

FOOTHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

Monthly Newsletter

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January 2017



Photo Provided by FPG Member, Keith Nelms from his recent Germany trip

From our president....



Hello 2017! Foothills Photography Group finished 2016 on a happy note with the Christmas Party, December 20. The well-attended event featured some excellent food, thanks to you all bringing a variety of dishes to compliment the ham and turkey which FPG provided, via Barbara and Jim Johns and our wonderful hostess, Tanya Smith. And thank you, Will Davis, for the unexpected entertainment! You are so talented. Now....we are eager to jump into 2017!

Photographically speaking, what are your hopes and plans for the new year? Is it time to master a new software, a new technique, or try some aspect of photography that you've been thinking about but just keep putting it off? How about exploring a new place? Or maybe 2017 will be the year you get an image into a magazine. Hey, why not try to win a contest this year? Enter every contest you can until you experience the joy of winning, if you haven't already.

I had a positive new experience in December, that might just condition me to more readily pursue *new* things in 2017. A friend invited me to photograph a quail hunt. (I know, all the extreme animal lovers just screamed!) I have long admired the skill involved in training bird dogs. The relationship between trainer and dog is special. So I walked with the 4 sportsmen for a couple of hours on private land in Banks County. The action started immediately and I found myself scrambling to keep up with the hunters as they kept up with the dogs. I did some homework the night before, studying images online, but there are just too many variables in this sport to do much more than just be there and click the camera as fast as you can! The dogs need to be in the right spot, right position; the hunters should be close enough to the dogs to be in the frame; and then there's the birds....they need to fly up in the right direction, and hopefully, all of this action will be in the proper angle to the sun!

Whew! Anyway, I made over 900 images and I was surprised at my beginner's luck. Here's a sample image. So, the point being, try something new in 2017. Your Board of Directors will be providing several special opportunities. Stay tuned!



Welcome New Members. Kim Martin came to the Christmas Party and decided to join this wonderful outfit! Welcome Kim! She recently posted some of her talented work on our Facebook page. Check it out!

Happy Trails!

Danny

Quote of the Month

- *“Photography is a way of feeling, of touching, of loving. What you have caught on film is captured forever... It remembers little things, long after you have forgotten everything.”*
— Aaron Siskind

January Program Features Professor Alberto Patino- Douce.

He is a geologist, and has been a professor at UGA since 1991. He travels as much as time and resources permit, generally shunning inhabited places. His photography attempts to convey the happiness of being alone in the middle of nowhere. He states, “Our world is the product of over four billion years of geological and biological evolution, and no amount of human manipulation can improve on what nature has achieved. I am thus disconcerted by some of the current trends in landscape



photography, which emphasize editing over content, and endless repetition of a few clichés over exploration of the diversity of nature. When you attend my talk I would like you to focus on what you see, and to keep in mind that what I tried to accomplish was an accurate representation of nature. I will tell you a bit of how I did that, even if I often don't remember myself."

More of Alberto's work can be seen at fourbillionyears.zenfolio.com.

The January meeting is on the 17th, social time at 6:30 and program at 7:00.

All photos ©2015 Alberto E. Patiño Douce

Looking Ahead to Upcoming Events...

1. Our February program will feature a variety of hands-on experiences. We want to have about 4-5 stations set up. Each station will have a mentor who will give a 20 minute instruction. Time will allow participants to choose 3 of the stations....or maybe more...plans aren't finalized yet. For example: Danny Young's station will demonstrate how to do mat cutting. He will also help you make faux mats.
2. In March, we begin our third year! This will be a time to renew memberships and to add new members. Be thinking of friends you might want to have join FPG.
3. Also in March, we select Board Members. Board members are the Committee Chairpersons, along with the President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. The committees are: Social, Program, Community Service, Publicity, Mentoring, Webmaster, and Field Trips. FPG is blessed to have talented committee chairpersons. We need people who can serve on the committees as well. If you have the time, and desire to be more involved in FPG, let us know!
4. 2017 Field Trips. Got a favorite place you like to go make images? Want to lead us there, show us the best spots? Give us your input and let's have some terrific field trips this next year.

