

# SANP Newsletter



*Taj Mahal. © Nawras Baban*

## **March Meeting** — Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM, at Pellissippi State Community College, featuring Paul Ries

Join us on March 26<sup>th</sup> for our monthly club meeting. We will be meeting in Cafeteria Annex of the J. L. Goins Administration Building on the Hardin Valley campus of Pellissippi State Community College, 10915 Hardin Valley Road, Knoxville TN.

Paul Ries will be our presenter, sharing his perspective as a forester and photographer. Bring a friend and find some inspiration! Social time is at 6:30 PM, the meeting starts at 7: 00 PM.



*Sunrise over Downtown Knoxville*  
© Paul Ries



## Seeing the Forest and the Trees: Photography through a Forester's Lens

*Paul D. Ries, Ed.D*



Paul D. Ries, Ed.D., has had a long professional career as a forester and educator. He started his forestry career in Ohio, then spent 26 years living and working in Oregon before becoming “half-retired” and moving to East Tennessee in 2017. He currently teaches half-time in the Oregon State University College of Forestry, where he is a Senior Instructor and the Director of OSU’s online Graduate Certificate in Urban Forestry program. He is also an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Tennessee School of Natural Resources and a volunteer instructor for Trees Knoxville.

Paul’s interests are photography, hiking, and travel (and of course his grandchildren). Though he will opportunistically photograph wildlife at times, his main photographic interests are trees and landscapes. Each Spring and Fall he marks the seasonal progression with weekly *#WildflowerWednesdays* and *#FallColorFridays* photography posts on Facebook and Instagram.



*All images © Paul Ries*

## Seeing the Forest and the Trees *(cont.)*



In 2020, Paul and his wife completed hiking all 900 miles of trails in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Last year he hiked over 600 miles in six states. He has traveled to all 50 US states at least twice and is in the process of visiting all 95 counties in Tennessee. In this presentation for SANP, Paul will explore tips for capturing the wonderful world of trees through a forester's lens.



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## Nature Photography Tips & Techniques

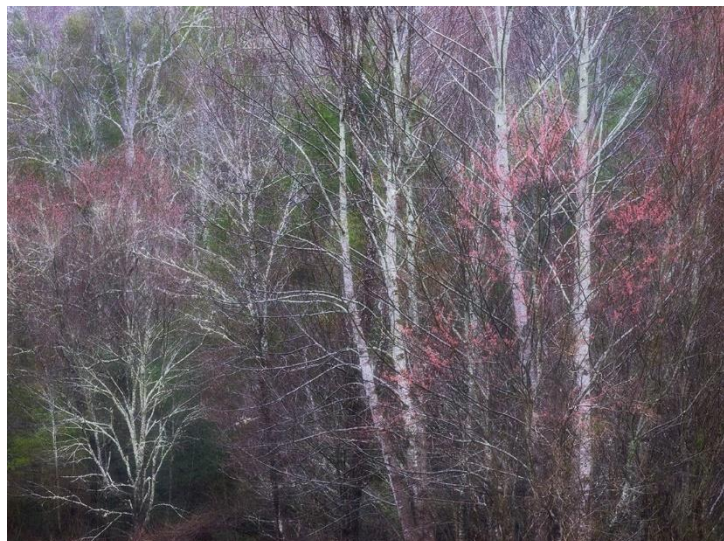
*By Nye Simmons*

Are Tripods Dead? Of course they aren't. But...

Pundits have been lamenting the death of film, Photoshop, graduated neutral density filters, and other photographic tools for so long now – I have to wonder why not add tripods to the list?

Consider the possibilities with Nye on his blog: [Poetic Visions Photography](#)

*Little Trees  
Cades Cove  
© Nye Simmons*





## SANP Field Events with Dale Potter



On a bluff, on a bluff... were a group of SANP photographers in search of early spring wildflowers. The River Bluff trail, near Norris Dam State Park and overlooking the Clinch River, is one of the best locations in East Tennessee for spring ephemerals. On Saturday, March 16th our group was treated to an excellent display of trout lilies, bloodroot, Dutchmen's breeches, hepatica, and more. Enjoy this gallery of images shared by Janine Johnson. Thanks, Janine!

Everything from cellphones to mirrorless camera to DSLRs were used on this outing. Bob Tatum shared his secret for macro photography with an iPhone – a remote shutter release!

You can see a product similar to what Bob uses on Amazon: [Wireless Remote Camera Release for Smartphones](#)



*Top left & bottom right: Yellow trout lily (Erythronium americanum)*

*Center left: Dutchman's breeches (Dicentra cucullaria)*

*Bottom left: Bloodroot (Sanguinaria canadensis)*

*Center: Cut-leaf toothwort (Dentaria laciniata)*

*Center right: Round-lobed hepatica (Hepatica americana)*



*All images © Janine Johnson*

## SANP Salon 2024

*By Dale Potter and the Salon Committee*



*Jimson Weed. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Plants category, 2023 Print Image Salon.*  
© David Liles

Salon changes are happening. The fall salon will be approaching soon. Start planning for images you want to submit in a digital or print format. The SANP Board recently approved a change for this year's salon. Beginning this fall, ribbons for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Honorable Mention will be awarded for every category in print and digital. Those that win Best of Show in print and digital, will be awarded a Best of Show ribbon in addition to their first-place ribbon.

Ribbons were awarded years ago in the salon in SANP. This will give the winners something to brag about, something to show their friends, their kids, and their grandkids. The exact style of the ribbons will be revealed at a future date.

There should be another change coming that will encourage everyone to enter the upcoming salon. The dates for the salon entries will be announced later this year. The Salon Banquet will be on November 15<sup>th</sup> at Buddies Bearden Banquet Hall. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend.



Did you know you can help support SANP when shopping for groceries? Kroger has a program known as Community Rewards that they use to donate to qualifying organizations, like SANP. Log into your Kroger account online and select My Account. Under that menu select Community Rewards. Enter **HQ083** for your reward sponsor. That will select the Southern Appalachian Nature Photographers. Save it. Logout and then log back in to verify it saved your information. **This does not cost you anything or affect your fuel points.**

Each quarter Kroger donates to the SANP a check from the Community Rewards to help support club projects. If every member signed up and encouraged their family and friends to do the same, this would result in a substantial increase in the amount of money Kroger would donate to our club. Take a few minutes and enter your information in your Kroger account online. You can check each quarter to see how much money you are spending at Kroger resulting in a donation to the club. You will be glad you were able to help the SANP.

## SANP Workshops

*by Dale Potter and Workshop Committee*

Workshops are coming. What is a workshop? It is an event where the leader will be offering instruction in an area of photography that should help you be a better photographer or refresh your skills. A workshop is different than a field event. You must pay a fee for the workshop that is nonrefundable. The fee covers the event expense and presenter's fees with SANP earning some revenue from the workshop.

A field event is a free event without any photography instruction. It is an event where you can hang out with other photographers, but you may or may not accomplish the intended goal of the field event. While field events are popular due to the price, the workshops planned for this year should be worth the fee.



*Dutchman's Breeches. © Ken Gawne. From the Norris River Bluff Field Event*

Details of the workshops will be posted online soon, but if you are interested in a future workshop, save the dates on your calendar. Several workshops will have attendance limits. You will want to reserve your spot early. The following workshops will be announced soon. The cost will be around \$100 dollars, but the exact cost will be announced when the workshop is posted online.

Roger Trentham will be hosting a wildflower workshop on two different mornings Saturday, April 20th, and Monday, April 22nd. For those interested in photographing wildflowers or interested in learning techniques that work for photographing wildflowers, you will want to watch for when these events are posted as they will fill up quickly due to limited spots.

In May, Roger Trentham will host a workshop for the blue ghost fireflies. This is a unique firefly that you may enjoy watching and photographing. Roger will provide the location for the blue ghost fireflies and instructions on techniques that work best for photographing them. These events will occur on two different nights, Saturday, May 25th, and Monday, May 27th.

On July 27th, Nye Simmons will conduct a morning landscape workshop that will involve the essentials of landscape photography and scene selection. This will give members a chance to learn details in the field about what one needs to consider when composing landscape photography. There will be a separate editing event that afternoon for those interested which will have a separate cost from the morning event. Look for the details to be posted soon. There will be a limited number of spots available for the event.

We appreciate Roger and Nye conducting these workshops for SANP. Save the dates you want to attend and register early when the workshops are posted.

## **SANP Focus Sessions: New but not New** *by Julie Glibbery, Kathy Westbrook, and Hill Henry*

Starting in April we will begin an expansion of SANP’s educational activities by offering a number of “Focus Sessions” throughout the year. A Focus Session is a small group opportunity for club members to dive deeper into nature & travel photography or explore broader photography-related topics. Previous examples of Focus Sessions include Ron McConathy’s Intentional Camera Movement (ICM) and Focus Stacking sessions at his home, and Clay Thurston & Dale Potter’s print matting instruction at a library meeting room. These meetups involved discussion, demonstration, and learning new camera techniques. They were held both indoors and outdoors.

Four years ago, Brad Cottrell put the concept of Focus Sessions down on paper along with potential topics, so the hard work was already done. The Board has now approved the creation of a Focus Sessions Team (Kathy Westbrook, Focus Sessions Manager, Hill Henry and Julie Glibbery), to identify various Focus Session opportunities throughout the year.

### **What You Should Know**

Any club member can facilitate a Focus Session. You should have some knowledge of the subject but do not need to be an expert. Attendees may have more knowledge than the leader. The objective of each session should be the interactive sharing of knowledge by the leader and attendees. A focus session might be coordinated with a Field Event on the same subject for hands-on application of shared knowledge.



*Seagull at the Cove, Concord Park. © Anthony Hayzen*

Focus Sessions allow for learning opportunities on a broad set of topics. Examples include:

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Photoshop basics                        | Judging photos        |
| Cell phones as a 2 <sup>nd</sup> camera | Printmaking           |
| Infrared photography                    | Lighting techniques   |
| Backyard photography                    | Macro photography     |
| Creating a web site                     | Architecture          |
| Drone photography                       | Photography equipment |
| <insert your interest here>             |                       |



## SANP Focus Sessions (*cont.*)

### Photoshop Focus Session

*by Nye Simmons*

In response to some of the feedback following Dave Kelly’s Lightroom Workshop back in December, I began the process of preparing some Photoshop material for SANP. The training will be presented in 60 to 90 minute modules starting on April 16th. This will be the first gathering for SANP’s small group learning program called Focus Sessions.

In this class, I will focus on the needs of nature photographers rather than graphic artists. There are many Photoshop videos available online, but the advantage of this “hands-on learning opportunity” is the ability to follow along on your laptop as I project my work on a large screen.

The first two Photoshop sessions will cover setting up your workspace and developing a workflow. We will move on from there to discussing layers, how to use them, and on to editing images. I will share tips and techniques that even more experienced users may find useful.

The Cedar Bluff Library has meeting space reserved for the first session on April 16 from 6:00 to 7:30. Club members will be notified by email regarding each session and will be able to sign up on the SANP website. You may attend all sessions or choose to participate based on the topic.

There is no fee for this training, but class size will be limited to facilitate learning. Watch your inbox for an email to sign up for the first session on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Participants will be asked to email Nye and describe your level of Photoshop experience...are you are ready to learn, or are you a current Photoshop user ready to take your skill to the next level?

[nye@nyesimmons.com](mailto:nye@nyesimmons.com)

#### What’s Next?

Share your photographic interests with other club members by facilitating a group session or suggest a Focus Session topic that you would like attend.

Contact Kathy Westbrook at [kcw1215@yahoo.com](mailto:kcw1215@yahoo.com) for more information.

#### SANP Photo Challenge

Our next Photo Challenge is coming up in May. Ron McConathy is currently negotiating for what we hope will be an exciting location for the Photo Challenge. An event announcement will be posted on the website once the details are finalized.

Club members are encouraged to volunteer as judges for Photo Challenges. It’s a great opportunity to be mentored and practice your judging skills. Contact Ron McConathy with questions: [mcconathy@aronsha.com](mailto:mcconathy@aronsha.com)



## Hot Off the Press!

### *Recent Publications by SANP Members*

Nye Simmons has been featured back to back in ELEMENTS e-magazine with articles involving the Blue Ridge Parkway. In the February issue is an article about spring on the Blue Ridge Parkway and the March issue features his article about the making of *Blue Ridge Parkway Celebration*, which is now out of print. A few copies can still be found on Amazon for anyone interested. The second article is part of a series about bookmaking for photographers.

Want to subscribe to ELEMENTS? Use the discount code NYE10 for a 10% discount. <https://www.elementsphotomag.com/>



*Elements, March 2024*

### **We want to know... where have your photographs been lately?**

Photographs from SANP members can show up in the most wonderful and unexpected places. Were your images recently included in a published journal or magazine? Maybe it was a community calendar or even a publication at church or at work. Was your photography recently in a gallery, at the airport, or in a First Friday venue? We want to share in your success. Tell us all about it! Share your photos and stories with the newsletter editor at [kplaas@gmail.com](mailto:kplaas@gmail.com)

## SANP Members Corner

### Welcome New SANP Members

Marie Stuckey is a nature photographer with an interest in wildlife and landscapes. She also likes street photography and abstracts. A part-time resident of Tennessee, Marie spends the winter and spring season in Lenoir City and the rest of the year in Maine. She'd love tips for locations to photograph in Tennessee.

Alice Miller moved to Knoxville 8 years ago. When she's not working as a medical assistant she loves hiking, traveling, and photography.

Paul Ries comes to us from Maryville. He's a forester and half-retired college professor. He spends the rest of his time hiking, traveling, and doing landscape photography.

Ken Gawne resides in Andersonville, where he is a retired mechanical engineer from ORNL. He became interested in photography as a kid and was fortunate to learn how to develop black and white film from his grandfather. He's looking forward to spending more time doing photography now that he's retired.

***Welcome to SANP!***

Nye Simmons still has space available on the spring Smokies workshop April 22-25 and the Blue Ridge Parkway May 2-5. Fall workshops in the Smokies Oct 24-27 as well as two kayak based workshops at Caddo Lake November 7-12 and Louisiana Swamp Fall Color December 2-7 are also still open. For more information visit [www.nyesimmons.com](http://www.nyesimmons.com).



*Above: Osprey circling before diving for a meal. © Bill Gelslechter*

*Below: Great Horned Owl. © Meredith Boatman*



## SANP Members Corner (cont.)



March Madness at SANP is filled with fine feathered friends. In other words, we've gone to the birds!

*Top left: Anhinga posing for a portrait. © Bill Gelseichter*

*Top right: Portrait of a Female. © Theresa Williams*

*Bottom left: Nesting Season. © Sue Mitchell*

*Bottom right: Tom eastern wild turkey (Meleagris gallopavo silvestris). © Ron McConathy*





## SANP Members Corner (*cont.*)

### **Mardi Growl!** *with Alice Miller*

When Alice Miller joined SANP recently she told us she loved animals. Alice, we got the picture! She shared these photos taken during Mardi Growl in downtown Knoxville a few weeks ago. If these don't get your tail a waggin' and put a smile on your face, I don't know what will. What a treat!

*All images © Alice Miller*



**Upcoming Club Meetings**

Mar 26<sup>th</sup> Paul Ries  
 Apr 30<sup>th</sup> TBA  
 May 28<sup>th</sup> TBA

**SANP Officers**

President: Jerry Whaley  
 Vice President: David Boruff  
 Secretary: Ann Barber  
 Secretary's Assistant: Jack Benhayon  
 Treasurer: Sharon Wright Cottrell

**Volunteer Managers**

Community Outreach: Ron Sentell  
 Field Events: Dale Potter  
 Focus Groups: Julie Glibbery, Kathy Westbrook, and Hill Henry  
 Librarian: Ann Barber  
 Membership: Julie Glibbery  
 Newsletter: Kristina Plaas  
 Photo Challenges: Ron McConathy  
 Programs: Kendall Chiles  
 Salon: Ed Stickle  
 Social Media: Chris Cannon  
 Technology & Software: Brad Cottrell  
 Website: Shawn Grant  
 Workshops: Dale Potter

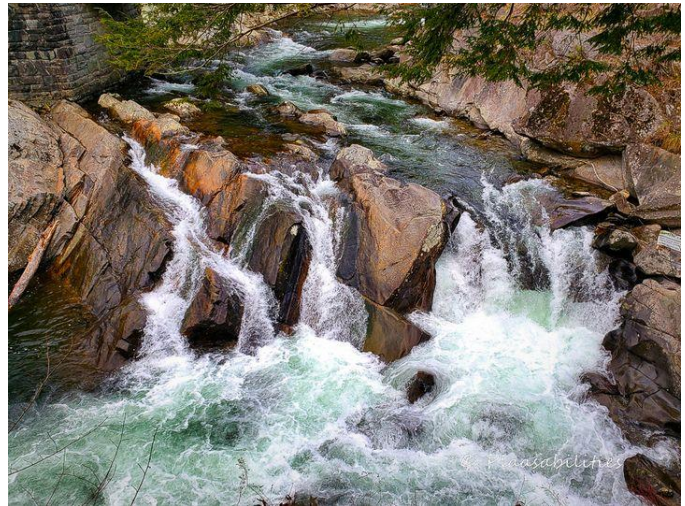
**Board of Directors**

The board meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month.

2022-2024: Jack Benhayon  
 Yvonne Dalschen  
 Clay Thurston  
 2023-2025: Julie Glibbery  
 Bob Howdeshell  
 Dale Potter  
 2024-2026: David Boruff  
 Hill Henry  
 Kathy Westbrook

**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!



*At the Sinks. © Kristina Plaas*

**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](#) or on [Facebook](#).