



Foothills Photography Group

Newsletter

Volume 11, Number 8



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The cover photo (slightly cropped) was made by Melissa Elsey. It earned first place in the July Member's Showcase competition.



Hello Fellow Club Members,

I hope all of you are enjoying your summer so far. Because NGTC will be closed for semester break, the August meeting will be on August 22 instead of August 15. We are very excited to have award winning Pet Photographer, Courtney Bryson speaking to us that week. Check out her website:

<https://cmbryson.com/>

If you have a pet, I'm sure your phone and/or computer are full of your fur-baby photos. I know mine are!! I'm excited to listen to Courtney and put her tips to use. Later in the year, we are going to plan a pet photo shoot, please watch for that announcement.

Below are a few links to more pet photography tips.

<https://shotkit.com/dog-photography-tips/>

<https://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/photography/discover/pet-photography.html>

The club had a great time on the July field trip. We photographed flowers and sculptures at Gainesville Botanical Gardens and then photographed the sunset at Lake Lanier. Thanks to Kim Martin for planning the trip and to Barbara Johns and David Henson for providing the picnic.

Congratulations to the July Member Showcase winners: Melissa Elzey, Barbara Johns, and David Hinson. Our July topic was celebration, and our August topic is the color orange. Be sure to send your photos to lpjphotography15@gmail.com.

See you at the August meeting!

Laura Jenkins
President, Foothills Photography Group

Feature Article – iPhone Photography; Not by Choice -- Janice Koskey—

Editor's note: I got to know Janice when I published her articles in the PSA Travel Division's newsletter. She presented to our club in April of 2021.

Necessity is the mother of invention, or in this case reinvention. If you have felt defeated by a limitation of any kind you may relate to this photo story. Last year on a visit to my sister's house in Delray Beach, Florida to photograph my usual wildlife at the beautiful wetlands there, I was in a car accident and shattered my right humerus, leaving my photography arm useless and my ability to drive a car temporarily suspended.



After surgery I had to spend many long days lying down. Since photography is my go-to stress reliever and creative outlet, I began using my left hand to photograph cloud formations in the sky outside the window. Too weak to hold let alone snap the shutter on my Nikon, my iPhone had to suffice. Soon able to venture out, at first a few yards, then to the mailboxes, and eventually further around the complex, I found I could manage to photograph occasional birds near the small pond, sunset over the canal, a spray of flora, a stray feather, or a shell.

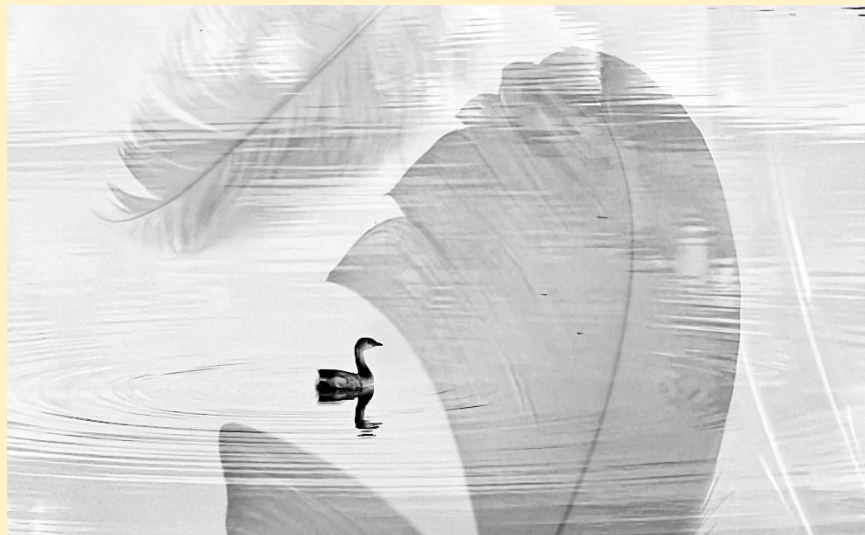


Using my non-dominant hand made most photos less than tack sharp, so with countless hours on my hands, I decided to explore some creative applications I'd heard about but never used. A favorite and most versatile app is Snapseed where I could use the sharpen scenes or heal extraneous elements from roughly composed photos. The most

exciting discovery I made during this transformation of my photo style was double exposure. In Snapseed it is easy. Now I realize I can make image overlays in-camera with my Nikon, but at the time this app was a lifesaver. With it I was able to utilize those cloudy skies, reflections, isolated ground finds and blurred bird sightings and combine them to create interesting visual effects.

Those of you who witnessed my presentation on *Contemplating our Photography: Looking behind the Images* won't be surprised that I was also able to spend those lonely recuperative hours looking deeply into the images I'd made and to gain insight into lessons learned during this life-changing event. Always the caregiver, I was now being cared for; always the healthy and active one, I was now handicapped and secluded. The shrouded aspects of my composite photos reflected my new limited view; my unlikely combinations of objects whispered of resourcefulness, changing values, and gratitude. Looking closely at what was before my eyes all along slowed me down considerably and allowed me to see that we don't need to travel far to find beauty or use a fancy camera to make images with meaning and merit.

I hope you enjoy some of the fruits of the temporary misfortune which forced me to look at life through a different lens, changed my perspective, and helped me reinvent my photography.





CELEBRATION !

JULY MEMBER SHOWCASE

WINNERS from top, 1st place
Melissa Elzey, 2nd Barb Johns,
and 3rd place Dave Hinson.



The August Member Showcase theme is "ORANGE". (Might be an opportunity for Clemson fans to show their colors! Or Tennessee. Or University of Miami.) Send your photo to Laura lpjphotography15@gmail.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

August 22nd. (Note: This is the 4th Tuesday – campus closed on 3rd Tuesday.)

“My dog won’t sit still!” Courtney Bryson, a successful pet photographer may have the answer. And the answer may be: “He doesn’t have to be still.”



Courtney will bring her own dog as a model. Later this summer the club will hold a group photo shoot in which we photo our own pets. (That should be an event to remember!)

Check out Courtney’s web page here to see the wide range of pet photography she has mastered.

<https://cmbryson.com/portfolio/>

September 19th.

President Laura is going to Alaska to shoot scenery and wildlife. Just in case you have forgotten Laura’s skills with wildlife, check out the winning photo(s) of the April 2022 Member Showcase.



A few photos from the July 22nd field trip to the Atlanta Botanical Gardens (Gainesville) and the Lake Lanier Olympic Park.



MANY thanks to Barb Johns, Kim Martin, and Dave Hinson for the organization and hands-on work. You guys are great!!



A great time was had by all. It was a beautiful day at two really nice venues.

Some more stuff...



Mentor? We've been without a mentor committee chairperson for some time, but that position is now filled by Melissa Elzey. Melissa consistently produces outstanding photos. Who better to be the mentor chair? If you are interested in becoming a mentor or wish to have a mentor, contact her at this email: mmelzey2002@gmail.com



Don't miss the regular appearance of Colby Moore at club meetings. Normally he does a ten minute "cheesy photo tips" but in July he did the entire program on cell phone photography. (Editor's note: I wish I had recorded it. I'd like to see it again.)