



## Camera Club of Oak Ridge Newsletter for January 2121

Picture by Sara Neill Norman

*Our next Zoom Meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 12th, 2021**.* We will meet at 7:30 PM, just like always, but members and guests are most welcome to join the zoom meeting at 7:00 PM for informal fellowship. I will pass along the zoom meeting link in a few days by email.

- Since the CCOR fiscal year runs January 1- December 31, membership dues are due on January 1 for current members; new members may pay upon joining at any time of year. If you aren't sure if yours was renewed, please check with me. Individual Membership is \$20 and Family Membership is \$30. Membership is free for Full Time Students. You can renew your membership online at:

<https://oakridgecameraclub.org/join-us/join-us.shtml>

## Meetings

- **January 2021 meeting:** The January meeting on **Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>** will be a program meeting. **Kristina Plaas** will present on **Interpretive Photography in America's National Parks**. Kristina is a Volunteer-in-Park at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway. As an interpretive photographer, she approaches the visual landscape with the visitor in mind – what story do you want to convey, what emotion do you wish to share, what connection are you trying to make between the park and the people that visit? It's a unique way of communicating through the lens.

Kristina developed a love for photography at an early age, claiming the family Kodak Instamatic as her own. She purchased her first 35mm SLR camera after college and headed to the Smokies to photograph the history and beauty of Cades Cove. That love for capturing the wonders of nature has never ceased. With the advanced technology afforded by digital cameras and computer-assisted editing, she examines the many the possibilities in nature and landscape photography. Kristina invites all to come with her on her journey – The “Plaasabilities” are endless!

**Follow her on Facebook at Plaasabilities Photography.**



- **December 2020 meeting:** In case you missed our last meeting, the December meeting was a “Call for Sharing and Learning” for the member-submitted photos dedicated to the topic of “**Along the Riverbank**”. Rather than having a competition to pick winners we discussed the various images about what appeals to us or what ideas we have about doing it differently. This was a lot of fun and informal - and helped all of us getting better. You can view the submitted photos in our gallery

<https://www.smugmug.com/gallery/n-Fnd6q9/>

- **February 2021 meeting:** The February 2021 meeting will be a discussion of submitted member photos dedicated to the topic of “**Power of Nature (in color)**”. In this contest, your color photos should emphasize the power of nature. The subject can be anything you choose but nature's power must be clearly visible. The photos must be in color but please do not enter composite images.

- **April 2021 meeting:** The April 2021 meeting will be a discussion of submitted member photos dedicated to the topic of “**Flowers**”. Flowers are colorful, bright and readily available, so it's no wonder they are a popular subject for photographers; especially in spring, which offers huge potential for those looking to shoot gorgeous plant and flower portraits. Whether in your garden, by the side of the road or in the Great Smokey Mountains National Park among the spring wildflowers, this is an excellent subject for your nature lovers.
- **June 2021 meeting:** The June 2021 meeting will be a discussion of submitted member photos dedicated to the topic of “**Nature Retakes Control**”. Nature is the most powerful force on the planet, despite millennia of humans trying to tame it. If we all disappeared tomorrow, it would take no time at all before our cities, roadways and intricate infrastructures were crawling with plants and animals. You can see this on a small scale in abandoned lots and derelict buildings. Give us your own example of ‘Nature Retakes Control’ for this contest.

## CCOR Facebook Competition

The topic of the last Facebook competition was "Spooky" and Sara Neill Norman was the winner. Congratulations! Sara is new to our group and started off with a "bang" with her captivating image of a foggy nighttime path. Thanks to everyone who participated! The winning picture can be seen in the header of the newsletter. Sara has chosen [#sparksjoy](#) for our December Facebook competition. We could all use a little more joy nowadays and surround ourselves with things, loved ones, whatever it may be that sparks joy within us.

Post your entries (one per photographer) by December 31, and be sure to include [#sparksjoy](#). We limit each winner to only winning one monthly competition per year, so everyone has a chance. We also have a gallery on Smugmug to see the monthly winners at:

<https://ccor.smugmug.com/2020/Facebook-Photos/>

## Current CCOR member exhibits

The Emporium on Gay Street in Knoxville exhibits the **Arts & Culture Alliance Members Show** from **December 4, 2020 – January 29, 2021**. It shows work by several CCOR members. The entire Members Show will be on display throughout the Emporium in December. Photos placed in the two largest gallery spaces will remain on display in January as well. All visitors to the Emporium are asked to follow social distancing guidelines and other recommendations given by the Knox County Health Department, the City of Knoxville, and Knox County.

If you would like to have your exhibit listed in the next newsletter, please send me an email at [sec-treas@oakridgecameraclub.org](mailto:sec-treas@oakridgecameraclub.org)

## Last but not least

- **Wilderness Wildlife Week** features a “Smokies Through the Lens Photography Contest” and the **deadline for submission is midnight, January 15, 2021**. Rules of the contest and directions for submission of entries can be found at URL:

<https://www.colbysphotography.com/wilderness/> .

- **DXO NIK Collection**. If you are already using the Nik collection or are planning to purchase the Nik collection, you might be interested to check out some of DXO's **free** webinars at:

<https://nikcollection.dxo.com/webinars/>

- **A few days left! Nikon is bringing back its free online photography classes for the holidays** (thanks Michael Slay for the link). Nikon is bringing back its promotion that allows you to stream its entire online curriculum of photography classes at no cost, just in time for the holiday season. Now through December 31st, you can stream **all classes featured at the Nikon School Online**. Normally, these classes cost between \$15 and \$50 each.

Each course is taught by a professional photographer and features in-depth lessons to improve your photo-taking skills. However, it is important to note that although it is called the “Nikon School Online,” you do not need to own a Nikon camera to take advantage of these free courses. A few classes focus on Nikon-specific gear, but most of the classes available focus on photography as a skill set and how to improve.

<https://www.theverge.com/21581488/nikon-free-photography-classes-online-december>

Looking forward to virtually meeting you,



Secretary-Treasurer  
Andreas Koschan