



White Mountains, Panoramas category, 2021 Salon, *copyright Bobbie Thurston.*

June Monthly Meeting—Tues, June 29, at 7p: a virtual ZOOM meeting featuring David Swindler

Join us on June 29 for a Zoom meeting with David Swindler, award-winning landscape and wildlife photographer who specializes in the desert Southwest. During his program, titled “Photographing the Great Southwest,” let David inspire you to photograph the desert as he shares some of his favorite locations, tips, and tricks. The Southwest is also ideal for capturing the dark, night skies – especially during the Milky Way season!

See David’s bio on p. 2.

SANP club members do not need to register. The Zoom link will be emailed to you on Sunday, June 27. Guests who are not SANP club members must [register](#) to receive the Zoom link via email. On June 29, visiting time starts at 6:45 and the meeting at 7.



Milky Way over the Toadstools near Kanab, Utah. *Copyright David Swindler.*

REMEMBER:

SANP is meeting via Zoom throughout the summer on our regular meeting night, the last Tuesday of the month. Program details will be shared on our [Facebook](#) site, [website](#), and newsletters.

Field Events will continue through the summer; see details on the website [Events](#) page.

BIO: David Swindler, June presenter

David Swindler is an award-winning landscape and wildlife photographer. Among others, he has been recognized by Sony World Photography Awards, International Landscape Photographer of the Year, and *National Geographic*.

With a degree in chemical engineering, David worked in the semiconductor industry, specializing in optics and photolithography. In 2014, he left his day job to follow his true passion, photography.

David started Action Photo Tours (<https://actionphototours.com/>), a boutique photo tour and workshop company that specializes in active adventures in the Southwest and beyond.

His travels, which have taken him to some of the most remote regions of the world, have provided extensive opportunities to photograph a wide variety of subjects. David finds great satisfaction in helping others learn photography, especially in the wild desert environment near his home in Kanab, Utah.

Our own Ron Sentell attended a workshop with David this spring. Join us on Tuesday, June 29, for a virtual trip to the desert southwest with David Swindler.



David Swindler, our June presenter.



The Milky Way from Toroweap, Grand Canyon. Copyright David Swindler.

SANP Field Events

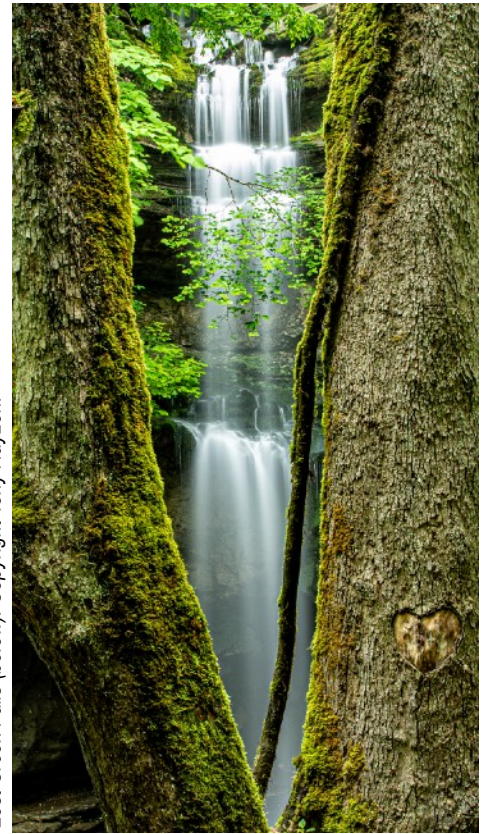
Check the [events page](#) on our website for all the latest information on future events. Contact [Dale Potter](#), 865.773.8114, if you are interesting in leading a field event.

Lost Creek Falls and Fall Creek Falls State Park —

Nine of us spent all day **Saturday, June 12**, photographing waterfalls in Middle Tennessee. We started with an early morning visit to Lost Creek Falls, which is now part of the area managed by Fall Creek Falls State Park. After photographing Lost Creek Falls, we traveled to Fall Creek Falls State Park to see Cane Creek Falls, Rock House Falls, Fall Creek Falls, and Coon Falls.

After we finished at Fall Creek Falls we traveled to Rock Island State Park to photograph Twin Falls, a location that impressed everyone. The next stop was at the Foglight Foodhouse for interesting conversations and a tasty meal. It was a great way to end a long but enjoyable day of photography.

Sunday morning four of us went to Burgess Falls and Cummins Falls before returning to Knoxville. — *Dale Potter*



Lost Creek Falls (below). Copyright Tony Hayzen.



SANP group about to enjoy a meal at Foglight Foodhouse. Copyright Dale Potter.



Burgess Falls. Copyright Gretchen Kaplan.



Lost Creek Falls, ISO64, two images, 8 and 15 second exposures, f22, focal length 20mm, with a circular polarizer; one exposure for the water and the other for the background. Copyright Jack Benhayon.

A New Way of Seeing and Photographing *by Ron McConathy*

Many dedicated and nature serious photographers wake up early in the morning and spend the few hours around sunset taking advantage of the low-angled light at the beginning and end of the day when the sun is close to the horizon. The middle of the day when the sun is overhead produces harsh shadows and excessive contrast that isn't conducive to great images. Some photographers use the mid-day period to scout for their evening photography locations, to take a deserved nap, process digital images, or spend time with their family.

There are ways to actually make quality photographs at mid-day, but they require a special set of photographic skills. Macro photography can continue all day with the use of a macro lens, fill flash, and/or light diffusers. The flash and diffusers fill in the mid-day's harsh shadows and soften the light on the subject. The other skill set is the use of an infrared (IR) converted camera. Scenic and nature infrared photographs are best when made with plenty of bright light, so mid-day is the perfect time to grab the infrared camera.

Infrared film was popular in the 1960s when 35mm false-color infrared film became available from Kodak, and it was also used by the military. In 2007, Kodak announced that it would discontinue its 35mm infrared film due to a decline in demand for the product. Today, digital cameras can be converted to record images made with the infrared part of the color spectrum. The conversion is done by removing the IR blocking filter that sits in front of your DSLR's sensor and replacing it with one that allows only IR light to pass through. One option is to convert an old DSLR instead of purchasing a more expensive, dedicated new infrared camera.

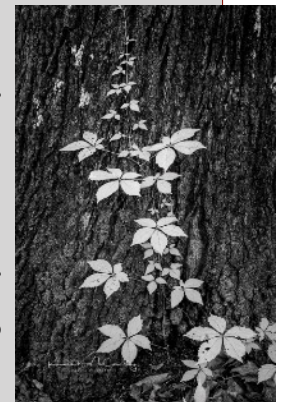
Several companies will convert a DSLR camera to IR for around \$275 for popular camera models. I used www.lifepixel.com to convert my Canon M5 camera body to photograph the 720nm wavelength, and the conversion is working well for me. The LifePixel website is full of useful information about IR photography and camera conversions.

You can put a filter on your existing DSLR to make IR photos (use Hoya R72 Filter or Kodak Wratten 89b Filter on an unconverted camera), but since the very dark filter passes little light, and the normal IR blocking filter in front of the sensor inside your camera blocks more IR light, the exposure times are long and require a tripod. With an IR-converted camera, photographs can be hand-held just like a regular DSLR, except the resulting images are made by IR light.

My prime interest was black and white IR images, and the 720nm wavelength conversion was good for that. Images made in the middle of the day with a bright sunny sky are the best. IR light is reflected differently in nature and is captured uniquely by the camera. Reflected IR light produces a fascinating array of surreal effects. In B&W IR images vegetation appears white or near white, and skies are very dark. There is a certain type of contrast—what you might refer to as “crispness”—rarely seen in normal photography. These effects and others are what provide the magic of IR photography; just about everything looks very different from what you are accustomed to seeing within the visible light spectrum. Therefore, you have to recalibrate your photographic vision to previsualize your IR photographs.

The IR RAW image files can be processed in Lightroom and Photoshop or whatever post-processing software you prefer. After a LifePixel conversion, they will help you learn to use your converted camera. During one of LifePixel's tutorials, they gave me a Photoshop action to improve my IR image files. There are plenty of YouTube videos on using an IR-converted camera and processing IR image files.

IR photography is probably not something everyone will be interested in pursuing, but if you are interested, learning IR photography will give you a new way of expressing your photographic vision and view of the natural world. During the past year of Covid isolation, IR photography has been a very enjoyable diversion for me. To get further inspired about IR photography, visit the Infrared Photography Group on Facebook (www.facebook.com/groups/Infraredphotography). Give me a call (865.387.8672) if you want to discuss IR photography.



IR images by Ron McConathy.



Our SANP BOARD, UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

[Interviews with our current Board of Directors continues this month with Sharon Wright Cottrell, who is also our club treasurer.]

I was born and raised in La Follette, Tennessee. During my years at La Follette High School, I was a member of the Student Council, the Beta Club, and Girl Scouts, achieving their highest award. After graduating from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville with a B.S. in Natural and Biological Sciences in the College of Education, I went to work for the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

During my 29-year career with TVA, I held many positions, including Biologist, Conservationist, Power Supply Analyst, Systems Analyst, Database Administrator, and Data Analyst. As TVA's Data Repository Administrator, I created data naming standards, a user guide, and a training class for implementing our database of metadata about TVA computer systems.

Some of you might be surprised to learn that I'm a tap dancer! That's not a skill particularly valuable to photographers, but it was useful in the 1986 Mrs. Tennessee Pageant and the Tennessee Senior America Pageant (I was Miss Congeniality in 2009 and 1st alternate in 2010). I am a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs [Ossoli Circle](#) and have served on the Board of Directors of the Knoxville Symphony League.

About 15 years ago, my husband Brad gave me a hand-me-down camera, a Canon 10D, to document my travels in the U.S. and Europe; that was the beginning of photography for me. I discovered SANP through Brad and joined the club around 2007. Travel, landscape, and architecture are my favorite types of photography, and my favorite locations are our national parks, any historical or unusual architecture, and any location in Europe.

Since acquiring that first used Canon 10D, my camera arsenal has grown. I have a Canon 50D for important photos in the U.S. because it has automatic depth of field (A-DEP) and a Canon G7X Mark II for travel in Europe. I always make a cell phone shot of every situation in case the photo from the "real" camera fails. A cell phone always makes a great photo. I believe that cell phones will continue to get better and better and be used by many great photographers in the future.

As far as other photographic equipment goes, I seldom use a tripod (it hinders my creativity), especially during European travels with large groups and limited time. Fortunately, I photograph quickly and move around a lot trying to capture the best shots. My camera stays around my neck so that it is quickly available. Composition comes naturally for me, and Lightroom (learned from Brad) provides great post-processing results. Being a highly technical photographer isn't as important, but documenting what I see in my travels is very important. Using Lightroom, I can add detailed information about all my photos, thus providing a quick reference for my trips when needed. Another plus is that slideshows and books can be made very quickly from photos using Lightroom. I have created 24 photographic books using Lightroom and Blurb to document my travels. Even if my Lightroom files don't survive beyond my lifetime, the books will.

Since starting photography, I have been lucky enough to have over a hundred winning photos in various photo contests, including ten winning photos for the Knox Heritage Art and Architecture Tour. My book, *Architecture of Knoxville*, includes photos from that contest



Sharon Wright Cottrell.



Totem Pole and Yei Bi Chei in Monument Valley, AZ. Copyright Sharon Cottrell.



The 24 books documenting my travels, created with Lightroom and Blurb. Copyright Sharon Cottrell.

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SANP BOARD, INTERVIEW WITH SHARON WRIGHT COTTRELL

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along with histories of many Knoxville historic buildings; it sells at Mast General Store and the Knoxville Historical Society. In 2012, I won Insight Vacations International Photo Contest with my photo of Santorini, published in the Insight Vacations 2013 Tour Catalogs and in the 2012 AAA *Going Places* Magazine.

Other publications include the *Inside TVA* Newspaper article "Traveller, Photographer, Author, and Tap Dancer" (2011), the TVA Retiree Association Newspaper detailing my World Cruise (September 2015), and the TVA Retiree Association Newsletter about my 85-day Mediterranean Cruise with 64 port days and 50 unique ports (December 2018).

Since retiring from TVA 18 years ago, traveling and documenting those adventures through photography has been my passion. Those travels include 70 countries and most of the national parks in the U.S. and Canada. Thirty-six Lightroom-created slideshows showcasing that travel have been presented 45 times to area camera clubs, GFWC Ossoli Circle, Knoxville Symphony League, and Wilderness Wildlife Week in Pigeon Forge.

Teaching is another enjoyable activity for me. "Travel the World the Easy Way," "Voyage of the Vikings," and "The Mediterranean: My Love Affair with the Land and Sea" are classes I've taught at Oak Ridge Institute for Continued Learning at Roane State Community College. The slide shows that support these classes are done with Lightroom.

When we're not traveling, working on our family trees using Family Tree Maker software brings me a lot of satisfaction, along with creating and publishing books to document what I find (i.e., *Sharon Anne Wright Family Genealogy*, *Bradley Omar Cottrell Family Genealogy*, and *Life Story of a Rural School Teacher*, my Aunt Pearl Evelyn Wright's autobiography). A copy of these books resides in historical societies where we were born. And they include lots of photographs!

This is a great time for SANP: our website is improved, we have a new membership management system, and many new field events have been planned. I welcome our new members who have joined during the past year. Hopefully, soon we will get back to physical club meetings and have the opportunity to get acquainted with each other in person. I hope we can continue to attract new members, particularly younger ones, to help carry on the club in the future.

As we celebrate our 30th club anniversary this year, the club is thriving, and I am sure that our founders would be pleased to see that we are now better than ever! As a Salon Committee member, I hope to celebrate that 30th anniversary by having an extra special Salon in 2021.

— Sharon Wright Cottrell



Cinque Terre Italy. Copyright Sharon Cottrell.



Fira Village Santorini. Copyright Sharon Cottrell.



Gateway to Curacao. Copyright Sharon Cottrell.

Want to share an interesting field experience or other information with fellow members? Email sanpinfo@sanp.net and include a short description and some photos.

Nye Simmons: I am offering a workshop in August hosted by F/32 Photo called "Printmaking for Nature Photographers – from RAW to Finished Print." This workshop, limited to eight participants, runs from 2 till 5 pm on four Saturdays—Aug 14, 21 and 28, and Sep 11. A make-up session can be arranged for anyone who's schedule requires. Learn more about the workshop at [my website](#). Register using the button at the bottom of the webpage. You can email me for more information at nyesimmons@chartertn.net.

Brad Cottrell: This is the best photo I got of the ponies during our visit to Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, located on Assateague Island in Virginia, in late May. The ponies are difficult to approach. This image was shot with a 448-mm equivalent focal length and then cropped to about 60% of original image size.



Chincoteague pony. Copyright Brad Cottrell.

A Little SANP History — Sharon McConathy

Sharon Cottrell's mention of this year being SANP's 30th birthday got me thinking about my own history with the club. I became involved with SANP in the fall of 2002 when my husband Ron was president. Photography was a choice I made because we loved outdoor adventures, and every one involved taking pictures (obviously). For the next few years I helped Ron with the newsletter. While Lee Ownby was president, Ron and I worked on the newsletter together. After Kendall Chiles became president, Ron continued to email Kendall's monthly newsletters to members, and sometime in 2014 I was involved in the newsletter process again. I kept thinking that a photo club should have a newsletter with some photos in it, and in early 2016 I began experimenting. By the end of that year, the format of the newsletter, which resembled what you see today, was firmly established.

Looking back through an SANP "archive" folder on my computer, I found some issues of newsletters from the early 2000s, but a number of newsletters are missing. Examining where we were twenty-odd years ago as a club is useful as we evaluate where we want to go in the future. With that in mind, could you check your files and see what you can find from September 2014 back? Let me know by emailing me at sanpinfo@sanp.net. Hopefully, together, we can fill in the gaps. One interesting thing I was reminded of while looking at some of the old newsletters is that we have a motto: Sharing the Awareness of Nature through Photography. That's another great definition of SANP, and one that I have added to our current opening image this month.

Ron also found some early surveys sent out to the membership. At the June Board of Directors meeting, a decision was made to use the survey feature of our Membership Management System to send a survey to members this fall, so look for more information about that in the next couple of months. Surveys, even though we sometimes groan when seeing yet another request for one, can be very useful to the organization, and in SANP's case, the goal is to gather information from the membership to help determine future activities. We will publish results from the survey in future newsletters.



January 2016 issue of the SANP Newsletter, the first one with our current format.

Future 2021 Club Meetings

July 27 TBD
 Aug 31 TBD

SANP Officers

President: [Ed Stickle](#), 865-405-8143
 Vice President: Open
 Secretary: Charles Samuels
 Treasurer: Sharon Cottrell

Volunteer Managers

Community Outreach: [Ron Sentell](#)
 Field Events: [Dale Potter](#)
 Historian: Open
 Membership: [Brad Cottrell](#)
 Newsletter: [Sharon McConathy](#)
 Programs: [Kendall Chiles](#)
 Salon: [Dale Potter](#)
 Social Media: [Chris Cannon](#)
 Website: [Sharon McConathy](#)
 Workshops: Open

Board of Directors

The Board meets 2nd Monday each month.

2019-2021:	Sharon Cottrell Charlie Samuels Ron McConathy
2020-2022:	David Boruff Kristina Plaas Kent Sauter
2021-2023:	Chris Cannon Gretchen Kaplan Marcy Wielfaert

CAMERA CLUB COUNCIL OF TENNESSEE (3CT)

SANP is a member club of 3CT, www.3ct.org, which is a network of photography clubs from across Tennessee and neighboring states. Their [monthly newsletter](#) (over 20 pages) includes information about meetings and events for member clubs. You can also visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CameraClubCouncilOfTennessee.

SANP BOARD MEETS JULY 12 AT 7PM

If you have a question or issue to bring before the Board, contact [Ed Stickle](#), President, 48 hours before the meeting. An issue may be presented in person (via Zoom for now) if you wish, as long as the president knows that's your preference.

If you want to attend a Zoom Board of Directors meeting (even if you have no issues to bring forward), email [Sharon](#) to get the Zoom link. Read minutes from [May](#) meeting and other past [meetings](#).

“If you go off to a far, far forest and get very quiet, you'll come to understand that you're connected with everything.”

—Alan Watts



Foothills Sunrise, 2021 Salon, Scenic Category.
 Copyright Gary Pease.

Membership Renewal

To renew your membership, go to your online [profile](#) on the SANP website and click the button labeled “Renew to mm/dd/yyyy.” Follow the prompts to pay by credit card. If you want to pay by check, click the “Invoice me” button, and follow the instructions on the invoice. Questions? Contact Brad Cottrell at sanpmembership@gmail.com.