



# Southern Illinois Photographic Society

www.sipscameraclub.com

## February 2014 Newsletter

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### Calendar of Events

#### February

Meeting: Feb. 4

Program: Large Format,

Chris Jacquot deShazo

15 Minutes of Fame: Jim Osborn

Contest: Black and White

Outing: Lone Elk Park,

Planning Meeting: Feb. 18

#### March

Meeting: Mar. 4

Program: Linda Martin

15 Minutes of Fame: Linda Bundren

Contest: Art in Nature (unltd. proc.)

Outing: Tom Ulrich, SIU;

Buffalo Roundup, Cobden;

Mo. Botanical Garden Orchids

Planning Meeting: Mar. 18

#### April

Meeting: Apr. 1

Program: Panel Discussion: What  
to Look for in Contest Photos

15 Minutes of Fame: Mike Hicks

Contest: Historic or Antique

Outing: Fountain Bluffs

Planning Meeting: Apr. 15

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### Inside...

All the news and the latest from Jim Osborn!

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### January Meeting

Our January program was presented by Dave Hammond, who discussed how to sell photographic work. His first point was to consider your work: do you have enough material, is it competitive, and will it be what an editor wants to see? He recommends getting a professional portfolio review, as it is hard for friends and family to be appropriately critical.

The major options for selling are art shows, edited publications, stock image services, and the Internet. Dave does a lot of shows. For editorial work, write to the publications you are interested in and ask for their guidelines, both editorial guidelines and photo guidelines. Stock work can be tough to break into; good agencies tend to require credited images beforehand. Internet work involves putting your work online on sites like Pinterest, Smugmug, or your own custom website.

Dave advises making a portfolio of your work. This can be physical prints or digital ones, but don't try to show your work on a smartphone screen. Always have business cards on hand to help get your name out there. Make a good close-up shot of your booth for applying to shows.

Things that do well in contests may not sell well (and vice versa). Color photos usually sell better than black-and-white. Dave uses mostly lustre paper from Red River, and sells mostly 8x10s. Dave has had success with a wide variety of topics, including landscapes, roadways, pathways, old trains, abstracts, flowers, birds, mammals, old barns, and panoramas. His top three sellers are (1) Cold Morning, Union County Refuge, (2) Simply Red, and (3) Mad Cardinal.

Dave enters contests regularly to gain exposure as well. He is currently a finalist in the 6th annual Outdoor Photographer Nature's Colors contest.

Our 15 Minutes of Fame was given by Nancy Smolak, who presented her trip to northeast Canada last summer. She drove from Arcadia Park in Maine through Nova

*cont'd on page 2 - January Meeting*

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### Photo Op

by Jim Osborn

A recent feature on WSIL Channel 3 News had to do with the growth of the resident eagle population at Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge. According to the report there are now approximately 47 bald eagles living in or near the Refuge. I have to admit, I like the cold winter weather for one reason—it means more eagles, and I love eagles. Colder weather up north means more geese will migrate farther south. The eagles follow the geese because they serve as a food source.

Although I didn't go on one of the Refuge-sponsored eagle tours this year, I have seen bald eagles in the Refuge on a couple occasions since New Years. In fact, if you take Rt. 148 to the Crab Orchard Visitor Center and then take the road west toward the loop drive you will see a very large eagle's nest. Driving west on Refuge Drive you will pass the parking lot and education area. A little further along you will cross a creek. As you climb the small hill on the west side of the creek, keep your eyes peeled along the tree line to the south for what appears to be a very large burl in a tree. That's the nest. It is about 2/3 of the way up the tree. If you are lucky you might see a pair of mature bald eagles perched on limbs of the tree. Last year the pair had a young one in the nest. Who knows what this season might bring! By the way, binoculars are recommended.

I've had two reports from club members that there are eagles galore along the Mississippi River near Clarksville, Missouri—estimates of 300! I remember seeing that many eagles there about 8 or 9 years ago, but the eagles haven't been at Clarksville in those numbers since then. Clarksville is a unique location to photograph the eagles. There is a lock and dam on the river at Clarksville. When the river is frozen (or nearly so) the eagles



*cont'd on page 2 - Photo Op*

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## January Meeting

*cont'd from p. 1*

Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick. We saw photos from Bar Harbor, including a lobster boat trip; Halifax, with soldiers, buildings and performers in town; and lots of fishing villages, changing water and rock colors, and unique homes and shops.

For Show and Tell, George Stone brought a panorama of Burlington Lake in Colorado, with nine shots from a hike there.

In announcements, SIPS is joining the Light and Lens and ALPS photo clubs for an outing to see the eagles in Alton on Feb. 19. We are to meet at 8 a.m. at the Alton Lock and Dam. Some will be meeting at Sam's parking lot before 5:30 a.m. to caravan to Alton. Then we will be driving from Alton to Grafton and have lunch together. Contact Tom Rabideau or Linda Bundren if interested in going, or meet us in Alton.

Out contest this month was "Light or Lighting." The winning entries were:

1st: Jo Dodd, "This Little Light"

2nd: Mike Hicks, "The Lighted Tunnel"

3rd: Lynn Love, "Lights of Sunset"

Our contest next month is "Black and White."

## Gallery at Crossroads Coffee Company

Crossroads Coffee has invited SIPS to show photos at their Carterville location. Each month, a SIPS member can put up a collection of 10 framed images, which will remain up for 2 to 4 weeks. SIPS has a set of frames that can be rented by club members for \$10 for the duration of the show. Pictures can be listed for sale (a portion of any proceeds goes to Crossroads Coffee).

The spots for 2014 are mostly open. March is taken (Tom Dunn), as is May (Nancy Smolak). If you would like to show in one of the other months, let Lu know and she can put you on the schedule.

## Photo Op

*cont'd from p. 1*

congregate to fish in the open water below the lock and dam. There is a city park in Clarksville right by the river from which you can set up your gear. Fish stunned from their tumble over the dam provide easy pickings for the bald eagles. The eagles will circle the water, then make a sharp bank and fly low picking the hapless fish right from the water. It is an incredible sight and an incredible photo opportunity. If you go, make sure that you are shooting at a fast enough shutter speed to stop the action. Clarksville is approximately 70 miles north of St. Louis on Rt. 79. Take I-70 through St. Louis until you get to the Rt. 79 exit. Head north and have a ball. If you have time, drive on up to Louisiana, Missouri. That is another location where eagles tend to congregate. You can take the bridge across the Mississippi and follow the highway signs back south to Alton.

Other good locations for eagles (but not in the numbers seen at Clarksville) are near the lock and dam in Alton and at Horseshoe Lake near Olive Branch, Illinois. When the snow geese come through, you might see eagles in the Union County Conservation Area off of Rt. 3 near Ware, Illinois.....or you just might get lucky and get a great picture of one of the 47 resident eagles at the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge. In any event, pray for cold weather!!