

Dear fellow shutterbug,

April showers bring May flowers! ~ Thus we're blossoming and offering you a new and improved monthly email format as well as another fun filled month of opportunities to learn and grow as the budding photographer that you are.

Covered in this email:

- Monthly meeting details
- Walk-a-bout details
- Theme of the month
- Club updates & information that you need to know
- Helpful links to save you time & money

Monthly meeting

Join us on **May 8, 2008** at **7 p.m.** in the community meeting room of Sumter Mall.

We have a great meeting planned this month. Photographer and photography instructor Bill Jordan of Chapin, SC will be talking about landscape photography. He will also share with us about his business which includes photography & Photoshop classes, workshops and tours.

A little blurb about the artist...

Having been a landscape photographer working in 35mm since the mid-sixties, I switched wholly to digital in 1999. Presently, I teach courses in Beginning, Intermediate, & Advanced Digital Photography and in Photoshop for Photographers at a number of the surrounding colleges and universities here in South Carolina.

Bill's website:

<http://www.darkness-to-light.com/home.html>

Monthly walk-a-bout

Since our walk-a-bout (group photo shoot) will fall on Mother's Day we have decided that we will move it up a day earlier and do something fun & exciting so you can spend Sunday with your mom!

Who: Anyone interested in joining us

What: Photograph wildlife and shoot with others that can lend a hand (settings, etc)

When: Saturday, May 10, 2008

Where: RiverBanks Zoo in Columbia

Why: To get some good pictures of animals and have a good time with others who share the same love

We will also be offering car pooling since gas hasn't gotten any cheaper!

Other important information ...

GENERAL ADMISSION RATES: (subject to change)

Adults	\$9.75	Military (military ID)	\$8.50
Children (3-12 years)	\$7.25	Senior Citizens (ages 62 and up)	\$8.25
Children (under 3)	FREE		

Regular admission rates include entry to both the Zoo and the Botanical Garden. Tickets for special after-hours events (like Boo at the Zoo and Lights before Christmas) are separate from daytime admission. Pets, food, beverages and coolers are not allowed in the park.

<http://www.riverbanks.org/planvisit/visitorinfo.shtml> ~ Visitor's information

<http://www.riverbanks.org/planvisit/assets/files/directions.pdf> ~ Directions

Monthly theme

May monthly assignment/theme is: **SPRING**

** You are allowed to enter (1) entry in the (a) monthly theme as well as the (b) open division photo contests held during the monthly meeting. Please make sure that your image is an 8x10 print.*

**If you are a member of the club, we would like to collect your images at the end of the meeting so that we can display them in our "Wall @ the mall" exhibit inside of Sumter Mall. If you aren't a member, [email me](#) to find out how to join, it's easy and the best \$25 you'll ever spend.*

Club updates & information

- Beginning this month we will no longer automatically have a monthly workshop scheduled. We will hold periodic workshops when needed or requested.
- Don't forget about the annual [Iris Festival](#) held at Swan Lake-Iris Gardens on May 23-25 this year.
- The club's show "Defining Moments" is moving up! The show, which was on exhibit at the Umpteenth Gallery at USC Sumter, is now moving to the gallery at Patriot Hall. We will have room for additional pieces since we have more space, please [email me](#) if you are interested.
- Have you paid your dues? Please see Chris for more information.
- Please keep our secretary, Renette Wongrey, in your thoughts & prayers. She is out of town indefinitely assisting her brother-in-law, who is very ill, and helping her sister, etc. She sent a recent email thank everyone for their support.
- Make sure to check the club's main website, www.sumtershutterbugs.com for the latest information and updates

Helpful links to save you time & money

~ Rebate being offered

<http://www.tristatecamera.com/rebates/SanDisk%20Q2%202008%20Visa%20lwr.pdf>

SanDisk is offering a rebate on a number of their memory cards.

** Above is a link to the form, you don't have to buy the cards from them, but you do have to buy them from one of the participating retailers, B&H, Ritz, etc. NOTE: I did NOT see Best Buy or Wal-mart on the list unfortunately.*

~ Tips & Tricks

<http://www.penncamera.com/resources/tips.asp>

Tips to improve & enhance your photography.

~ Palmetto Shutterbugs

www.palmettoshutterbugs.com

www.palmettoshutterbugs.com/forum

Be sure to check out the ever evolving statewide group for photographers in the Palmetto State. There are links, a forum, events & shows information and information about other photography club meetings in the area and state.

THANKS to the following business/groups that help make our group successful.

Sumter Mall ~ *Morgan, Derrick and Mrs. Nancy*

Mall Security *a.k.a the Sumter Police Department*

The Item ~ *Traci Quinn, Ivy Moore & Sandra Holbert*

Sumter Living magazine ~ *Kevin & Douglas*

MOORE & More ... gifts galore! ~ *Mike, Cathy & Kyndal*

Palmetto Photography & Framing

Timeless Memories Studio ~ *Jennifer Van Allen*

USC Sumter's Division of Arts & Letters ~ *Laura Cardello*