



Southern Illinois Photographic Society

www.sipscameraclub.com

December 2015 Newsletter

Calendar of Events

December

Meeting: Dec. 8

Program:

15 Minutes of Fame: none

Contest: none

Outing: none

Planning Meeting: none

January

Meeting: Jan. 5

Program: Show & Tell

15 Minutes of Fame: TBA

Contest: Anything Goes!

Outing: Eagles at Alton

Planning Meeting: Jan. 19

February

Meeting: Feb. 2

Program: TBA

15 Minutes of Fame: TBA

Contest: Color

Outing: Crab Orchard NWR

Planning Meeting: Feb. 16

Inside...

All the SIPS news, announcements, and upcoming events.

November Meeting

For our November meeting program, SIPS member and Secretary of Technology Jonathan Springer gave us a wealth of information on selecting and using online photo galleries for sharing, storing, and selling photos. His presentation covered three types of online galleries, including photo oriented websites with appeal for photo enthusiasts such as Flickr, Google Photo, Zenfolio, and SmugMug; website builder services with photo galleries built-in such as Squarespace and Weebly; and content management systems like Word Press, NextGEN, and Adobe Lightroom for building a custom website. Each varies in features and costs.

Jonathan suggested considering the following criteria when choosing an online gallery:

File storage in terms of total volume or file size

Cost—is there a fee or is it free and supported by ads?

Does the service store your originals or just low-res copies? If it stores originals, the gallery may serve as a cloud back-up for your photos.

Can you design a customized layout and/or templates available?

Security—are there safeguards in place to protect against unauthorized download?

How is the gallery organized? Folders? Collections? Is it easy to use and navigate?

The right photo gallery for you is the one that has the features and cost that you are comfortable with. Also, your choice depends on what you want to do with your photos. If you just want to share photos online with friends and family, Flickr or Google Photo might suffice. Or you may want to go with SmugMug or Squarespace or one of the content management systems if you want to sell your photos and build an online portfolio to share with potential clients.

For our 15 Minutes of Fame presentation, SIPS member Max Pardee took us on a virtual journey with spectacular images of Glacier National Park, Canada's Lake

Louise, Capitol Reef National Park, and the Rocky Mountains. An avid traveler, Max spent 63 days out west and camped in 12 places four days at a time. Thank you, Max, for sharing your experiences and great photos!

Our contest for the month had the topic "Night Scenes." Our winners were:

1st place: Joanna Gray

2nd place: Val Freiboth

3rd place: Val Freiboth

Congratulations to these members, especially new member Val!

Note there is no contest in December, but if you are attending the Christmas party, don't forget to bring your matted 8x10 photo wrapped and ready to share in our Christmas gift exchange.

The theme for our next regular meeting, on Jan. 5, will be "Anything Goes!" so surprise us with your creativity. Also, bring your five favorite photos of 2015 for Show & Tell. These don't need to be your technically "best" images of the year, but your favorites -- the images that mean something to you. Also, we will have a brief presentation on "Color as the Subject of an Image" to prepare us for the February contest theme, "Color." Our January outing will be a trek to Alton, IL, or Clarksville, MO, at the end of January (date to be determined) to photograph eagles.

2016 SIPS Board Election Results

The voting for 2016 officers and board members was held at the November 3 meeting. Elected 2016 officers are Mike Hicks, Vice President; Joanna Gray, Secretary of Records; Karen Carlton, Secretary of Contests; Jonathan Springer, Secretary of Technology; and Bill Phemister, Treasurer. The 2016 board members are Myers Walker, Jo Dodd, Dave Hammond, Bill Thomas, Katie Carl, and Thelma Hirschbach.

SIPS Members Take Honors at Photography Shows

Congratulations go out to SIPS member Melinda McGill for winning Best of Show and a first place prize for two of her images in the Light & Lens Fall Show, sponsored by the Light & Lens Camera Club in Centralia, IL. Joanna Gray also received an honorable mention ribbon for one of her entries, and Carol Sluzevich received a second place prize and two honorable mentions for her entries.

Congratulations to Bill Thomas for his second place win at the Shrode Photography Competition and Exhibit at the Shrode Art Center at Cedarhurst in Mt. Vernon, IL. Melinda McGill also had an entry accepted in the show.

Congratulations to Joanna Gray for winning a first place prize in the Photo Art category in the LEAA Photo Invitational competition. She also received a second place prize in the Photography category.

SIPS 2016 Photo Contests

Starting at the January meeting we will have a brief presentation each month that will cover the topic of the following month's photo contest topic. For example, the February contest topic is "Color," so there will be a brief presentation to discuss and show examples of different ways you can approach that topic. At the February meeting we will discuss black and white photography since the March contest topic is "Black and White," and so on. This is one way to add an element of education to each meeting to help all of us grow as photographers—and still have fun, of course!

Want to Write?

Besides relating the results of our meetings and events, the SIPS newsletter is a place for member-written content. If you have a photography-related topic or event you'd like to write about, why not give it a try? Articles should be sent in by the date of the planning meeting to be assured of inclusion in the next month's newsletter. Please contact Jonathan for details.

LEAA Art Fair in 2016

Tom Rabideau let us know that the Little Egypt Arts Association (LEAA) will sponsor an Art Fair at the Williamson County Fairgrounds on May 14-15, 2015. All artists and photographers are welcome to purchase booth space to display and sell their original works. Two people may share an exhibit space, if desired. Exhibit fee for a 10' x 10' exhibit space is \$35. Bring your own tent. Reserve your space one month before the event at the LEAA Arts Center in Marion.

Mr. Koolz Exhibit for 2016

We have started a 2016 sign-up sheet for displaying your photos at Mr. Koolz yogurt shop in Marion. This is a great way to get exposure for your photography and possibly make a sale. Mr. Koolz has room to display 8 framed photos. During December 2015 and into the new year, eight SIPS members participated in a joint show. You can reserve the Mr. Koolz wall for yourself, or share it with a fellow SIPS member. Look for the sign-up sheet at the January 2016 SIPS meeting.