

SANP Newsletter

October 2022

*Sharing the Awareness
of Nature
Through Photography*

Hiwassee Sunset, Scenic Category, 2022 Digital Image Salon, © Dot Baxter

October Meeting – Tuesday October 25th, 7 PM, at the Watershed Building, Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church, featuring Kendall Chiles

Join us on October 25th for our monthly club meeting at the Watershed Building at Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church. We'll be cruising the backroads with Kendall Chiles, looking for stories of classic Americana. Toss your camera bag in the rumble seat and hang on for a trip off the beaten path. Who knows what Kendall aimed his camera at? There's never a dull moment on the backroads, so join us for an adventure!

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 share your latest photo opportunities with us. Friends are always welcome. We look forward to seeing you on the 25th.

Right: I-H KB-8 Truck, © Kendall Chiles



Backroads to Americana

by Kendall Chiles



This program grew out of years of pursuing primarily nature and travel photography. I realized I was driving right past many images because my photographic vision was not paying attention to the opportunities.

I started photographing more and more subjects considered *Americana* about 10 years ago after a series of events really opened my eyes to the appeal and interest of the theme. The events included:

- * Teaching a UT workshop at Shaker Village in Kentucky,
- * A program about Old Car City in Georgia by Bill Fortney
- * Stumbling upon some classic tractors at Old Timer's Day in Townsend.

Above: *Glade Creek Grist Mill, Babcock State Park, WV.*

Right: *R. M. Brooks General Store, Rugby TN.*

Images © Kendall Chiles



Backroads (cont.)



After these events my photographic vision was vastly enlarged and rejuvenated. At this point in my photographic career I am just as excited about Americana photography as I am any other genre. I've always been drawn to lighthouses, grist mills and railroads, but now I also search out barns, farms, country stores, soda fountains, covered bridges, old rusting vehicles, classic tractors, heritage festivals, and small town USA.

Many of these subjects are located on the US/state highways and country backroads; few are on the interstates. I've been in outside sales for almost 20 years. I grew tired of the interstates quickly, and thus started traveling these secondary roads for work. This has also been beneficial to locating many Americana subjects, especially here in East Tennessee.



SANP 30th Anniversary Celebration, Annual Meeting, and Print Image Salon

January 21, 2023

6:00 PM

Bridgewater Place

205 Bridgewater Rd, Knoxville, TN

Join us for a lovely dinner
as we reflect on 30 years of SANP.
Images from the November, 2022 print salon
will be displayed and the winners announced.

Dinner is \$30 per person

Guests are encouraged

Advance reservations required

SANP Field Events

Indian Flats Falls
Middle Prong Trail
Great Smoky Mountains NP
October 29, 2022, 7:30 AM

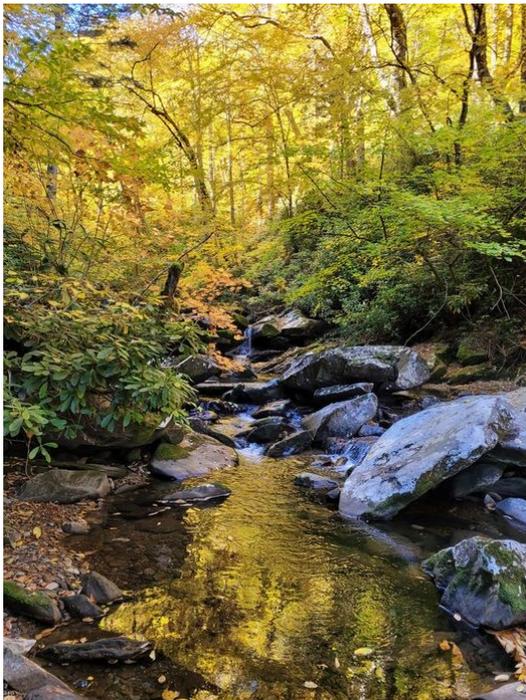
Registration is open for the next SANP Field Event in the Smokies. Make plans now to meet Dale Potter and the red Jeep at the Middle Prong trailhead for a great morning of waterfall photography.

Read more and register on the [SANP website](#).



Indian Flats Falls, GSMNP

November Photo Challenge



Road Prong Reflections, © Donna Silvey

University of Tennessee Arboretum
901 S Illinois Ave, Oak Ridge, TN
Saturday, November 5th 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

The next photo challenge will be at the University of Tennessee Arboretum in Oak Ridge. Meet Ron McConathy at the far end of the parking lot. We'll disperse from there. Most of the paths are easy to walk so most everyone will be comfortable in this accessible wooded location.

The purpose of this challenge is to photograph fall colors and scenes at the UT Arboretum. The photographers should try to capture the feeling of autumn in their images. Any applicable subjects allowed in the 2022 Salon can be photographed (see Salon 2022 for categories).

Registration is required for this event. Read more about the challenge rules and register for the [event](#) on the SANP website.

SANP 2022 Nature Photography Print Competition

by Dale Potter, Salon Chair

Awards Presentation: SANP Competition Dinner, Saturday, January 21, 2023, at 6:00 pm

Location: Bridgewater Place, 205 Bridgewater Rd, Knoxville, TN 37923

Who is Eligible: Any SANP member whose dues are current October 31, 2022, may enter this competition.

Competition Rules

Entries:

The acceptance period for ALL entries is **November 14-28, 2022**. ALL print entries must be accompanied by a completed SANP print entry form that is provided and must be received at the following location: f/32 Photo, 7933 Ray Mears Blvd, Knoxville, TN 37919 during their normal business hours. No exceptions. By submitting print images to the competition, you are agreeing to public display of any or all submitted images for SANP-sponsored publications, presentations or events.

Out-of-town members may mail print entries to SANP, 1143 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Ste 107A-231, Oak Ridge, TN 37830 (with return postage provided) if prior arrangements have been made with the Print Coordinator. Mailed entries must arrive at the above address during the period of November 14-28, 2022.

NOTE: All prints must be adequately packaged to protect them during handling. SANP or f/32 will accept no responsibility for the loss or damage of your prints during the competition. ALL prints and packaging must be picked up at the January 21, 2022, salon dinner meeting; remaining packaging and prints will be discarded. Exceptions can only be made if prior arrangements have been made with the Print Coordinator.

Photographer Classification: All photographers will compete equally in the competition.

Divisions:

Prints will be accepted in fourteen (14) categories: Scenic, Birds, Wildlife Mammals, Wildlife Other, Nature Close Up, Plants, Night Photography, People in Nature, Abstracts in Nature, GSMNP Smokies, Travel & Place 1, Travel & Place 2, B&W Wildlife, and B&W Other. Note the conditions listed below apply to all photographs entered in this competition. The first-place winners in all categories below will compete for Best of Show.

Detailed information about categories, preparing prints for submission, judging, and more can be found on the [SANP Salon 2022](#) page on the website.

Nature Photography Tips and Techniques

Post-Processing for Competition

by Ron McConathy

There has been some discussion lately about how much and what kind of post-processing is allowed for images submitted to SANP competitions (digital and print). Merriam-Webster defines photography as: “The art or process of producing images by the action of radiant energy and especially light on a sensitive surface (such as film or an optical sensor).” Wikipedia defines digital photography this way: “Digital photography uses cameras containing arrays of electronic photodetectors interfaced to an analog-to-digital converter (ADC) to produce images focused by a lens, as opposed to an exposure on photographic film.” Removing non-original major elements from or adding non-original major elements to the image are not mentioned above.

Digital photography image files are processed by special software that improves/changes the appearance of the digital image. Some photo processing software can be used to easily replace the whole sky in an image or insert things that were not present when the shutter clicked. Recent advanced artificial intelligence (AI) software can even create an image that looks like a photograph but was never created by a digital camera. These advances might become normal in photography’s future, but I think these techniques are currently more related to graphic art or digital art than photography.

Maybe I’m old-fashioned, but I think the ‘art of photography’ consists of having the ability to use a camera and lens to capture a scene and then processing the image file to reflect the conditions the photographer saw when the shutter was clicked. The photographer had to be present at a location at a specific time to capture the image.

Captured images have been improved by photographers for over 100 years by cropping, adjusting color and tonality, and cloning out distracting minor elements. Previously this “image development” was done in the chemical darkroom, and now it is done on a computer with software. All of this requires the skill and artistic vision of the photographer.

The attached images show what I feel is a proper alteration of an original image for SANP competitions. The original image was processed in Adobe Lightroom CC and Topaz Denoise. The original image was handheld and made with a Canon EOS R5 camera and a Canon EF 70–300mm f/4–5.6 IS II USM lens at 300mm.

Left: unedited image



Post-processing (cont.)

The original image was made in low evening light at ~25,000 ISO and was grainy. This is the only frame that was in sharp focus of several I made. The bright area behind the deer was overexposed. There was some distracting stuff next to the fawn and between the doe's legs. I remember the forest area being dark and the deer standing in the brighter opening.

My processing involved these steps:

- cropping the image to give better proportions of the deer within the forested scene;
- making routine adjustments to tone, color, contrast, and sharpness;
- cloning out the distracting objects next to the deer;
- toning down the bright area behind the deer;
- lightening the bodies of the deer
- adding a vignette to bring the viewer's attention to the deer and recreate my feeling of the darker forest that I saw when I pressed the shutter;
- and, finally, running the image through Topaz Denoise to tame the noticeable grain from the high ISO.

Next, I made a black and white version. Other photographers might have chosen other processing techniques that would have altered the image without it becoming an example of graphic art, but these are the steps I used.

I like the final image, and I think everything done to it should be allowed in SANP competitions. Had I instead combined a photo of the wooded scene with a separate photo of the two deer, I believe that should not be allowed in SANP competitions. If I had added a pond from a different photograph in the foreground, I believe this would have altered the original too much to be allowed. Radically altered images should only be allowed when there is a category defined for them.



I encourage SANP members to continue this discussion to help newer members understand what is allowed for the upcoming print salon and to improve category descriptions and submission rules for future competitions.

SANP Members Corner



*Hunter's Moon at the Cove, Concord Park, ©
Nawras Baban*

Welcome New Members!

We're pleased to welcome one new member to the club this month:

Scott Keller: Scott joins us from Maryville TN where he is a photojournalist with *The Daily Times* newspaper. When not shooting on the job, he enjoys photographing wildlife and landscapes.

*SANP extends an enthusiastic welcome to
all our new members!*

Chester A. Massey Distinguished Service Award

The inaugural Chester A. Massey Distinguished Service Award will be presented at the SANP Annual Meeting on January 21, 2023. The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding contributions to the SANP organization. The Awards Committee and Board of Directors invite club members to submit recommendations for individuals meriting such an honor. Recommendations must be received before the board meeting on November 14th. Please submit your recommendations to [President Ed Stickle](#).

Please address the following criteria when making your recommendation. Personal anecdotes, stories, or other snippets of information are especially helpful as candidates are evaluated.

- * Has the member made significant contributions to SANP for a period of five years or more?
- * How have the member's contributions made SANP better or otherwise benefited the club?
- * How have the member's contributions improved the SANP membership experience?
- * Have the member's contributions been made over the period of his/her SANP membership and not in just a few instances?
- *When evaluating an anecdotal recommendation, what factual evidence exists to support the member's candidacy for this award?

Thank you for helping the Board make this important decision!

SANP Members Corner – We’re Falling for Fall!



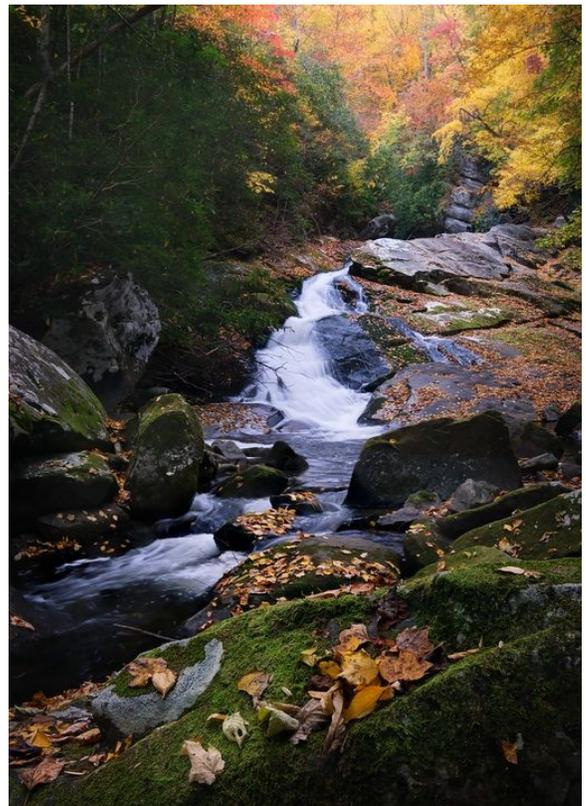
Cataloochee Morning, © Jack Benhayon



Hilton Head Alligator, © Julie Glibbery



St. Augustine Lighthouse, © Jeff Parlow



Tremont Falls, © Shawn Grant

SANP Members Corner (cont.)

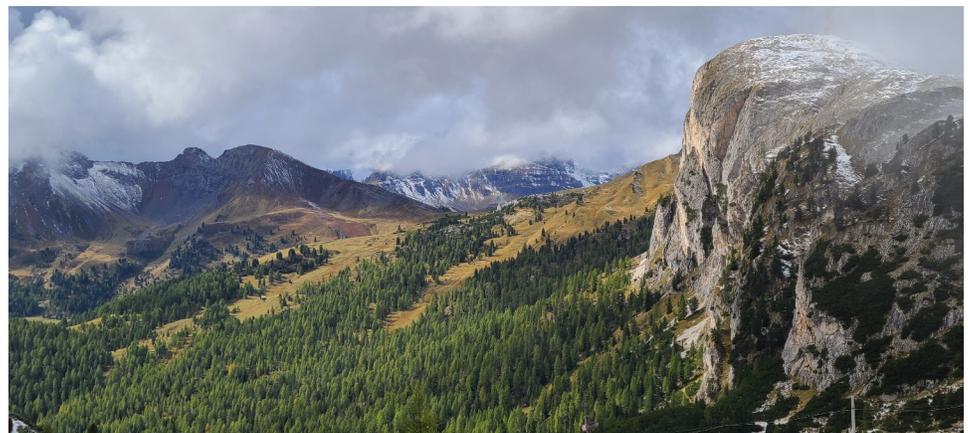


Pinnacle Overlook at Cumberland Gap, © Norm Plate



*Early Morning River Crossing,
© Dale Potter*

*Fresh snow in the
Dolomites at Cortina
d'Ampezzo,
© Brad Cottrell*



Upcoming Club Meetings

October 25, 2022 Kendall Chiles
 November 29, 2022 TBA
 December 2022 No meeting
 Happy holidays!
 January 21, 2023 Print Image Salon
 & Annual meeting

SANP Officers

President: Ed Stickle
 Vice President: Open
 Secretary: Charles Samuels
 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

2020-2022: David Boruff
 Kristina Plaas
 Dale Potter
 2021-2023: Chris Cannon
 Gretchen Kaplan
 Marcy Wielfaert
 2022-2024: Jack Benhayon
 Yvonne Dalschen
 Clay Thurston

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/CameraClubCouncilOfTennessee>



Middle Prong Fall, © Kelly Hall

Share your Shoots!

You adjust the buttons and dials, point, aim, and shoot. Then what? Are your megapixels hiding on a hard drive somewhere? Well shoot, we want to see what you're shooting! Grab an image file or two and share your nature, landscape, and travel images with club members. Send your images with a brief description to the [Newsletter Editor](mailto:kplaas@gmail.com) (kplaas@gmail.com) for use in an upcoming issue of the newsletter. Shoot, what are you waiting for?