



SNAPSHOT

Newsletter of the Hermanus Photographic Society
February 2019

Another good year

Chairman's report and leadership changes at AGM

2018 was another good year for our club. We had good opportunities to stimulate our growth as photographers; our events were attended well; we did well in a variety of competitions; and our club strengthened its financial sustainability.

After the delivery of the chairman's report at the annual general meeting on Wednesday 6 February, three new committee members were elected – Cathy Bruce Wright, to take over financial affairs from Luke Horsten, and Kobus Botes and David Wilson as additional members.

The new committee then unanimously chose Elizma Fourie as president to replace Charles Naudé, who stepped down after two years. Luke also stepped down after driving the club's financial recovery over the last two years.

(See the list of committee members with their portfolios for the new year on the last page.)

Monthly activities

Over the last three years we seem to have stabilised at about 50 members – 6 honorary and 44 paid-up. Many of the paid-up members are active.

An average of 25 (57%) per meeting attended our 11 monthly meetings. A total of 31 (70%) entered images for evaluation during the year, at an average of 17 members entering 45 images per meeting.

Nine members were promoted to a higher star rating through these evaluations – two to 4-star level, five to 3-star and two to 2-star.

Other regular activities that evoked lively participation were the outings, many of them with a theme linked to that of the set subject of the subsequent monthly meeting.

Training opportunities

We started the year with the last three of seven modules of a Composition course by Mike Sander, which had begun the previous year, and in which 10 members partook.

We also had some practical exercises for members who had attended the Judging course by Mike the previous year.

For the rest of last year we planned two new courses, both by Mike. The first, Black and White, consisting of three modules plus practical tasks, took place during October, and had a full house of 12 participants.

The second course, Lightroom and Photoshop, was moved to early this year. The first of the seven modules will be on Tuesday 19 February.

AV Interest Group

The group was founded by eight enthusiasts in February 2017, and was led by Deon Kühn, who stepped down at the end of last year.

They really made their mark last year, ending with a clean sweep in the annual AV Challenge, which is associated with the Western Cape Interclub Photographic Competition.

The group includes members of Kleinmond Kiekie Klub. They meet every second month, and for every month a challenging theme is set. At least part of their success must be ascribed to their training courses.

Visibility

Our club's visibility was boosted last year by several club and individual activities and achievements.

Club activities included our third FynArts Print Exhibition, our participation in the Western Cape Interclub Photographic Competition, including the AV Challenge, and participation in the monthly senior and junior club competition organized by the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA).

Individual activities included entering for national and international salons, and various competitions.

More than 300 people attended our FynArts Print Exhibition in June, and the feedback from visitors was overwhelmingly positive. A total of 18 club members took part in the exhibition of 48 prints.

The highlight of our Interclub participation was our clean sweep in the AV Challenge, where Diane Steenkamp took first prize with 'The Memory of Trees', and Gerhard van Helsdingen second and third with 'Ken Jy die See' and 'Green'.

In the traditional digital and print sections of the Interclub our top-scoring images did not do as well as last year, but on the upside, our lower-scoring images did far better.

In the competition for monthly top-scoring senior and junior images of all clubs affiliated to the PSSA, we were ahead in the Western Cape by December. The competition runs from July to June.

As for individual activities and achievements, Treurnicht du Toit was the usual shining star. Firstly, he won the top Honours award of EPSSA (Mille) for having a thousand of his images accepted for exhibition at international and local salons. Secondly, in the Nature's Best Photography Africa 2018 competition, Treurnicht was first runner-up in the Reptiles and Amphibians of Africa category with his image 'Frightened', and he received an honourable mention in the Mammals of Africa Portraits category with 'Discipline'. His salon awards included a Gold Medal for 'Ill-omened', six Certificates of Merit, and about 170 acceptances for exhibition.

Elizma Fourie came third overall in the audio-visual category of the Impala Trophy competition with 'A Smile to Remember', which was also accepted for exhibition by two salons earlier last year. It was her first AV since joining our AV Interest Group.

Hestie das Neves was awarded a Global Photographic Union (GPU) Silver Medal in the Travel category of Salon Zeus on the Olympic Circuit for her image 'Daily Catch'. Another image was a Judges' First Choice, and she won a



Luke Horsten's entry 'Showing His Plumage', which ended in the top five of 132 prints in last year's Interclub competition

Certificate of Merit, and more than 25 images were accepted for exhibition by various salons since she joined our club late last year.

Finally, Thomas Niemeyer was awarded a FIAP Bronze Medal for his AV 'Pizza' by the Pomeranian Meeting in Szczecin, Poland. (See below).

Sustainability

Our Club has further strengthened its sustainability with an income that covered our running expenses, with enough left to build our reserve for possible capital expenses.

To increase our income we continued to ask participating members to contribute to the costs of events such as Interclub, through training courses, and through a voluntary tea contribution. We decreased expenses substantially through taking over the operation of our website.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the following people:

Mike Sander, past president and local guru, for presenting our training courses;

Mike Sander, Ronnie Hazell, Thea Erasmus, Treurnicht du Toit, Wicus Leeuwner and Hansie Oosthuizen, for acting as lead judges and for their invaluable feedback;

Luke Horsten, for managing our financial position back to sustainability;

René Dewar, for arranging our training courses, workshops and outings;

Elizma Fourie, for operating our website and use of various social media, and for ensuring the smooth running of our meetings;

Deon Kühn, for founding, leading and training our AV Interest Group;

Daniel Reddie, for ensuring our presence in the local media, and managing our equipment;

Deon Steenkamp, for calculating and keeping record of our evaluation and salon scores;

Diane Steenkamp, for being our secretary during the year;

Thea Erasmus and Linda Kotzenberg, for setting up our Print Exhibition;

David Wilson, Thea Erasmus, Linda Kotzenberg, René Dewar, Ingrid Grundlingh, Daniel Reddie, Machteld Horsten, Diane Steenkamp, Elizma Fourie, Colleen Naudé and Eward Grobler, for providing tea, coffee and snacks at our monthly meetings;

Every members who attended our meetings, took part in our activities, lent a hand, came up with suggestions, and in any other way contributed to our good year.

Charles Naudé

Monthly club competition



'Shielding Baby Brother' by Charles Naudé (left) and 'Fishing Boats Walvis Bay' by David Wilson are our club's senior and junior entries for the February 2019 countrywide club competition organized by the PSSA.



'Intimidation' by Diane Steenkamp (left) and 'Golden Beauty' by Luke Horsten, our junior and senior entries for the January 2019 countrywide club competition, got scores of 30 and 31 out of 45 respectively. The winning score was 41 in both sections.

Salon success

Thomas Niemeyer, veteran club member and AV enthusiast, was awarded a Bronze Medal by the 39th Pomeranian Audio-visual Meeting in Szczecin, Poland. The medal was for his AV 'Pizza', which can be viewed using the URL <https://vimeo.com/142842424>

The salon is organized by Fotoklub Zamek Szczecin, and accredited by the International Federation of Photographic Art (FIAP).

It was Thomas's first salon medal.

The month ahead

The March meeting will be in the Dutch Reformed Church Hall, as usual, on Wednesday the 6th at 19:00. Members may enter up to three images of their choice for evaluation, and one image on the Set Subject, From the Ashes / Uit die As, for discussion. The best set-subject image will be decided by voting.

Committee

Elizma Fourie – President, website

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

Diane Steenkamp – Vice President, secretary

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René Dewar – Outings, workshops

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Daniel Reddie – AV group, Marketing, equipment

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Deon Steenkamp – Promotion points sheet, technology

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Cathy Bruce-Wright – Finance, membership

082 558 1636 (arixoma@icloud.com)

David Wilson – Exhibitions, media, newsletter

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Kobus Botes – Photovault, equipment set-up, points sheet

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

Fluit-fluit, my storie is uit.