



Southern Illinois Photographic Society

www.sipscameraclub.com

October/November 2008 Newsletter

Calendar of Events

November

Regular Meeting: Nov 4

Planning Meeting: Nov 18

Contests: (1) Mystery Tour: Route 37 from Effingham to Cairo. (2) Make Your Own Calendar (12 mo.)

Featured Member: Open

Program: David Brewer - Avian Imaging

Outing: SIU Football Game, Nov 15

Meet 1:00pm at South Gate (Arena side)

December

Regular Meeting: Dec 2 at the SIUC

Student Center, 2nd floor, Ballroom A

Planning Meeting: None

Program: Michael Jeffords

Outing: None

January

Regular Meeting: Jan 6

Location Marion Library

Planning Meeting: Jan 20

Contests: outdoor Christmas lights (60 day)

Featured Member: Open

Program: TBA

Outing: TBA

Upcoming 12 month contests:

February: sunsets

April: funny/humorous

June: macro

October in Review

The October meeting was our first meeting in our new location. We appreciate Marion's Library's support in hosting our club each month and enjoyed the new location.

The category for the October contest was photo manipulation. First place went to Teresa McIntosh with the photo "Smellin' the Flowers" and Second place went to Lynn Love with "The Four-some." Jim Osborne with the "L' Station" AND Lorraine Highlander with "The Ex Son-in Law Gone" tied for third place.

Scott Alexander, a representative for Canon, gave a presentation to the club introducing new Canon products and giving tips for macro photography. This was quite a treat for club members.

There was a small turnout for the October outing but was enjoyed non-the-less. Dave Hammond and Jillian Choate met together to enjoy the American Thresherman Annual Fall Festival in Pinckneyville which turned out to be quite interesting.

November News

The November meeting was voting night. The club elected the new board for the 2009 years. Micks Hicks will be President, Jillian Choate will be VP. Jonathan Springer and Lu Horning will both be secretary with Jonathan taking over the newsletter, technology, and website and Lu handling the contests and other meeting responsibilities. Dana Tetzlaff will remain treasurer. Dave Hammond, Jim Osborn, Ray Brown, Nancy Smolak and Linda Bundren will fill the remaining board member positions. Please welcome these board members as their new roles official begin in January.

David Brewer gave a warmly received presentation on avian photography. He has provided his notes for everyone. The notes will be made available on the website under Links -> Resources.

Around Town

with Ray Brown

Interview with Lori Mascal



RAY: Hi Lori. Would you have time for an interview for a future newsletter?

LORI: Yes, I'm ready.

RAY: When did you first become interested in photography?

LORI: O gosh, I think I was about six or seven years old. I'm trying to think about the first camera I ever used. It wasn't mine but I got to use it. It was an old box camera that you looked into the little window and pushed the button.

RAY: What was the first camera that was yours?

LORI: It was a little Argus. At that time you only used black and white film. My dad had a darkroom and he taught me how to develop film. I was about 12 or 13 at the time.

RAY: What size film did your Argus use?

LORI: Oh gosh you're asking me to remember way back.

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The December Christmas Program will be Dec. 2, at 7pm. This is a family event so we encourage you to bring family and friends. The cost to attend is \$15 per person and includes a catered dinner. Reservations with your non-refundable payment must be received by Dana no later than November 18. Checks should be made payable to SIPS and can be mailed to: Dana Tetzlaff, 11752 Hudgens, Marion, 62969. You may also want to send a note to her at danatetzlaff@yahoo.com.

The events for the evening include announcing contests winners of the mystery tour, calendar contests, member of the year, and photography of the year. Michael Jeffords, an entymologist from UIUC will give the featured presentation.

Request from the Secretary: If you referred a new member to the club or attended an outing, please inform the secretary by Nov 15.

Have something for the newsletter? Contact SIPS' secretary, Susan Stearns: info@sipscameraclub.com or phone: 217-215-4226 (h).

Photo Op

By Jim Osborn

At a loss for a photo destination? Try just exploring. Five years ago, given the time and opportunity I would spend half a day on a golf course chasing a little white ball. Now, given the time and opportunity I choose to chase quality photos of nature. But here's the rub—I am not an early riser by nature, so it is not unusual for me to get up late on Saturday morning and realize that I've already missed the "good" light and probably the early morning wildlife as well. Then I start thinking about locations...but nothing exciting comes to mind. So, I dawdle around the house too long before I finally make the decision to take off and go.....anywhere. All you need is a general direction and a car. Last weekend was a case in point. Mid-morning I headed south from Murphysboro on Rt 127 in the direction of Alto Pass, but en route I decided to detour through Pamona and head to LaRue Pine Hills. The Shawnee National Forest was beautiful, but there were no real photo ops until I got to the LaRue Pines Hills Ecological Area. The one lane road was closed (either for the fall snake migration or because the early spring flooding still



had the road closed). None-the-less, trees around the swamp were absolutely gorgeous—perhaps the most colorful I've seen this year in southern Illinois. Because the area gets light only after the sun rises over the bluffs, the lighting was perfect. I snapped a few shots and headed out to Rt. 3. Realizing that the Big Muddy River Levee Road was once again open between the Big Muddy River at Rt 3 and Oakwood Bottoms, I decided to explore some more. Egrets and Great Blue Herons were in great abundance. In one location I estimated 200 of the big birds feeding at two adjacent ponds. One picture I took had 39 birds in the frame! A little further up the road there was a multi-acre sunflower field basking in full yellow splendor. The perspective of the levee road allowed me to take a few shots of the field from a high vantage point, while a side road went down to the field itself for close-up shots. Farther along the levee road I spied 7 turkey vultures in a single tree, two with wings spread. Upon arriving at Oakwood Bottoms, I discovered a Bald Eagle feasting on some small prey in a field. The moral to this story is that sometimes the best shots you get are the ones you come across by accident when you are just out exploring on your own with no preconceived expectations or destination in mind.

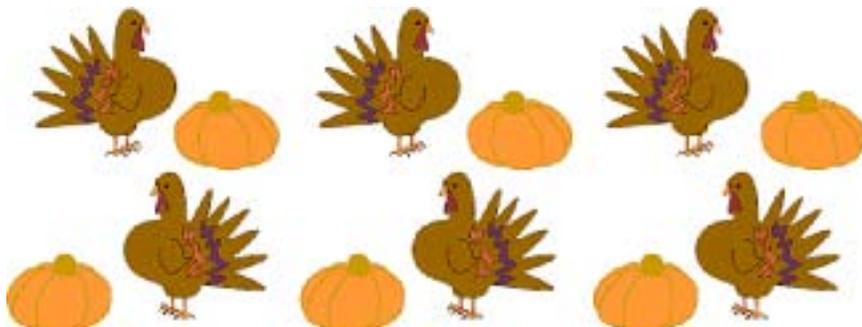
Show & Tells

- Op-Tech camera rain bag. Not expensive, very useful. Used a lot wandering around the Olympic peninsula.
- Dave Hammond: Camera show in St. Louis Sun Nov 16 4532 S Lindberg Heavily film-influenced last time he was there.
- NANPA - Nature Photographers of America are meeting in Albuquerque Feb. 18-21, 2009. Lots of well known photographers will be there. It's a great opportunity for talking to them, portfolio review, etc.
- Barb's Custom Embroidery will put the SIPS logo on an article of clothing for \$7.50 (does not include cost of clothing). They already have the logo. 140 W Broadway Blvd, Johnston City, IL 62951, 618-983-6787
- For those of you that are still doing B&W and Color Processing...After 38 years, the new owner of our building has forced 3 businesses and 5 apartments to vacate. Since our darkrooms are in that building and we have no place to move them, we are forced to dispose of the equipment ASAP at very low prices. Among the larger pieces are a 20x24 texturing machine, sinks S.S. and fiberglass from 5' to 8', Nikkor reels & tanks, 3 1/2 gal. S.S. tanks, film hangers 4x5 & 5x7, Thomas sodium vapor safelights, spray booth fan, Nikkor 24" rotary cutter, Nord roll paper easel, Kreonite 26" paper processor w/ roll take-up, 4x5 & 5x7 film holders and much more. As the saying goes, if we don't have it, you probably don't need it.

Please feel free to give me a call if you have any questions.

Randall Harbuck
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Happy Thanksgiving



...Around Town cont'd from page 1

RAY: [We decided it was probably 120 or 620.]

RAY: Do you have any of those old negatives?

LORI: My mom probably still has them.

RAY: Do you consider yourself an amateur or professional photographer?

LORI: I guess I would have to say kind of in the middle.

RAY: What do you shoot mostly?

LORI: Mostly nature – a little bit of all kinds of nature photography. I really like to take macro shots. I like to try to get a small part of a butterfly or whatever.

RAY: What kind of color film did you use when you were 13 or so?

LORI: I started with slide film. Later in time I used Kodak Gold 100x400 ASA.

RAY: Later did you shoot any black and white film?

LORI: Not very much.

RAY: What kind of camera are you using now?

LORI: Oh I'm digital now and have several cameras.

RAY: Well tell me about two or three of them.

LORI: The first digital camera I had was one of those twenty dollar ones. It had really blurry pictures that you had to plug into a computer. The pictures were terrible and I thought digital was a big waste of time. It was ok to send on email but other than that, it was not the way to go.

RAY: What was the next camera?

LORI: My husband bought me a Vivitar.

RAY: How many megapixels did it have?

LORI: 2.1

RAY: You were really flying high with that one.

LORI: Oh, yes, I sure was. It was a Vivacam 3615.

RAY: What was next?

LORI: Then I started with the Canon Rebels. I was really moving up.

RAY: So what are you using now?

LORI: 20D or Rebel XTI and a Canon D9 as a point and shoot.

RAY: Do you work with a darkroom program such as PhotoShop or any of the others?

LORI: I'm not really good at that but I'm trying to learn it, but I have a lot of things going on. I think I should take a class. I've had some help from some of the club members.

RAY: Have you ever taken any photography classes?

LORI: I did take a John Shaw workshop.

RAY: Have you ever taught photography?

LORI: No

RAY: Do you have a favorite photography website?

LORI: No, not really. I've just been kind of surfing around.

RAY: Do you subscribe to any photography magazines?

LORI: Not at this time.

RAY: Have you in the past?

LORI: Yes, Outdoor Photography

RAY: Tell me two or three photographers that you admire.

LORI: Oh yes, Ansel Adams for sure. He had to be such a talented photographer to be able to get the pictures he got with the limited equipment that he used.

RAY: Do you have a place in your mind where you have taken pictures before that you would like to return to?

LORI: Yes, the camps that we go to, and Yellowstone.

RAY: Please tell me about any other hobbies that you enjoy.

LORI: Yes, music. I enjoy combining music and photography of the kids at the muscular dystrophy camp.

RAY: Now is that going to be a movie or a slide show?

LORI: Well it's kind of in between. It has music and sound effects and some video.

RAY: What other hobbies do you have?

LORI: I'm a gardener, and my husband & I do a radio show every Monday. We do a show from 8:00am – 10:45am on the call letters WMCL.

RAY: Is it just you and your husband?

LORI: Well for the first hour and a half we're with a DJ and we discuss a song writer. Then we perform some of the songs of that writer. That is over at 9:30am. The DJ is Eddie Allen. His brother is Dr. Howard Allen, retired professor from SIU, and we talk about the political scene. Dr. Allen is a retired political science professor and is able to talk about some of the events of the 20's and 30's and discuss some of the lows that have been passed over the years and how they effect what is happening now.

RAY: So the last 45 minutes you are on the air is political in nature? I'm right bout that?

LORI: Yes, we try to get people who disagree with us to call in.

RAY: Do you have any other time on the

air?

LORI: The first Thursday we're on with some other people and play some country music.

RAY: Please tell me the call letters, and the number on the dial.

LORI: WMCL – 1060AM

RAY: How much of a range does this station have?

LORI: We have picked it up on the outskirts of Evansville and Paducah.

RAY: On Mondays is your music discussion only about country music or do you talk about other kinds of music and/or performers and writers?

LORI: No, every Monday we feature a different song writer. We try to mix it up. We have done Hank Williams, Elton John, and Jamie Taylor. We try to pick different types of music and hope to get people inspired and interested in other types of music other than what they are used to.

RAY: All this sounds as though it could be quite a challenge.

LORI: Yes, sometimes it is a challenge.

RAY: OK, Lori, I have ask you a lot of questions and now it's your turn to tell me anything you would like to tell me.

LORI: I do a lot of photography for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and that is a challenge for me. At the camp the kids don't want to sit still for more than three seconds. I don't like to take formal portraits so doing it my way I might get an elbow in the way or a wheelchair running over my foot. I'm always learning on my feet so any tips I can pick up from the camera club members are greatly appreciated. I don't have time to do a setting or put up a tripod.

My husband and I do work for the telethon and of course the camps. While I'm taking pictures he is entertaining or being a greeter and doing some other things along the way.

RAY: Lori, I want to thank you for your time to do this interview. At this time I would like to say that you and your husband (He is an absolute gentleman.) are to be commended for all the good work you do. I'm sure you both will be blessed for all your efforts. Thanks again to both of you.