



SNAPSHOT

Newsletter of the Hermanus Photographic Society
March 2017

View from the chair

The times they are a-changin'

The words of Bob Dylan's philosophic song were probably equally true in 1964, when he recorded it, than today, more than half a century later.

And – on a much less grand scale than in the original song – apply to the Photographic Society of the picturesque coastal town of Hermanus.

The Committee has changed quite drastically. Years of experience have gone with the resignation of half the members, leaving the new Committee with an average of nine months experience per member.

The Society has also changed. It lost some old members and gained some new blood over the past year. Continuing the trend, another half a dozen new members were welcomed at the last meeting, on 1 March.

Despite the changes, many challenges remain the same. Photographs no longer need to be developed, but photographers still want opportunities to develop their understanding, skills and creativity. Also, approaches to photography may have changed, but the need for quality remains.

The new Committee has the advantage of looking with fresh eyes at the requirements of the Society, but it can only succeed with the help and support of new and older members.



One of the priorities of the new Committee is to ensure a high quality and credibility of the regular evaluation of members' images. Constructive, balanced, and well-motivated feedback by the judges, is one of the best ways to enable photographers to develop.

In this respect our March meeting, with Mike Sander as lead judge, has set a high standard. He will be followed by other highly experienced judges, some no longer active Society members, who have already agreed to help.

Continued interest by members to have their images evaluated seems to be borne out by the submission of 70 images for the March meeting.

Another priority is to continue to arrange courses that address the needs of members. Most of these courses will be presented by Mike. Examples of available courses are Camera settings, for which a number of members have expressed interest, Visualization, and Composition.

Members interested in these or any other courses must please contact the Committee.

We believe this is the way to go forward. For the times they are a-changin'.

Charles Naudé

FynArts, here we come again

Hermanus Photographic Society members will exhibit their finest prints as part of the FynArts festival in June, after the success of last year's exhibition.

The title of the exhibition will be "Moments", which could be interpreted as the essence of what photographers do. They try to capture the right moment.

It could be the most beautiful moment at dawn or sunset, the moment that the expression on a face tells a story, the best moment of action in a conflict or game, even the right moment in the creation of an abstract image.

The title was chosen to enable all Society members to participate, irrespective of their preferred category or categories.



S-tuary by Deon Kühn, one of the most popular prints in last year's exhibition.

The deadline for submitting entries is noon on Monday 8 May. Members may enter up to three images, previously evaluated or not, that were taken during the preceding 12 months. Entries, in digital format, must be emailed to cmnaude@gmail.com.

Each entrant will be responsible for having his or her selected images printed and mounted. Prints must be no bigger than A3 and no smaller than A4. The bigger, the better, within these limits.

As last year, participating members will share the costs of the exhibition payable to FynArts, and all members will be asked to volunteer to do a stint as host for the exhibition, in the Hermanus Dutch Refomed Church Hall from 9-18 June.

All selected images will automatically be considered for the Print section of the Western Cape Interclub competition in November this year.

It's raining, it's pouring

While the summer rains were breaking the severe drought in the northern provinces, here in the Western Cape accolades from international and local salons kept raining on Treurnicht du Toit.

During the last month of last year and the first two months of this year, he was awarded a medal, 9 certificates of merit, 160 international acceptances and 5 national acceptances.

The Judges' Choice Medal, for his image "Urgent crossing of Mara River", and two certificates of merit, were awarded at the 2017 Grand Canyon

Winter Circuit Salon, where 15 of his images were accepted for exhibition.

The rest of the accolades came from another 12 international salons, including those of Yorkshire, the Balkans, Ireland and Bristol, and from a South African salon in Sandton.



"Urgent crossing of Mara River" by Treurnicht du Toit, winner of a Judges' Choice Medal.

Six new members join the club

Six new members were welcomed to the Society at the last monthly meeting, on 1 March. They are Diane and Deon Steenkamp, Nicholette Brand, Robert Johnson, Gerhard Fourie and Colleen Naudé.

Grape-harvesting outing

By René Dewar

A group of nine Society members met in town on Friday 10 February at 06:30 and drove up the Hemel en Aarde Valley to photograph the grape picking at Creation Wines.

On arrival, we all headed off in different directions to photograph the beautiful scenery, in anticipation of the grape picking. But plans do not always come together.

On this occasion we discovered that they had picked grapes the previous afternoon and might not pick again that day.



Discussion time in the vineyard at Creation. Image by René Dewar.

It did not take the group long to decide to make the most of a perfect day, including heading off to the restaurant for a well-deserved and delicious cup of coffee.

Luckily for us, we were later informed that the pickers were on their way. We gathered all our equipment and went in search of the action. By this time, the sun was quite bright and the light not ideal.

Due to the delay, we probably did not get the number and quality of shots we were hoping for. Despite this, the harvesters were quite taken by the idea of being photographed and we all agreed that we were most privileged to be able to spend an enjoyable morning in such a beautiful setting.

Capturing birds in Fernkloof

Gavin Turner will be taking members interested in bird photography on an outing in the Fernkloof Nature Reserve on Thursday 9 March. Gavin and his wife, Cynthia, are avid and experienced birders and bird photographers.

If you are interested in learning more about this genre of photography, even if you are not fortunate enough to possess a lens that resembles a lethal weapon, bring along your camera with your longest lens, and join us for what promises to be an enjoyable and informative stroll through the beautiful reserve. – **René Dewar**

Audio-visual interest group

By Deon Kühn

A Hermanus Photographic Society AV Interest Group was founded by eight enthusiasts on 22 February. This follows Thea Erasmus's initiative of 2016 to promote AV-making in the Society.

Meetings will be held two-monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at 19:00 in the Prayer Room of the Dutch Reformed Church Annexe. The dates are 12 April, 14 June, 9 August, 11 October and 13 December.

The group will provide technical support in the use of Pictures to Exe AV software. Members may, however, use whatever AV software package they are comfortable with for their work.

A full-day basic training course in the use of Pictures to Exe will be presented in the DR Church Hall on Saturday 25 March from 09:00 to 16:00.

Jeff Morris of AV Makers South Africa will visit our area with a roadshow of the top AVs of their international "Water" AV salon of 2016. A presentation is planned for Tuesday 9 May at Kleinmond.

The AV Makers South Africa international salon subject for 2017 is "Life 2017". Registration opens on 21 October 2017, and material must be submitted no later than 4 November 2017.

More information at <https://av-makers-south-africa.wikispaces.com/>. Go to [Link to "Life 2017" International competition](#)

Charles Hulse, renowned Australian AV maker, will visit our area in September. It is planned that he will show his AVs and present a workshop for AV makers of the Hermanus and Kleinmond clubs.

For further information contact Deon Kühn at gjkuhn@netactive.co.za

April meeting

Members may submit up to three images for open evaluation, and one image for the set subject of “Local birds”, which is linked to the bird-photography outing on 9 March, but it is open for wide interpretation.

As an experiment, the set-subject images will not be evaluated, but the photographers will have the opportunity to explain briefly what they intended to achieve and how they went about doing it.

The audience will choose the best image by vote.

The meeting, in the Dutch Reformed Church Hall on Wednesday 5 October, begins at 19:00.

Committee

Charles Naudé – Chairman

083 309 1857 (cmnaude@gmail.com)

René Dewar – Outings, workshops

082 225 5789 (rdewar@telkomsa.net)

Luke Horsten – Treasurer, membership

076 586 3714 (lukehorsten@gmail.com)

Elizma Fourie – Technology

082 499 5116 (elizma@adminevolution.co.za)

Daniel Reddie – Marketing, communication

084 642 0038 (everredi@iafrica.com)

André van Zijl – Scoresheets, setup for meetings

083 305 5649 (andremvz@gmail.com)

All of them are available to assist you with your queries.

Fluit-fluit, my storie is uit.