



Southern Illinois Photographic Society

www.sipscameraclub.com

August 2014 Newsletter

Calendar of Events

August

Meeting: Aug. 5

Program: Bird Photography,
Richard Day

15 Minutes of Fame: Dave & Lu
Horning

Contest: Water

Outing: Mermet Lake, Aug. 9

Planning Meeting: Aug. 19

September

Meeting: Sep. 2

Program: HDR, Jim Bornert

15 Minutes of Fame: Jo Dodd

Contest: Wheels (unltd. proc.)

Outing: Document a Town,

Golconda, Sep. 27

Planning Meeting: Sep. 16

October

Meeting: Oct. 7

Program: Document a Town,
Karen Carlton

15 Minutes of Fame: Dave Hammond

Contest: Wildlife

Outing: Colors in East Shawnee Nat'l
Forest

Planning Meeting: Oct. 21

Inside...

All the news and the latest from Jim
Osborn!

July Meeting

Our July meeting presentation was about printing photos on alternative surfaces. For this we had a team of presenters, including Karen Carlton, Dana Tetzlaff, and Dave Hammond.

Karen started us off by giving an overview of the many kinds of surfaces that can be printed to. As an example, she brought a "Save the Date" refrigerator magnet for a wedding.

Dave continued by covering the many different kinds of photo paper that are available for use on a home printer. The standard papers that most of us are familiar with are lustre, semi-gloss, and matte. In addition, he showed:

- PictoRico High Gloss White Film, by Mitsubishi. This is similar to a sheet of plastic, very shiny and opaque once it is printed on. Dave likes high gloss papers for flowers and landscapes especially.
- Ilford Smooth High Gloss Media is very shiny with a paper back. It can have problems with severe curling, and not all printers work well with it.
- Epson Exhibition Fibre paper, also high gloss, is a heavyweight paper that is his favorite to print on, but expensive to use.
- Ilford Gallery Prestige Gold Mono is a silk paper made specifically for black & white. This one is also expensive.
- Epson Hot Press Bright is a rag paper. It's substantial and works well with colors, making them pop.

• Museo Pressure Rag is one of the most expensive options, but it's very substantial and has a unique texture. Each sheet comes with protective covering.

• Red River Metallic is great for bright colors, and also works well for black & white.

In general, Dave recommends Red River for everyday use. If using matte paper, be sure to wait two hours after printing to see the fully dried product and assess the results.

Karen then got into some of the more exotic printing surfaces. One interesting

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Photo Op

by Jim Osborn

I'm getting ready to go on vacation to Disneyworld with my wife, my three sons, my three daughters-in-law, and my 10 grandchildren. To be perfectly honest, that is not my idea of the perfect vacation—I would rather be in the Rocky Mountains or on the coast of Maine or in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Don't misunderstand me—I want to be with my whole family.....just not at Disneyworld. None-the-less, everyone knows that Grandpa is the family photographer and Disneyworld is the place for photo opportunities. Trying to think ahead, I did not relish the idea of carrying my heavy DSLR with lens (or two) around in the heat and humidity of central Florida. Much to my surprise, my wife suggested I get a lighter-weight point and shoot for the trip. So, I researched and read reviews and read magazine articles and looked online. In the end I picked ordered a Nikon (a bold move for a Canon guy!) from Amazon. When the camera arrived I immediately dived into the owner's manual and started experimenting. I learned a long time ago that you need to KNOW your equipment in order to get the best results. Yes....it was quite different from my DSLR. I did not try to duplicate on the features of my DSLR with the new Nikon, I just wanted something that gave me reasonable flexibility and good picture quality. Still, I found I missed not being able to shoot in RAW and not having the ability to make very many manual adjustments. The pictures are good and the camera has a swivel LCD back that makes it incredibly easy to take pictures from a very low angle. But the biggest advantage is the light weight. It should make hiking around Disneyworld less tiresome. I guess the moral to this story is, when you are planning to do travel photography, you really have to try to plan so that your equipment matches your itinerary. As an aside, a friend recently went to Europe and



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July Meeting

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technique is printing to wood. Start by laser printing to regular paper, then apply to wood using a gel. Dry completely, then run under water to eliminate the paper, leaving the image on the wood. A number of web sites will also do this for you, such as **woodsnap.com** and **printsonwood.com**. Dana showed some samples she brought and explained the process.

For outdoor signs, printing on a vinyl banner is common. We saw an example of corrugated plastic with digital printing and a vinyl overlay. (Samples were donated by **B&D Signs** of Cobden - thank you!)

It is possible to print photos on cakes and other foods. There are several web sites with how-to's but it is recommended to read reviews and exercise common sense before trying them out. Some are: **tastyfotoart.com** (do-it-yourself and kit site), **icingimages.com** (upload and customize your photos, which they print), **gogocakes.com** (cupcakes and cookies), and **edibleastyprints.com** (many good user-submitted ideas, and a quick turnaround).

Many CD/DVD writers support printing to the top of a special kind of CD/DVD disc. This technology is called "LightScribe."

Our 15 Minutes of Fame presenter was Linda Bundren. She went to the 2014 Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers Conference in Colorado this year, so had several images from that, including wildlife, cityscapes, street scenes, and Colorado rock formations and naturescapes. She also included a trip to Gulf Shores, where she took many photos of birds and her grandson. Linda then showed a trip to Oregon, featuring fishing boats, lighthouses and the coast, and Mt. Hood. Other topics covered were Park County covered bridges, cyclists on the Tour de Hope in Williamson County, birds in Texas, and Glacier Park in Montana.

In announcements, we had several members in the Anna Art show, including Linda Bundren, Jo Dodd, Dave Hammond, Myers Walker, and Bonnie and Jim Bornert. Linda, Dave, and Bonnie won merit awards. Note that

there is a fall contest "Visions of Southern Illinois" coming up Oct. 2, 3, and 4, with a reception on Oct. 26. Submissions are due Sept. 1.

Friends of the Shawnee has a contest running Mar. 1 through Nov. 14. This celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. Details are at **snffriends.org**.

The Pavilion in Marion will host SIPS member photos from Sept. 15 to Dec. 15. All are encouraged to participate! There is a small fee to display. Contact Lu to sign up.

Our contest this month was the scavenger hunt, which is being refereed with the results due in August. Next month's contest topic is "water."

Photo Op

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showed me about 100 pictures he took with his iPhone. When I saw them, I felt sorry for him, because most of the images were "soft." He did not take a decent camera along and he really didn't know much about taking pictures with his iPhone. In the end he took the trip of a lifetime and has 100 blurry pictures to remember it by.

Follow-up

I took my trip! While the photos I took with my camera were decent, I had a constant problem viewing the images in the LCD. The brightness of the day forced me to guess on some of the composition. In the end I was glad I had the point and shoot because of the weight issue, but I will always prefer having more control over the images such as I get with my DSLR.