

President's Corner: I will be brief. This year our little club has grown, inviting several new members into our ranks. Additionally, we have performed some amazing feats with our first publication. Next year, we have some really amazing things planned for our book, our trips, and programs. I wanted to write about these upcoming projects, but much of the news letter will be dedicated to said projects. I am so excited over what we have to present you that I have nothing to say but this: thank you for an amazing year, and happy holidays! Help us to make the next year all the more incredible. Laura

WV150 Book Update: The news on the sales front continues to be very good. On the "Breaking News" front, the West Virginia Division of Tourism has put in an order for 250 copies. This is a tremendous honor for the club and all the photographers that made this happen. In addition, our sales on the local front continue to be steady. Just about every day, we receive inquiries about how people can purchase a book. Can you imagine how many we would have sold if we could have gotten them in communities across the state. With that said, we are very grateful that the project has turned out so well.

We continue to receive positive press as *WV Living* was gracious enough to write an exclusive web article on our book, see <http://www.wvliving.com/WV-LIVING-Web/Fall-2013/Telling-West-Virginias-Story-One-Shot-at-a-Time/>. If you want a great source about what's happening in and what's good about West Virginia, the *WV Living* magazine and their website is the place to go. We expect to have more positive press in the next few weeks. Stay tuned!

OPERATION Thank You: One of the unexpected outcomes of our WV150 project has been the revenue we have generated. Our intent was to publish a nice keepsake on West Virginia in its sesquicentennial year as seen from the eyes of photographers. While our goal was not to raise money, we have been fortunate in that respect.

"What to do with the money?" became our next thought. We decided to use it to purchase copies of our book to give to West Virginia soldiers deploying to and returning from Afghanistan. We are calling this initiative **OPERATION Thank You** to show our gratitude to our heroes serving in harm's way. We are working closely with the West Virginia Army National Guard and Army Reserve to distribute the books to soldiers. On December 7, a few club members will travel to Beckley for a special event for a unit of 184 soldiers who will deploy to Afghanistan in early 2014. We have three other events we will participate in the New Year. We will also send books to Army Reserve soldiers stationed in Afghanistan. Thank you to all those members and friends of the clubs who have and are selling books. Keep up the good work.

Not long after the book's initial printing, we sent a copy to Captain Josh Wilson, US Army, 10th Mountain Division, who was stationed in Afghanistan at the time. He sent this note to the club:

There are few enjoyments for Soldiers during a deployment. Some enjoy exercising while others improve their hand to eye coordination through video games. I was a simple country boy from the hills of WV and looked forward to mail call. One mail call in particular stands out, as I remember it I received a rather large vanilla envelope and when opened, much to my surprise was a breathtaking book of pictures that immediately captured my attention and brought me home to the beautiful hills of West Virginia. I spent most of my evening enjoying the work the volunteers from the Buckhannon Upshur Camera Club had put into capturing the natural scenery of our beautiful state. I enjoyed it so much I would insist on showing it to fellow Soldiers I met whom were also from West Virginia, all of them thoroughly enjoyed the pictures and captions and expressed how uplifting it was to just see pictures of luscious green mountains and streams from our mountain mama compared to the mundane brown surroundings of eastern Afghanistan.

After reading this grateful response, you can imagine how proud we are to use the money we have raised to donate our *A West Virginia Sesquicentennial Celebration* book to some of America's finest men and women, our military heroes.

More Breaking News: James Huber, Bonnie Riffle, John Simons and Al Tucker worked the Buckhannon Christmas Craft Show this past weekend (11/30-12/1) and sold 95 books to support **OPERATION Thank You**. We invite our sister clubs and "friends of the club" to let people know that copies can be purchased online at www.createspace.com/4357439.

Buckhannon Upshur Camera Club

c/o John Simons, PO Box 5, Adrian, WV 26210

Next Meeting

December 12 @ 6:30 p.m. – Christmas Party: For those who attended last year's party, that we called "We survived the end of the earth party," we definitely had a lot of fun. We'll follow the same model this year with a pot luck meal at the Senior Center. The club will purchase a ham for the main course. Please bring a matted and gift wrapped 5x7 photo for the gift exchange, as well as a covered dish. The committee members are Laura Meese, Melissa Toothman, Amanda Hayes and Kathy Barnhart. Contact one of the committee members to help or ask questions. Come join us for the festivities.

2014 Program Year

We are finalizing the program of speakers for next year. Our speaker program for 2013 turned out to be excellent with many fine presentations. We have several talented photographers that we are lining up for 2014: Ron Gaskins, Amanda Haddox, Laura Meese, Mark Poore, Steve Shaluta, Walter Scriptunas, Jozette Spacht, Clayton Spangler, and Martin Unrue. We hope to kick off the year with Clayton in January. We'll also have a picnic in the summer, and hold our 'member showcase' in November and our Christmas party in December. We'll have more next time.

Photo of the Month

December 2013 – Old and Abandoned

January 2014 – Christmas Joy

We moved Christmas Joy into January to allow members to shoot Christmas photos throughout December. We will hold the December POTM contest at the Christmas Party. **Be aware** that you have less than two weeks to take your candidate "old and abandoned" shots. Please remember, that your POTMs must be taken in the designated months. Grab your camera and go and photograph something unique.

December Photo Trip

Dec 8 (Sunday) – Prickett's Fort's Annual 18th Century Christmas Market: This was a fun photo trip last year. Like last year, we'll meet at the Senior Center at 9:30 a.m., and go to Denny's in Bridgeport for breakfast and then travel on to the fort. Specific details will be out later in the month. We hope you can make it.

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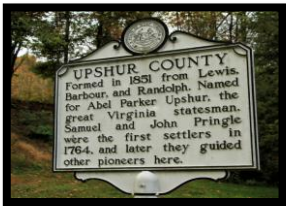


Photo of the Month Contest

In this edition, we showcase the winners of the October and November photo of the month (POTM) contests. October's honors went to John Simons who took first place in the "Double Exposure" competition with his *Two Locomotives* shot. John Mundy took the runner-up spot with his *Two Sunsets* photo. Oh the fun of photo editing software!



Two Locomotives (John Simons)

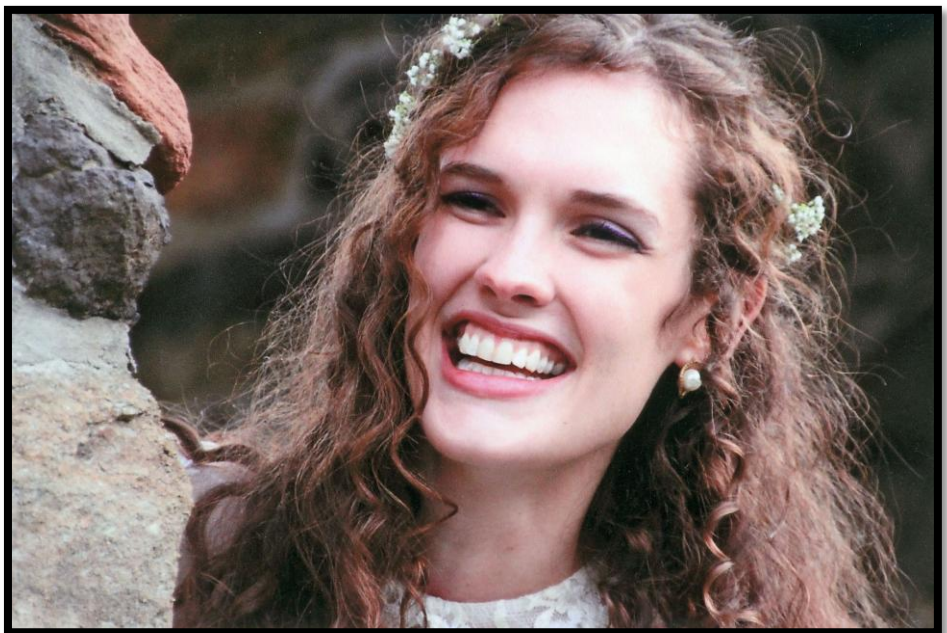


Two Sunsets (John Mundy)

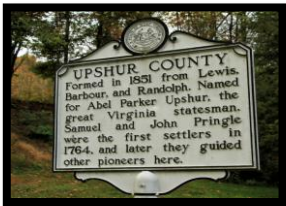
The November contest topic was portraits and Kathy Barnhart's *Gone Fishing* clearly dominated the other fine entries in the competition. Kathy is a newcomer to the club this year and is active in the POTM contests. Congrats Kathy for cracking the winner's circle. Bonne Riffle, back home from her recent two month Germany vacation, took second with three of her entries tying. One, a beautiful shot of a smiling bride, will be shown here and the other two will be in the "my vacation" photos in the January edition.



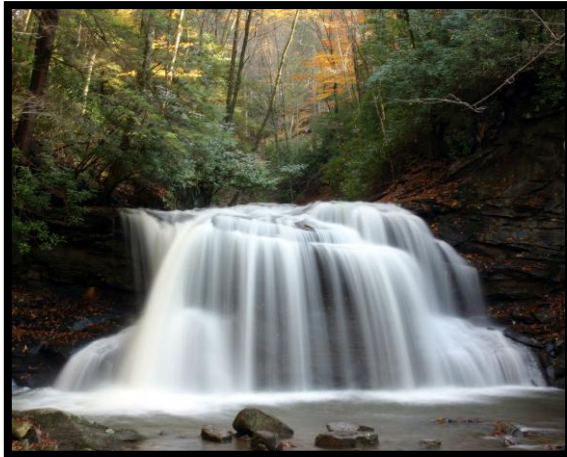
Gone Fishing (Kathy Barnhart)



Beautiful Bride (Bonne Riffle)



Holly River State Park Workshop



Upper Falls (Amanda Haddox - New BUCC Member)



Purple Trillium (John Simons - BUCC)

Ron Gaskins (wvfinephotography.com) and Amanda Haddox will conduct a 3-day photography workshop at Holly River State Park during April 25-27, starting at 6 p.m. on the 25th and ending at noon on the 27th. To date, eleven club members and friends have committed to the workshop, which will hold a maximum of 22 participants. Ron and Amanda will soon open it to the public. If you are interested in participating, let Ron, Amanda or Al Tucker (alanandliva@aol.com) know. There will be lots of time in the field for shooting waterfalls, old mills, wildflowers, landscapes, wildlife and old structures. Plus, there will be in-class instruction time. Cabins have been reserved for the event and you can call the park to reserve one. Let them know you will be participating in the workshop. Ron and Amanda are creating a flyer to explain the event's activities and additional lodging details. As soon as we receive the flyer, we will get it out to you. This event has long been a goal for the club and we are excited that Ron and Amanda committed to lead it.

Stonewall Jackson Camera Club Photo Shoot

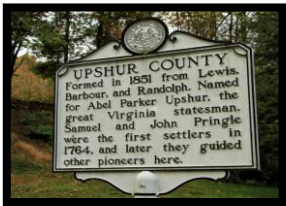
This summer, Stonewall Jackson Club members traveled to one of the coolest spots around, Cool Springs, WV. A fun destination in the pre-interstate days, where you could stop for gas, a meal, shopping for the most unique items one could buy (e.g., giant flyswatters, buckwheat flour, cider, rubber tomahawks, cedar clocks, etc), and then wander around old tractors, trains and anything else that can rust. Come to think of it you still can. Club president, Rich Clemens, and his sidekick, John Mundy (both are also BUCC members) joined others in this "old and abandoned" photo shoot. If you have a hankering to go, just travel east past Grafton on US Route 50. After several steep hills and hairpin turns, you'll find this peek into the past. You might want to an updated tetanus shot though.



For Sale, Low Mileage (John Mundy)



Out of Water (John Mundy)



Trains, Tractors and Other Equipment

Rich and John recommend that if you want to visit the Cool Springs Park, don't delay too long as the exhibits are fast sinking into the ground, and also watch out for the geese. Autumn is a good time to visit as you can stop for some freshly picked apples and then travel to other scenic spots. Nearby, you will find gorgeous Cheat River views that with trees aflame in color. Go in the summer and you can stop for a swim.



Got Wheels (John Mundy)



Handle with Care (Rich Clemens)



Goes downhill fast, very fast! (John Mundy)



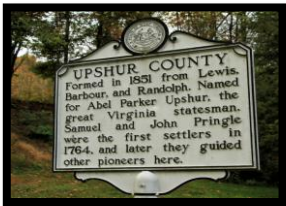
Excess State Road Equipment (John Mundy)



Get a Grip (Rich Clemens)



Maintenance and Repair Depot (John Mundy)



WV150 Contributor Showcase

This month, we continue our focus on “friends of the club,” who helped make our WV150 book a success. We are pleased to introduce Jim Clark, a nationally-renowned and award-winning nature photographer, writer, motivational speaker, and workshop instructor. His articles and images have appeared in numerous magazines, calendars, books, newspapers, advertisements, and brochures. A selection of Jim’s images also appeared on a segment of the NBC Today Show in 2012. When approached about participating in our WV150 project, he replied “he would be honored.” It doesn’t get any better than that. Well it does, he’s a WVU grad to boot.



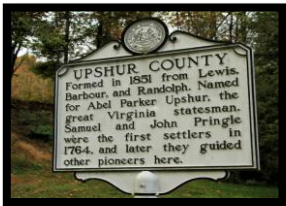
Jim and his son Carson in Alaska this summer



Vista near Dawes Glacier, Tongass National Forest, AK



Sunset at Assateague Island National Seashore, VA



Jim is the author and photographer of *West Virginia: The Allegheny Highlands* (Westcliffe Publishers) and *Mountain Memories: An Appalachian Sense of Place* (WVU Press) and *Between Ocean and Bay: A Celebration of the Eastern Shore* (Mountain Trail Press). Jim and his son Carson have published two books in their *The Adventures of Buddy Beaver* series. Jim is also one of the major contributors for the book *Ultimate Guide to Digital Nature Photography* (Mountain Trail Press) and *Coal Country* (Sierra Club Press).



Sea Otter, Southeast, AK



Northern Harrier Female, Chincoteague, VA



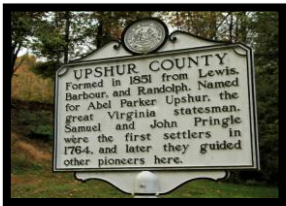
Great White Egret, Chincoteague, VA



Black-necked Stilt & Willet, Chincoteague, VA



Steller Sea Lion next to boat, Brothers Island, AK



Jim conducts nature photography workshops and presentations around the country and he has been a keynote presenter at several major events throughout the country. His programs, including his new *Life Through The Lens*, have received rave reviews from audiences around the country. The documentary film "**Mountain Memories**" profiles Jim's life and career as a nature photographer (Real Earth Productions). The film was broadcast on PBS in August 2003. Since 2004, Jim has been a contributing editor for **Outdoor Photographer Magazine**. He is past President of the 3,000 member **North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA)**.



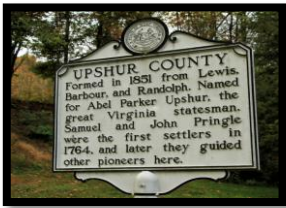
Beach @ Sunset, Assateague Island National Seashore, VA

Autumn Morning on Beach, Assateague Is Nat Seashore, VA

Jim uses Chincoteague and Assateague Islands for a spring and fall workshop location. You can find out more information about these workshop opportunities on his website at www.jimclarkphoto.com.



Sunset @ Taku Harbor, AK – A One Image HDR



Jim was a wildlife biologist for nearly 28 years with most of that time with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Jim’s wildlife career took him to assignments in Alaska, New Mexico, Texas, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. With the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Jim has been involved with wildlife resource issues from a field, regional, and national perspective. Jim served as Chief of Wildlife Training at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. Throughout his career, Jim has been recognized for his dedication and leadership in the protection of our nation’s wildlife heritage and most recently, as Director of the Refuge Management Training Academy, for preparing future leaders for the National Wildlife Refuge System.



Scarlet Flax, Banshee Reeks, VA



Seashells & Waves, Assateague Island Nat Seashore, MD

Jim has a BS in wildlife biology from Tennessee Technological University and an MS in wildlife biology from West Virginia University. He completed post-graduate work at Auburn University. Jim has served as a college instructor at West Virginia University, St. Mary’s College of Maryland, and the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. Jim is a native son of West Virginia. He resides in Leesburg, Virginia with his wife, Jamie, son Carson, and their cats Dylan & Lilypad.



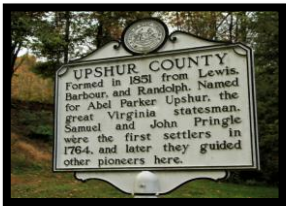
Autumn Light Painting at Canaan Valley



Widow Skimmer, Banshee Reeks, VA

An Invitation: Our camera club is fortunate to have many active “friends of the club” for which we are grateful. In the next section, you will see and enjoy the stunning work of some of our “friends” as well as club members. You have just enjoyed the spectacular work of Jim Clark, and last month, the dazzling work of Amanda Haddox. We invite you to participate by submitting your photos for inclusion in future newsletters. We and our readers would love to see your work.

Currently, we have “friends” in fifteen states (California, Georgia, Florida, Colorado, Kentucky, Indiana, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Utah, Virginia, and West Virginia) and two countries (England and Germany). We are trying to expand our readership across all fifty states. If you know someone who would enjoy the newsletter, please pass it along and let us know by posting on our Facebook page or send an email to Al Tucker at alanandliva@aol.com.

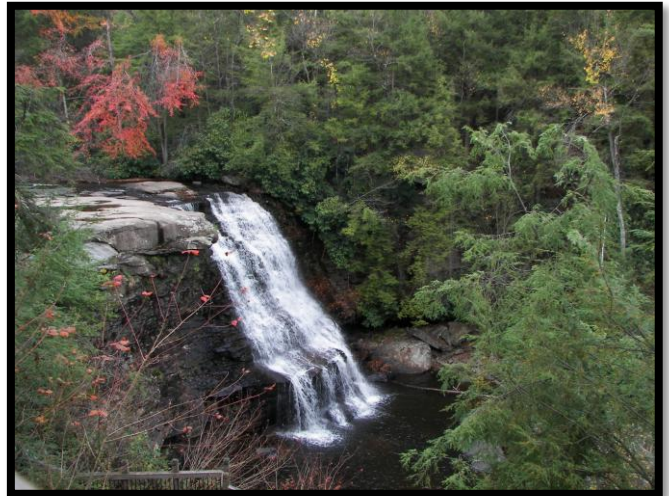


Waterfall Photos

Waterfalls are among the most beautiful, stunning wonders of nature. They are often located in scenic spots which attract visitors and photographers alike. While, they vary in size, power and accessibility, their beauty is a magnet for most photographers looking for that special shot. This month, we showcase waterfall photos from Maine to Alaska and places in between. We even have photos from the UK and Germany. We hope our readers enjoy the work of our club members and “friends of the club.” We greatly appreciate our “friends” for their outstanding participation. Their photos are the “mist on the waterfall,” i.e. they make our newsletter special.



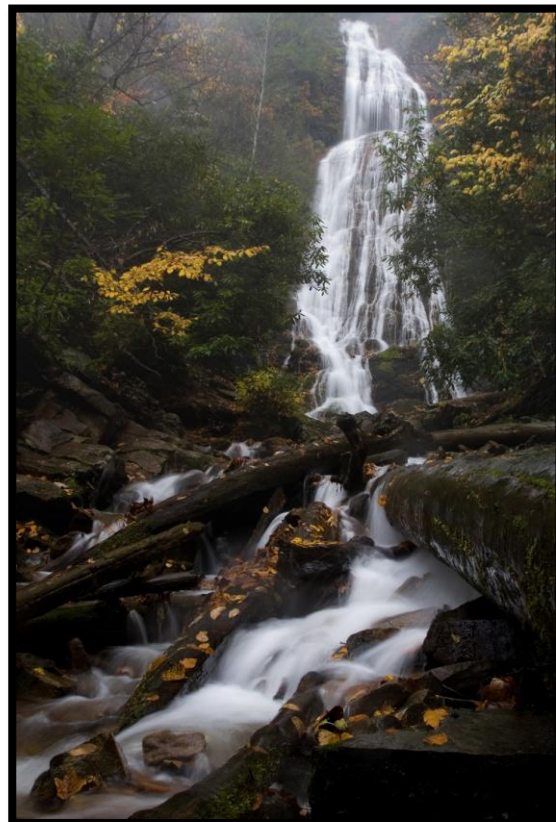
Cumberland Falls State Park, KY (Amanda Haddox – BUCC)



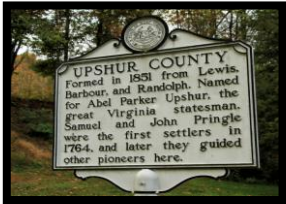
Muddy Creek Falls near Oakland, MD (Kara Casto – BUCC)



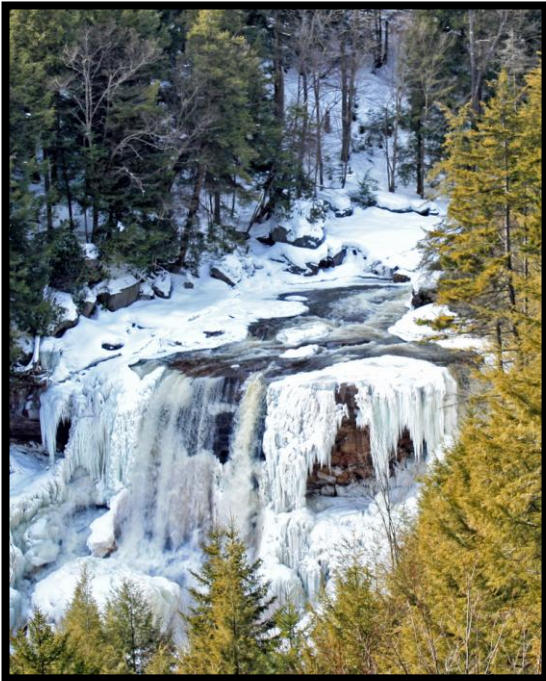
Eastatoo Falls, NC (Dennis Govoni - FOC)



Great Smoky Mountains, TN (Amanda Haddox – BUCC New Member)



Blackwater Falls State Park - A Falls for all Seasons



The Winter Freeze (Al Tucker - BUCC)



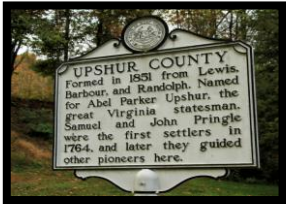
A Summer Torrent (John Simons - BUCC)



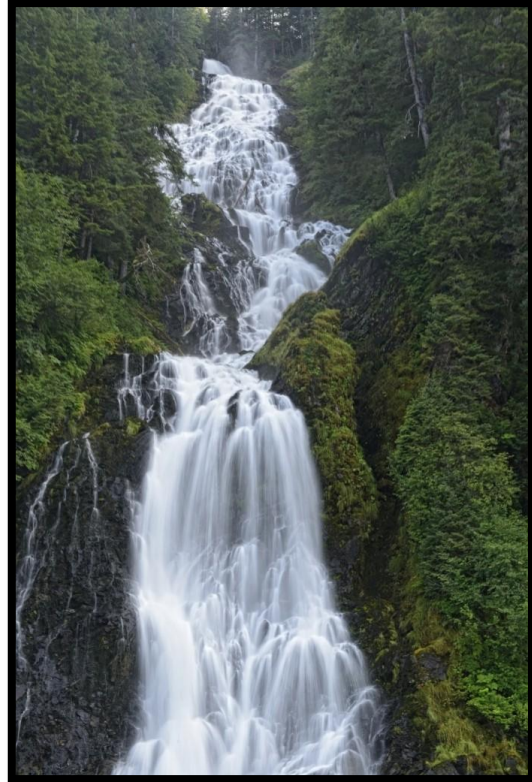
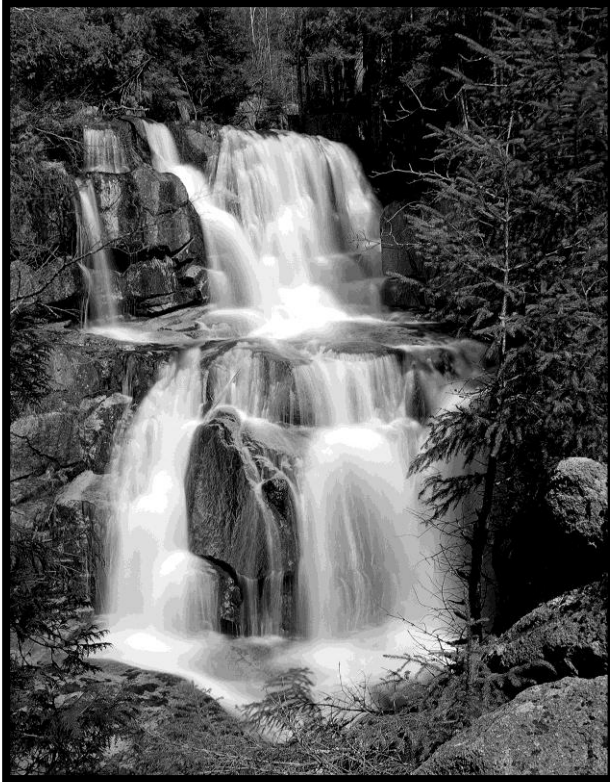
Autumn Splendor (Larry Johns - BUCC)



Spring Softness (John Simons - BUCC)



From Maine to Alaska

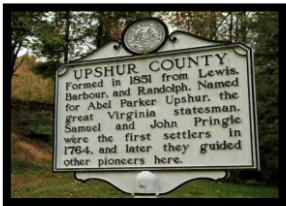


Mt. Katadin Falls, Maine (Allan Jones - FOC)

Waterfall @ Red Bluff Bay, Baranof Is, AK (Jim Clark - FOC)



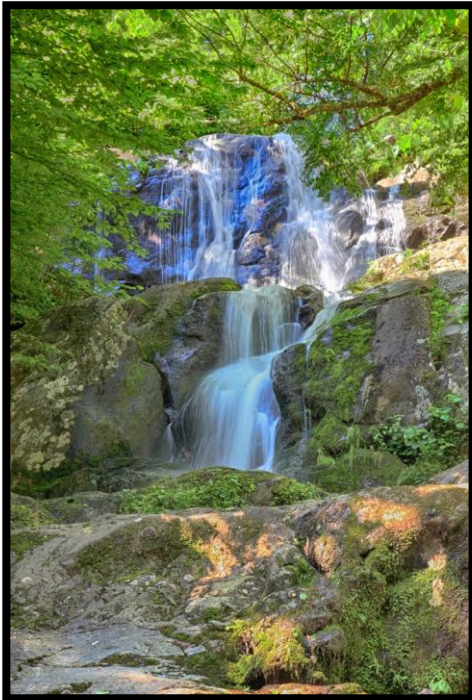
Waterfall near St. Louis, MO (Amanda Haddox - BUCC)



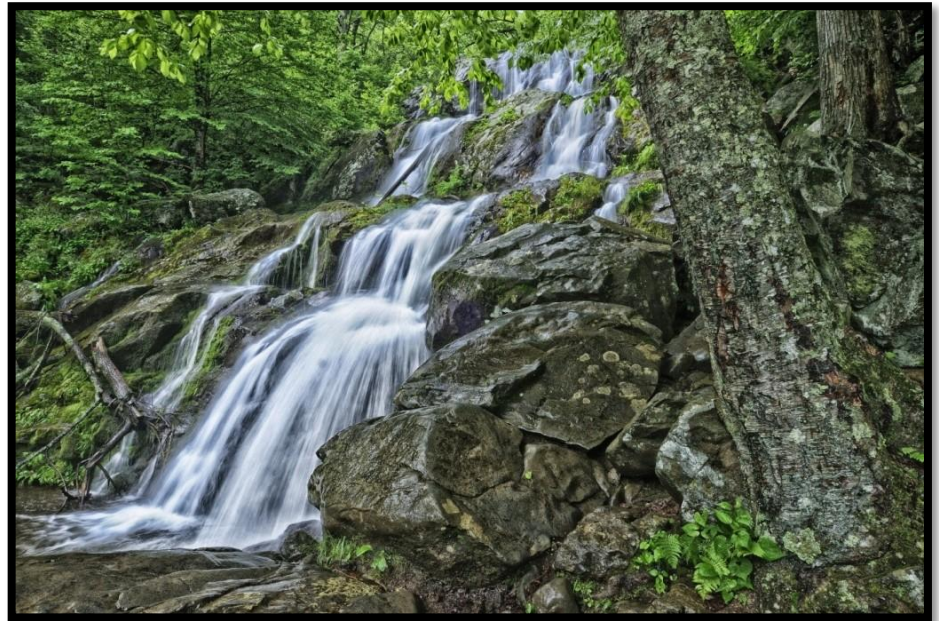
Buckhannon-Upshur Camera Club

Falls of The Commonwealth of Virginia

(Did you know that Virginia is known as the *Mother of Presidents* after the eight US presidents born there?)



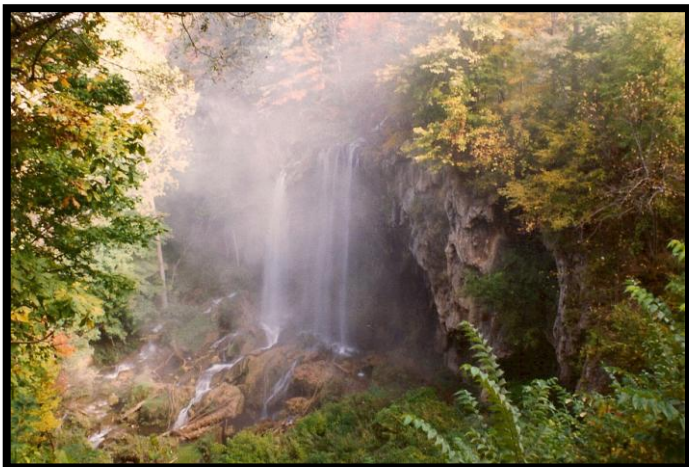
Oak Creek Canyon Waterfall (Frank Muth – FOC)



Dark Hollow Falls, Shenandoah National Park (Jim Clark – FOC)

Frank recently recounted this amusing story. He always wanted to hike into the Shenandoah National Park to photograph the Oak Creek Canyon Waterfall. One day he decided to hike the trail. It is an 8.2 mile hike if you follow the full loop. Somehow, he got turned around in the canyon and ventured back a different way. Yes, he got lost and needed help to get his bearings. After many hours, he eventually made it back to his car, tired and thirsty. But, he got his shot. There is an upper and lower falls at Oak Creek Canyon. Those falls along with the Dark Hollow Falls are the most popular falls in the Shenandoah National Park.

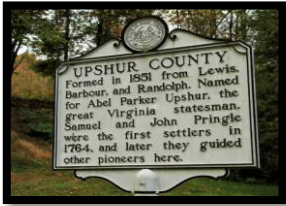
Below, you see one of Thomas Jefferson’s favorite spots, Falling Springs Waterfall near Covington. Jefferson remarked that the falls was one of the remarkable sights in the country. Here are two different views of this beautiful waterfall.



A Misty Autumn Morning (Lynn Helmick – FOC)



A Beautiful Snow-scape (Amanda Haddox – BUCC)



The Land of Waterfalls – Near Brevard, North Carolina

Brevard, North Carolina, the home of the white squirrel, lies between DuPont State Forest, Pisgah National Forest, Gorges State Park, and Bracken Mountain Nature Reserve. This area is known as the “Land of Waterfalls.” It is a must “bucket list” locale for all nature photographers. Travel in any direction and you will find majestic canyon long falls to scenic smaller cascades. Here is a very small sample of what awaits you. Needless to say, autumn and all its splendor provide a beautiful backdrop to all the gorgeous falls. If you are uncomfortable venturing out on your own, we highly recommend Bill and Linda Lane workshops. You will not be disappointed.



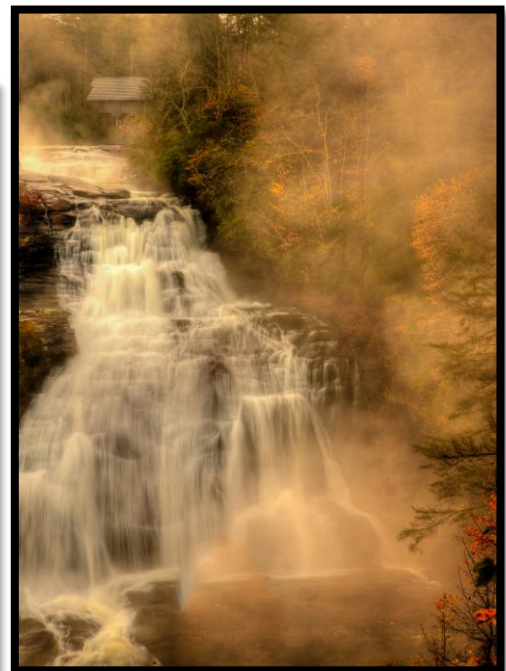
Whitewater Falls (Al Tucker – BUCC)



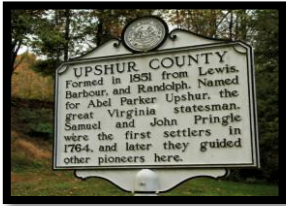
Graveyard Falls View from the Blue Ridge Parkway (Al Tucker)



Triple Falls at Dupont State Forest (DPS) (Al Tucker)



High Falls in Morning Mist at DPS (Dennis Govoni – FOC)



Across the Pond Waterfalls

We are fortunate to have a few waterfall shots from Europe. Bonne Riffle, a club member, was in Germany for a couple months and came upon this waterfall in the Breitach Klamm (Klamm means gorge) near the Austrian border. A friend of the club, Barry Taylor, sent along a couple of photos of manmade falls, both of which have their unique beauty. The Devonport Leat, which was built in the 1790's and is several miles long, is fed from the West Dart River high on Dartmoor (home of the Baskervilles' hound) and ends with this waterfall into Burrator Reservoir which supplies water to Plymouth (as in the Plymouth Pilgrims, who sailed from Plymouth, England in September, 1620.)

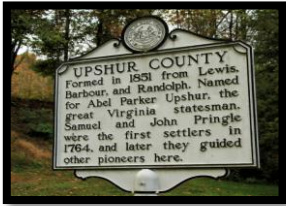


Breitach Klamm Falls, Germany (Bonne Riffle – BUCC)

Devonport Leat, England (Barry Taylor – FOC)



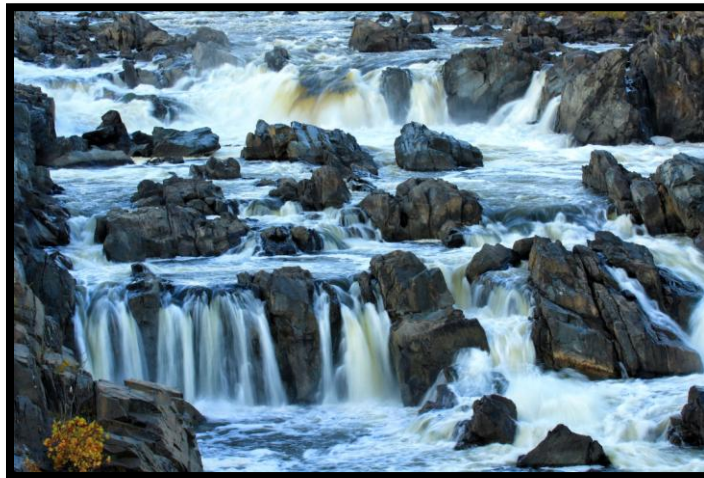
The River Tavy at Tavistock, Devon (Barry Taylor – FOC)



Nationally Known Waterfalls



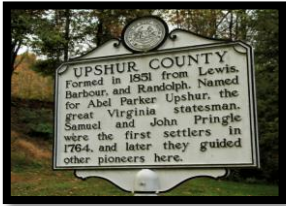
Niagara Falls at Night, US Side (Amanda Haddox – BUCC)



Great Falls from Virginia Side (Al Tucker – BUCC)



Niagara Falls from Canadian Side (Al Tucker - BUCC)

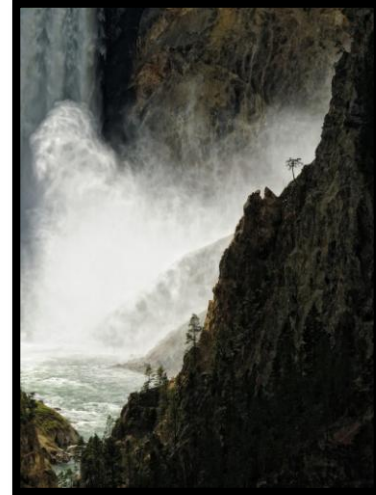


Yellowstone Wonders

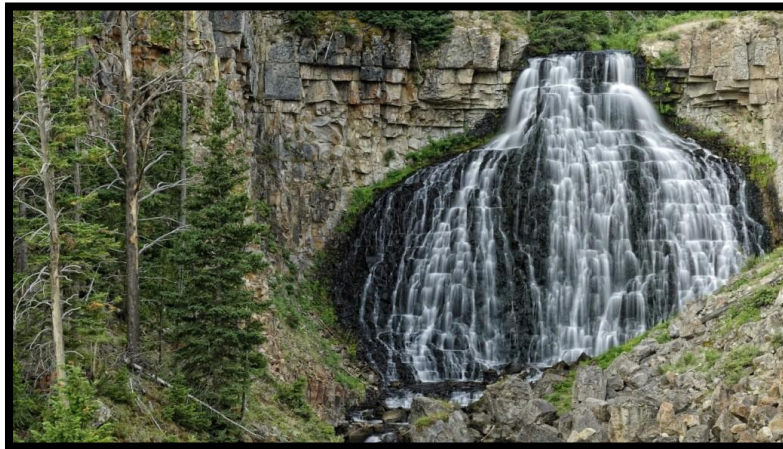
Thanks to Jim Clark, we have a few photos of the majesty and power of the stunning waterfalls of Yellowstone National Park. Such majesty!



Lower Falls of the Yellowstone from Red Rock Trail



Lower Falls of Yellowstone



Rustic Falls



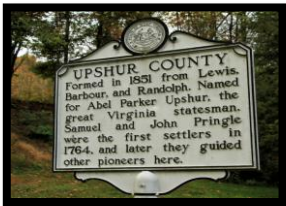
Undine Falls

Buckhannon Upshur Camera Club

c/o John Simons, PO Box 5, Adrian, WV 26210



Close-up of Undine Falls

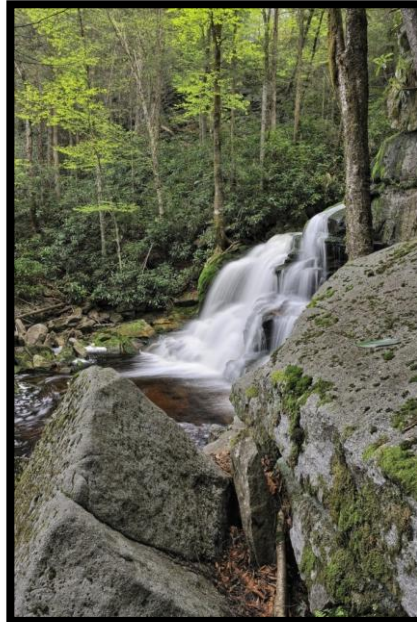


Almost Heaven “West Virginia” Waterfalls

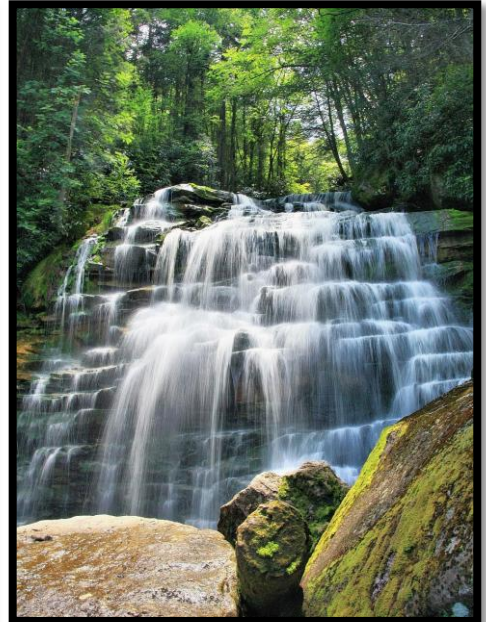
We close out this waterfalls feature with photos of the other scenic falls that abound in our home state. While Blackwater Falls is the most popular locale, photographers can find beautiful falls and cascades in every part of the state and the fun part is most are not tourist attractions. The New River Gorge area is home to numerous falls that make for a great weekend trip. Many state parks have one or two pretty waterfalls and there are many more to enjoy. The Blackwater Falls State Park area has several hidden gems in its canyons. Near the lodge, Shays Run cascades down a canyon with four gorgeous falls known as Elakala Falls. Each is more difficult to reach as you go downhill.



Cascade #1 (Al Tucker – BUCC)



Cascade #2 (Jim Clark – FOC)

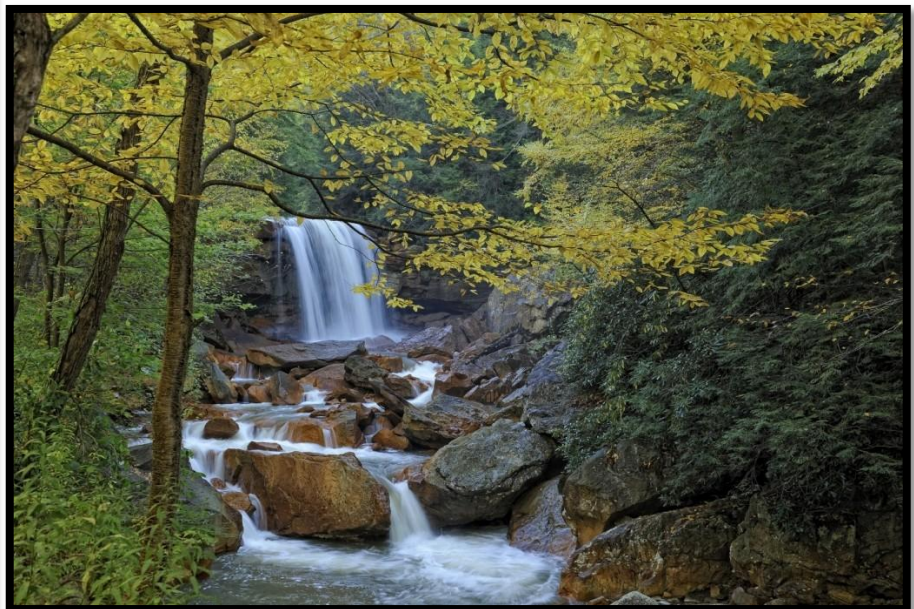


Cascade #3 (John Simons – BUCC)

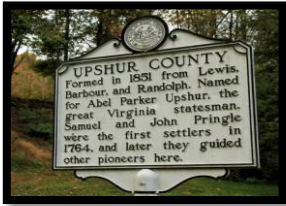
Cascade #4 was shot from Pendleton Point across the gorge. About 10 miles from Blackwater Falls, you'll find the picturesque Douglas Falls near the town of Thomas. It is worth the journey, but make sure you have good shocks on your vehicle for drive from Thomas to the falls.



Cascade #4 (Al Tucker – BUCC)



Douglas Falls (Jim Clark - FOC)



More West Virginia Waterfall Gems: The Falls at Hills Creek are near Cranberry Glades in Pocahontas County.



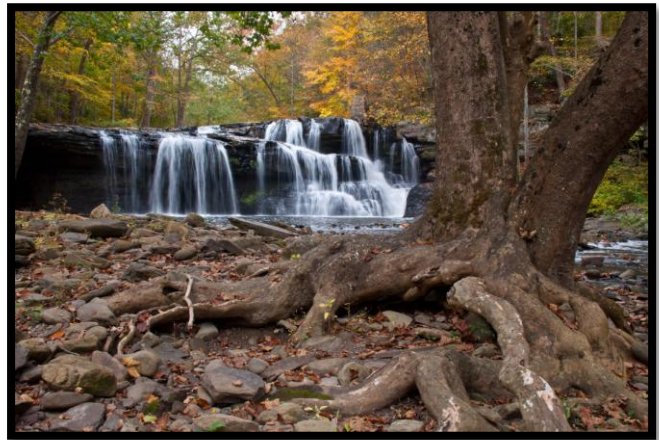
Middle Falls at Hills Creek (John Simons - BUCC)



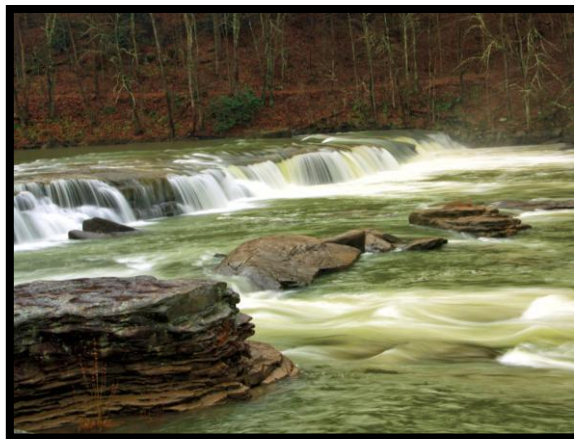
Lower Falls at Hills Creek (Jim Clark - FOC)



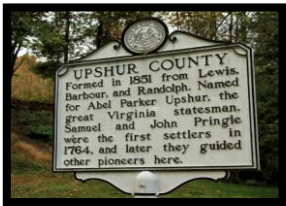
Falls Mills at Bulltown (Amanda Haddox - BUCC)



Bush Creek Falls near Mercer (Ron Gaskins - FOC)



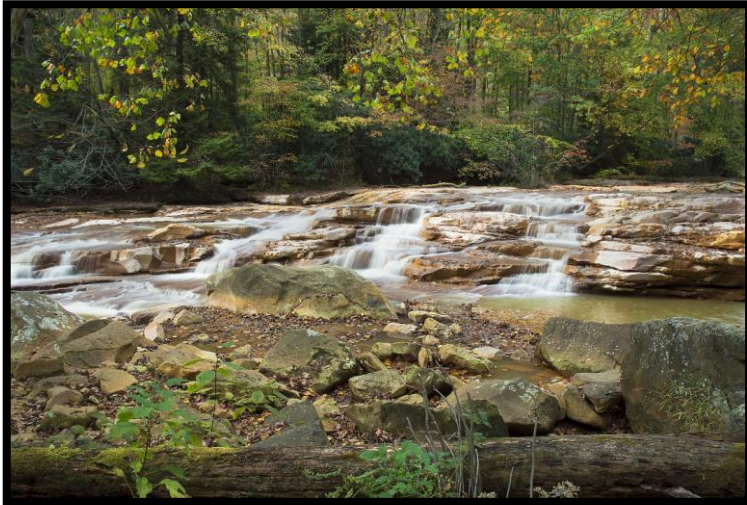
Valley Falls near Fairmont & Grafton (Al Tucker - BUCC)



Buckhannon-Upshur Camera Club

The End of the Falls

Well that's it folks for this month's newsletter feature. We hope you have enjoyed the many waterfall shots submitted by our members and friends. We greatly appreciate them taking a few minutes to send their photos for all to enjoy. Next month's feature is "snow scenes." We hope many of you will send us a few photos to showcase in January. We close the feature with a few more shots of West Virginia falls. There are so many more across our great state and they are fun to shoot anytime of the year. Grab your camera and go have fun.



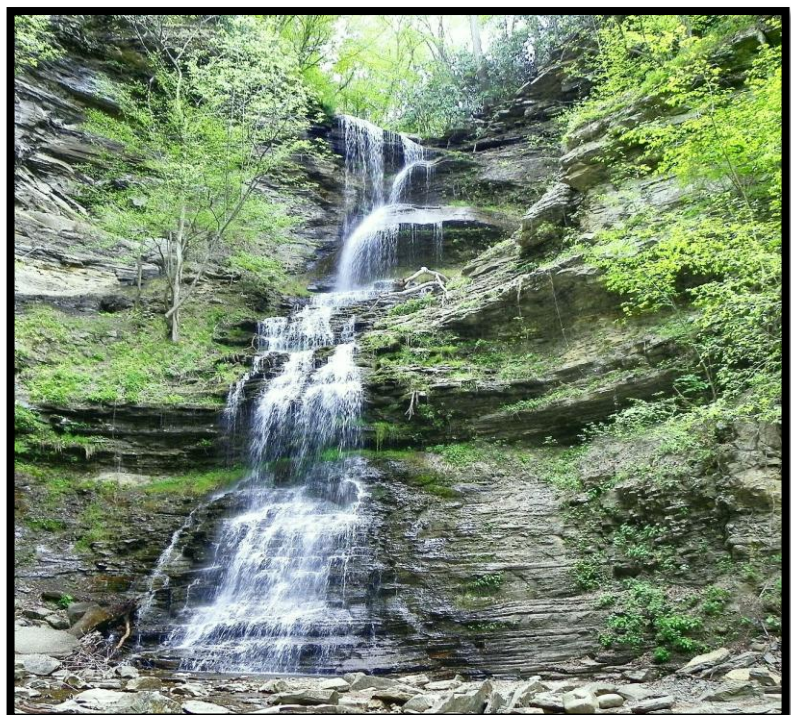
Muddy Creek Falls near Albright (Allan Jones - FOC)



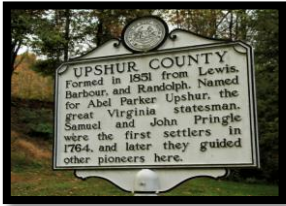
Cascade along an Elk River Tributary (Ron Buckton - BUCC)



Twin Falls State Park near Pipestem (John Simons - BUCC)



Cathedral Falls near Gauley Bridge - (Frank Eskew - BUCC)



Club Info

Welcome New BUCC Members: As Laura mentioned in her opening message, our membership ranks have grown nicely this year with fourteen new members. We greatly appreciate the following people joining the club and making it more fun: Kathy Barnhart, Ginny Dixon, Patricia Garton, Amanda Haddox, Wayne Harris, James Huber, Larry Johns, Nancy Marks, Alice Neitzert, Carl Neitzert, Linda Perrine, Tim Rock, Edward Rowan, and Sheree Strickland. We hope others who have attended our meetings will join our ranks, the more the merrier.

New Board Member: Laura is pleased to announce Nancy Marks as our new treasurer. She and the club are very appreciative of Secretary Mary Orndorff, who wore two hats when she served as the interim treasurer the past several months. Nancy is a newcomer this year and she has jumped in with both feet taking on the treasurer duties. "Good on ya," Nancy.

Dues Notice: One of the first activities for Nancy will be to update our membership rolls and to notify those who need to renew their membership.

George W. Glennie Memorial Nature Salon Club Competition: John Simons will soon put out the call for photos for the 2014 interclub competition. Next year's entry will be our third for the club. We jumped significantly in the rankings last year. Hopefully, we can climb the ladder again in 2014. It will be dependent upon the quality of photos we submit. Please be responsive to John's call for photos as it is time consuming for him to put together a quality portfolio.

2012 Christmas Party – We survived the end of the earth!



*From all of us in the Buckhannon Upshur Camera Club
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*