

SANP Newsletter

April 2023

The Matterhorn in Zermatt. © Sharon Wright Cottrell

April Meeting — Tuesday, April 25th 7:00 PM, at the Watershed Building, Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church, featuring Sharon Wright Cottrell

Join us on April 25th for our monthly club meeting at the Watershed Building at Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church. Sharon Wright Cottrell will be our presenter.

Social time begins at 6:30 PM, followed by the meeting at 7 PM. Come early and enjoy the opportunity to mingle with club members and chat nature photography with us. Friends are always welcome. We look forward to seeing you on the 25th.



Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Reservoir in Central Park. © Sharon Wright Cottrell

The Best of the Alps and More 2022

Sharon Wright Cottrell



In September and October of 2022, Sharon and Brad Cottrell made a transatlantic trip from New York to Southampton, England, on the world's only ocean liner, the Queen Mary 2. This was the beginning of a nine week adventure to see the Alps in Switzerland and Northern Italy (the Dolomites). The towering white face of the Matterhorn contrasted against the blue sky was magnificent in the morning light. In Grindelwald they experienced the first snow storm of the season on The Eiger. The unique jagged peaks of the Dolomites met every expectation.

In addition to the Alps, their itinerary included London, Lucerne, Zurich, Glattfelden, Milan, Venice, Paris and two of their favorites, Lake Como and New York City. For Sharon, as a genealogist, it was a treat to visit Glattfelden, Switzerland, the homeland of her maternal ancestors, the Glattfelders, who immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1743.

Another highlight was experiencing the glamour and glitz of St. Moritz, the alpine resort town twice the home of the Winter Olympics and where many Europeans go to ski each year. Equally beautiful was Montreux on the shores of Lake Geneva, where the annual Montreux Jazz Festival is held, and the Alley of Jazz celebrates the musicians who have performed there.

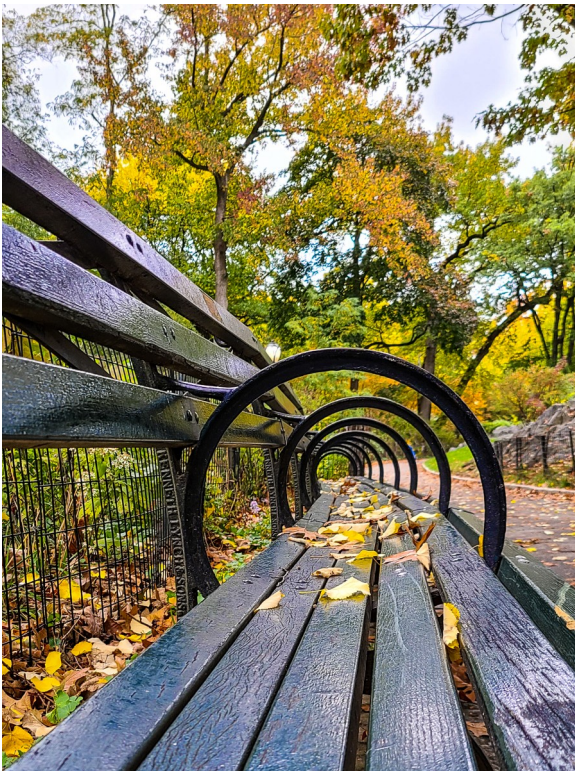
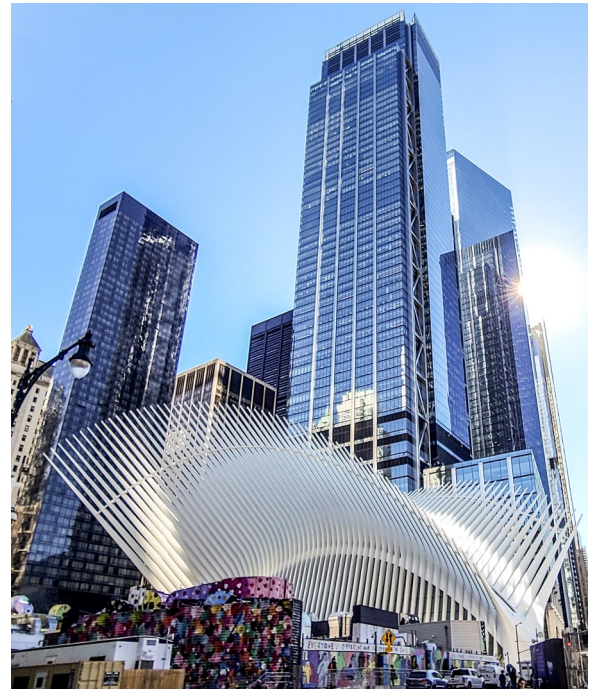
*Top left: Bellagio on Lake Como
Bottom right: The Eiger in Grindelwald*

All images © Sharon Wright Cottrell



The Best of the Alps (cont.)

The logistics for this trip required intense scheduling and planning. It included purchasing tickets for 13 regional and international train rides, one through the 35 mile Gotthard Base Tunnel which is the longest rail tunnel in the world and another through the English Channel tunnel on the Eurostar. It also included 28 subways, 10 bus trips, numerous funicular and cable car ascents to 12,000 foot mountains, and at least 150 miles of walking. It was a challenging physical and mental workout in many ways, but 6,000 photos later they made it home safely, culturally and mentally enriched by the experience. The SANP April program by Sharon Wright Cottrell will take you on that adventure while you stay comfortably in your seat.



Top right: The Oculus Underground Train Station in New York City

Bottom left: Central Park in New York City

Bottom right: The Dolomites in Selva, Italy

All images © Sharon Wright Cottrell



The Best of the Alps (cont.)

Biography of Sharon Wright Cottrell

Sharon started photography and joined SANP about twenty years ago after retiring from her 29-year career in Information Services at TVA as a Systems Analyst. One of her first interests in photography was photographing downtown Knoxville's historic buildings for the Knox Heritage organization. She continued to make photos for their Art and Architecture Tour for several years. She published a book titled "Architecture of Knoxville" including photos of those Knoxville historic buildings and currently sells the book at Mast General Store and the East TN Historical Society. In 2012 she won Insight Vacations International Photo Contest with her photo of Santorini which was published in the Insight Vacations 2013 Tour Catalog, and in the 2012 AAA *Going Places* Magazine. In September 2015, she was published in the TVA Retiree Association Newspaper detailing her World Cruise and again in December 2018, detailing her 85 day Mediterranean Cruise. She enjoys landscape, travel, and architecture photography and enjoys making photos to make slideshows and books to document her travels. Since retirement her travels have taken her to six continents and 50 countries around the world.



St. Pancras International Train Station in London. © Sharon Wright Cottrell

SANP Photo Challenge

The May Photo Challenge competition is focused on photographing wildflowers *in situ* in East Tennessee. Participating club members have the entire month of April to photograph wildflowers ahead of the May judging. Detailed information about settings and processing images for the Photo Challenge, along with registration information is found on the [Event](#) page on the SANP Website. If you have questions, contact Ron McConathy, at mcconathy@aronsha.com.



Eastern Shooting Star. Honorable Mention, Plants Category, 2022 Print Image Salon. © James Parks



Yellow Lady Slippers, Smokies. Plants Category, 2022 Print Image Salon. © Dale Potter

SANP Field Events



SANP members recently gathered for two field events. The first was at Seven Islands State Birding Park in late March. The second event was at Cades Cove in early April. Members participating in field events enjoy the opportunity to network and practice nature photography techniques in a relaxed, supportive environment. Dale Potter coordinates field events, but other club members are encouraged to volunteer to lead events in the future.

What does a field event leader do?

- Choose a photo subject or technique that interests you and plan an event for your chosen area of focus
- Decide on a date, time, and location for a field event
- Coordinate with Dale to schedule the event and get email notices sent to club members
- Show up and have fun

What does a field event leader not have to do?

- Teach or provide hands-on instruction

It's that easy! Chat with Dale to see how you can help! dalepotter55@gmail.com



Top Center: SANP Field Event at Seven Islands State Birding Park. Photo by Charles Samuels

Bottom left: John Oliver Cabin in Cades Cove, © Julie Glibbery

Do not quit your day job!

By Ron McConathy, April 15, 2023

Today I read some of Arthur Morris' BIRDS AS ART (BAA) daily blog post, and I have copied some of his comments below. When I retired in 2000 I had high hopes to be able to sell some of my photography as a second career. At a North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA) Summit, I had some of my images professionally reviewed. The reviewer was polite when I asked if they were good enough to sustain a career. She said my image sales would have to compete with the images from renowned nature photographers like John Shaw, Art Wolf, Darrell Gulin, George Lepp, Adam Jones, John Gerlach, etc. The reviewer's advice was to first try submitting images to small local publications to build recognition, but these didn't pay much. In other words, the message was "do not quit your day job."

Over several years of trying to "build recognition," I made several sales of my nature images, but I had better success photographing weddings and making portraits. However, that was a long way from nature photography. Photography of any kind requires having good business skills, and that is not my best attribute. Successful photographers I have talked with say they spend at least 60 to 80% of their time managing their business. Creating images, the fun part of photography, was a small part of their business effort.

I finally realized it was more fun to use nature photography as an enjoyable hobby. In addition, I was able to teach photography classes at the University of Tennessee for over a dozen years. For me, sharing what I've learned about photography was not only enjoyable but kept me challenged to continue learning myself and to keep my approach to photography interesting and current. Photography has been much more enjoyable since I let go of the desire to make it a career.

A career in photography in today's world is challenging to say the least, especially with the looming impact of artificial intelligence (AI) creating high-quality images with only a brief description. So, don't quit your day job and just enjoy photography as a satisfying hobby. Arthur Morris has been one of the best bird photographers in the USA for over 20 years. Here is the link to the article from which the quotes below are taken: <https://www.birdsasart-blog.com/.../two-birds-as-art.../>



Do not quit your day job! (cont.)

“Right now, the market for editorial sales of natural history images has virtually disappeared. The incomes of the world’s top stock photographers are down by at least 90%. Like me, most depend on income from photo trips, the sale of educational materials, and income from this or that affiliate program.”

“In 2001, BAA sold the publication rights to images for nearly one-quarter million US dollars. That amount dropped to about \$20,000 by 2011, and in 2017, to slightly more than \$2,000.00. We’ve stopped counting. IPTs (Instructional Photo-Tours) used to fill within days. Now I am happy to go with one or two folks, but I’d much rather have you along. And so it goes.” Years ago my attached image of an Eastern wild turkey Tom could have been a marketable image, but not today.

SANP Members Corner



Congratulations to Judith Marquand for her recent award-winning image published in *WNC Magazine Digital Edition*. Look for **Tom Brown’s Barn** on page 76.
<https://wncmagazine.com/digitaledition>

For Sale

Two Western Digital Black internal hard disk drives for Desktop computer. All have zero bad sectors. All diagnostics run clean.

1. Model WD2003FZEX, 2TB, SATA III interface 6Gb/s
Used as backup drive for 15 months. \$50.00
2. Model WD1001FALS, 1TB, SATA II interface, 3Gb/s
Used as backup drive for 12 years. \$15.00

Contact: Brad Cottrell, cottrelb@bellsouth.net

SANP Members Corner (cont.)

Welcome New Members!

We are delighted to welcome the following new members to the club this spring:

Paul Fuhr comes to us from Knoxville. He says he's passionate about photography. So are we!

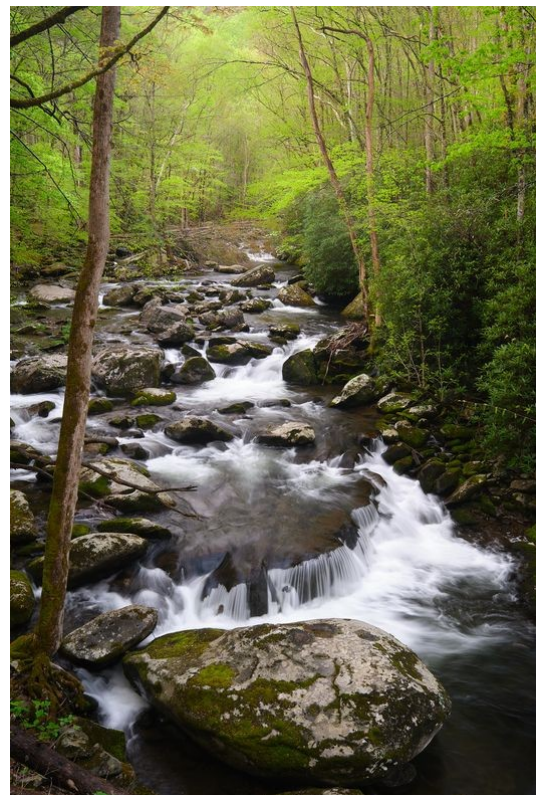
David Liles is also from Knoxville. Retired from a career in finance and accounting, Paul has always been interested in the natural world, especially rocks and plants. He views photography as art – "I start with a *snapshot* and go from there. Sometimes a snapshot is good enough!"

Randy Puckett is from Maryville. A retired STEM teacher, he loves hiking, bicycling, flat water kayaking, and chasing grandkids at dance and sporting events. He loves pairing images with creative writing in his digital nature photography journal.

Randall Simpson joins us from Maryville. He loves living in beautiful East Tennessee and participating in many outdoor activities.

Jeannette Widman lives in Clinton and is happy to be a part of SANP.

Welcome to SANP. We're glad you're here!



*Top right: Pink Moon in Clouds.
© Nawras Baban*

*Bottom right: The Middle Prong at
Tremont. © Shawn Grant*

SANP Members Corner (cont.)



Flying School Dropout. © Laura Capozzola

Laura Capozzola shares her funny photo with us:

While the attached photo is pretty bad technically speaking (I think I was laughing too hard when I took it) and I made it worse when I tried to fix it, I have never shared it with anyone or used it in any photo contest in any club. Came across it again this week and thought you might want to use it (or not) for the newsletter because it's so funny. I call it "Flying School Dropout."

Thanks for making us laugh, Laura!

SANP members are welcome to send their grins, guffaws, and goofy photos for inclusion in the newsletter. Send us your best stuff, too. We love hearing your stories! Send low resolution files with descriptions to the **Newsletter editor**.



Seedhead. © Carol Collett



Oberlin Ben, Glacier National Park. © Pat Serio

Upcoming Club Meetings

April 25th Sharon Wright Cottrell
May 23rd TBA
November 17th Salon & Banquet

SANP Officers

President: Ed Stickle
Vice President: David Boruff
Secretary: Ann Barber
Secretary's Assistant: Jack Benhayon
Treasurer: Sharon Cottrell

Volunteer Managers

Community Outreach: Ron Sentell
Field Events: Dale Potter
Librarian: Ann Barber
Membership: Brad Cottrell
Newsletter: Kristina Plaas
Photo Challenges: Ron McConathy
Programs: Kendall Chiles
Salon: Ed Stickle
Social Media: Chris Cannon
Website: Shawn Grant
Workshops: Open

Board of Directors

The board meets on the 2nd Monday
each month

2021-2023: Chris Cannon
David Boruff
Marcy Wielfaert
2022-2024: Jack Benhayon
Yvonne Dalschen
Clay Thurston
2023-2025: Bob Howdeshell
Dale Potter
Jerry Whaley

It's More Fun with You!

Joining or renewing your SANP
membership is easy. Visit the website and
renew your membership today. Bring a friend
with you!

Join SANP



Dwarf Crested Iris. © Randy Puckett

Camera Club Council of Tennessee (3CT)

SANP is a member of 3CT, a network of camera
clubs across Tennessee and neighboring states.
Their monthly newsletter is filled with
information about meetings and events for
member clubs. Details can be found on their
website www.3ct.org or on Facebook at
[https://www.facebook.com/CameraClubCouncil
OfTennessee](https://www.facebook.com/CameraClubCouncilOfTennessee)