

CCHHI EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
March 20, 2014
2:00pm at the LENS

Officers and Committee Chairs Attending: John Parsons, Wes Grady, Fran Hubbell, Clyde Lohere, Natalie Nelson, Vicki Reilly, Robert Rommel, Bill Schmitt, Jim Smeltzer, Susan Thomas, Tony Topoleski, and Donna Varner.

John Parsons called the meeting to order at 2:00pm. The minutes of February 20, 2014, were approved as written. The treasurer's report submitted via email by Dave McCoy was also approved as written.

Competition Committee: Wes Grady distributed a report documenting the Competition Committee's meeting held on March 19 which discussed requirements regarding printing, matting and mounting. Other issues addressed by the committee included: 1) Insufficient number of entries in a particular skill level, 2) betterment of skill level at member's request, 3) competition themes for the 2014-15 club year and 4) reducing the number of meetings without competitions from three to two.

All recommendations put forth by the Competition Committee, in above referenced document, were unanimously approved by the Board with the exception of the number of meetings without competitions. That issue has been tabled to a future meeting of Board for further discussion. People were reminded that regardless of a competition or not an educational presentation is normally offered. The difficult issue is to attract a high quality presenter who also exemplifies & articulates strong judging standards.

Education Committee: Robert Rommel advised attendees that a new series of classes will be offered mid to late April through May. Robert will send out an email to attendees soliciting suggestions for topics. (Note: For scheduling purposes keep in mind Heritage week, April 14th.)

Communications Committee: Donna Varner reported that the March issue of CCHHI's newsletter was entered in PSA's newsletter competition. She also reminded attendees that all items/articles **must be submitted 5 days prior** to the 1st of the month publication date.

John Parsons advised attendees that emails are occasionally being sent to the newsletter, a gmail account, to which it appears no one is responding if required. Bill Schmitt agreed to adjust setting so that any emails will be automatically forwarded to John.

Publicity Committee: Susan Thomas indicated that the HH Monthly magazine has been very responsive to her requests to publish Club announcements. She shared with attendees recent articles in the Island Packet as well. Clarification was sought and provided regarding the Kurtzberg Award & PSA. Natalie Nelson explained that students from HH High School compete each spring for the Kurtzberg Award sponsored by the CCHHI. Black & White entries will be judged by 5 CCHHI members in April and winners of the competition will be presented at the schools Awards Ceremony scheduled this year for May 7. Thirty-five students are expected to compete. CCHHI provides a plaque, frames and monetary awards.

In comparison, CCHHI is a sponsor in name only in order for the high school to enter the PSA national competition. The high school photography instructor submits entries and student winners from across the country are announced at PSA's annual meeting held in late September.

Membership Committee: Fran Hubbell reported a general membership total of 174. She is experiencing a minor problem not knowing whether or not class attendees who intend to become members have paid his/her dues when enrolling in a class. To rectify the issue Fran offered to pick up the membership forms & checks which are left with the instructor and placed in a "lock box."

Web Site: Bill Schmitt indicated he received some feedback from attendees regarding the updated & revised web site for our club, and sees no reason not to go live with the site at this time. Rather than the first page being our home page, photographs will be displayed & rotated in a timely fashion. A user will therefore have to hit "Home" to view all headings & related information.

Users will no longer need a password to access information. The former site will automatically redirect users to the new site should the former address be used. The former site will be invisible. The archives will not be rebuilt. Contributors to the web site will need to meet to discuss a variety of issues such as content, timely updating of material and how to input information & photographs to the web site.

LENS: Bill Schmitt reported that the electric bill for the LENS is considerably lower than past months now that people are paying attention to the heat setting.

Annual Banquet: Tony Topoleski announced that a contract with Indigo Run has been signed for the annual meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 12. Taking into account the \$5 subsidy by the Club, dinner tickets will be \$20. There will be a cash bar and the competition theme is "White". Suggestions for an evening speaker are now being solicited. Prior banquets have attracted 50-70 members.

Kurtzberg Award: Natalie Nelson indicated that participation in the competition by the students may become mandatory this April. Thirty-five students from Hilton Head High are eligible to submit two entries each. Judging will take place by CCHHI members either April 20 or 21. Volunteer judges include Jim Smeltzer, Michael Harris, Fran Hubbell, Vicki Reilly and Donna Varner. Fran mentioned that in either April or May the national PSA organization will feature the CCHHI outreach efforts to students showcasing among other initiatives the Kurtzberg Award.

Coastal Discovery Museum Exhibition: John Parsons distributed a timeline of activities to be accomplished in order for the Exhibition to be well executed. He indicated that although the deadline for entries had been extended to April 20 CCHHI has already reached the maximum number of framed photographs (80) to be displayed. We now have in excess of 91 so some Board members volunteered to show two rather than three photos. Fran reported that all entrants have paid the hanging fee, and the notebook of biographical sketches of photographers is in the process of being updated.

Macro Exhibit: John Parsons clarified that images for the exhibition can be done with either a macro or a telephoto lens. Images will be submitted digitally and the museum will print & frame all so that there is uniformity throughout the show. Submission deadline is October 1. John will follow up with Carlos Chacon from the Coastal Discovery Museum to determine if he would object to us bringing our own framed photos. The exhibit will run from Dec. 3 through January 30.

New Business - Novice Training: John Parsons shared with the group Rich Daley's suggestion that monthly presentations be set up for the novice similar to the Novice Sig program. Subjects to be discussed could include understanding exposure, lighting, composition, editing etc. This idea came about as a result of the survey responses by the novices indicating education as the primary reason for belonging to the Club.

Discussion ensued regarding whether or not this initiative would possibly compete with our Photo 101 class. Robert felt that if presentations were geared toward reinforcing and/or supplementing what is being taught in class students would only be better served. Donna suggested that all teachers/presenters meet to discuss syllabus and how to successfully integrate this suggestion with class offerings. John will follow up with Robert and Rich to discuss the format of the sig sessions.

Miscellaneous: John Parsons advised attendees that Juergen Thiessen is currently exhibiting his photographs at the First Presbyterian Church. The church has recently asked the CCHHI if we would also like to exhibit twenty-five wildlife/nature images during either Dec/January or September. Attendees felt it would be most appropriate and that Dec/January would be best.

Bill Schmitt suggested that the photographs taken by the participants in the recent field trips be shared with members of the Club via newsletter, web site and/or on a CD played before general monthly meetings. Additionally he raised the idea of getting together afterward and critiquing photographs in order to gain positive feedback to ultimately enhance our photos. Differing viewpoints oftentimes result in better images. These suggestions came about from a workshop he attended which pointed out that frequently field trips miss out on a very important step when lacking follow-up. Clyde Lohere agreed to sent out an email asking for three photos from those individuals who attended the Savannah field trip.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Vicki Reilly, secretary
March 21, 2014