

Photography Club of Sun City - February Newsletter

February 1, 2026



A letter from
Julia
Parrish
Sun City Photography
Club President

Welcome to February. We had an engaging presentation about cell phone photography at our January Zoom meeting that I am sure everyone enjoyed. Congratulations to all the Architecture themed winners and to our members who moved up in category as result of their winning photos: Karl Persson and Jay Ricci moved from Novice to Intermediate; Ron Duponte moved from

Intermediate to Advanced and Rick VanDette moved from Advanced to Expert.

Our next meeting is right around the corner. Please note that our February meeting will be held one week earlier than usual, on Tuesday, February 3rd, at Hidden Cypress Ballroom, with the slideshow beginning at 6:30 PM and the meeting starting at 7:00 PM. Be sure to visit our speaker's website to explore his compelling photography in advance. We're confident this will be an evening filled with creativity and inspiration—one you won't want to miss.

We have purged our membership files so only our active 2026 members remain. Membership is currently at 442 photographers.

Thank you to Keri Ricci and Rick VanDette for their service as Members-at-Large in 2025. Rick is moving on to serve as Vice President of the Club, and Keri will take on the role of Co-Chair of Programs. The Board has added two new Members-at-Large for 2026. Gerry Fagan and Shashi Cooduvalli were nominated and have accepted one-year, non-voting terms on the Board. We look forward to working with Gerry and Shashi in the coming year.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in CreativeVision. While we couldn't control Mother Nature and the circumstances were disappointing, the art and photography were truly exceptional.

Looking forward to March, we will be back to the 2nd Tuesday, March 10th with a presentation by Kenny McKeithan on “Photographing the Night Sky”. This will be a print competition so check the new guidelines and print your entries early.

Happy photographing and enjoy capturing the moment.

Julia Parrish

Monthly Meeting

Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 7 pm

Meeting Type: In Person

Meeting Location: Hidden Cypress

The slideshow will begin at 6:30 pm

Competitions

Contest Theme: Black & White

Contest Entry Format: Digital

Deadline for Contest Submission: Digital entry submission has passed – was due by midnight Friday, January 30th

Competitions Rule Update

Three changes will be in effect starting with the March 2026 competition and beyond. This news will also be announced in a List Serve email sent to all members. The club website will carry this information on the club website as well.

1. March 2026, Theme: "Curves", September 2026, Theme: "Patterns/Repetition" and November 2026, Theme: "Street Photography" will now become PRINT competitions. This will give 2026 three print entries and five digital entries. People's Choice remains automatic inclusion on the electronic ballot.
2. Mats will no longer be allowed in print competitions. This will level the playing field between matted and non-matted entries and save the club the expense of re-printing and mounting those entries that were matted but then later needed for the window display.

Our studio window will accommodate all 16 monthly winning prints only if they are not matted.

3. For Print Competition Entries: All photos must have a hard backing such as dry mounting, foam core (no thicker than ¼”) in order for the committee or judge to handle it. Mats are not permitted. The picture cannot be framed. Rectangular shaped entries must be between 14" and 16" on the long side. Sides of square entries must be between 12" and 14".

Speaker and Competition Judge: Parker Stewart

Presentation Topic: "Tideland" and "On The Banks"

Parker Stewart will be presenting photographs and stories from two of his projects: "Tideland" and "On The Banks". He will also discuss his career as both a photographer and fine art printer based in Savannah, Georgia.

Parker Stewart (b. 1992) is a photographer and fine art printer based in Savannah, Georgia. A native of North Carolina, Stewart arrived in Savannah in 2011 to study photography at the Savannah College of Art and Design. Stewart's work is focused on the notion of Place, and he uses photography as a tool to record the moments and scenes that move him the most. Currently, Stewart is making photographs of the landscape and culture of the wild Georgia coastline and the rural Savannah River basin, as well as working on long-term bodies of work in Coastal Maine, Western North Carolina, the Oregon Coast, and the Mojave Desert. His body of work 'Tideland' was recently exhibited as a solo exhibition at Telfair Museums' Jepson Center in Savannah, Georgia.

Check out Parker Stewart Photography

<https://www.parkerstewartphotography.com/tideland#1>

Look Ahead - Meetings and Competition Themes

March 2026

Meeting Date: March 10th

Meeting Type: In Person

Entry Format: **Print**

Deadline for Submission: March 6th

Contest Theme: Curves

Guest Speaker / Topic: Kenny McKeithan – “Photographing the Night Sky”

April 2026

Meeting Date: April 14th

Meeting Type: In Person

Entry Format: Digital

Deadline for Submission: April 10th

Contest Theme: It’s in the Eyes

Guest Speaker: Jeff Coyle

May 2026

Meeting Date: May 5th

Meeting Type: In Person

Entry Format: Digital

Deadline for Submission: May 1st

Contest Theme: Inspired by a Song (Entry title must be a song title)

Guest Speaker: Eric Horan

June, July & August - No Meetings

Feature Article

Could Your Photo Be Part of the 2027 Creative Vision Exhibition?

by Joe Turino

As Creative Vision 2026 made history as a one-day event, it's a good moment for club members to pause—not to look back, but to look ahead. Severe winter weather, including snow and unusually cold temperatures, altered the show's schedule, but not its importance to the Photography Club or its role in bringing photographers and artists together.

Creative Vision may involve multiple clubs, but it begins and ends with member photographers. Every painting, glass piece, and wood creation displayed on opening day started with a photograph taken by a member of our club. Without that photograph, the collaboration never happens.

Every Creative Vision collaboration begins with a photograph—created by one of our photographers.

That perspective is especially timely. President Julia Parrish reports the club now has 442 members, including 108 new members, meaning nearly one-quarter of our membership joined recently. For many newer photographers, Creative Vision can feel like something only long-time participants do. In reality, it is one of the most approachable and rewarding ways to get involved in our major club event.

This year's show underscored just how central photography is to Creative Vision. Creative Vision 2026 featured 146 total participants, including 73 photographers, paired with 61 All About Art artists, eight glass crafters, and four woodworker artists. Each collaboration begins the same way: photographers and artists are randomly paired, then meet and talk, giving the artist—whether painter, glass crafter, or woodworker—the opportunity to review a photographer's work. From there, the artist selects the single photograph that inspires them to create their own interpretation.

“The idea has always been collaboration,” said John Burrack, Pairing and Participant Communications Chair, a longtime member of the club who has been involved with Creative Vision since 2014. “It's about two independent interpretations of the same moment—one through photography and the other through a different medium.”

John has participated as a photographer in every Creative Vision exhibition. “This year is my 13th pairing,” he said. That long involvement reflects the value many photographers find in the experience—not just seeing an image displayed but seeing how it sparks another artist’s creativity.

For photographers, Creative Vision offers benefits beyond exhibition space. First is visibility: selected photographs are displayed to the entire Sun City community. Second is engagement: Favorite Choice voting allows residents to respond directly to the work, including voting for Favorite Photo and Favorite Pair. Third is opportunity: photographs may be offered for sale, placing members’ work into homes throughout the community.

It’s interesting to note that planning for the next Creative Vision begins soon after this year’s event. Planning, and there is a lot of it, takes place throughout the year, and participation starts simply—with an email invitation from the president. When Creative Vision 2027 invitations are sent, typically in September, photographers interested in participating are encouraged to sign up right away, ensuring a broad and diverse pool of images for pairing. As always, artist pairings are random.

“For the last two shows, we’ve used a digital random pairing system,” John said. “It’s efficient, fair, and it allows us to create more than 70 photographer-artist collaborations.”

Following Creative Vision 2026, the takeaway for our member photographers is clear: this is your event. With photography at the center of every collaboration, Creative Vision 2027 offers an opportunity for club members to participate, collaborate, and see where one inspired image can lead.

Why Creative Vision 2026 Became a One-Day Show

by Joe Turino

Creative Vision 2026 unfolded much faster than anyone expected. The show was fully set up and opened as planned on Friday, January 30, with Favorite Choice voting underway. However, an extreme winter weather forecast for the weekend—snow and unusually cold temperatures— led to the cancellation of the remaining Saturday and Sunday viewing days, limiting this year’s exhibition to one day only.

This was a first for Creative Vision. While the event has faced challenges before, it has never been shortened after opening. The only other time Creative Vision did not

proceed as planned was in 2021, when the show was canceled before setup due to the COVID pandemic.

John Burrack, who was Photography Club president at the time, recalled that period. “I had just started as club president that year,” he said. “We held the January meeting, had Creative Vision set for early February, and shortly after that came the complete shutdown of all Sun City facilities. Almost all of my two presidential years were spent on Zoom.”

Attempts were made on Saturday to obtain the Creative Vision 2026 Favorite Choice winners, but that information was not available by newsletter deadline. Patricia Rozonkiewicz, president of the All About Art Club, who was reached late yesterday said she plans to share a post with the winners and their images on Sunday, February 1, so all clubs receive the information at the same time.



The above images were extracted from Facebook 😊 For more images from Friday’s opening. See [this short 4 minute video](#) for more images that were posted to Facebook. I am crediting the following individuals for these pictures – I have no idea who’s pictures are who’s – I simply saved them and created a video from them: Rochelle McGrath, John Burrack, Patty Marshall, Kate Crowley, Tom Mills, Maddy Cahill, Jane Capraro, Bruce Marshall, Sandy Holz and Diana Sull.



First Saturday Sales: This event takes place on Saturday, February 7th, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm in the photography studio and is open to all residents of Sun City.

Open Studio: The studio is open each Tuesday from 1:30 pm to 4:00 for Printing, Mounting, Matting, Camera help, or questions about the club in general.

Studio Fees: New studio material fees have been posted in the studio on the [Club's Website](#)

Club Orientation: Orientation sessions are scheduled from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on February 23rd (Mon), March 30th (Mon), April 27th (Mon) and May 26th (Tue). These sessions are geared towards new (or newer) Photography Club members and will introduce you to the studio and the many facets of our club. Sessions are led by the club's leadership, with introductions provided by the club's officers and leadership team.

[Sign up here](#)

Education



Lake Somerset Walk Around - Phone Cameras

Welcome to *Winter* and the Winter Semester. Classes began last week, with most starting in February and ending in March. Registration wasn't perfect, but interest was extremely high—we filled nearly one-third of all seats in the first 10 minutes and nearly half within the first hour. As of today, 78% of seats are taken, 13 classes are full, and 11 of those have waitlists. We're working on improving

the registration process for Spring, though the popularity of these classes means many people rush to sign up as soon as registration opens.

There are still seats available for some great classes available within the next couple of weeks – you can register here <https://forms.gle/Gm8hhR15BNtodWM59>

- Railroad Photography Seminar (8 seats avail) One Session: 2/3 from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
- Getting Started - Samsung Galaxy Phone Camera (1 seats avail) Two Sessions: 2/10 and 2/17 from 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

- Street Photography: A Day in the Life (8 seats avail) Two Sessions: 2/12 and 2/19 from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
- Travel Photography Using Your Smartphone (Zoom) (5 seats avail) One Session: 2/13 from 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

The Education Committee hopes these classes continue your journey of stretching your imagination and developing a personal vision with more creative and expressive images. Questions? Email pcscheducation@gmail.com.

Ward Litzenberg

pcscheducation@gmail.com

Club Trips

We had a great time on the Florida Wetlands and Rocket Launch 2026 Trip. There were 21 members and guests who enjoyed the balmy Florida weather wearing their warmest winter coats, hats, and gloves. Mother Nature had her fun but so did we. We also had five new members on their first Club Trip and from their comments, they had a great time. The night rocket launch was rescheduled twice but finally lifted off on Wednesday night on a 35-degree night.

Congratulations go out to Bob Yakely on his long exposure photo of night rocket launch and Laurie Kellum who was at the right place & time to photograph a bobcat at Blackpoint Dr.

To see the photos from this and other club Trips visit the Trip Gallery on our club's website: <https://pcschh.org/trip-galleries/>

About Club Trips

If you are new to the Photography Club or haven't been on a Club trip in a while, there are many benefits of going on Club Trips, which include but are not limited to:

- All Skill Levels and Cameras: If you are new to photography or a seasoned photographer, Club trips are open to everyone in the Photography Club.
- Make Friends: Meet and get to know other members of the Photography Club
- Cameras: All cameras are suitable for our Club trips, including your cell phones.
- Learning: By going out and photographing a variety of subjects under different conditions, you develop the photographic muscle memory you need to improve your skills. The more you shoot the better you get.

- **Get Help:** If you have a question about settings, composition or about your camera, all you need to do is ask one of the other members on the trip and they will help you. We are “Friends Helping Friends”
- **Variety of Subject:** We travel to different locations providing you with the opportunity to photograph different types of subjects from wildlife, landscapes, architecture, transportation, street photography and more.
- **Destinations:** We live in an ecologically and historically rich part of the country and we get to photograph it with other photographers. On our day trips, we visit local locations and on our Multi-Day Trips, we head out to locations that require overnight stays (Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee).
- **Fun:** We always have a good time on Club Trips.

First Club Trip

If you are new to the Photography Club, going on a Club Trip is one of the best ways to get the experience with your camera. You can get help from seasoned members and make new friends along the way. If you are considering going on a PCSCHH Club Trip not sure where to start, start with a Local Day Trips. These Day Trips are normally 4-6 hours long and you are home for dinner.

Club Trip Parking

Day Trips

We have a new “Meet Up/Day Trip Parking” location for Club Trips. The designated location is the parking lot across from the Photography Club Studio. This location was selected due to its proximity to the studio. A Parking Permit is not required for Day Trips.

Overnight Parking Requirements

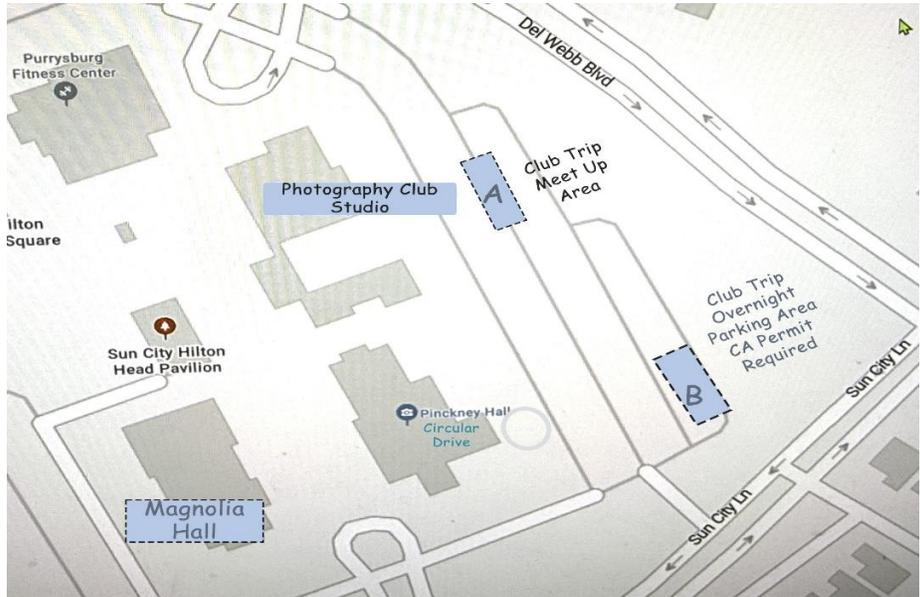
For Multi-Day Trips it is highly recommended the drivers pick up riders at their residence or the riders have someone drop them off at the “Day Trip Meet Up” location “A” on the Parking Diagram provided below. We do not recommend parking your vehicles in the designated Pinckney Hall Overnight Parking area “B” on the Parking Diagram unless it is absolutely necessary.

Parking Diagram

Below is a diagram showing the designated Club Trip Parking Areas

A. Meet Up/Day Trip Parking”

B. Overnight Parking - Community Association Permit Required



Our next Club Trip is one of the Photography Clubs favorite local destinations.

⇒ Battle at Broxton Bridge - Saturday February 28th from 11AM to 6PM



If you are a history buff, this trip is for you. The Battle at Broxton Bridge stands as a pivotal engagement during the American Civil War on February 2, 1865. This re-enactment marks the crucial moment in the war, when the Union forces clashed with

Confederate troops that were trying to safeguard the Broxton Bridge over Salkehatchie River and impede the relentless march of the Union army.

The Battle at Broxton Bridge Reenactment is scheduled to begin at 2 PM

There will be many Civil War period exhibits to photograph.

You can purchase food and drink on site, or you can bring a bag lunch, beverages along.

This will be a long afternoon, so it is recommended that you bring a portable seat/chair/stool to sit on.

Travel & Destination Information

Time: 11 AM to 6 PM

Entrance Fee: \$10 per person

Free Parking & Food Vendors on Site

To register for the Battle at Broxton Bridge 2026 Club Trip, CLICK on the following link: [Registration Link for The Battle at Broxton Bridge 2026](#)

These are the potential club trips that are still in the planning stages:

- St. Augustine and the Alligator Farm – March (Details to be published soon)
- Angel Oak Tree & Magnolia Plantation - March/April
- Bonaventure Cemetery – March/April
- Golf Course Nature Tour – Dates TBD
- Beidler Audubon Forest – May
- Swan Lake – May/June

If you have any question regarding any of the Club Trips, please contact Mike Laferriere via email at: michaellaferriere62@gmail.com

Look forward to seeing you on one of the upcoming Club Trips.

Mike Laferriere
Club Trip Coordinator

User Groups

Lumix: The LUMIX group is suspending monthly meetings but will offer some field trips in 2026. Look for emails from Freddi. Email freddih@sbcglobal.net if you wish to join this User Group.

Canon R-Users Group: Canon R-UG will meet at 1pm on the 3rd Monday of each month. Meetings will be in the Studio unless otherwise noted on the PCSC Calendar. This Group is open to members with Canon's "R" series mirror-less cameras and any other PCSC Member interested in learning more about them. Group members are encouraged to raise questions about camera set-up, menu items, RF series Canon lenses and shooting experiences at each meeting. You are also welcome to bring some pictures to share. Each month we seek to have a member share experience with one or more equipment/menu capabilities they have explored or images captured. Use the link below to provide your contact information if you want to be included on the User Group's contact mailings: [PCSC Canon R-Usergroup Contact List](#)

Phone Photography: The Phone Photography User Group meets on the first Wednesday each month on **ZOOM** from 1:00 - 2:30 pm. We discuss and share information on features of both Apple and Android phone cameras. Members frequently share information and demonstrate various applications and techniques for capturing or editing their images. Each month we share phone camera photos with each other. To join this group contact Sue Flynn at sueparkerflynn@gmail.com

Nikon: This is a forum for Nikon camera users to learn and share their knowledge about the capabilities of Nikon cameras of all types, lenses, and accessories. Field trips are also planned. We meet the 2nd Friday of every month at 10:30 AM in the studio. Contact Bob Seltzer robertseltzer6378@gmail.com for information.

Sony – Mirrorless: This group of Sony mirrorless camera users was formed to give photographers using Sony mirrorless camera equipment a place to share their knowledge. Contact Everett Denning, etdenning@gmail.com for information and to get on our mailing list.



JANUARY MEETING NEWS

January Competition Winners

Theme: "Architecture"

Judge: Melissa Needle

NOVICE



1st Place - "Going Down", Karl Persson

2nd Place - "Easter Island", Jay Ricci

3rd Place - "Atomic Aftermath", Janet Price

Honorable Mention - "Fire in Urban Sun City", Bruce Marshall

INTERMEDIATE



1st Place - "Arches", Norm Wells

2nd Place - "To the Sky", Diane Gray

3rd Place - "The Arsenal", Ron Duponte

Honorable Mention - "Topsy Turvy", Judy Hardie

ADVANCED



1st Place - “Passages”, Rick Vandette

2nd Place - “Mediated View”, Sue Vandette

3rd Place - “Where Stones Tell Stories”, Diane Brayden

Honorable Mention - “Welcome to Sugar Heaven”, Sue Flynn

EXPERT



1st Place - “The Blue Door”, Gerry Fagan

2nd Place - “Footsteps of the Past”, Julia Parrish

3rd Place - “X – Braced Heritage”, Barbara Reeves

Honorable Mention - “Quiet Descent”, Kathy Leonard

Competition Category Advancements

As a result of the January competition, Jay Ricci and Karl Persson have moved from the Novice category to Intermediate; Ron Duponte has moved from the Intermediate category to Advanced; and Rick Vandette has moved from the Advanced category to Expert.



Please join us in welcoming the Sun City Photography Club's newest members, bringing our membership count to 442 current members:

Margaret Palmer	Sybil Fisher	Laurie Kellum	Leslie Woodworth
Michelle Plinta	Chuck Plinta	Richard LaFountain	Becky Hayes
Linda Shea	Rich Bernstein	Carol Bernstein	JoAnne Connell
Ilene Greenberg	Nick Hayes	Brenda McCallum	John Yennie

Note: We have completed the annual purge of members who did not renew for 2026



Club Website: <https://pcschh.org>

Be sure to visit our club website frequently for up-to-date information on trips, education, club meetings and competitions. View past competition winning photos as well as photos from past club trips. Newsletters and minutes from club meetings are archived there for your convenience.

Do you have ideas for things you'd like to see on the website? Email pcschhwebsite@gmail.com with any suggestions.

Photographer of the Month

Our February Photographer of the Month is Cindy Fiano. Go to pcschh.org and access this exciting feature from the Home page or Announcements page or from Galleries on the main menu. Meet Cindy and view a showcase of some of her favorite photographs.

If you would like to nominate someone as Photographer of the Month, including yourself, please email pcschhwebsite@gmail.com

Monthly Slideshow

Make sure to participate in the monthly slide show that features our members' best photo from the prior month. Email your favorite photo to monthly-slideshow@yogile.com and put your Name and Photo Title in the subject line of the email. Only 1 photo per member please. All others will be deleted.

Member Showcases

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.



“Friends Helping Friends”

You are receiving this newsletter because you subscribed to the Sun City Photography Club's mailing list.

Ward Litzenberg, Editor

Joseph Turino, Contributing Editor

Do you have a story or want to contribute to the newsletter? Email us at pcschh.newsletter@gmail.com

Previous issues of the PCSCHH Newsletter: <https://pcschh.org/newsletters/>