

Newsletter of the Hermanus Photographic Society

March 2024

Going for golden opportunities

Enjoyable, social way of developing camera skills



"Polo chase" by Carina de Klerk, our club's March image of the month, and our entry for the PSSA monthly senior competition, which was taken during our club's outing to the Natimby Afternoon of Polo and Wine at Stuart Family Vineyards in Botrivier in January.

Our club's dedicated effort to cover local events is generating new energy in our photography.

Two of the first highlights of the new year were an "afternoon of polo and wine" at a local family vineyard, and a "sunrise boogie" on Grotto beach, both attended by groups of our members.

Members' interest seems to increase as the word spread of the enjoyment and camaraderie at these events; as they realize the value of exposure to a variety of events, combined with good guidance from senior members; and as they see the positive results of taking part.

A good example of the latter was

the top-scoring image in the evaluation at our last monthly meeting, on 6 March, which was taken at the polo and wine event in January.

The image, entitled "Polo chase" by Carina de Klerk, was chosen as our image of the month, and as our club entry in the monthly senior club competition organized by the PSSA.

Another image, from the sunrise boogie event, was highly rated by the judges at the same club meeting. The image, "Meow kitty" by Daniel Reddie, was given a Merit award.

Members are informed of outings on our club WhatsApp group.



"Meow kitty" by Daniel Reddie, another highly rated image from attending a local event in a group. This time it was the Secret Sunrise Boogie at Grotto beach on the last Saturday of February. The image was given a Merit award at the club's March meeting.

Interesting changes being rolled out

A number of interesting changes are being rolled out at our club since the monthly meeting on Wednesday 6 March. The club has changed its scoring points, has started its meetings an hour earlier (18:00), is kitted out with new scoring boxes and has officially adopted a new logo.

Club president Carina de Klerk said the decision to score images at the monthly meetings out of 15 and no longer out of 30 has been in the making for a while. The main purpose is to align the club more closely to the PSSA guideline of scoring out of 15, which the majority of affiliated clubs are following. This transition was started at the March meeting.

At the same time a panel of three judges was re-introduced. It will not replace the adopted system of external PSSA-accredited judges. The idea is rather that the two systems should provide a better balance.

The plan is to have at least three internal panel judging sessions in 2024, which will also provide the opportunity for club members to expand their judging skills by acting as panel members.

Starting meetings at 18:00

The majority of members were keen to start the monthly meetings earlier. Together with this, we have introduced a Camera Cafe concept, where we focus more on the informal discussion of images and skills development in the first hour before the formal assessment session.

Adopting a new logo

For a while we have been using a new logo on marketing material and on social media. The new logo, which incorporates a whale, the ocean, waves, mountains, golden hour, all seen through the eye of a camera lens, was discussed at the annual general meeting in February, and will now be officially accepted as the new logo.

It is only the third logo since the club was started in April 1997. The main purpose of this change is to make our club more visible in the public eye, especially on social media.

Fellowship honour for our Phil

Phil Sturgess, our club's top photographer, has just been accepted as a Fellow of the Photographic Association of South Africa (FPSSA).

The Fellowship is the third of four levels of Honour for which a member of the PSSA can apply.

To apply, you submit a panel of images to be evaluated by a panel of judges. Half of Phil's entry, in the digital colour medium, were nature images – including the pair of Cape foxes **on the right**.



The other half were landscapes, including the second image **on the right.**

According to the PSSA the Fellowship is awarded for excellence and distinguished ability. It recognises a high standard of



achievement in the art and science of the medium.

On this level a panel of 25 digital images must be submitted.

The entry-level honour, the Licentiate, is awarded for a successful panel of 10 images. The second level (Associate) requires 15 images; and the highest level (Master) up to 25 mounted prints for exhibition, and an educational, illustrated lecture by the applicant.

As a photographer, Phil is on Master Gold level, the highest in our club. He also serves as a member of our committee.

- Honours may also be applied for through accumulating salon acceptances.
- More information is available on the PSSA website.

Another one joined the club

Monica von Oppel is our first new member of the calendar year. She has joined after being a visitor at our February monthly meeting.

Last year we had 15 new members, while only 7 did not renew their membership.

Western Cape maintains monthly quality

Clubs from the Western Cape are consistently performing well in the PSSA monthly competitions.

Four of these clubs are in the national top ten of the senior competition, based on total scores for the first eight

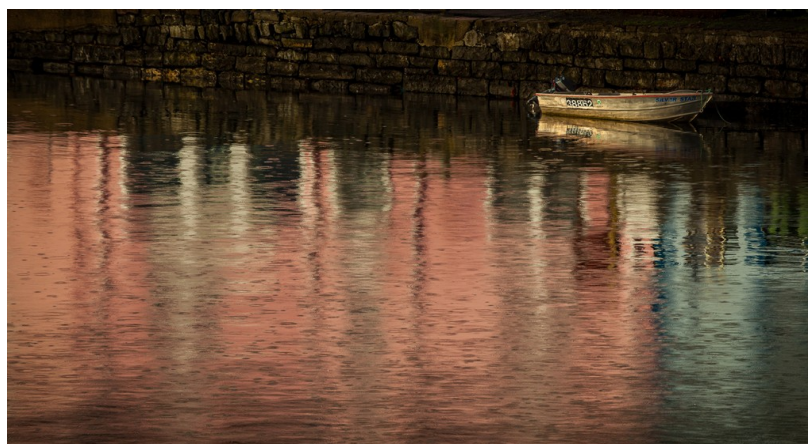
months. They are Cape Town (3rd nationally), Hermanus (6th), Witzenberg (8th) and Creative (10th).



In the junior competition the region has three: Cape Town (1st), Hermanus (3rd) and

Creative (10th).

At the top is our junior entry for March, "Abundantly spring" by Fielies de Kock. **Centre right** is a thumbnail of our senior entry (full-size image on page 1). **Centre left** is "Walking like a boss" by Judy Armstrong, our February junior entry, which was awarded 32/45, and **bottom right** "Portree reflections" by Phil Sturgess, our February senior entry (34/45).



Time to enter images for FynArts

Club members are invited to submit images for our annual print exhibition as part of Hermanus FynArts.

Images must be entered by 31 March through Photo Vault Online.

Each member may submit a maximum of six images. Club president Carina de Klerk advises that members consider images that will work well as prints, and appeal to a wide audience. "Local images and those with a marine angle would be great!"

Images submitted at club meetings are allowed, but not those that have previously been exhibited. EXIF data should be included.

Our FynArts panel of judges will review and choose the images for the exhibition. The panel consists of Lawrence Brennon, printmaker, Anette Yell Village News editor, and Debbie van Vuren, local artist.

The exhibition, entitled Pixels and Perspectives, will be in the Hermanus Dutch Reformed Church Hall, where we have our monthly meetings, from 7 to 17 June.

Salon results for February

On the rocks national salon

Charles Naudé – 4 images accepted for exhibition

David Wilson – 1 acceptance

Ermelo national salon

Charles Naudé – 2 images accepted for exhibition

David Wilson – 1 acceptance

AFO national salon

David Wilson – 1 image accepted for exhibition

International salons

David Wilson – 1 gold medal, 1 bronze medal, various ribbons and honourable mentions, for a total of 119 acceptances by various salons

Forthcoming events

Our April monthly meeting of 2024 will be in the Hermanus Dutch Reformed Church Hall on Wednesday the 3rd at **18:00**. Members may enter up to three images of their choice, and one on the set subject, "Using perspective" / "Die gebruik van perspektief", all for evaluation.

Images will be evaluated by Lesley Parolis of Cape Town Photographic Society.

All submissions must be done via Photo Vault Online, and by Wednesday 27 March. All scores will count for advancement.

The set subjects for the next three months of 2024 are:

May – A monochrome street scene / 'n Eenkleurige straattoneel

June – A sliver of light / 'n Strepie lig

July – Flames and/or smoke / Vlamme en/of rook

The First Friday Art Walk in Hermanus is from 17:00 to 20:00 on the first Friday of the month. Our club print exhibition which forms part of this is at Hermanus FotoFirst.

Forthcoming salons

April 13 – PSSA international digital salon

April 20 – Cape Photographers National Print Circuit Salon

April 20 – Ignite national digital salon

May 4 – Edenvale national digital salon

- More information on club activities can be found on our club website (hermanusphoto.co.za);
- Brochures and more information on salon participation are on the PSSA website (pssa.co.za).

Committee

Carina de Klerk	President/Chair 083 631 5743 (hermanusphoto@gmail.com)
David Wilson	Vice Chair, art exhibitions and media 064 745 3552 (hermanusphoto@gmail.com)
Phil Sturgess	Treasurer, membership and judge co-ordinator 083 272 2022 (hermanusphoto@gmail.com)
Vacancy	Secretary
Judy Armstrong	Photo Vault administrator and advancement (hermanusphoto@gmail.com)
Natasha Olivier	Social and outings (hermanusphoto@gmail.com)
Daniel Reddie	Venue management and club outings 084 642 0038 (hermanusphoto@gmail.com)

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

Snapshot

Editor	Charles Naudé 083 309 1857 (cmnaude@gmail.com)
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