



Southern Illinois Photographic Society

www.sipscameraclub.com

November 2011 Newsletter

Calendar of Events

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
(at SIU-C)

15 Minutes of Fame: none

Contest: none

Outing: none

Planning Meeting: none

January

Meeting: Jan. 2

Program: TBD

15 Minutes of Fame: TBD

Contest: Holidays (1 year)

Outing: TBD

Planning Meeting: Jan. 16

Inside...

News and the latest Photo Op from
Jim Osborn!

October Meeting

We had twenty-nine members and two guests at our October meeting. Genelle Simpson and Katy Karl were both invited by Bill Thomas.

Our program this month was vacation photos, contributed by the members. Each contributor brought a half a dozen of their best vacation photos from the past year and presented them. We saw a wide range of subjects from Linda Bundren, Bill Thomas, Linda Martin, Jan Sundberg, Mike Hicks, Dana Tetzlaff, Bil Randall, Nancy Smolak, Jim Osborn, Jonathan Springer, Edwina Arrington, and Joanna Gray.

Our 15 Minutes of Fame segment this month featured Dana Tetzlaff. She showed a broad selection of the photos she takes. Her favorite topics included old restored images, polaroids, and her new grandson.

There were lots of activities going on in October. Several members went to the Fort Massac encampment Oct. 15. The fort itself is undergoing some work, but the reenactments were as colorful as usual. Tom Rabideau led a group on a weekend trip to the Great Smoky Mountains. Finally, Nancy Smolak led a club trip to Parke County, Indiana, to see the covered bridges this past weekend.

Jon Mueller brought 2 Nikon lenses to give away at our meeting—thanks Jon!

Our annual Christmas party is coming up Dec. 6, and will take the place of the normal member meeting. It will be held at SIU-Carbondale, in the student center. Our speaker will be Chuck Swedlund, a renowned photographer and professor emeritus at SIU. Reservations for this member-only event need to be made with Dana; the fee is \$20/person (you may bring a guest).

Our contest subject for this month was Patriotism. The winners were:

1st place: Virginia Stith, "Bicycle with Flag"

2nd place: Mike Hicks, "Flags"

3rd place: Bill Randall, "Wilson Creek"

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Photo Op

by Jim Osborn

I am writing this article during the third week of October and so far I am really bummed out by the lack of brilliant colors in the trees. As a nature photographer, each year I look forward to certain milestone events—the emergence of new colors in the spring and the signaling of the end of summer with the colorful maples and sumac in the fall. I can never predict with any accuracy how brilliant the fall colors will be but this year they seem particularly muted. A recent weekend trip to Cincinnati through southern Indiana didn't offer much more in color even though I drove with my camera in the seat next to me the whole way. I know that winter has its own special photo opportunities but I hate missing fall colors.

Anyway, as they say, when you're handed lemons make lemonade. Following the corn harvest, the white and albino deer appear in the fields at Dogtown Hills, north and east of Eldorado along the Wabash River. You can bet I'll be heading over there before we hit the end of daylight savings. This morning I was inspired to see a very large flock of Canada Geese flying in formation as the sun was coming up. I know that more migrating waterfowl will be returning along with the seasonal bald eagles. If these harbingers of change can't get me out of my photo-doldrums I can always start planning photo outings for 2012.

I have never done this before but this year I am going to create a photo calendar (without photos) of the things I want to photograph and the places I want to go in 2012. Perhaps by creating the list I will force myself (or at least remind myself) to get out regularly and have fun. Thinking ahead, I know that in January I want to photograph the snow geese that congregate at the Union County Conservation Area in the tens of thousands. Perhaps I can even photograph a "blast off" as they all take to the air at once. In February I have to make



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Battle"

Other entries included those from Karen Carlton ("King Neptune"), Jo Dodd ("Young Americans" and "Determination"), and Joanna Gray ("Ole King Cole / cemetery scene" and "Flags Over Indiana"). Next month, we have our annual calendar contest. Entries are due at the meeting, with results to be announced at the Christmas party.



Black bear cub, sighted on the recent trip to the Smoky Mountains (photo: Linda Bundren)

Photos and Articles

If you have a photo from a recent club-related activity such as an outing that you'd like to share, we'd like to print it. Written content is also very welcome, whether a short note or a full article. Content should be delivered by the weekend after the planning meeting (i.e., the third weekend after the member meeting) to be included in the upcoming newsletter. Thanks!

Photo Op

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it to Alton and/or Horseshoe Lake for bald eagles. If conditions are right there may be swans and white pelicans wintering along the Mississippi as well. In March, the Missouri Botanical Gardens holds its annual orchid show. I missed it last year, so I am definitely due for a return visit. In April...who knows? Last year I went to the Columbia River Gorge in Oregon—maybe I'll plan another adventure. Anyway, I think you get my drift. Are there places on your "Bucket List" (or "Life List", as I prefer to call it) that you want to get to? Let me share a secret with you, if you don't make it a priority and start planning, you'll never get there.

So, even when the colors of fall fail to materialize, there's always next year. For those of you who aspire to adventure but lack the courage to go it alone, this year the North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA) is planning a series of "Regional Outings" to iconic places. You go in relatively small groups, get exceptional instruction and return with lifelong memories and incredible photos. Some of the locations in the works for 2012 include the Oregon coast, the Great Smoky Mountains, Bosque del Apache Wildlife Refuge (New Mexico), south Texas, and Acadia National Park (Maine) in October—hmmmm!!.....I might just be able to get some dynamite shots of fall foliage!! I'd better start saving my pennies!