



Southern Illinois Photographic Society

www.sipscameraclub.com

February 2008 Newsletter

SIPS Has a New Logo

SIPS is proud to announce and display the new logo. The February members meeting was the night for members to turn in their logo designs and ideas for the club. Twenty-three designs per presented. Those in attendance voted for their favorite design. The winning design was submitted by my Jeff Fox. Here are a few words from Jeff regarding his design ideas for the winning logo:

“With regard to creation of the logo, I was looking for something that would be simple to reproduce in an embroidered form (simple graphics, few colors), and that would be readily identifiable as a representation of a photographic organization in southern Illinois. I felt that a camera was essential, but I wanted one that could represent either a modern film or digital camera. As for the background, the beautiful Illinois state outline is its own excuse for its representation in the logo. Finally, the geese were added to balance the upper half of the logo against the lower. I tried a variety of objects and animals before settling on geese. I felt that they would hold up even on a small version of the design (i.e. long necks, back swept wings), and thanks to the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge, Canada geese are certainly among the most identifiable symbols of nature/wildlife in southern Illinois.”

New Planning Meeting Location

SIPS is now holding its planning meetings (board meetings) at a new location, Debbie J's restaurant in Herrin. Debbie J's is located next door to our former location, Mr. C's. We are grateful for the wonderful hospitality and service shown to us by Mr. C's, however, we have outgrown their facility. The February planning meeting was our first meeting at Debbie J's. Planning meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. The planning meetings are open to anyone in the club. Please see a board member if you need directions to Debbie J's.

February in Review

There were nearly 40 people in attendance at the February members meeting. We received dues for three regular single memberships and four family memberships. Twelve photos were entered into the warm and cozy (60 day) photo contest. Third place went to David Morgan with *Girls*, second place went to Jim Osborn with *Lucy*, and David Horning took first place with a photo entitled *Gina*. Congratulations to all three of you.

The evening was interrupted by the tornado sirens going off so there was not enough time for the evening program. Our featured member was Jonathan Springer. Jonathan considers himself to be an amateur photographer. He shared some stunning photos taken during his business travels over the past few years. We would like to give Jonathan a big thank you for assisting us with the technology equipment. Jonathan has solved the problem we were experiencing with the projector and has given the laptop a clean bill of health. He has agreed to assist Susan Stearns with the technology needs.

As usual, there were also multiple show and tells.

Around Town

with Ray Brown

Interview with George Stone
RAY: O.k. George. When did you first become interested in photography?



George: Oh when I was a little kid.

RAY: Can you remember what your first camera was?

George: It was some kind of a Kodak Brownie or something like that, as I remember.

RAY: I'm sure you were taking black and white pictures at the time, yes?

GEORGE: Yes.

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

GEORGE: Professional.

RAY: What do you mostly shoot and for whom?

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Calendar of Events

March

Regular Meeting: Mar 4

Planning Meeting: Mar 18

Contest: People Taking Pictures (12 mo.)

Featured Member: David Morgan

Program: Jim Bornert - Present information on the Rocky Mountain School of Photography

Outing: TBA, Land Between the Lakes

April

Regular Meeting: April 1

Planning Meeting: April 15

Contest: Scavenger Hunt (1 mo.)

Featured Member: Jillian Choate

Program: Ceasar Maragni

Outing: TBA

May

Regular Meeting: May 6

Planning Meeting: May 20

Contest: Black and White (12 mo.)

Featured Member: Gabrielle Smith

Program: Rene de Groof - Composition

Outing: TBA

Upcoming SIPS Contests

May: Black and White (12 mo.)

July: Night Photos (12 mo.)

Sept: Garden (12 mo.)

Nov: Mystery Tour (30 day) and

Make Your Own Calendar (12 mo.)

June, Aug, & Oct: TBA (60 day)

...*Around Town cont'd from page 1*

GEORGE: Landscapes for one and particularly birds, butterflies, moths, and insects.

RAY: Do you shoot deer and other critters if and when you can find them?

GEORGE: No, they don't interest me that much. I enjoy shooting the songbirds and hawks.

RAY: I just finished filling my feeders right before this interview started.

GEORGE: I have my resident Cooper's Hawk that comes over here and picks up my little birds, but that's just part of nature.

RAY: George, I was just thinking that you do a lot of mountain photography when you go out west. Am I correct about this? Also mountain climbing?

GEORGE: Yes, I did more when I was younger. But I still do a little.

RAY: Do you like to shoot black and white or color? I think I know the answer but you tell me.

GEORGE: Color.

RAY: That's what I thought.

RAY: What kind of black and white film in any did you shoot?

GEORGE: I never cared for black and white film.

RAY: Do you do any film shooting at all?

GEORGE: I switched to digital about four years ago and I shoot film just once in a while.

RAY: On your digital shoots do you use a darkroom program?

GEORGE: Yes, Photoshop, and special noise reduction programs.

RAY: Did you ever work in a traditional darkroom?

GEORGE: No.

RAY: Right now, what is your favorite camera?

GEORGE: Oh, my favorite camera hasn't been made yet. I want it to be twelve megapixels and twelve X [power].

RAY: Have you had any classes in photography over the years?

GEORGE: No, ninety-nine percent is self taught.

RAY: Have you ever taught photography?

GEORGE: No.

RAY: Do you have a favorite photography website?

GEORGE: Yes.

RAY: Can you give me just two or three?

GEORGE: John Fielder [www.johnfielder.com], Rocky Mountain Photography by Fred and Joan Hanselmann [www.hanselmannphotography.com]. Also DP

Review [www.dpreview.com]. I use about one hundred different sites all together.

RAY: What photo magazine do you subscribe to?

GEORGE: A whole bunch: Outdoor Photography, Popular Photography, Shutterbug. I also get four or five bird magazines and many magazines on rocks, minerals, fossils and paleontology.

RAY: I know you gave a specimen to a university in New York a year or two ago, and to other colleges or universities in the past.

GEORGE: Yes I have. I have given specimens to universities all over the country; I have given specimens to all most thirty universities and museums all over the country. Some of these specimens are 450 million years old. I will give one to SIU tomorrow. This will be done before this is in the newsletter.

RAY: Can you tell me who is a couple of your favorite photographers?

GEORGE: Yes, the two that I mentioned before, John Fielder and Fred Hanselmann. They are the best [outdoor photographers] I've seen.

RAY: Tell me about your career, George?

GEORGE: I graduated from the University of Rochester in New York. Then I went into the U.S. Navy. I spent twenty years in the Navy Reserves as a supply corps officer. Then I spent twenty-five years in higher education in administration. I started in the University of Rochester, then to Wells College in New York, then to Utica College in New York, then to the University of Delaware then to Shippensburg State College in Pennsylvania. My last position that I retired from in 1990 was Sangamon State University. I was President of Sangamon University Foundation.

RAY: Thanks so very much for your time George. It's been a real pleasure for me to have had this chat with you.

Who will be next?

Member News

Dave Hammond and Richard and Susan Day had photos published in the 2008 Best of Birds and Blooms. For those who might be interested in astrophotography using DSLR, Kyaw Naing has posted photographs of the 2008 Lunar Eclipse at http://www.pbase.com/drdr102/lunar_eclipse_2008&page=all. Kyaw also posted photos from the Butterfly

Calendar Contest

This November, we are having a calendar contest. You create your own 12-month calendar. There are no restrictions as to how you put together or create your calendar except that there is a size limitation of 8½ by 12 inches when closed. You also pick the theme for your calendar. The entry fee is \$5 per calendar. Only first place will be awarded; there will be no second or third place awards. The award will be 50% of the entry fees collected. The entries will be judged by an outside judge.

Photo Op

By: *Jim Osborn*

Missouri Botanical Gardens It's February which means orchids at the Missouri Botanical Gardens in St. Louis. If you've never been to the Orchid Show, it is well worth the trip. The show presents opportunities galore to photograph these beautiful and exotic plants. About 70 varieties of orchids are on display in a "tropical" setting. Varieties range widely in size, shape and color—but all are incredibly beautiful. Photographing the orchids can challenge your skills, so take your time and try different strategies for capturing the images. The first hurdle is stabilization. Tripods or monopods are not allowed in the Orchid Show. So use a fast lens or flash. Second, you may experience wide variations in lighting. If it is a sunny day, the windows in the ceiling will provide ample or even excessive light on some of the displays while other areas will be in the shade. In both cases, fill flash is highly recommended. Third, if you are desirous of taking macro shots of the orchids (and you will indeed have the opportunity to get up close and personal with the orchids), that old macro bugaboo, depth of field, can come into play. Experiment and see what works. Take lots of photos, have fun, and make it a learning experience!!.....Note: there is an admission fee to the Missouri Botanical Gardens. For dates and times of the show, check it out on the web at www.mobot.org.

House at <http://www.pbase.com/drdr102/butterflyhouse2008>.

We apologize for omissions of any other member news for the month of February. If you have news to share notify Susan Stearns even if you announced your news at a club meeting.