

In Focus

Sun City Photography Club
December 2023

A Letter From

Jim Smith

*Sun City Photography
Club President*



This is my last newsletter as President of the Sun City Photography Club. It's been a pleasure serving as your President for the last two years. And I want to thank the other Board members, the Leadership Team, and all of the Club volunteers for their support these last two years and for continuing to make our Photography Club the premier photography club in the area.

Everyone who serves in leadership in the Club (past, present, and future) seeks to make improvements and to put their own stamp on what the club can offer its members. Our current board and leadership team, including myself, is no different. As all past Presidents and Boards have done, and as future Boards will do, we too have continued to evolve the club. Some of the successes we had that I'm most proud of include the following:

- We improved the Studio by making the workstations more user-friendly, updating the computers and printers, adding additional lighting for studio use, adding outlets for more computer usage, and painting the

Studio.

- We opened the Studio on the first Saturday of each month for members to sell their photographs. This has seen tremendous success with over \$10,000 in sales since beginning to do this.
- While there was a Phone Users Group in place at the beginning of my term, we made a determined effort over the last two years to reach out to and welcome all residents of Sun City to consider the Photography Club as a club worth joining. We increased the educational offerings for phone users, we've welcomed phone photography on our field trips and we've had several phone photographs win competitions.
- We automated our membership records resulting in improved accuracy, more efficient collection and recording of dues paid, and better recordkeeping overall.
- Our Education team has greatly expanded the number of course offerings and the topics covered by the courses we offer. We currently offer a robust series of classes unequaled by any other photography club.
- We took over registration for educational course offerings from Eventbrite, resulting in a cost savings that we were able to return back to the members taking courses by reducing course fees.
- We migrated our website over to a new platform and we continue to evolve it to ensure that it best serves the membership in a user-friendly way.
- We started an Orientation program to acclimate new members to the Club and have continued to offer it each month.
- We re-initiated our field trips program after a long hiatus due to Covid. Our new Field Trip Committee is finding new places for us to go and photograph together.
- We established a task force to look into AI and its influence on photography, particularly with an eye toward addressing AI in our competition rules. The statement issued by our task group has subsequently been adopted by both the local CNPA chapter and by the Camera Club of Hilton Head as well as by our own club.
- We created three awards (Corky Burt Leadership Award, John Burrack Friends Helping Friends Award, and Rich de Asla Outstanding Contribution Award) to recognize longstanding club members who have made significant contributions to the club over a long period of time. This recognition is maintained on the walls of the Studio to provide a historical record to future members of the club as to who has made significant contributions to the club.
- We started this newsletter that you are reading now. Unfortunately, our current newsletter editor, Lucy Rosen who has done a superb job with it, is no longer able to continue the newsletter. We are searching for a new newsletter editor (hopefully, that last statement will be outdated by

the time you read this).

I am honored that our Board and Leadership Team stuck with me over the last two years. Many of them are continuing on into the new year with Stan as President. I feel that the club will be in good hands going forward.

Regarding our meetings, we have one remaining meeting this calendar year. It is our annual People's Choice and Holiday meeting at Hidden Cypress on Tuesday night December 12. Come around 6:30 pm to enjoy a delicious ice cream sundae from Jack Frost Ice Cream and to get a raffle ticket for prizes to be awarded at the end of the meeting. The meeting will start at 7 pm. and will include a presentation on the Antarctica announcement of People's Choice winners and awarding of raffle ticket prizes.

That will be our last in-person meeting until March. January and February will be via Zoom.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you these past two years as your President. It's been my pleasure to do so.

Jim



The Photography Club's Education Program had a terrific year in 2023!!

Check this out....

- 559 classes taken
- 243 members took classes
- 12 new classes

- 12 new classes
- 7 new instructors

It takes a team of devoted volunteers to run such a successful education program. I want to thank the Education Committee members: Corky Burt, Cindy Fiano, Melanie Frank, Ward Litzenberg, Tom Mills, Toni McQuair, Julia Parrish, Barb Puceta, Barb Reeves, and Sue VanDette. Their tireless efforts in researching, recruiting, planning, scheduling, preparing class lists, and communicating what the program offers are recognized and appreciated. We also have dedicated instructors, assistants, and monitors who bring great content to our program so our members have the opportunity to grow. To all these volunteers, I say THANK YOU! We could not have done this without you!

Work has already begun in preparation for the 2024 winter semester offerings. Classes will start on January 29, 2024. The course catalog and registration information will be available in mid-January. Watch your email for further information.

We are always looking for new instructors who have expertise they would be willing to share in the classroom. If you have any suggestions for a class you would like to see offered, please let me know.

It has been a great pleasure helping members continue their journey of stretching their imagination and developing a personal vision for more creative and expressive images. Thank you for the support you have shown me this year. **Please join me in supporting Cindy Fiano as she takes on the role of leading the Education Program.**

“Photography is an art of observation. It has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them.” – Elliott Erwitt

All my best,
Dale Methven
dalemethven@aol.com

Upcoming Field Trips

Savannah Plant Riverside Trip

December 8, 2023, from 3:30 PM to 9:00 PM

We are returning to Savannah's Plant Riverside District on the Savannah River for street, landscape, and the river traffic photography. The Plant Riverside area will be colorful and decorated for Christmas Holidays. The riverfront will have a lot going on and people to photograph. At sunset, Plant Riverside lights up for some spectacular photo opportunities. We will venture onto one of Plant

some spectacular photo opportunities. We will venture onto one of Ft. Hill Riverside's Roof Top establishment for some great views of the riverfront and take some photos. While there, we will gather, enjoy some refreshments, and meet new people.

[Register Here](#)

Darien Shrimp Boat Fleet at Sunrise and St. Simon Island Lighthouse Trip December 18, 2023, from 5:30 AM to 2:00 PM

The Sunrise over the Shrimp Boat Fleet in Darien is one of our favorite destinations for photographing sunrises, and this trip we will include the St. Simon's Island Lighthouse. It will be an early start, leaving at 5:15 AM to get to Darien to set up on the bridge for Blue Hour and the Sunrise over the fleet. After the sunrise photoshoot, we head off to St. Simon's Island to photograph the Lighthouse. We will stop for either breakfast or lunch during the trip.

[Register Here](#)



November Photo Competition Results

Theme: "Things That Start With 'T'"

Expert Category

- 1st Place, Stan Lituchy, "Teller of Tall Tales"
- 2nd Place, Rich Matheny, "Twin Fawns"
- 3rd Place, John Burrack, "Time is 10 to 2"
- Honorable Mention, Mike Davis, "TOP GUN Thunderbirds"

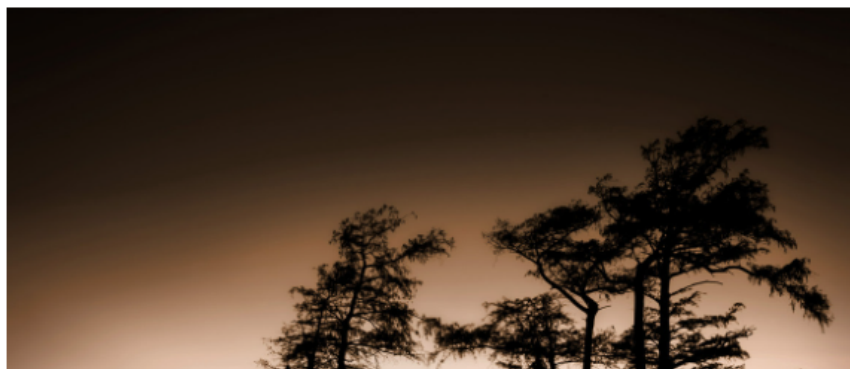
- honorable mention, Mike Davis, TOP GUN Thunderbirds



"Teller of Tall Tales," Stan Lituchy

Advanced Category

- 1st Place, Gerry Fagan, "Caddo Trees"
- 2nd Place, Steve Tate, "The Talmadge"
- 3rd Place, Barbara Reeves, "The Tracks of My Tears"
- Honorable Mention, Dale Methven, "Toy Soldier"





"Caddo Trees," Gerry Fagan

Intermediate Category

- 1st Place, Barb Puceta, "The Forgotten Tree on the LoBo Trail"
- 2nd Place, Cindy Fiano, "Tracks Over the Skykomish River"
- 3rd Place, Jonathan Chase, "Thoroughbred Love - Mare & Foal"
- Honorable Mention, Doug Scott, "Train"





"The Forgotten Tree on the LoBo Trail," Barb Puceta

Novice Category

- 1st Place, Dolly Jankord, "TOES of a TROLL"
- 2nd Place, Bob Seltzer, "Tampa"
- 3rd Place, Susan Lange, "Turkey"
- Honorable Mention, William Pink, "The Tire"



"TOES of a TROLL," Dolly Jankord

As a result of the November competition, the following people have been advanced to the next higher competition category:

advanced to the next higher competition category.

- Dolly Jankord from Novice to Intermediate
- Bob Seltzer from Novice to Intermediate
- Susan Lange from Novice to Intermediate
- Barbara Reeves from Advanced to Expert

[View the Full Competition Winners Gallery](#)

What You Should Know About "People's Choice" 2023

Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Hidden Cypress

Meeting Type:

- In-person meeting
- Automatic Digital Entry
- In Advance Electronic Voting

Picking Winners:

- Members will vote via an electronic ballot on the best photograph in each competition category and an overall "Best of Show".
- Winners will be selected from all those earning a first-place award in 2023. Entry is automatic.
- "Best of" voting results will be announced at the meeting.

Electronic Ballot:

- An announcement e-mail will be sent to all Photography Club members on Dec. 1 with complete instructions and a link to the actual ballot.
- Only one vote per member will be counted.

Voting Closes: Midnight on Friday, December 8th, 2023

Display of Prints: All those who have won a first-place award in 2023 are encouraged to bring a mounted print (need not be matted) to display at this meeting. This is strictly voluntary.

What You Should Know About the January 2024 Competition

Meeting Date: January 9, 2024

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

Meeting Place: Hidden Cypress

Entry Type: Digital

Theme: Eat!

Entry Deadline: Midnight, Sunday, January 7, 2024

Special Note: Please pay attention to detail when you enter. Complete information is included in Sections D and E in the competition guidelines found on the club website.

Be on the lookout for a confirmation email that verifies your entry has been received.

We Want to Feature Your Photos on Our Website

Don't forget to send your favorite photo from last month to the Monthly Slideshow. **Email your photo to monthly-slideshow@yogile.com** and add the photo title (title - your name) as the email subject and once it is approved, it will be added to the current month's slideshow on our club website.

Don't forget to check out the new Member Showcases under Member Resources on the website! **Email your portfolio locations to PCSCHHGallery@gmail.com to have your portfolio included.**

[View The Monthly Slideshow](#)





A Warm Welcome to Our New Members!

Please join us in welcoming the Sun City Photography Club's newest members, bringing our membership count to 453 photographers:

- Marilyn Kallaugher
- Eileen Dahn
- Linda Sarrasin
- Karen McCarthy
- Frederick Andrews
- Mark Weiss
- Martha Girardi
- Sarah (Sally) OBrien
- Cheryl Brent
- Randall Brent
- Anne Nettles
- Kay Denty
- May Schonhaut
- Bruce Arsenault
- Michelle Sexton
- Carlos Ramos



Photographer **Feature**

This Month's Featured Club Member

Stanley Holz





How long have you lived in Sun City?

Since 2018

Where are you from?

I'm originally from the Bronx in NYC but moved to a small village in northern NH in 1973.

When did you join the photography club? Have you held any offices during your membership?

I joined in 2018 and have been Vice President for the past two years, and this

month, I take the office of President for the next two years.

What do you enjoy most about being a member?

Learning and sharing.

How long have you been a photographer? What's your (short) backstory on how you discovered photography?

Yikes! My dad always had a camera with him, and he bought me my first camera, a Brownie Hawkeye when I was about 9 years old. Since then, I've always had cameras and could never stop taking pictures...regardless of how bad they may have been.

What is your favorite "thing" to photograph? Why?

Probably wildlife, because it freezes a moment in the life of another creature. It's also very challenging since the subject is rarely as enthusiastic about having its picture taken as I am about taking it.

Where is your favorite place in the Lowcountry to venture to in order to photograph?

It would be tough to choose between Fish Haul Creek Beach on Hilton Head and Cypress Wetlands in Port Royal. Either site can be incredibly rewarding.

Do you have a passion project for 2024 involving photography? Care to share?

I have a very good astronomy telescope and all the attachments for my camera. It's about time I start using it.

Stan's Parting Shot





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