

# SANP BOARD MEETING

June 10, 2019

Minutes by Ron Sentell

**Board Members:** Ed Dumas, Holland Rowe, Charles Samuels, Paul Schubert, Ron Sentell, Ed Stickle

**Other:** Kendall Chiles, Steve Shackelford

**Location:** Jason's Deli, North Peters Road

**Time:** 7:00 pm

1. Salon 2019 Review (Report Attached)
  - Attendees - 71
  - Entries – 144 Prints (142 judged), 410 Projected Images
  - People's Choice Award – The online posting of all images resulted in 34 votes with one image receiving a high score of 3 votes and 5 prints receiving a score of 2 votes. Consequently, the results were set aside and the award was made based on votes for prints at the banquet.
  - Technical problems prevented displaying images on the corner monitors in the banquet hall.
  - The price of meals covered the cost of the banquet. The cost for judges and judging was covered by annual dues.
2. Salon Changes for 2020
  - People's Choice Award – All images will be posted online for voting. Each person will vote on a first, second, and third choice with each receiving respectively 3, 2, and 1 votes. If a narrow margin results between the high score and next highest score, the award will be based on the highest, first choice total.
  - Total entries – Each person will be allowed a maximum number of 12 Projected Images with a maximum of 2 images per category.
  - Special Category – Architecture: Any permanent man-made structure, or parts thereof.
3. Salon Special Category
  - The 2020 special category of Architecture will be repeated every 5 years
  - In 2021, the special category will be Panoramas, defined as an image with a minimum aspect ratio of 1/3. The image may be stitched or cropped.
4. Salon Projected Image Coordinator – Board members were asked to recommend a coordinator for projected images for 2020. Ron Sentell has filled this position for the past 7 years and will not volunteer again next year.
5. Fall Program
  - August – Sharon Cottrell will give a travelogue on the Mediterranean.
  - September – Bird Photography, Night Photography, or American Southwest
  - October – Drone Photography (What to buy, How to Fly It, How to Photograph)
  - November - Bird Photography, Night Photography, or American Southwest
6. Milky Way Photography Field Trip – Ron Sentell will write an article for the newsletter on a field trip to the new section of the Foothills Parkway for Milky Way photography, dependent on clear skies and a new moon.

The 2019 Southern Appalachian Nature Photographer's Salon was again very successful this year. This report will detail the significant events during the salon preparation, judging, and dinner, including lessons learned and suggestions for future years.

I have chaired the 2014-2019 salons. They have all been a lot of fun and with the help of a great bunch of volunteers, the salons have all been well executed.

A Google spreadsheet was used to track the volunteers' tasks, contact information, and current status. It has worked very well and kept things on track to keep documentation of the tasks to do and who was responsible for doing them. This list can be used by future salon chairpersons and is easily shared and accessible via e-mail. Most administrative tasks were handled by e-mail so events and conversations would be recorded and easily accessed. This system has worked very well and I would recommend continuing to use it in the future.

In the print competition there were 144 prints submitted, 142 of which were judged. In this competition all photographers competed equally (i.e. There were no separate Photographer I and II categories as in years past) and all prints were judged in the categories in which they were entered (i.e. no combining of categories was required).

In digital, there were 410 images entered in eight categories. As in the print category, all photographers competed equally and all digital images were judged.

The final number of images and photographers for both print and digital competitions are shown in the table below:

<b>Print Category</b>	<b>Entries</b>	<b>Photographers</b>	<b>Digital Category</b>	<b>Entries</b>	<b>Photographers</b>
Color Scenic	26	15	Scenic	60	33
Color Wildlife	25	14	Wildlife	61	33
Color Travel and Place	20	12	Plants	57	31
Color Miscellaneous	18	10	Travel and Place	59	32
B&W	53	18	People in Nature	46	25
			Abstracts in Nature	47	27
			Altered Nature	39	23
			Man Made Objects in National Parks	41	22
<b>Total Prints</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Total Digital</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>39</b>

The judging went very well. Computer-based scoring systems were used this year in the both the digital and

print competitions. There were no glitches in either the print or digital image scoring. Again this year the time required to judge the prints was less than that to judge the digital entries. This indicates the huge advantage of using digital projection as opposed to manually handling prints for display. Also the infrastructure required to display the prints for both the judging and the dinner was significantly more than the digital images.

The judges this year were Don McGowan, Tom Cory, and Harold Stinnette in digital images while Pat Cory, Jerry Whaley, and Wayne Setzer judged the prints.

The salon dinner went very well. We made use of Bearden Banquet Hall's (BBH) portable screen that was large enough to display our digital images satisfactorily, which kept us from having to use the SANP screen. We used the SANP projector to display the digital print images and had no glitches with either the projector or the Lightroom presentation software. Clay Thurston was the emcee for the projected image presentation and did a great job.

The food and wait staff was excellent, as usual. We had two meats this year, including chicken and beef brisket, which were a big hit. Also there was a good selection of vegetables which was appreciated by vegetarians in the crowd. Door prize awards went smoothly. There were 71 people that attended the salon dinner this year, which is lower attendance than in previous years. Financially, we broke even with the dinner expenses and ended up spending about \$700 for the entire salon. The cost of dinner this year was \$25 per person.

The People's Choice Award this year was given again this year. Each attendee voted by written ballot for their favorite printed photo. This went smoothly and the revolving plaque was awarded to Ed Stickle for his photo of a puffin on final approach, titled "Incoming Shetland Puffin." It should be noted that the club tried an online voting system to allow folks to select from all available prints (over 500!). The problem is that there were only 30 people that voted using the online system and there was no clear winner due to the large ratio of digital and print images to number of voters. It was suggested after the salon dinner to allow each person to vote for their favorite image in each category, thereby increasing the ratio of voters to images to be voted on. The first place winners from each category could then be voted upon online or at the salon dinner to determine the overall people's choice award winner.

Overall I thought the salon was very successful this year. I've attached the contact list for all the volunteers to the end of this report. I will be glad to forward any spreadsheet files that were generated this year to anyone who is interested.

Edward Dumas  
2019 Salon Chairman