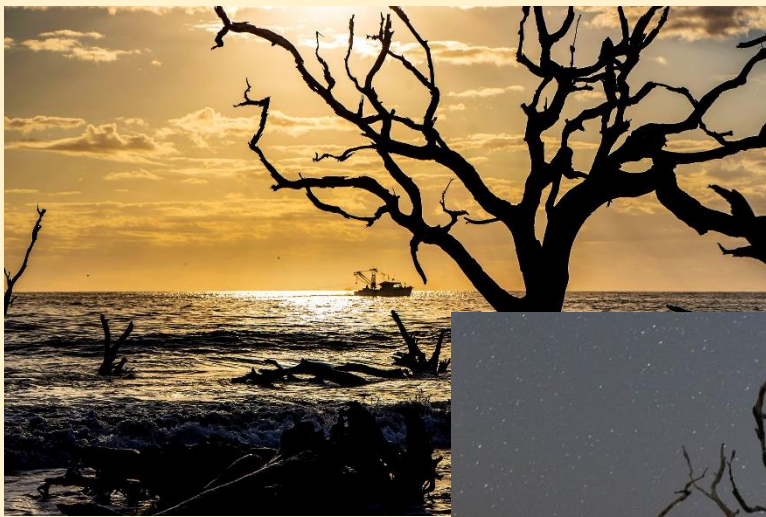




1st Rusty Russ



2nd Danny Short

3rd Laura Jenkins



Foothills Photography Group
Newsletter
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 Sec/Treasurer.....Barb Johns
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Cover photos are the winners of the March Member’s Showcase competition. The theme was “Georgia Landscape”. Interesting that second and third places are the SAME TREE but totally different images. See details on page 9.



Hello Fellow Club Members,

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I hope everyone is getting to spend a little time outside enjoying the beautiful weather. Below are a few tips on flower photography.

<https://digital-photography-school.com/10-tips-for-improving-your-flower-photos/>

<https://iphonophotographyschool.com/flowers/>

Thanks to everyone who participated in March's Member Showcase. Congratulations to the top three: Rusty Russ, Daniel Short, and Laura Jenkins. We had a great presentation from Wingate Downs during the March meeting. It was very interesting to hear about his photography career and see his great photos. It was especially interesting for us Georgia Bulldogs fans.

I look forward to hearing from our own Kim Martin in April when she shares her photos and expertise with us. As Kim is preparing her presentation, I'm sure she is reviewing the thousands of photos she's taken over the years. This month I would like to encourage everyone to do the same. Often, you may happen upon a photo that didn't quite catch your eye at the time, but, through the lens of time, allows you to see it in a different light. Now, small details will pop out in a new way. We can get lost in the sheer number of pictures we take. In today's age, it is possible to take thousands upon thousands of pictures and not really take time to appreciate each individual photo.

Remember; Aaron Siskind's wise words: "Photography is a way of feeling, of touching, of loving. What you have caught on film is captured forever...it remember little things, long after you have forgotten everything." It is important to remember the moment and experience of taking those photos of long ago.

Don't forget to share your photos on the Facebook page. We all like to see what you're doing.

I hope to see everyone at the April meeting. The Member Showcase topic is Spring Colors. Send your photos to lpjphotography15@gmail.com.

Laura Jenkins
Foothills Photography Group President



UPCOMING PROGRAMS...

Tuesday, April 18th. Our own Kim Martin will do a program chronicling her photographic journey, discussing club field trips, and sharing photography made on a recent Europe trip. See more about Kim in the story starting on page 5.

Tuesday, May 16th. (Maybe!)

The program for May isn't nailed down yet but here's what we're thinking:



We'll bring in a professional pet photographer for a "hands on" session in which we photograph our own (or someone else's) pet! Cats and dogs all over the Photography Department's studios. Doesn't get any more fun than that!!!

(Editor's note: That picture is my eight-week-old Weimaraner named Daisy.

All about Kim....



(This is the first in a series of write-ups about Foothills members. I chose Kim first because she is the presenter for the April meeting.)

The lady is a dynamo! How can one person start a photography business, teach photography, raise six kids, and volunteer everywhere? Kim Martin does all these things and more.

She is one of those people who has managed to combine what she likes to do with what pays the bills. After completing the Photography course at NGTC, Kim launched Kimmers Photography and soon merged photography with her other love, water sports. She is quite comfortable with newborn and pregnancy photography (six babies of her own!). Add in weddings, commercial work, graduations, sporting events, etc., etc..

For a glimpse of the W I D E range of Kim's work, check out her galleries [here](#):



And all of this was intentional. A full twenty-five years after graduating University of North Georgia with a degree in English, she made the leap. Back to school -- this time in photography at NGTS.

While there she was deeply involved in the Student Photographic Society.



When asked to name her favorite genre of photography, she quickly answered "photojournalism". But she added that the opportunities for making images in that area are limited. She thinks that her degree in English may account for the pull toward photojournalism. Of course, she admires Doreatha Lange.



One of Kim’s favorite photographs is the one she made of the feral horses on Cumberland Island.



A lot of Kim’s photos are action shots made of water sports.

Makes sense. After being the Aquatics Director at UNG (Oakwood), she moved to the Lanier Canoe and Kayak Club where she teaches adults and children paddling, swimming, safety, and water aerobics.

Kim has recently joined the Foothills Board of Directors as the chairperson for the club’s field trips. Learn more about this at the April club meeting.

Gibbs Gardens didn't disappoint!

Nine of us caravanned to Gibbs Gardens in a horrific downpour – each hoping that the weatherman was correct (in his prediction that the rain would stop by 10:30 or 11:00).

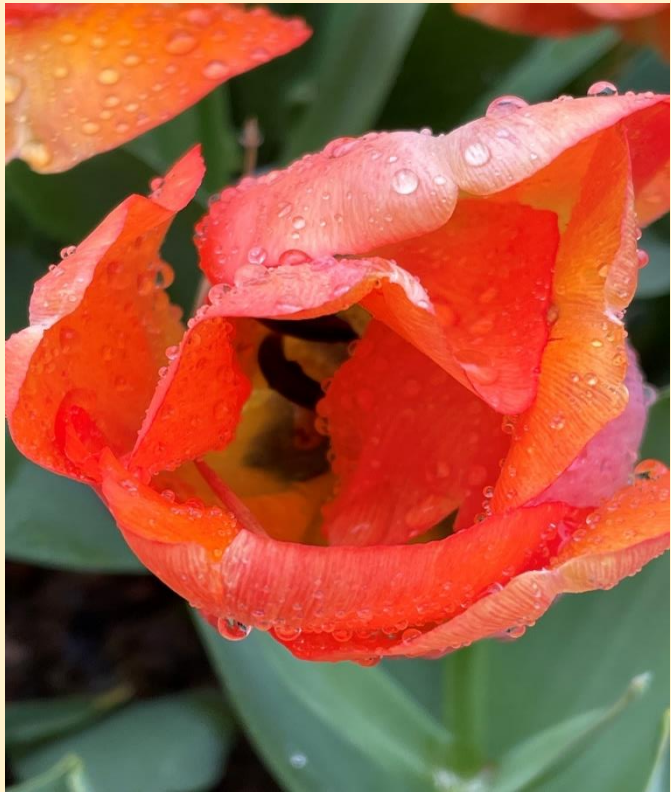


D. Hinson

That's all of us except Dave Hinson who made the photo. Note the rain gear which we didn't need as the rain stopped within minutes. One side benefit was the water that was still on some of the leaves and flowers.



Dave Hinson



Barb Johns

Gibbs Gardens promotional material said there were 20,000,000 daffodils. We were a few weeks late for that but we got some excellent shots of the 2,000,000 still in bloom.

The next page shows a sampling of the some of the photos submitted for the newsletter.



John Martin



Barb Johns



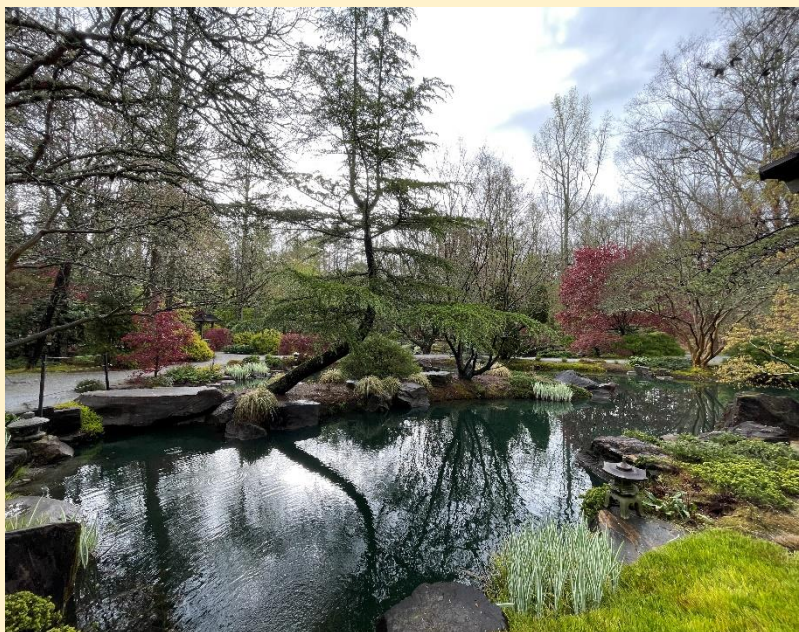
Barb Johns



Hinson



J. Martin



B. Johns

March Member Showcase...(Georgia Landscape)



Rusty Russ brought home First Place with this shot off his own balcony.



It's the same tree! Danny Short earned second place (left) while Laura Jenkins got third. There is a lesson here. Although the same tree...there are a number of differences: time of day, focal point (trawler vs rising sun), tide level, camera aim, clouds in sky vs none.

The message is that different artists portray their skills in different ways. Both are nice images but they are vastly different.

Editorial...

As the newsletter's editor, I am free to write an "editorial". Sometimes it's even fun.



Barb Johns has been the secretary/treasurer of Foothills Photography Group for a very long time. But she's going to retire from that position on December 31, 2023. And we need someone to take over that job.

This would be the place where I heap praise on Barb and the selfless job she has done. But I'm not going to do that. (Maybe in the November 2023 newsletter.)

Instead, I'm going to mount the old soapbox of appealing to members to help out.

This is the point where you might stop reading. *Please don't.*

As I write this, the Board has three unfilled openings: Director for Mentoring, Vice-president, and (now) Secretary/Treasurer. None of these openings requires long experience, formal training, or skills beyond what each of us has. A new incumbent can be up to speed in hours.

Presumedly, members become members based on a desire to learn more about photography, to mingle with like minded people, and to benefit from the energy and knowledge of others. With that in mind, I submit that you aren't getting your money's worth if you are just a listener. And the rest of us aren't getting the benefit of your contributions either.

So...what about the open jobs? At the top of the next page, I've shown a mini job description of each open slot.

What isn't there is mention of the board meetings. One week after each regular club meeting, the board gathers at a local restaurant for dinner and to conduct the business of the club. Each of the directors gives a status of his/her area; for example, programs, bank balance, field trip ideas, community service ideas, etc.. The meetings are really a sort of "round table" discussion rather than being highly structured and last (typically) less than one hour.

Let's look at the needs.

Director Mentoring

Program doesn't exist. Develop a procedure from the ground up that brings together the mentors and mentees.

Vice-President

Conduct the meeting when the president is absent. Attend board meetings and shadow the president for several years. Assume the presidency down the line?

Secretary/Treasurer

The most demanding of the three. Manage the membership list, make expenditures and deposits, track attendance, and draft board meeting minutes.

Here's an invitation: If you have the **slightest** interest in one of these jobs in the club, call me. 706-499-0956. I'll buy you a lunch and answer any questions you might have.

John Martin

Editor