



# Southern Illinois Photographic Society

www.sipscameraclub.com

## January 2012 Newsletter

### Calendar of Events

#### January

Meeting: Jan. 3  
Program: TBA  
15 Minutes of Fame: TBA  
Contest: Holidays (1 year)  
Outing: TBA  
Planning Meeting: Jan. 17

#### February

Meeting: Feb. 7  
Program: Tom Ulrich  
15 Minutes of Fame: Tom Ulrich  
Contest: A face only a mother could  
LOVE (60 days)  
Outing: Eagles, Alton IL  
Planning Meeting: Feb. 21

#### March

Meeting: Mar. 6  
Program: TBA  
15 Minutes of Fame: TBA  
Contest: Black & white (1 year)  
Outing: TBA  
Planning Meeting: Mar. 20

### Inside...

A welcome from the SIPS president and the Photo Op from Jim Osborn!

### From the President

by Linda Bundren

For those who were unable to attend the 2011 Christmas party, you missed a very enjoyable evening. Kudos to SIU-C catering service for a very delicious meal and also to Dana Tetzlaff for organizing this event. Thank you Dana for all the time you put into arranging our Christmas event and organizing the room. We again were blessed with the dinner music by Joyce Hesketh (harpist) and this year she was accompanied by her son Ryan (violinist). The music was wonderful. Thank you for the lovely Christmas music that provided a relaxed atmosphere. The program was by SIU-C emeritus professor from the video and photography department, Charles Swedlund. He

presented a project from 1984 where he had taken an image every hour (during waking hours) every day for one year. He showed a small selection of the over 700-800 images taken that year for this project. This included images of family, friends, scenery, events and animals. Thank you Bill Thomas for arranging for our speaker. Congratulations again to Virginia Stith for winning Photographer of the Year. This is her second year with that title. Her images attests to why she has that title. Also I would like to congratulate David Hammond for winning the calendar contest for 2011. All six entries were very good and I'm envious that I did not get mine completed. We had a lot of fun exchanging gag/photography gifts. By the way, who went home with "the BRICK"? I hope everyone had as much fun as I did for I'm

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### Photo Op

by Jim Osborn

Before the holidays I started culling photos from my hard drive. Since going digital a few years ago I have accumulated thousands and thousands of images which I saved as RAW files, JPEG files and even TIFF files. Certainly family photos have sentimental value, but many of my pictures were taken for their artistic appeal at the time, for club contests, from trips, or for various projects. All in all, I think I deleted about 22 GBs of files (the RAW files add up quickly)—a worthy effort!

But managing my photographs is not what this article is all about—this article is about something else...something I realized

when I was going through all those photos. This article is about my evolution as a photographer and where I go from here. As I was looking at the older photos I realized how much my skills as a photographer have improved. I certainly believe that upgrading my equipment over time contributed to better images but, more notably, the technical aspects of my photos improved over time as well. Somewhere along the "road" I learned how to manage depth of

field, shutter speed, composition, lighting, moving subjects, flash, etc. This change wasn't really apparent to me during the journey. It's a little like your hair gradually turning gray, or losing (or gaining) weight over a long period of time, or just getting older. I could see the changes in my grandchildren from their birth to their last birthdays, but I could also see the changes in my technical skills over those years. I don't know why this surprised me so much,

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Charles Swedlund  
(photo: Linda Bundren)

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## President

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already looking forward to the Christmas party for 2012.

I am also looking forward to leading SIPS in 2012 and feel blessed to be associated with so many wonderful photographers and friends. I would like for you to come to the January meeting with lots of ideas for contests, outings, things you would like to see in our presentations, your favorite things to do with photography and things you would like to see changed. I will begin the year by getting your desires and goals for the club as we move into 2012. Most importantly, I want everyone to have fun with photography through SIPS. God bless you and your families during this blessed holiday season.

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## Photo Op

*cont'd from p. 1*

but it did. Many of my favorite older photographs of landscapes, sunsets and wildlife were disappointing and just didn't measure up to what I am doing today. In fact, I would say that, if the quality of the photographs that I am taking today was equivalent to many of those that I took 5 or 6 years ago, I would probably delete them now as inferior or unacceptable.

This lead me to another realization. In my adult life I have had the good fortune to be able to travel throughout the United

States and photograph many beautiful locations. Now I realize that there are many extraordinary places in this country that I want to go back to and re-photograph—places such as Glacier National Park, and Yellowstone, Ding Darling Wildlife Refuge in Florida, and Alaska! But...I do still have a "bucket list" of places I want to visit before I depart this life—places like the Florida Keys, and Hawaii, Bosque Del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, and Olympic National Park in Washington. Thus the dilemma—do I pursue marking off new locations from my bucket list or do I go back and revisit the places I've enjoyed the most in past years? When I was 30 years old I had forever to explore the world; now, the world is shrinking and I recognize that my time is limited. I don't know the answer yet but, 'tis the season for contemplation and planning!

As we enter 2012 and make our New Year's Resolutions, take time to reflect back on your own evolution as a photographer. Set goals for the New Year—(1) new skills to master, (2) places

to visit, (3) things or people to photograph, (4) projects to finish, etc.....then, make it happen!!



Joyce Hesketh and son Ryan (photo: Linda Bundren)



Dana Tetzlaff at SIPS Christmas Party (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!