Photography Club of Sun City - November Newsletter

November 1, 2026



Welcome to November.We had a wonderful October Zoom meeting with Melanie Dunea. She graciously shared her expertise and experience with us once again. Her work is amazing, and her personality shines through her incredible images. She was the perfect judge for our Portrait of a Person theme.

Congratulations to all our competition winners. Special congratulations to the photographers who advanced to the next level as result of this competition: Patty Marshall, Greg Cunningham, and Michael Waleryszak advanced from Novice to Intermediate, and Keri Ricci advanced from Advanced to Expert. We're proud to see our members continuing to grow, refine their skills, and achieve new milestones in their photography. Congratulations to all.

The annual Sun City Club Fair was a huge success for the Sun City Photography Club. In just three hours, we welcomed 30 new members and processed 22 membership renewals. We were busy, and it was wonderful to see so much interest in our club. We currently have 528 members, and 29% have already renewed for the new membership year. Thank you to everyone who has renewed. If you haven't renewed yet, please take a moment to do so soon. It's easy. Visit our website and click the Join/Renew button or use this direct link: 2027 Renewal. We look forward to another great year of learning, sharing, and enjoying photography together.

We have a fun trip planned for November 10th to the Riverbanks Zoo and Garden in Columbia. It's only about two hours away and it is a fantastic zoo. I went for the first time last year, and I had so much fun watching and photographing the tigers, lions, seals, otters, flamingos, and giraffes. But the meerkats really stole the show. Hopefully you will join us for a wonderful day exploring this beautiful, very walkable zoo, enjoying the animals, and capturing some great photos along the way. It should be a fun day for everyone.

A special thank you to Shashi Cooduvalli for his vision and creativity in bringing Photographic Journeys to life. We also want to thank everyone who participated and came out to enjoy this wonderful event. A special thank you to Tom Mills, Gerry Fagan, and Barb Reeves for sharing the five photographs that best tell the story of their photographic journeys. Their presentations were inspiring, entertaining, and informative, offering a wonderful glimpse into their creative growth, experiences, and passion for photography. Thank you for sharing your stories, knowledge, and inspiration with all of us. Photographic Journeys was a wonderful opportunity for members to share their photographs, exchange techniques and ideas, learn from one another, and enjoy the camaraderie that makes our club so special. We look forward to continuing this tradition again next year.

Our November meeting is a week earlier this month. It will be November 3rd at Hidden Cypress Ballroom. The slideshow will start at 6:30 with a short business meeting at 7:00 followed by our speaker, Patrick Randall who will be speaking on "Getting Closer/Confronting the Fear".

Enjoy the cooler weather and all the wonderful photographic opportunities the Lowcountry has to offer. Happy shooting, and we look forward to seeing the beautiful images you capture.

Julia Parrish



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

Meeting Type: In Person

Meeting Location: Hidden Cypress Ballroom

The slideshow will begin at 6:30 pm

Competition Theme: Street Photography

Contest Entry Format: Print

Deadline for Contest Submission: has already passed (it was Friday October 30th)

Special Reminder: Please have your print set up for display in the ballroom by **6:15 PM**. The judge reviews digital entries ahead of time, but the **final decisions are based on seeing the actual prints**. Let's make sure yours is in place and looking its best.

Speaker and Competition Judge: Randall Patrick

Randall Patrick is a self-taught photographer and writer from Baltimore currently residing in Savannah, GA. His talk will be about " Getting Closer/Confronting the Fear" that we thought would be interesting and appropriate subject to complement our November competition theme of 'Street Photography'.

Randall has forged his own path in the fine art world by creating his own opportunities outside of the institutions, publishing his own book, putting on DIY exhibitions, and selling his artwork to the public on the streets. He is also spearheading the wedding industry, bringing his sense of street artistry into the wonderful magic of weddings.

Check out Randall's website: https://www.randallpatrickfilm.com/

Competitions

Competition Entries Time Limit Revision - Unless otherwise specified, the entered photograph must have been taken within two (2) years of the month of the current competition. Example: For March 2027 competition, no entry can be taken before March 2025.

Second Look - The Second Look competition will follow the People's Choice awards.

How Second Look Works

- Open to all who entered a monthly competition (January through November 2026) and did not win an award in that month.
- ***Entry Deadline is Friday, November 13th.***
- Only one entry per member is allowed.
- This is a digital competition.
- The Second Look theme is "Open" regardless of the entry's original theme.
- Time Limit: Only those images submitted for January 2026 through and including November 2026 competitions are eligible for this event.
- Competition points and ribbons will be awarded and will count toward level advancement.

No need to submit your image again. We already have it.

Just send an e-mail to PCSCHH1@Gmail.com and include the following information:

The subject line of your email should read: Second Look
Your name
Original Title of your photo
The month you originally entered it
Your competition level at the time
Your current competition level

This should be a lot of fun, and we're hoping for an enthusiastic response.

John Hock
Competition Committee Chair

Look Ahead - Meetings and Competition Themes

December 2026
Theme: People's Choice & Second Look

January 2027
Theme: Holidays
Entry Format: Digital

February 2027
Theme: Still Life
Entry Format: Print

March 2027
Theme: Black & White
Entry Format: Print

April 2027
Theme: Macro/Close-Up
Entry Format: Print

May 2027
Theme: Through a Portal
Entry Format: Print

September 2027
Theme: Family & Friends
Entry Format: Print

October 2027
Theme: Complementary Colors
Entry Format: Print

November 2027
Theme: Things Military
Entry Format: Print

December 2027
Theme: People's Choice & Second Look

Feature Article

“Photographic Journeys” Celebrates Creativity, Inspiration and Club Talent
by Joe Turino

Twenty photographers, three featured presenters and countless stories behind the lens made our Photography Club's inaugural “Photographic Journeys” a successful evening of creativity, inspiration, and shared learning on October 20th at Hidden Cypress.

Organized by Shashi Cooduvalli with Dale Methven as emcee, the program celebrated members' photographic accomplishments and showed how experimentation, encouragement and trying something new can transform ordinary photographs into extraordinary ones.

The evening began with a gallery-style showcase of printed photographs by 20 advance-registered members. Exhibits ranged from wildlife and landscapes to travel scenes and imaginative compositions, sparking conversations about the creativity and techniques behind each image. Participating photographers and their prints were:

Bill Armon, *New Plymouth*;
Sean Lee, *Indifferent Wolf*;
Ron Duponte, *Building Our Home in the Lowcountry*;
Robert Seltzer, *Sunset Surprise*;
Keri Ricci, *Abstraction # 2*;
Richard Matheny, *Evening Congregation*;
Steve Tate, *Gone With the Tide*;
Peggy Johnson, *Where did everybody Go?*;
Gerry Fagan, *Etched Bloom*;
Dale Methven, *Harvest Moon*;
Rich Schaar, *Hansom Cab Driver, NYC*;
Martha Girardi, *Sunset on the May*;
Fred Andrews, *Snug as Two Bugs*;
Tom Lehrer, *Retired and Rusting*;
Tricia Dudley, *Waiting for coffee*;
Stan Lituchy, *Teller of Tall Tales*;
J. Lanning Smith, *Washington Square NYC*;
Bruce Marshall, *Monarch & Milkweed*;
Jim McKnight, *Manta, Palau Archipelago*;
Diane Brayden, *Akaroa, New Zealand*.

The photographs demonstrated our club's range of interests and talents. Attendees could ask questions of the photographers present with their prints, giving those members a chance to tell their story and explain the creativity and techniques behind their work.

Dale introduced featured presenters Barbara Reeves, Gerry Fagan and Tom Mills, each sharing five photographs illustrating milestones, lessons, and memorable experiences along their photographic journeys.

A board secretary for four years and education committee member since 2018, Barbara received the club's Outstanding Contribution Award last year. She recalled joining 10 years ago with a DSLR camera she barely knew how to operate. Through photographs, she illustrated how classes, special interest groups and mentoring helped her progress from learning basic composition and long exposures to discovering the dramatic possibilities of black-and-white photography. She also described learning to look beyond the obvious, finding unexpected beauty in subjects such as a fading camellia.

"Step outside your comfort zone and try something different," Barbara encouraged members. Her journey emphasized that improvement comes not only from mastering camera settings but also from experimenting, seeing familiar subjects in new ways and learning from other photographers. She credited Tom Mills, mentor Corky Burt, and Dale Methven among those who helped shape her development.

A member since 2021 and former board member-at-large, Gerry previously served as president of the Hilton Head Photography Club. He shared photographic "aha moments" that changed the way he makes pictures: discovering digital photography, entering competitions, learning from classes and critiques, refining composition and exploring post-processing. One striking example was a fog-covered Texas swamp photographed from a boat. To achieve a dramatic water-level perspective, he planted his tripod in the mud and worked close to the surface.

For Gerry, that experience illustrated how a change of viewpoint can transform a scene. He stressed practice, thoughtful composition, and constructive criticism as essential parts of growth. "You just can't take a picture and hide it," Gerry said, urging members to share their work, welcome critiques and learn from experienced photographers.

A club member for 14 years, Tom has taught numerous: classes, helped develop the Fundamentals program and led special interest groups. His presentation photographs mixed humor with lessons about planning, timing, and imagination. One image, inspired

by Alfred Hitchcock's "Psycho," was staged with help from his wife, Kay, showing how an inventive idea can become a memorable photograph. He also recalled borrowing his father's treasured camera as a teenager, when every exposure demanded careful thought before pressing the shutter.

Today Tom blends photography with drawing and digital artistry, encouraging members to move beyond familiar techniques. He spoke about anticipating action, experimenting through trial and error, and taking creative chances rather than waiting for the perfect opportunity. "Just try something different. Take a risk," he said.

Tom summed up the deeper value of an image with an observation that captured the evening's spirit: "Photographs can carry emotion, and this emotion can be communicated to the viewer."

Dale thanked the 20 showcase photographers, the three featured presenters and everyone attending. She recognized Diane Brayden for preparing exhibitors' nameplates and Shashi for his vision and organization. Club President Julia Parrish was also recognized for supporting the initiative.

The evening concluded with sustained, enthusiastic applause, a tribute to the photographers and the program's success. And the journeys will continue! Organized by Shashi, the next "Photographic Journeys" is scheduled for Thursday, April 29, 2027, at Hidden Cypress. Twenty registered club members will each display a printed photograph and answer questions, alongside featured presentations by Tom Lehrer, Dale Methven, and Jim Smith, celebrating all 23 participants' creativity and photographic experiences.

To help make future programs even better, Shashi and Dale welcome feedback from attendees on what worked well, what could be improved and how the evening flowed. Send suggestions to Shashi at shashi323@gmail.com or Dale at dalemethven@aol.com.

With more photographic adventures ahead, "Photographic Journeys" promises another rewarding celebration of members' creativity, friendships and the "Friends Helping Friends" spirit that makes our club special.

Below are only a sampling of the twenty participating photographers in the gallery-style showcase. *All photos by Dale Methven.*



Rich Matheny displays a colorful sunset photograph capturing the glow of the evening sky reflected across a tranquil Lowcountry marsh.



Jim McKnight displays an underwater photograph featuring a graceful ray, a diver and a school of fish, offering a striking glimpse beneath the surface.



Tricia Dudley stands beside her framed photograph, “Waiting for Coffee,” one of the creative works displayed during the inaugural “Photographic Journeys”



Fred Andrews shares his framed photograph, “Snug as Two Bugs,” capturing a playful, cozy moment between two youngsters.



J. Lanning Smith displays “Washington Square NYC,” a black-and-white street scene that captures the energy and personalities of city life.



Diane Brayden displays “Akaroa, New Zealand,” a sweeping landscape photograph featuring hills and water on New Zealand’s South Island.



Ron Duponte stands beside his wildlife photograph of two birds tending their nest, bringing a moment from nature into the “Photographic Journeys” exhibit.



Martha Girardi stands beside her framed photograph, “Sunset on the May River,” capturing the fading colors of the evening sky over the water.



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

Studio Update: Your studio continues to be busy with classes, user groups, Help Sessions, and more. Be sure to check the calendar on the club website to see upcoming studio events and find opportunities to learn, connect, and improve your photography skills. If you need help printing your November competition entry (digital entry requirement has passed), we have one more Help Session scheduled for Tuesday, November 3rd. Please remember to sign up here.

We are also working on automating the studio's check-in and check-out processes to make completing the charge form much easier and more convenient. Stay tuned for more information as we prepare to improve the studio experience.

Open Studio - 2026 Print Reservations: We are asking all members who want **print services** including **photos, prints, dry mounting and matting** during Open Studio sessions to **register ahead of time** for a print time. Here's how it works:

1. You sign up online for a time to start your project giving us some information up front: Helpful information would include -- number of photos, print size category (less than 13x19 inches or larger than that), the need for mounting/matting and any special request for printing on special paper or canvas.
2. On the date you request, we will remind you of your time and that you need to bring a print-ready, edited image(s), preferably on a thumb drive.
3. You then enter the Studio at your print time, check-in with the Monitor and one of us will complete your project. Last of all, you will check out with the Monitor and in most cases be on your way in less than an hour.

Click Here to access the sign-up sheet. We plan to maintain visibility and access to the list for the current week PLUS the following 4 weeks for those planning ahead. If you would rather *take a chance,* you can also walk in during Open Help Sessions and ask the Monitor if there are unassigned slots or if the print volunteers are ahead of schedule. Open Studio is officially scheduled from 1:30-4:00 pm on Tuesdays, and we have limited the last reservation slots to 3 pm so all our volunteers can close-up by 4:00.

NOTE: Open Studio is available to all members as a walk-in resource **EVERY TUESDAY 1:30-4PM** and it's not only for Print Services! You can find help with your Photography, Camera and anything about the Photography Club of Sun City.

Orientation: The remaining 2026 Orientation sessions are scheduled from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on November 30th and December 28th. These sessions are geared towards new (or newer) Photography Club members and will introduce you to the club's website, the studio and the many facets of our club. Each session is led by members of the club's leadership team, with brief introductions from the club's officers to help you get acquainted with the people who keep the club running. **Sign up here**

Education

The Fall Semester continues through November 20, and there are still some excellent classes with openings available. The Fall Semester catalog and registration link can be found on the Education page of the club website, https://pcschh.org/education/, where you'll find class descriptions, registration information, and an updated list of classes with available seats.

The following November classes still have openings (# seats in parentheses):

Apple Photos (6 seats) One Session: 11/10 from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Composition Guidelines for Novices (5 seats) Two Sessions: 11/14 and 11/21 from 9:30 AM-11:00 AM

The Education Committee is currently developing the Winter class schedule. You can check the calendar to see the classes that are being planned, and we encourage you to continue checking through the end of December as the Winter lineup is finalized.

If there is a class you would like to see offered, or if you are interested in teaching a class, we would love to hear from you. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact **Ward Litzenberg** at **pcschheducation@gmail.com**.

Ward

Club Trips

November 10 - Columbia Zoo - Registration is still open

December 11 - Savannah Plant Riverside afternoon/evening

December 20 - Winter Solstice sunrise in Darien, GA, then visit Driftwood Beach on Jekyll Island in GA.

January - Back Roads - date and route yet to be determined

February 21-25 - Annual Florida trip to Titusville, visiting Port Canaveral, Merritt Island Wetlands, Orlando Wetlands, possible rocket launches

March - date to be determined - Bonaventure Cemetery morning, lunch on River Street in Savannah

April 20-21 - Cumberland Island & Okefenokee Swamp in Georgia [maybe some railroad photography in Folkston]

May - Swan Lake - date to be determined

On Your Own: June 3-5 Hot Air Balloon Festival in Helen, Georgia.

Doug Scott
Club Trip Coordinator

User Groups

The Photo Fundamentals Users Group (PFUG) We meet on the first Thursday of each month from 1:00 to 3:00. Our next meeting is November 5th, 1:00 to 3:00 in the Studio. We welcome those new to photography, new to competitions or simply interested in developing their photographic eye. Join us to share your photographs, see what others see, and have fun becoming a better photographer. This is a friendly, informal group where everyone is encouraged to participate. About a week before each meeting members are invited to submit two to three digital photographs. The photos are projected at the meeting, and the group explores together what "works" and where improvements might be made. Our philosophy is that every photograph is a draft. That doesn't mean a photo is good or bad, it simply means that there may be something more to see, discover or try. The goal of PFUG is to encourage curiosity, build confidence and help one another become better photographers in a positive, supportive and relaxed

environment. Whether you shoot with a DSLR, a point-and-shoot camera or your phone, come share your pictures. Join the discussion and leave with some new ideas. Send an email to Tom Mills (millstom73@gmail.com) with PFUG in the title line to be added to the emailing list.

Lightroom User Group All currently active, experienced users of Lightroom Classic and Lightroom (aka Lightroom CC) are invited to join. This group is for sharing experiences and learning from each other via structured conversations led by various group members. Members will not only improve their Lightroom skills but also learn new ways to approach photography. Please note... While this group is intended for experienced Lightroom users and does not cover Lightroom mobile users, we don't want to exclude anyone. Please check club's upcoming class catalog for opportunities to get acquainted with Lightroom and grow your mobile editing skills. Monthly meetings will be held on the third Thursday of the month, 1:00-3:00pm (locations TBD, so check the club calendar). If you haven't already joined, or have questions about the User Group, please email Marshall Ponzi at marshall.ponzi@gmail.com.

Nikon: There will not be a November meeting. 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. Normally, we meet the 2nd Friday of every month at 10:30 AM in the studio. Contact Bob Seltzer robertseltzer6378@gmail.com for information.

Canon R-Users Group: We meet monthly on the 3rd Monday at 1:00 PM in the Studio. This Group is primarily for members with Canon "R-series" Mirrorless Cameras and any others wanting to know more about these systems. If you want to be included for the User Group's mailings sign up here: 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



OCTOBER MEETING NEWS

October Competition Winners

Theme: “Portrait of a Person”

Judge: Melanie Dunea

NOVICE



1st Place - “Once a Runner” - Patty Marshall

2nd Place - “One lucky Fox” - Michael Waleryszak

3rd Place - “Quiet Strength” - Greg Cunningham

HM - “A Happy Bride” - Pete Kellos

INTERMEDIATE



1st Place - “In the Village Market” - Janet Price

2nd Place - “Mr. Johnny Polite” - Fred Andrews

ADVANCED



1st Place - “Lost in thought” - Keri Ricci

2nd Place - “In his Element” - Cindy Fiano

3rd Place - “Rosie the Riveter” - Doug Scott

HM - “The Photographer” - Bob Seltzer

EXPERT



1st Place - “Pearl” - Rick VanDette

2nd Place - “Trina and Jackson” - Theda Parks

3rd Place - “Cathy - Gerry Fagan

HM - “Man in Park - Stan Lituchy

Competition Category Advancements

As a result of the October competition, **Patty Marshall, Michael Waleryszak and Greg Cunningham** advanced from the Novice category to Intermediate while **Keri Ricci** advanced from Advanced to Expert. Congratulations to each of you!



Please join us in welcoming the Sun City Photography Club's newest members, bringing our membership count to 528 current members:

Richard Berson	Vanessa Bramble	James Browder	Maggie Capomaccio
Denise Cesare	Daniel Cesare	Bruce Chew	Lynn Chew
Mitchell Cooperman	Lynn D'Angelantonio	Geoff Elphick	David Evans
Nancy Gilbreath	Marcia Gordenstein	Jim Govatsos	Susan Harris
Kim Kochan	Dave Leach	Lesa Leach	Marvin Margolies
Lenay Miller	Karey Norris	Donna Otoole	Suzanne Raymond
Doug Ronnau	Sue Roycroft	Kathleen Ruhs	Linda Shaffer
James Smith	Tina Squires	Joe Squires	Richard Taliani
Patricia Thomas	John Wilson	Joseph Yackamovitch	Christine Zambrio
Maureen Zeidler	Paul Zeidler	Susan Zimmerman	

New member badges will be available for pick-up at our monthly membership meetings.

It is time to renew your membership for 2027. Go to pcschh.org and click on the Join/Renew button and renew today or use this direct link: 2027 Renewal.



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.

Click the links below to visit these exciting features:

Photographer of the Month Our November Photographer of the Month is **Bob Seltzer.** Meet Bob and view a showcase of some of his favorite photographs.

If you would like to nominate someone as Photographer of the Month, including yourself, please email Bruce Marshall at bgmarshall@earthlink.net

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 one 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/