



Southern Illinois Photographic Society

www.sipscameraclub.com
June 2008 Newsletter

Calendar of Events

July

Regular Meeting: July 1
Planning Meeting: July 15
Contest: Night Photos (12 month)
Featured Member: Jennifer Calvin
Program: TBA
Outing: July 19 - Outing at the Day's

August

Regular Meeting: Aug 5
Planning Meeting: Aug 19
Contest: Backlighting (60 day)
Featured Member: Brian Stearns
Program: Kieth Cotton
Outing: TBA

September

Regular Meeting: Sep 2 @ Rend Lake College
Planning Meeting: Sep 16
Contest: Garden (12 month)
Featured Member: Janet Sundberg
Program: Dave Cooper
Outing: TBA

Upcoming 12 mo. SIPS Contests

Nov: Mystery Tour: Route 37 from Effingham to Cairo.
Make Your Own Calendar (12 mo.)
June, Aug, & Oct: TBA (60 day)
Feb 09: Sunsets (12 mo.)
April 09: Funny/Humorous (12 mo.)

June in Review

The June meeting took place Tuesday, June 3. Thirty-seven people were in attendance at the meeting and we had one new member, Christy Keener, join at the close of the meeting. The program was given by Jim Osborn on travel photography. His program included things to consider when traveling, choosing times of the year and locations when making travel plans based on photography opportunities. Nancy Smolak was our featured member. Her photos were very appropriate for the evening as most of her photographs were taken during her travels.

The contest for June was photos taken within 100 feet of your backdoor. Newer members Melissa Sons and Lynn Love took third and second place. Jim Osborn took first place. There were a total of 28 photos entered into the contest.

It was announced that the club will have an exhibit at CrossRoads Coffee in Carterville. All club members are invited to participate by submitting up to 3 photos at the July meeting. Photos may be any size up to 8x12. Mattes must be a uniform size of 11x14. 40 photos will be selected for the exhibit by an outside judge. The selected photos will be announced at the August club meeting and taken to the coffee shop to be put on display for the exhibit.

Our upcoming club outings were announced. Our June outing was at Giant City Park, Saturday, June 21. The July outing to the Days' is planned for July 19. There are still spots available for anyone who would like to make reservations for the July outing. Please see the article, "July Outing," for more information.

Around Town

with Ray Brown
Interview with Monroe Webb



Ray > Monroe: When did you first become interested in photography?
Monroe: I was about sixteen or seventeen years old. I was in Harrisburg working part time in a restaurant, drugstore. I got a camera. It was a Kodak Bantam

Club Photo Exhibit

SIPS will have a juried club photo exhibit. The exhibit will last for two weeks at Cross Roads Coffee in Carterville. The coffee shop is located across Route 13 from the JALC east entrance. The reception will be August 15, 4pm-8pm. Coffee and snacks will be provided at the reception. You will need to purchase any drinks/foods not set out.

The subject for the exhibit is Nature Photography. Club members are invited to submit up to 3 photos at the July club meeting. Maximum size for photographs is 8x12. Photos must be matted with an 11x14 matte regardless of the size of the photograph and cannot be framed. The top 40 photos will be selected by an outside judge and announced at the August meeting. Please include suggested prices if you are interested in selling your photos.

Photo Op

By: Jim Osborn

Exploring in Southern Illinois

One thing I like about living in southern Illinois is the number of places to explore. Natural areas, areas of historical significance and recreational areas abound. After 10 years in southern Illinois I am still finding places to visit. In 2007, when working on the May Mystery Photo Tour, I decided to use the theme, "Southern Illinois Ghost Towns." In doing research on the former settlements that I visited I learned that the first white settler in Jackson County was Daniel Boone's brother, Captain William Boone. Captain Boone arrived in Jackson County

cont'd on page 2 - Photo Op...

and used 127 film. It looked a lot like a 35mm camera. It had a lens that screwed on. I enjoyed the camera a lot. I still had it when I went into the service. I shot some pictures of Yosemite National Park. Somewhere along the way I gave that little camera to my sister. I think she still has it.
Ray: How did you get your next camera?
Monroe: I was in Amarillo Texas. The

cont'd on page 2 - Around Town....

...Photo Op cont'd from page 1

in 1805 and established his residence near Sandridge. I also learned that William Boone's son and descendents lived in the Sandridge area for generations, and that the Boone family cemetery was located somewhere on Fountain Bluff. Further internet research resulted in a photo of the cemetery, and a poorly written description of the location. Ray Brown, SIPS member, told me he had visited the cemetery years ago and thought he knew the location of the trailhead. For a year we talked about meeting up for an exploratory hike. Recently, that hike happened.

On June 4th, Ray Brown, Dave Morgan, Mike Hicks, Bill Lipscomb and his wife Beth and I met in the evening in Murphysboro and carpoled to a location on Rt. 3 about 300 yards south of the turnoff to Gorham. Along the tree line,

almost invisible to the casual observer, was a single metal stake. Written vertically on the stake were the words, "Boone Cemetery." A path headed into the woods and up the hill. The hike was very arduous. Dave Morgan's GPS noted a 170 foot elevation gain over a distance of only 510 feet. The trail was distinct but not heavily used. At first we saw a few very old limestone headstones badly overgrown and set randomly on the hillside. Thirty yards further and the Boone family plots were revealed. A tall obelisk stood in the center of the pathway with numerous headstones aligned in rows around it. A series of low rocks around the perimeter defined the area reserved for members of the Boone family. More headstones were scattered further up the hill. The area was heavily shaded and, although the sun had not yet disappeared beyond the peak of Fountain Bluff, there

was not a lot of light. Several of us took photos, explored a little further and then made the slow, careful hike down the steep trail. Along the way, Ray Brown amazed us with his naturalist skills by identifying numerous trees and plants as well as low areas where deer had grazed. Ray's recommendation to the group was to make the hike again in the spring, because the trail would be lined with various wildflowers.

The Boone family cemetery is a wild, remote, and virtually unvisited historic site. I'm glad I made the effort to hike it. After the hike, several of us dined in Murphysboro at Big Charley's Restaurant—a real treat and a place we would highly recommend to anyone in the Murphysboro area.

...Around Town cont'd from page 1

weather was terrible. They took us on a hike; it was sunny and the weather changed. We were in summer clothes and it really snowed hard. I have a picture of a fellow eating from his mess kit and the wind was blowing snow all over him and his food. A little later we took a bunch of tests and the ones that passed were sent to Missoula, Montana for six months to go to some kind of college. On the way up there was this kid that had this pretty good camera for its day. It was a Kodak with an F2.0 lens. It used 828 film, the same as 35mm except it had a paper backing. This kid wanted \$100 for the camera. Well I just happened to have a hundred dollars so I bought it.

Ray: That was a lot of money back then.

Monroe: Yes it was. I had a hundred dollars and was lucky to have it. So I bought the camera and used it quite a bit. I was later elected as the class photographer and got the keys to the darkroom and a lot of other places.

Ray: Monroe, do you consider yourself a professional or an amateur photographer?

Monroe: An amateur photographer

Ray: Monroe, what do you mostly shoot?

Monroe: In the spring I like to take pictures of wild flowers, butterflies, and animals if I get a chance, which is seldom.

Ray: When you started taking pictures were you shooting black and white?

Monroe: Yes, black and white, they were just starting to have some color. It had

a speed of 8 (Folks can you imagine an ASA of 8?).

Ray: Was that Kodak film?

Monroe: Yes, times have changed.

Ray: Was that film or slides? If slides – Kodachrome?

Monroe: Yes slides – Kodachrome.

Ray: Of all your cameras, which one did you like the most?

Monroe: I had a 4 x 5 Speed Grafic and a 4 x 4½ I carried with me all the time.

Ray: That used cut film with the holders, right?

Monroe: Yes

Ray: When you developed these films did you use the "dunk & swish in the pan" method?

Monroe: Yes, that was a different day and age.

Ray: Oh yes, it sure was. Do you use a digital camera at all?

Monroe: Yes my wife got one for me as a Christmas present. I later sold it to someone in the club.

Ray: Have you ever taken any photo classes?

Monroe: Yes, at Rend Lake.

Ray: What photo magazines do you get?

Monroe: I get Outdoor Illinois, Nature's Best Photography, Nature Photographer, Popular Photography, Outdoor Photography, and Birds & Blooms.

Ray: Tell me who are a couple of your favorite photographers.

Monroe: Well Ansel Adams is all I can think of right now.

Ray: Tell me a story or two about your life in this time of it.

Monroe: Well you know Ansel Adams was taking pictures in Yosemite at this time. I had a few days off from the Army so I hitch-hiked up to Yosemite till I got to a gravel road. I walked till I got to a logging road. I took this road until a logging truck came down that mountain and I had to go into the brush because they couldn't stop that well and they would run over you if you didn't get out of the way.

I continued going up and got almost to the entrance of the park. Well it was getting dark (in the late fall). There was a ranger log cabin there. I went around that cabin and it was locked up. I found a window I could get open. I got in there. I slept in that cabin that night. I liked to froze to death. The next morning I got up and went out the front door and boy there was a big old bear. I went back in, stayed a while. He left. I started walking down that road. Along came a car. It was an army officer and his wife. He said do you want a lift. I said I sure do. They had closed the main lodge but they had these cabins. The officer and his wife got a cabin. I got a cabin. We were the only ones there, plus the fellow that ran Yosemite and he lived at the lodge.

Ray: What time of time year was this?

Monroe: Late fall. I took a lot of pictures but it was hard to keep track of everything being in the service. Some of them got

cont'd on page 3 - Around Town...

THINGS I NOTICE

by Ray Brown

Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck?

Don't let a little dispute injure a great relationship

Spend some time alone every day.

In disagreements with loved ones, deal only with the current situation. Don't bring up the past.

Once a year, go someplace you've never been before.

Judge your success by what you had to give up in order to get it.

Approach love and cooking with reckless abandon.

Elephants are the only animals that can't jump.

Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing – SCARY yes.

No word in the English language rhymes with month.

Don't lose your head to gain a minute. You need your head. Your brains are in it.

The average life span of a major league baseball is seven pitches.

All over the world donkeys kill more people than plane crashes.

Pearls melt in vinegar.

The three most valuable brand names on earth are Marlboro, Coca Cola, and Budweiser, in that order.

And now what's all this chatter about David Morgan helping Joanna Gray go topless while his wife is at work? The odd thing about all this is I think Jane encouraged this fal-de-ral to a great degree. If I would have known in time I would have taken some pictures. Oh well – my loss.

July Outing - the Day's

The July 19, 2008 outing will be a day of photography on the property of Richard and Susan Day [www.daybreakimagery.com]. Richard is a full-time professional nature photographer who's been in the business of marketing photos and teaching photo workshops since 1984. Susan is considered a backyard bird and habitat expert and has published dozens of articles in birding and outdoor publications. They live in the country on 63 acres in south central Illinois. They've landscaped their property to attract wildlife with improvements including a 5-acre native grass and wildflower prairie and an 8-acre shallow water wetland. They've won numerous awards for their conservation efforts and their yard is certified with the National Wildlife Federation and Illinois Audubon Society Backyard Habitat Programs. Each year they host several bird, butterfly, and garden tours on their property to show others how to create habitats for wildlife in their own yards. SIPS has a private day scheduled for July 19. The cost to attend is \$50/person. We still have 4 of 16 slots available. Contact Susan, SIPS secretary, for more info.

For Sale

Canon 24-105mm f/4 L IS lens, exceptionally sharp, is in pristine condition and comes with the hood and original box. I will include a Hoya Pro1 Digital multi coated UV filter with the lens. (It has always been on the lens.) I probably have not shot more than 200-300 images through it. I found that I use my 24-70mm most often and could use the money for other Canon "toys". This lens sells for \$1060 at B & H. I will sell it to one of SIPS members or one of the Light and Lens members for \$900. To see specs at B&H Photo go to: <http://www.bhphotovideo.com/sitem/sku=397662&is=USA>
If interested contact: Harry Orr at horr502@charter.net

Nov. Mystery Tour

Turn in a portfolio of 10 photos with captions. Maximum size is 5x7. The route is along Route 37 from Effingham to Cairo. You may take photos within 1/2 mile from the road or anywhere in cities and parks along the route. \$5/entry.

Where is room C138?

C138 is located on the East side of the campus. Enter the campus by the East Entrance. Follow the winding street into campus. The "E Building" and the "Receiving Dock" are on the left. Parking Lot C is on the right. Go to the far end (north end) of the C Lot and park there. Across the street from the parking lot is the "C Building" (which looks like an extension of the "E building"). There is an outside entrance to C138.

The room can also be located from inside the C Building. If you go past Parking Lot C there is a second story "walkway" on the left that connects the "C Building" and the "D Building" (where our last room was). Enter the C Building by going under the walkway and entering the ground level doors on the left. About halfway down that hallway and on the left is C 138.

Calendar Contest

We are having a calendar contest in November. 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 pick the theme for your calendar. There will be two categories available to enter: a) Nature, and b) Everything Else. The entry fee is \$5 per calendar. First place will be awarded for each category; there will be no second or third place awards. Each first place winner will receive 50% of the entry fees collected. The entries will be judged by an outside judge and winners will be announced at the December meeting.



...*Around Town cont'd from page 2* away. I don't know what happened to them.

Monroe showed me many, many pictures. I said, "Monroe, you have a lot of nice pictures here." He said, "I have a lot of nice memories."

Ray: Well Monroe, after having known you for several years and knowing you are a very nice gentleman and doing this interview with you, I now have some very nice memories. Thank you, Monroe, so very much.