Training Opportunity Led by Alan Whiteside
Focus on Michele Sons

*We are providing a long lead time with this message because the Dallas Camera Club training opportunity for **Tuesday, August 27th** will be different than most of our usual classes, so please read the following description carefully.*

In-Person Class (starting at 6:15 pm), Room 239:

Interactive Discussion: Exemplar Photographers and Photographic Techniques/Genres/Concepts Focusing on Michele Sons - Gallery 3 — Michele Sons Photography

Examining the photographic art of successful image makers is an excellent way to better understand what memorable/impactful/ successful images look like as we strive to become better photographers ourselves. These "Exemplar Photographer" sessions will engage participants in reviewing/studying the websites of outstanding photographers prior to class. During class, we will examine and discuss how the photographer's images were created and how specific images impacted you. You are encouraged to create an image using similar techniques and share it with the class.

Michele Sons was a transplant to the region of our country referred to as Appalachia. Within this region lies the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, which is the venue for the club's fall color field trip October 27 - November 1. Michele is a professional photographer with a focus on connection and expression. Her images should provide inspiration for our photographic efforts in that area.

Prior to class:

1. Review the images in Michele Sons' project titled, "Appalachian Dreams." (Note that you can download her free ebook, "Appalachian Dreams," which provides information about her personal journey as well as showcasing many excellent images.) Of course, you may review other images by Sons, but **the class session on August 27th will focus on images from the "Appalachian Dreams" collection**.

2. Select one or more images from Sons' "Appalachian Dreams" collection that speak most clearly and urgently to you. Try to identify what elements in the images contribute most to their impact on you and how the images were constructed (composition; techniques, such as long exposure; contrast or lack of contrast; etc.). Pay attention to your first impressions. Observe how an image makes you feel. What do you like about it? What works? What surprises and delights you? Consider the subject, the message, and the techniques used to convey that message or create a mood. Look at the composition: Where does your eye go and how does it move about the frame? What is the relationship between the different elements in the frame? What role does lighting play? What other details do you notice?

3. As an optional activity, choose an easily accessible subject and make several images using the methods that Sons has employed that speak most directly to you and then compare and contrast

them to her images that you selected. Were you as successful as Sons in communicating through your images? If not, revise your images and compare them again. **Come to class ready to talk about one of Sons' images and (possibly) one of your own.**

4. You are encouraged to submit **one** of your own images (either newly created or from your archives) that uses one or more of the techniques you identified in Sons' images from the "Appalachian Dreams" collection. Email it to Alan Whiteside (j.alan.whiteside@gmail.com) at least a couple of days prior to our meeting on August 27th.

In class:

Join the discussion about what makes Michele Sons' "Appalachian Dreams" images impactful and what you learned about seeing and composing images.

Do not reply to this email. *For questions, comments, or to submit an image for the class session on August 27th, email Alan Whiteside at* j.alan.whiteside@gmail.com.