

# FOOTHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

## *Monthly Newsletter*

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Volume 4 Number 6

June 2018



*Photo Provided by FPG Member, Kim Martin*

## *From our President.....*

Thank you to all who attended the May meeting of the Foothills Photography Group. I want to give a special thanks to Larry Winslet last month's speaker.

Our June Speaker will be Foothills Group founder **John Martin**. He will be speaking on the subject of **“Shooting Strangers / Street Portraiture”**.



We had some great entries in last month's critique. Junes critique theme will be **“Strangers”**.

With Summer coming a lot of us will be heading on vacation or taking road trips. Make sure you have plenty of memory cards and check your gear so you don't get caught without. Have fun and keep shooting.

Thanks everyone,

Matt King President,  
Foothills photography Group

## *Quote of the Month:*

**"Don't shoot what it looks like. Shoot what it feels like."**

**by David Alan Harvey**

*Quote Provided by FPG Member, Carolyn Gaik*

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



## Danny Young

I was born in Columbus, Georgia, but my parents and my brother and I moved to north Florida when I was seven. I graduated from Marianna High School in 1966 and quickly joined the Marines. I served three years, including one year as a radio operator in Viet Nam. Upon my discharge, I attended Carson-Newman College, receiving a BA. I married during this time and we eventually had 4 awesome children, 3 boys and a girl, who have blessed us with 8 grandsons! After college, I was pastor of a Baptist church for 3 years, then attended seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas, where I pastored four years. I eventually pastored 22 years, before becoming the editor of a regional religious magazine in Florida, which published 10,000 copies every month. Other work experience includes house flipping, remodeling contractor, private school principal, and professional photographer.



My parents were hard-working, blue collar people. My dad was an electrician and Mother was a social worker. Both retired from the state of Florida. My mother finished high school in 1943, in the middle of America's involvement in World War II. At 18, she became a welder at a ship yard in Panama City, Florida. Overnight she went from a life of almost poverty, living with a single mom on the farm with 4 children still at home, to having more money than she had ever seen. She sent money home to her mother every week, and she also bought things she had only dreamed of before. And one of those things was a very nice camera. As a child, I remember the almost sacred moment when she would open the leather case, take out the camera and prepare to make pictures. To me, the camera was like a magic box, capable of freezing time. Our photo album consisted of about 40 pictures total, but it was a favorite past time to look through it and relive the moments of years gone by. From this early experience, I became fascinated with photography.



I always had a camera and I dreamed of one day making images like the ones I saw in magazines. The expense of film and processing hindered me from improving my skill, because I couldn't afford to make practice shots. However, in 2005, all that changed with the purchase of my first digital camera.



Immediately, I began to see improvement in my pictures and I believed that now, my dream could come true. I studied tutorials online almost every night. I made pictures every day. Those were wonderful and frustrating years. I'd made some good images, then I'd bomb! Sometimes instead of making pictures of a lake, I'd feel like throwing all my gear INTO the lake!

I finally came to the point where I felt I had gone as far as I could go, on my own, with my progress. I received a one-day, one-on-one workshop with my wildlife photographer idol, Ken Conger. That one day changed my photography life. I began to implement my new skills and before long, I considered my work to be about as good as some of the images I was seeing being sold at local art/craft festivals. I entered my first show in 2011, in Toccoa. I did way above my wildest expectations and I was hooked. I now try to do about 12 shows a year and am blessed to be able to sell thousands of dollars each year. I have many rewarding experiences as a result of selling at the shows. I'll share two of them.

At the Bear on the Square show in Dahlonega, GA, a few years ago, Chinese woman came to my booth. She told me she was from Hong Kong, but lived in California and was visiting friends in Atlanta. She bought a horse image and said she wanted to send it to her friend, who lived in Paris! Hong Kong, California, Atlanta, Dahlonega, Paris.....I now tell people I have gone international!!

The second story occurred last year at the Celebrate Clayton festival. A lady bought a 20x60 image about 3:00 on Sunday afternoon, just an hour or so before the festival ended. By the time I got home, I had received an email from the lady with a picture of my picture hanging on her fancy-looking dining room wall! She was so proud of the image and seeing it hanging on her wall really blessed me.

I have done weddings, yearbook photos, senior pictures, family portraits, etc. I enjoy every challenge. Several years ago, I decided I didn't have enough time left to be good at everything, so my love for nature and being outdoors led me to give most of my attention to nature photography.

My most prized recognition happened last year, when National Geographic online published two of my images. Each one was chosen out of about 8,000 entries from photographers from all over the world. Some time prior to that, I had told myself that I was going to enter photo contest until I won one. It didn't matter how long it took. I entered one. I didn't win. Then, while at Gibbs Gardens one day, the owner, Jim Gibbs and I were talking and he told me I should enter the photo contest they were having. I did. A few weeks later, after I had forgotten all about the contest, I received a call telling me that I had won first place and Best In Show, out of over 800 entries from local photographers.

My goals? I want to make images that inspire, comfort, and bring a smile to everyone who views them. God has created an awesome world and I feel so blessed to be able to present pieces of His masterpiece to others. I'll leave you with the verse I had printed on the back of my business cards:

*Ask the animals, and they will instruct you;  
Ask the birds of the sky, and they will tell you.  
Speak to the earth, and it will instruct you . . .  
Which of all these does not know  
that the hand of the Lord has done this?*

Job 12:7-9



# **Foothills Photography Group News:**

**Reminder: If you haven't payed your annual dues please do so.**

**June Meeting Critique Theme “Stranger”**

**May Meeting Program “Shooting Strangers / Street Portraiture ”  
our own John Martin.**

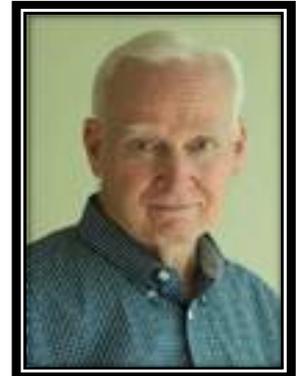
JOHN MARTIN ON THE JUNE FOOTHILLS PROGRAM...

When we think of visiting a new place (foreign or local), landscape comes to mind. It occurred to me recently, however, that one of the main reasons we visit a new place is for the culture – whether it's Italy or New York, there is a distinct culture we want to experience. And that culture is shown in the people.

I've been fortunate to be able to travel to (and photograph) many places in this world. My memories and my photo files are rich with images of the people I've met and photographed – little children, wrinkled farmers, street vendors, people on the street. All strangers.

Some photographers think it is difficult and awkward to make portraits of strangers. I don't – and in the presentation to the club (on June 19) I'll share with the club dozens of portraits and how I made them. All without being attacked or arrested.

I'll end that presentation with two-minute video on this subject put together by two National Geographic photographers.



## **Foothills Photography Group Provides Photos to decorate the new offices of Orthopedics of Northeast Georgia**

In the December newsletter the membership of Foothills Photography Group were asked to submit images that would be considered for hanging in a new local business. The group responded enthusiastically and from those submissions 63 images by 13 photographers were selected. The submitted photos included black & white, black & white portrait, flowers/plants, landscapes, waterfalls, wildlife, nightscapes, and local landmarks. The business where these images will be displayed, the

new office of Orthopedics of Northeast Georgia. The images are displayed in gallery mount canvas and museum style black frames with white matting. The images were unveiled to the public at a Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting held on May 23, 2018. These outstanding images are a presentation that we can all take pride in as members of Foothills Photography Group.



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## *Historical Photos from Our Area*

*The Trolley that ran from the Clackesville Depot to the Square.*



I have always heard that there was a box under the seats to transport bodies that arrived by train to the undertaker.