

November 2023 Newsletter

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November PhotoShow Winners " People at Work "



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Pics
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1st Place – Tom Dierolf

APC ACTIVITIES

Next Meeting

Nov. 20, 2023

7:00pm First Baptist Church
(enter from side entrance)

2023 PhotoShows

Dec. 18, 2023

Christmas Party &
Slideshow

Programs

Nov. 20, 2023

Ciara Wilder Massingale
(Wilder Uwharrie Photography)

Field Trips

TBD

Exhibits

TBD

President's Comments—November 2023

By Keith O'Leary

Can you believe we are already in the middle of the 4th quarter of 2023? Wow. I hope you are doing well and enjoying the cooler temps. Thanks to Dan Whittaker for presenting a great photo show last month on 'People at Work'. For more information about Dan, check out his website at <https://www.lightexplored.com>.

Have you seen our sample 2024 APC wall calendar? Be prepared to order yours at our November meeting. They will make good Christmas gifts too! Speaking of Christmas, it is just around the corner. Start selecting your 15 photos now to submit for the Christmas slideshow/video. You'll find more info on that elsewhere in this newsletter.

We will be voting for three APC Board officer positions in our November meeting. Please attend and remember we will be meeting in a different location in November. Enter the church at the side entrance vs the Fellowship Hall.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming more involved with any aspect of Alamance Photography Club, we would like to hear from you! Please reach out by sending an email to alamancephoto@gmail.com.

Thanks for your participation in making this a great club and happy shooting!

Keith

APC BOARD

President	Keith O'Leary	Interim Exhibit Chair	Christie O'Leary
Vice President	John Reich	Outings/Field Trips	Hugh Comfort
Secretary	George Siple	Membership	Ken Sellers
Treasurer	Dianne Sellers	Web Master	Christie O'Leary
Interim PhotoShow Chair	Keith O'Leary	Editor	Ray Munns

PhotoShow – “People at Work”



2nd Place – Dick Schenck



3rd Place – John Reich



HM 1 – George Siple



HM 2 – David Hall



HM 3 – Sam Lynch

Dan Whitaker, thank you for your time and effort in assembling, studying, and judging our October PhotoShow! Your presentation and comments about each photo were helpful to our continued growth as photographers. Also, thanks to Keith and his team for collecting the photo entries and making the PhotoShow possible.



WEBMASTER NOTES

We are excited to announce that the club is offering a 2024 Wall Calendar which contains thirteen beautiful pictures by thirteen of our awesome photographers. Below is the picture for the cover and each month of the calendar. Each calendar cost \$18.

*Make great Christmas presents 🎁

We are only taking pre-orders through email and at club meetings.

- To pre-order by email: Please email alamancephoto@gmail.com with the number of calendars you would like to purchase by Saturday, November 18th. And mail a check made to the Alamance Photography Club to Dianne Sellers, 3853 Wesley Court, Burlington, NC 27215 for the full amount.
- If you choose to pre-order at the November club meeting, you can pay Dianne by cash, credit card or check made out to Alamance Photography Club at the meeting.

****Note: Photographers who have photos in the calendar will receive one free calendar.****

I hope to have the pre-orders fulfilled by the Christmas party so that you can pick them up there.



Cover



January



February



March



April



May



June



July



August



September



October



November



December

Looking forward,
Christie O'Leary—Webmaster

Now Receiving Photos for Christmas Slideshow!

As you may know, our December meeting will be a social for members...and spouses...to enjoy a time of good food, fellowship and a video/slideshow of member photos set to music. We would like to see photos from every member this year! See below for more info:

1. Our December meeting/social will be on Monday, 12/18/2023.
2. Select up to 15 of your best pictures of any subject and email them to: apcphotoshow@gmail.com no later than Friday, 12/01/2023.
3. Photos 1MB or larger will display better.
4. Although not required, try to pick photos that have not been previously shared with the club.
5. Photos must be named as follows: FirstName.LastName_nn.
Ex. John.Doe_01, John.Doe_02, etc.
6. Each photographer will be highlighted with their submissions in the video.

Thanks,

Keith O'Leary

Interim PhotoShow Chair

APC Membership Corner

November 2023

We are planning some exciting activities and events in 2024. If you have been thinking about inviting someone to become a member, why not give the holiday gift of an Alamance Photography Club membership. As they say, "it's the gift that keeps on giving." In 2024, we will be offering many new and different opportunities to become a better photographer as well as to expand our knowledge of new and existing photography techniques. Membership fees are as follows: Adult - \$42, Family - \$62, Student - \$15. For additional information contact Ken Sellers - APC Membership Chair.

Ken Sellers – APC Membership Chair

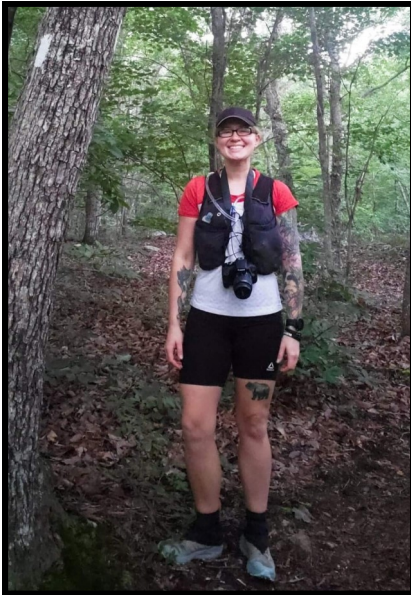
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taikijorsel@gmail.com

November 20th Program

“Wilder Uwharrie Photography”

By Ciara Wilder Massingale



Bio: Ciara Wilder Massingale is a stay at home mom, trail and ultrarunner, Uwharrie National Forest and trail enthusiast, and amateur nature photographer who lives in Asheboro, Randolph County, NC. She is the founder of Wilder Uwharrie Trail Running and Wilder Uwharrie Photography in Asheboro, NC. She encourages others to follow their true passions and to challenge themselves. Please join this program to learn more about her experiences as an ultrarunning, amateur nature photographer in the Uwharrie National Forest and to discuss perspective.

APC Trading Post

Submit brief descriptions of photography items you would like to sell, swap or purchase to Ray Munns (raymunns@bellsouth.net) no later than the 20th of each month. Please include your name, contact info (phone and/or email) and if each item is for sale or something you are looking to purchase. Also notify Ray when items should be removed from the newsletter.

For Sale

Nikon D5000 Camera with 2 batteries \$300

Nikon 28-300 F3.5- 5.6 ED VR
\$500 Excellent condition



Contact Mio Winkle 336-329-4423

In October the Burlington Artists League at Holly Hill Mall displayed a Fine Arts Competition. Two APC club members, Mio Winkle and Resi Forrest, entered photographs that got recognition. The photos were hanging for the month of October. See their photos below:



"Bodie Island Lighthouse Milky Way"

Honorable Mention – Mio Winkle



"Sunrise"

Honorable Mention – Resi Forrest



"Misty Sunrise"

3rd Place – Mio Winkle

Holiday Food Images and Thoughts to go With'em

By Elizabeth Halford

If you are one to photograph absolutely every single solitary moment of your life, you've probably attempted the holiday meal. In honor of Thanksgiving and upcoming Christmas, here are a few holiday food images which sparked my creativity and my personal thoughts towards them.

This beautiful shot of cranberries is by Cosil. I adore the composition and the white/red contrast.



Kimi C. makes a new batch of these turkey cookies every Thanksgiving and takes a photo (Kimi, the photos get better every year by the way!) This made me think of the following tip: photograph your holiday food projects. The kids' gingerbread men will only last forever if you shellac them for the tree or photograph them.

Holiday Food Images and Thoughts to go With'em . . . Continued

Why am I torturing myself with photos of Mom's Thanksgiving meal last year? I love taking a photo of my yearly holiday plate before I dig in. Flash makes food look disgusting – try to get a shot without the flash to catch the ambiance and lighting. I'd recommend a high enough aperture to keep everything sharp and a slow shutter speed to take in the light (which will likely not be natural sunlight around dinner time). Test different white balance settings as well. I loved a warm 'shade' setting for this image.



Short of photos of people shoveling it in, it can be hard to photograph food with people involved. I like this one from R. Lily because it involved people without taking focus off the edible (or in this case, drinkable) elements. It's still at 'food level' but you get the feeling that people are having a good time.

I think the composition of this holiday table from Postscript Love is beautiful. Beautifully flowing image of the event before it gets disturbed.



Holiday Food Images and Thoughts to go With'em . . . Continued



KISS = Keep it Simple, Silly! Love LOVE this bowl of soup. Simple, imaginative framing, point of view, colours. Makes an ordinary (non-holiday) food look extraordinary and the warm colours makes it holiday in an instant. (image by Cosil)

I actually smelled peanut butter as soon as I saw this photo. If you're a portrait-lover, think of your food as any other human subject and set it up like a beautiful portrait for beautiful results like this. (image by Cosil)



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6 Tips for Getting Better Parade Photos

By Darlene Hildebrandt

#1 Location, location, location

Find a good spot by getting there early and checking out the parade route. This seems like a no-brainer, but the lighting can be tricky especially if you're in a spot where the floats and people are half in the sun, and half in the shade. So select a spot where you can get them all in the shade and have a shady background too, or all in the sun. Don't be afraid to move if you find the location you selected isn't working, for whatever reason. Maybe the lighting is bad, or the background is too busy or too bright. Then see tip #2 below!

#2 Use your feet

Unless this is prohibited by parade marshals or the local police (check first if you aren't sure so you don't get in trouble), don't be stuck to sitting on your butt on the curb. Get up and move around. Most people that attend parades find a spot and basically camp out there for the duration. But what do you see the real photojournalists doing? The guys and gals that work for the newspapers? Right, you see them following the parade and getting right out on the street.



Notice where I am standing here? In between the dancers, they literally walked around me!

****NOTE:** do not get yourself in trouble, if the parade marshal or police tell you to cease and desist, please listen to them and follow their guidelines. Perhaps find out ahead of time if you need special permission to walk the parade route.**

6 Tips for Getting Better Parade Photos . . . Continued

#3 Join the parade and a part of it



I followed this float for 5 blocks because their music was so good!

Joining the parade either officially, or unofficially can get you closer to the action. Volunteer to be security, or help out and ask if you can bring your camera along. You may get access to backstage areas, or being on the street in places that you might not otherwise

get to go. Many parades, at least here anyway, encourage people to get up and join in and march along behind the bands, or dance behind the floats with the great music. That's part of what makes parades so universally fun. We have a parade called "Cariwest" which is a celebration of Caribbean culture and music. They highly encourage people to follow them and dance along the entire parade route. I love to attend this parade because it's so colorful and I can get close to the action. Try to find ones like this, often in smaller cities or towns the rules are more relaxed, so get out of the big city if need be.

#4 If in doubt, back-light your subjects

As I mentioned earlier you can encounter some really tricky lighting situations at a parade. I tend to like to put the sun behind my subjects, then I expose so they are well lit and the background gets overexposed or blow out. I'm fine with that as opposed to the opposite of drab photos in the shade with no sense of drama and separation. The sun creates a rim light (outline on the subject) and separates them from the usual boring buildings.



6 Tips for Getting Better Parade Photos . . . Continued

#5 Use a telephoto lens but get in close

Often in my beginner photography classes my students assume that the longer telephoto and zoom lenses are for photographing things far away. While that is sometimes the case, as in wildlife or birds, they have other great uses as well. See my article on “How to achieve blurred backgrounds in portraits” as those tips apply here as well. Using a longer lens and large aperture, will help you get the distracting background of the parade route more out of focus.



I also suggest you get physically closer to the people you’re photographing. This will do two things . . .

First let them see you’re taking their photo, and allows interaction with them if only by eye contact. They know they’re on display in the parade and expect to have their photo taken many times. So if you are hesitant or tentative taking people’s photos, this is a perfect opportunity because you have a whole stream of willing subjects literally parading in front of you (sorry pun intended). Sometimes you’ll get a great reaction when they see your camera like the series of images below. She turned, saw me, and I captured a few shots as she rotated and pointed right at me. If I were out on the street edge, likely that wouldn’t have happened.

Second, it will simplify your images and allow you to focus more on one thing at a time. Parades can be visually stimulating, and overly busy so getting in closer will help solve those problems. Pick one person, or one part of a float and get closer.



Float details

6 Tips for Getting Better Parade Photos . . . Continued

#6 Try to create a series of images that tell a story



Over on my own site I wrote “What is your message? Storytelling photography” and gave some examples. As you photograph the parade, try and create a series of images that tell the story of the event, and relate it to someone that wasn’t there. What do you see, hear, feel, taste and touch? What is the main thing you want tell people that see your images of

the parade? Journalists will say that you need to cover: wide, medium and long. What that means is show the big picture by shooting some wide shots; show the medium range like one person or one float; and show long or tight shots like details of costumes and floats, or musical instruments. Try to also capture some action images such as dancers in mid-bounce or drummers with hands or drumsticks all a blur in motion. A story also needs a beginning, middle and end. Think of those things while you photograph and you may surprise yourself with the results.

Hmm, is it just me or are these firemen enjoying the parade just a little too much?!



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Family Gathering Photography Tips

By The Picture Correct Team

It's that time of year again – time for the annual family gathering! Whether you're gathering around the table for Thanksgiving dinner or celebrating the holidays with loved ones, these occasions are always filled with laughter, love, and of course, lots of photo opportunities. Whether you're a seasoned photographer or just starting out, here are some tips to help you capture those special moments and create lasting memories.



Photo captured by cottonbro studio; ISO 2000, f/1.4, 1/1250s, 50mm.

Here are some example camera settings assuming an indoor setting with minimal lighting:

- **Aperture:** Aperture controls the amount of light that enters the camera through the lens. In low light situations, you might want to use a lens with a wide aperture (e.g. f/2.8 to f/5.6) to let in more light. This can also create a shallow depth of field, which can be a nice effect for portraits.
- **Shutter speed:** Shutter speed controls the amount of time that the camera's sensor is exposed to light. In low light situations, you might want to use a slower shutter speed to allow more light to reach the sensor. Just be aware that using a slow shutter speed can cause motion blur if your subjects are moving.

Family Gathering Photography Tips . . . Continued

- ISO: ISO controls the sensitivity of the camera's sensor to light. In low light situations, you might need to increase the ISO to allow the camera to capture more light. However, increasing the ISO can also introduce noise (grain) into your photos, so try to keep it as low as possible while still getting a well-exposed photo.
- White balance: White balance helps to ensure that colors in your photos look natural. Indoor lighting can sometimes cause colors to look yellow or orange, so you might need to adjust the white balance to compensate.
- Focus mode: In low light situations, it can be more challenging for the camera to focus accurately. You might want to consider using a focus mode that allows you to manually select the focus point, such as "single point" or "flexible spot."



Photo captured by Nicole Michalou; ISO 800, f/2.8, 1/160s, 50mm.

Here are some more general tips for capturing the gathering:

- Get everyone involved: Encourage family members of all ages to take photos, whether it's with a traditional camera or their smartphones. This will help capture a variety of perspectives and candid moments.
- Use natural light: Take advantage of natural light by shooting near windows or doors. This will help create soft, flattering light for your photos.
- Experiment with different angles: Try shooting from different angles to add visual interest to your photos. This might include shooting from above, below, or at eye level.
- Get close to your subjects: Don't be afraid to get close to your subjects and fill the frame with their faces. This will help create intimate, emotional photos.
- Capture candid moments: In addition to posed photos, make sure to capture candid moments as they happen. These types of photos often capture the true spirit of a family gathering.

Family Gathering Photography Tips . . . Continued

- Tell a story: Use your photos to tell a story of the gathering. This might include capturing the details of the decorations, the food, and the activities that took place.
- Have fun: Above all, remember to have fun! Photography should be enjoyable, so don't stress too much about getting the perfect shot.



*Photo captured by Tyler Nix; ISO 250,
f/3.5, 1/1250s, 50mm.*

With these tips in mind, you'll be well on your way to capturing beautiful and meaningful photos at your next family gathering. So don't be afraid to get creative, have fun, and above all, embrace the chaos! These are the moments that make life worth living and the memories that we'll look back on and cherish for years to come.

PICTURECORRECT.com

Take control of your smartphone settings

Beginning photographers, even with higher-end cameras, often stick to the simplicity of automatic modes and let the camera determine the focus, aperture, shutter speed, ISO, and white balance.

Yet while early smartphone cameras offered no option for manual control, many modern smartphone cameras now offer full manual control over settings. You can also find apps that expand your camera control, such as ProCam X for Android devices and Camera+ for iPhones.

By taking control of your camera settings, you can create better landscape photos – so make sure to explore these options, even if you currently feel more comfortable with your smartphone's Auto mode.

RM