



Southern Illinois Photographic Society

www.sipscameraclub.com

October 2011 Newsletter

September Meeting

We had a good turnout at our September meeting, with 37 members and visitors. Claudia Rollo was attending her second meeting, and became a member—welcome, Claudia! We also had Anne and Bill Parmley from Metropolis, invited by member Jim Young. Bill shoots landscapes, nature, and butterflies. Clyde Wills, a retired newspaper photographer, was also attending, returning to SIPS after several years.



Benton Auto Show (Linda Bundren)

injured hummingbird he recovered and released back into the wild. Linda Bundren showed some images from the Du Quoin State Fair. Linda Martin shared her story and images of burrowing owls. Claudia

Rollo showed creative images of her sister.

Teresa McIntosh is giving away a 75-205mm Vivitar lens, free to anyone who can use it. She's not sure what kind of

mount it has.

We had a couple of contest results this month. First, we had the results of the Scavenger Hunt contest, entries for which

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Correction

I would like to extend my sincere apology to George Stone for the omission of Fifteen Minutes of Fame in the August minutes. During August my computer died and with it went the August minutes and August data. When re-creating the minutes (at the last minute) I overlooked the Fifteen Minutes of Fame category. George Stone gave a very interesting display of beautiful landscapes he has observed on his geological trips, as well as other images he has made. Thanks George, for taking the time to present to the club even when you were not feeling well. I appreciate your participation in the all activities of the club. and I know it takes extra efforts for anyone to develop a presentation. Thanks again for your consistent support of our club.

—Linda B.

Editor's Note: In putting together the newsletter, I write article text from Linda's notes, and I also missed the omission of George. My apologies as well.

Calendar of Events

October

Meeting: Oct. 4

Program: Vacation Pictures
(members)

15 Minutes of Fame: Dana Tetzlaff

Contest: Patriotism (60 day)

Outing: Ft. Massac Encampment,
Oct. 15-16

Planning Meeting: Oct. 18

November

Meeting: Nov. 1

Program: Photographing Babies
(Jim Osborn)

15 Minutes of Fame: Linda Bundren

Contest: Through the Seasons
Calendar (1 year)

Outing: Parke County covered bridges
Oct. 28-29

Planning Meeting: Nov. 15

December

Meeting: Dec. 6

Program: Christmas party

15 Minutes of Fame: none

Contest: none

Outing: none

Planning Meeting: none

Inside...

News and a Tech Savvy from Jim Osborn!

Our program for the evening was Karen Carlton, talking about Creative Uses of Photography. Karen is a retired high school art teacher, so she had no trouble holding our attention with her dynamic speaking style. Her message was about brainstorming, and how to come up with new ideas. She uses a variety of techniques, but a key theme is to see the abstract form and get away from the representative meaning. She also employs creative manipulation, and showed as an example a wonderful swirled iris (created with an effect from Irfan View).

One of her favorite photographic topics is faces in inanimate objects. She showed a number of examples drawn from food, architecture, and many, many other sources. She and some of her coworkers have collected examples of these from their students into a series of four books, entitled *Let's Face It! Sharp Faces, Give Me a Face, Way to Go, and Food for Thought*. These books are available from her web site on Shutterfly,

karencarltonphotos.shutterfly.com.

Our Fifteen Minutes of Fame this month was Jim Osborn, who shared some of his recent images, ranging from landscapes to children. Jim always has great images, and these were no exception.

A number of people had Show and Tell items this month. George Stone showed images to illustrate his story about an



Chicago Skyline (photo: Jim Osborn)

Tech Savvy

by Jim Osborn

Recently I had the opportunity to go to Chicago and stay in one of the nicer hotels along Michigan Avenue. I always take my camera with me when I travel and I try to anticipate what type of shots I might be taking so I only lug along the equipment I really think I might use. One of my goals this trip was to get night time images of downtown Chicago. I decided to take my Canon camera, a 28-70 f2.8 lens and my 70-200 f2.8 lens, and a monopod. Through a little trial and error I was able to get some decent pictures (see the accompanying photo). I thought I would share with you what worked and what didn't work. First, the monopod was useless. For the longer shutter speeds required to capture the lighted skyline and busy streets, I was not able to get a picture that was sharp enough to meet my standards. Even when I tried to prop the monopod against a stationary object, images of 3-5 seconds came out with noticeable blur. However, the accompanying image was taken through the window of my hotel room. Here is what I did to capture this image. First, I wanted a slow shutter speed to capture streaks of light from cars traveling along Ohio Street so I set the ISO at 100 and the aperture at about f9.0 (in aperture priority mode). To minimize the orange color and the dispersion of



light you tend to get when taking night pictures in the city, I set my exposure compensation at -2 stops. I moved a side table in the room right up to the window and propped up the camera body with some thin materials until the lens was almost against the pane, pointed down at the street. To assure I had the image set in the camera, I used the "live view" feature to make my final adjustments. Finally, to avoid even miniscule vibration from pressing down on the button to execute the picture, I set the camera to take the picture with the auto-timer set at 10 seconds. As I pressed the button, I removed my hands from the camera and pulled the privacy window drapes together tightly around the camera body to minimize any reflection of ambient light reflecting off the window. Oh, yes...and I turned off all the lights in the rooms as well. After 10 seconds, the camera took the picture(s) with shutter speeds ranging from 10-15 seconds. I even experimented with images taken in shutter priority mode set at 15 seconds. I never could have handheld the camera or even ventured a decent effort with the monopod at those shutter speeds. I was quite happy with the results. Unfortunately, my attempts to take images of the skyline from the Adler Planetarium were not as successful. The next time I try for a skyline shot from that location, I will definitely take a tripod, use live view, and use the timer feature. I think I took a dozen pictures trying to use

the monopod, but nothing seemed to work. Just as an aside, the mirror lock-up feature on your DSLR camera can also minimize vibration as well. If there is a message here, it is this, "Experiment and see what you get. If at first you don't succeed...try, try, again!"

For Sale

Linda Martin has an **Epson R1900** photo printer for sale. This printer was \$350 new, and has seen very little use. The price is \$200, or best offer. Contact her at ismartin@siu.edu.

Meeting

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were turned in last month. The winners were:

1st place: Virginia Stith

2nd place: Jim Osborn

3rd place: Bill Thomas

In addition, we had our regular contest this month, "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles." The winners were:

1st place: Virginia Stith, "The General"

2nd (tie): Dave Hammond, "The Challenger" and Mike Sanders, "The Blue Angels"

Congratulations to all these winners! Next month, our contest subject is "Patriotism."



Benton Auto Show, (Linda Bundren)

Parke County Outing

Our outing for November is to see the covered bridges of Parke County, Indiana. This outing will actually take place in late October, on the 28th and 29th. We will leave Friday afternoon around 5:30, stay overnight, and return Saturday evening. Contact Nancy for reservations.

Our actual October outing is to the Ft. Massac encampment on Oct. 15.