue to operate during Covid-19. Marsha Larrabee, in her role as e-mail blaster and calendar administrator, has done a great job of announcing activities by email blasts or flexible calendar scheduling. When you see these Board officers, I hope you will also thank them for keeping the club going and operating.

Hope to see YOU at our next General Meeting on August 5!

***Rita Johnston***

## ***Photo Club Website Administrator***

The Sun City Photography Club is seeking an organized, energetic and creative individual to take over as Administrator of its website. The photo club's current (and wonderful) website administrator, Cathy O'Connor, has announced that she plans to step away from the role by September 30. As you know, the photo club website both provides services to club members as well as promoting participation in the club among Sun City residents. The site provides visibility into all of the club's functions including Special Interest Groups, educational presentations, field trip planning, member achievements, etc. It provides a lively and robust platform for the display of photographs by club members. The website is a 'Live View' into the activities of the club and is a critical element of the club's member-facing infrastructure.

The website is constructed from a toolkit developed by MembersFirst, Inc. and provided to all Sun City clubs and neighborhoods by the CA. The MembersFirst tools are specifically designed to support the activities of clubs and associations. There are predefined templates, documented procedures, and data standards. As a CA-provided web environment, the CA provides technical support and training opportunities.

Since Cathy will not be fully vacating the role until the end of September, there is plenty of time for the new administrator to become familiar with the website, Cathy's processes and procedure, and lessons-learned.

If you'd like to find out more contact

***Cathy O'Connor***

## **SIG LEADERS NEEDED FOR 2020-2021**

Nature SIG

Sony SIG

Competition SIG: Thanks to Allen Utzig and Jim Newkirk for taking up leadership here.

If you are interested in leading or co-leading one of these SIGs, please contact the present SIG leader for details or Rita Johnston to sign up for it. We are looking for leaders to start or transition into the lead in the fall.

***Rita Johnston***

## 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>	

### Photoshop SIG

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

[\*\*Photoshop CS-CC SIG Webpage\*\*](#)

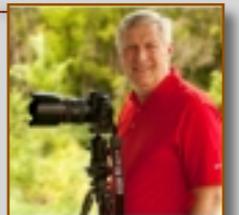
The Photoshop SIG is made up of three different groups:

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)



### iPhone Photography SIG

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Fri Odd months only 10am Activity Center rooms 1 & 2

[\*\*iPhone Photography SIG Webpage\*\*](#)

[\*\*iPhone Photography SIG Gallery\*\*](#)

	SUBJECT OF THE MONTH
Jul	Architecture
Sep	My Vacation Highlights
Nov	Remembering Halloween

This virtual ZOOM SIG focuses on iPhone cameras and their use. Every other month the SIG's meeting NOTES are posted in advance on the SIG's website. Zoom discussions center on Subject of the Month member image submissions and the videos pre-reviewed by members. Videos cover photographic composition, editing techniques, camera operation and new phone introductions. Most importantly this SIG is an opportunity for you to get to know other iPhone camera users and to share how we use our iPhones to capture our vision of the world around us. Our next Zoom meeting is July 10th at 10am. Register on the Calendar for this meeting. Emails will be sent out closer to the date.

## 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](#)**

The June Nature Photo Slg Zoom meeting had 14 attendees and 39 photos submitted for our enjoyment. It is interesting to note that years ago we always had to discuss getting better focus or sharpness in our photos. That's no longer the case. Avoiding distracting backgrounds has also routinely been achieved in our submissions! All the photos were all excellent! So, instead, we discussed adding a just little bit of light to faces to attract more attention. Next month however, that won't be an issue because the theme will be "Shadows and silhouettes". Keep an eye out for the email invitation arriving a week before the 4th Friday of July. In that email, hit the blue link to "register". You'll get a new email almost immediately, with the secure blue link that will get you into the meeting when it begins.

### SUBJECT OF THE MONTH

- |     |                                   |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| Jul | Shadows & Silhouettes             |
| Aug | Potpourri &/or From the Ground Up |
| Sep | Milky Way, Stars, Moon & Skies    |
| Oct | PSA Nature Competition (Digital)  |
| Nov | Patterns in Nature                |
| Dec | Fall Colors                       |



Wood Stork by Randy Freeman



Thinking by Ursula Pinner



Crested Coua of Madagascar by Carlos Rio

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (con't)



### PSA Nature SIG

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

Activity Center rooms 1 & 2

**[Nature SIG webpage](#)**

The club participates in the Photographic Society of America's (PSA) interclub nature competitions that are held 3 times each year. Watch for announcements in the calendar.

The Nature Competition SIG is a local contest that meets on the last Friday of the month prior to the PSA competition to select images to compete in that competition. Those who wish to compete will submit up to two images to the SIG leader. The club members who attend the SIG meeting will judge the submitted images and the SIG leader will enter the top six in the PSA competition. We may only submit one image per photographer so we will enter images created by six different artists in each competition.



### PSA Digital SIG

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

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.



### PSA Print SIG

Coordinators, Glenn Rudd and Cheryl Janssen

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

Activity Center rooms 1 & 2

**[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.



## NEWS & INSPIRATION



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



#### **Welcome**

PSA welcomes **Rob Neff** who recently joined.

Please contact Dee Darius Sams if you need any assistance in navigating the many resources available to you through your membership.

#### **Membership Benefits**

Anyone can join the Photographic Society of America and take advantage of the resources offered to help improve our photographic skills. For example, during the last few months PSA has offered to the membership almost weekly hour-long webinars. Some of the topics covered have been: Skills to improve Macro Photography, Flower Photography, Street Photography, Understanding Black and White Photography, Nature Photography in High-Key Style, and Bird Photography. Upcoming scheduled webinars are: Fine Art Photography and Cloud Photography.

#### **New 2020 Exhibition Announcement**

Time is getting short to enter photos! PSA announced their annual PSA International Exhibition. Each year, PSA conducts an international exhibition, with all six divisions offering at least 2 sections. Several divisions usually have more. The closing date is July 6, 2020. This is an opportunity for all members of PSA to participate in an online exhibition to showcase their best work. The prizes are in the form of Acceptances which can be used to apply for Star Ratings and PSA Honors and Distinctions. Visit the [PSA website](#) for entry information.

#### **More Information**

For more information regarding activities and resources offered by PSA, contact Dee Darius Sams.

#### **Dee Darius Sams**

Club Representative, Photographic Society of America

***Instagram/Dee.Darius.Sams***

### **Local Photography Interests**

#### **The Estrada Garcia Gallery** Soft Opening

206 W 10th Street Georgetown  
July 30, 2020 4pm - 7pm  
Meet the Artists

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#### **Georgetown Texas Photography Festival**

Rescheduled to August 22, 2020  
Keep informed at:  
[Georgetown Photo Festival](#)

### **Texas Photographic Society** **Call for Entry**

Texas Photographic Society is excited to announce their 33rd Annual Members' Only Show, which will be juried by Bill Wright, esteemed fine art photographer and author. This call is open themed and welcomes submissions from artists of all levels internationally. You must be a current TPS member to enter and may join at the time of entry.

07/06/2020 Deadline for entry

09/17/2020 Show opens at

The Center for Contemporary Arts, Abilene, TX

11/12/2020 Artist Reception

For more information

**[Texas Photographic Society](#)**

## AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS



Burton Anes' *Cambodian Dancer* placed 8<sup>th</sup> in the 'International Dance Day' challenge at DPReview



Burton Anes' *Happy 75th Birthday* placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 'You Say It's Your Birthday' challenge at DPReview



Burton Anes' *White Roses* placed 10<sup>th</sup> in the 'Flowers in B&W' challenge at DPReview



Burton Anes' *Parrot* placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Animals challenge at DPReview



## Field Trips

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

Watch the Photo Club calendar and for email updates as field trips begin scheduling again.



## 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)  
Submissions by the 24<sup>th</sup>

## Submissions for Awards & Recognitions

### Image Guidelines

No more than 3 per month

### Image must:

- follow format of 1050px or fewer ▪ Wide: 1400px or fewer ▪ JPEG format
- be named **PhotogName.PhotoTitle.jpg** e.g. JaneJones.BlueBird.jpg
- be attached to your email
- be legally reproducible or licensed by the member submitting the photo
- include relevant information, e.g. contest/show entered, award received

Sue Puetz  
Editor, The Viewfinder  
[sspuetz@gmail.com](mailto:sspuetz@gmail.com)  
Submissions by the 24<sup>th</sup>



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