

SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN



NATURE PHOTOGRAPHERS

SANP News

*Sharing the Awareness of Nature
through Photography*

Visit us on the web at www.sanp.net

Volume 12, Number 6

Published monthly except June and July

December 2000

SANP's 2003 Nature Photography Competition Update

Now that the holiday season has begun, don't forget about the SANP Nature Photography Competition. Entries must be received between Jan. 18 and 24, 2003, at one of following three Thompson Photo locations during business hours: 217 N. Peters Road or 2019 Middlebrook Pike in Knoxville or Manhattan Place in Oak Ridge. Business hours are 9 AM to 6 PM in Knoxville. The Oak Ridge location is open from 10 am to 6 pm Monday through Friday. Each entry must be well packaged and accompanied by either a print or slide entry form (found on the SANP website).

Judging for the competition begins at 1 pm on Feb. 1 at the First United Methodist Church at 3316 Kingston Pike in Knoxville. SANP members may attend the judging. The results of the judging will be announced on Feb. 22 at the dinner meeting also held at the First United Methodist Church. The meeting begins at 6:30 pm. Entries will be viewed and prizes awarded during the meeting. Participants should either plan to pick up their entries and packing material at this meeting or make other arrangements for their entries.

The competition is opened to any SANP member who has paid annual dues by Jan. 1, 2003. This year no excellence awards will be given. Instead Photographer I and Photographer II classification entries will be judged separately. Please review the competition rules for the classification definitions. The competition has four divisions and five categories within each division. The four divisions are black & white prints, color prints, medium format transparencies and 35mm color slides. The five categories within each division are scenic, wildlife, plants, miscellaneous and motion in nature. This year the number of print entries per member has been increased to four. The complete list of rules, descriptions and definitions can be found on the SANP website.

Alice Reed wants to thank all the members who have agreed to help with the various tasks involved with the 2003 Nature Photography Competition. Please contact Alice if you can volunteer. There are still a few tasks that need more assistance.

Packing requirements for entries to the 2003 Nature Photography Competition

To ensure that all entries are received and entered into the competition, please adhere to the submittal instructions in the competition rules. Also, pack the slide entries separate from the print entries. Several slides were not entered last year because the slides were packed with the prints and were not easily found in the packing. Please pack the slides in a padded envelop or slide box that can easily be recognized as an entry. Last year, the competition had over 100 prints and over 200 slides. We anticipate at least the same number of entries again this year. So please help the volunteers who sort and arrange the entries for the competition to easily recognize all of your entries.

A Reminder

The SANP Nature Photography Exhibition is on display at the Maryville College Fine Arts Center on Dec. 9-20, 2002, and Jan. 6-31, 2003. There will be a reception for this exhibition on Monday, January 27th from 7 till 8:00 p.m. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. Let's give Kevin Crow a round of applause for his hard work to make this exhibition possible.

Coming Events

December No meeting

January Meeting

Clay Thurston shows his recent images from Texas.

February 2003 SANP Competition Dinner, 2/22/03.

Sign Up to Show Your Slides

As SANP members, you are cordially invited to sign up to show 8-10 slides at the social period just prior to a meeting. Three members can sign up for each meeting. A sign-up sheet is provided each month for future meetings, or you can call Bob Epperson (865.577.7474) to reserve a time. If you have taken advantage of this opportunity, you know this is a good way for others to see and understand your photographic passion. (Contact Kendall Chiles, 865.693.2448, if you can't reach Bob.)

SANP Officers and Committee Chairs

President	Ron McConathy	865.376.3976
Treasurer	Joyce Wilson	865.457.3191
Secretary	Gloria Epperson	865.577.7474
Membership	Chris Windham	865.588.3011
Programs	Lee Ownby	865.690.8460
Newsletter	S. McConathy	865.376.3976
Workshops/Trips	Kendall Chiles	865.693.2448
Salon 2003	Alice Reed	865.482.0056
Publicity	Allen Koch	865.691.2728
Web Site	Thom Ashton	865.397.0465

Elected Board Members:

Jane Blankenship	Margarete Ohnesorge
Brad Cottrell	Clay Thurston
Gloria Epperson	Michael Whitaker
Mark Frankel	Joyce Wilson
Ron McConathy	

The SANP Board meets monthly. If you have issues you would like the board to discuss, contact Ron McConathy, mcconathy@aronsha.com.

SANP News is published monthly except June and July to provide information to members. Articles or ideas from the membership are welcome.

Newsletter Deadline: First of each month

Send submissions to mcconathy@aronsha.com

SANP mailing address:

P.O. Box 32324, Knoxville, TN 37930-2324

2003 Wilderness Wildlife Week Sponsored by the Special Events Office of Pigeon Forge Dept. of Tourism

Wilderness Wildlife Week starts Saturday, Jan. 11, 2003, and runs through Sunday, Jan. 19. Event headquarters are at the Heartlander Hotel in Pigeon Forge, where a number of the seminars and events will be held. Additional seminars and events happen at Music Road Hotel.

You can find the complete schedule of events and other information at <http://www.mypigeonforge.com> or you can call 865-429-7350 or 800-251-9100.

Several SANP members will be presenting programs: Ken Jenkins, Tom and Pat Cory, Harold Stinnette, Chuck Summers, Dr. Alan Heilman, and Kendall Chiles.

Here are two of the planned workshops:

Saturday, Jan. 11, 9 am till noon. Workshop leaders are Tom and Pat Cory, Harold Stinnette, Jim Thurston, and Kendall Chiles.

Tuesday, Jan. 14, 9 am till noon. Workshop leaders are Chuck Summers, Don McGowan, and Jim Thurston.

Both workshops are designed so that different leaders present different aspects of nature photography (landscapes, wildlife, etc), and are designed so that there will be breaks roughly every hour. These breaks allow people to come from/go to other WWW talks and to ask questions.

Photo Tip: Apogee Photo

APOGEE PHOTO...THE INTERNET'S PHOTOGRAPHY MAGAZINE (<http://www.apogeephoto.com/>) is available online. Investigate this site and you will find more than just an interesting tidbit or two. Apogee Photos' mission statement states that it ". . . is designed to entertain and inform active photographers of all ages, both amateur and professional, from around the world." This site contains information for photographers of all levels and interests. One article was on model releases and when they were needed. This information should be of interest to all photographers, since everyone takes photos of other people and their property at some time. The web site also includes a monthly photo contest and a classified ad listing. Check it out!

SANP Swap Shop

The SANP Swap Shop is open to any member who wants to buy, sell or trade photographic equipment. Send your Swap Shop items to mconathy@aronsha.com and we'll post them here.

New tan photo vest (man's large); call Jane Blankenship (982-3632) if you are interested.

The President's Corner:

From Competition to Celebration

— Ron McConathy

SANP's annual photography competition starts on January 18 with the submission of entries and ends with the dinner meeting on February 22 where awards are presented. To me, this event is a celebration of nature's gifts and the way we individually view these gifts. I wonder what would happen if we deemphasized the competitive aspect of this competition and focused more on celebrating the accomplishments of all our members?

It is easy to be affected by the adrenaline rush and the boost to our egos that comes from winning in a competition like this. In the past, SANP has been fortunate to have some really nice awards donated to the competition, and this too fuels the competitive fires. The heat from competitive flames affects us in different ways, with some of us "burning" hotter than other. Perhaps this is a good year for all of us to douse our personal flames a little so we can maintain a more appreciative perspective as we look at each other's photography.

When the SANP competition began, it was called a "salon." Webster's defines a salon as "an exhibition of works of art"; especially "a room or gallery for the exhibition of paintings or other works of art." The word "salon" was removed from the title when several people complained that it did not really fit the event and that it was confusing to people who did not understand the definition of "salon." The word "competition" was selected to replace "salon," since judges choose the best images from all those submitted by SANP members. Webster's defines "competition" this way: "denotes a striving for the same object, position, prize, etc., usually in accordance with certain fixed rules." This describes our annual event well. The dictionary also compares the word competition to the word rivalry. Rivalry usually implies there is unfriendliness or even

hostility involved. I believe we all hope our annual event is never focused on rivalry.

As I write this column, I find I really like the word "celebration." A celebration is a time for honoring or praising publicly. Our dinner meeting could be a time of celebration, where we honor those who have outstanding photographs and praise them for their accomplishments! Those whose images are selected as winners have experienced a wonderful happening in nature and they have developed the skill to capture those happenings with their cameras. What a unique gift this is for all of us! Many photographers have worked for years -- indeed, some a lifetime -- to develop both the technical skills and the vision to capture subjects in a way that moves us. Those who have accomplished this are relatively rare. Thus, an outstanding nature photograph is a rare prize that should be celebrated and its creator honored and praised publicly.

A person is generally not born with an innate ability as a photographer. In fact, I have not heard of a single child prodigy who picked up a camera and began making photographs like Ansel Adams or other great photographers. Typically it takes a lot of hard work and many years of practice to learn the technical and aesthetic aspects of this art form. Granted, photography comes easier to some than others. Yet all of us can learn from each other and can improve our skills over time. Some of us may be able to afford fancier equipment and travel to exotic places, but this certainly does not guarantee that we'll create outstanding photographs. In fact, some of us who travel only to the Smokies consider those trips to be a grand adventure. Our back yards offer boundless photographic possibilities. A person who works with diligence and heart to capture images that express a personal vision is usually not disappointed, regardless of where he or she lives or travels or what equipment is used.

I want to encourage every SANP member to participate in this year's annual competition. Join in with an emphasis on celebration - celebrating what you and what your fellow members have accomplished. This event does not need to be a rivalry or an ego trip. Many volunteers, both club members and outside judges, expend a great deal of energy to ensure that the competition is unbiased and run fairly. Enter your best photographs so that the rest of us can celebrate your fortune of witnessing an event in nature and capturing it successfully with your camera. It is true that the judges will select the images they feel are most outstanding, both technically and artistically. But perhaps the best prize of all is having a fellow member acknowledge you personally for an image that spoke to him or her in a significant way. Let us join together on February 22, 2003, to celebrate the gifts of nature and vision and photography of our natural world!

Southern Appalachian Nature Photographers
P.O. Box 32324
Knoxville, TN 37930-2324

In This Issue

- **2003 Nature Photography Competition Update**
- **Packing Requirements for Competition**
- **Info on 2003 Wilderness Wildlife Week**
- **From Competition to Celebration**

Southern Appalachian Nature Photographers is a nonprofit organization dedicated to "Sharing the Awareness of Nature through Photography." The club meets the last Tuesday of every month except June, July, and December at the First United Methodist Church on Kingston Pike in Knoxville at 6:30 p.m. for social time and 7 for the program. Visitors are welcome!