



366 Photographs

by Dan Macry

On March 11 2008 I celebrated my 70th birthday. On that same day I started a one-year photographic project. The project concept is simple - one photograph per day, every day, for one year. For this year I would post a photograph for each day on my website - www.danmacry71.com. I would not allow myself to post a photograph that was taken on a day other than that indicated on the site. You may have noticed that the title of this article is 366 photographs, not 365. I plan to post the last photograph of this project on March 11, 2009.



This was not my original idea. I first read of someone doing this in a GSCCC newsletter article a couple of years ago. It sounded like a good idea and a challenge so I decided to do it myself. So far - so good. I have managed to get a photograph every day except for one. I will give \$1 to the first person who correctly identifies that date!

If you want to check out any of the photos go to www.danmacry71.com. They are all posted there. There is usually about a week's lag between taking the photo and posting it but I will strive to be close to up-to-date in time for this article.

Another rule that I imposed on myself was to avoid repeating myself. Even if I shot the same object twice, I tried to get a different outlook on it the second time. There are a lot of similar shots but I think I have been fairly successful on this point. You can be the judge.

One thing I quickly learned was to take a camera with me wherever I went. You never know when you will see an opportunity for a great shot or at least one good enough to post for the day. One example is the shot for January 2, 2009.

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CLUB FACTS

The **Austin Shutterbug Club** (ASC) was founded in 1998 as a nonprofit photographic organization. The purpose of ASC shall be to encourage an interest in photography, to provide an opportunity for the exchange of ideas, to provide an enjoyable forum for the development of artistic and technical photographic skills and to promote a healthy spirit through educational programs, exhibition and through member competition. **Important meeting change:** beginning with our April 23, 2009 meeting, we will be meeting the 4th Thursday of each month, 7pm to 10pm at the LCRA Redbud building, 3601 Lake Austin Blvd. (corner of Redbud and Lake Austin Blvd.) For more information, please visit the club's website at www.austinshutterbug.com.

MARCH MEETING

Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Northwest Recreation Center. Find us in our home in the first large room off the lobby to your right upon entering the building. Visitors are welcome!

ASC Has a New Home!

After 10 years of meetings at the NW Rec Center, we now find it necessary to find a new meeting space. Due to the closure of the Rec Center later this year for major renovations, we will loose use of this building.

The Board members began searching last year for a new meeting space and I'm pleased to announce that one has been found by Brian Loflin! We will be relocating our meetings to the LCRA Redbud building at 3601 Lake Austin Blvd.(the corner of Redbud Trail and Lake Austin Blvd.). However, to get the large meeting room every month, we will need to change our meeting date to the **4th Thursday** of each month. Our first meeting at LCRA Redbud is **April 23rd**. This may take some getting used to but we'll help you remember the new date with email reminders and announcements in the monthly Newsletters. My hope is that we don't loose any members, that you'll stick with us during this change.

I am very excited about this location as it is much bigger and nicer than what we have today. If you have any questions, please ask them at our next meeting on Thursday, March 12th at the NW Rec Center. Or if you prefer, you can always e-mail or call me with your questions or concerns.

Lucy Durfee, President
lucy.durfee@prodigy.net
512-914-7935

We were stopped for a light when this pickup pulled up beside us with a very sad looking dog in the back. I was able to snap off a couple of shots before he left. One was pretty fair so I used it.



Also, always be on the lookout for a shot, even if you already have one for the day. You may find something better or you may see an opportunity that you can return for on another day. I had that happen several times during the past year.

Try to get a photo early in the day. Even if it is not a great shot, you may not be able to find a better one later. A number of times I failed to get a shot early and suddenly realized that it was 8:00 PM and I did not yet have a photo. Then I would scramble to find something around the house that I could use as a still life.

If you look through the photos that I have taken you may notice some recurring themes such as -- Lots of food photos. Cooking is one of my hobbies so I had many opportunities for food photos. Fruits and vegetables also make pretty good still life subjects. Lots of flower photos -- especially during the spring and early summer. A lot of flowers came into the house when my mother was ill last summer. Naturally, they became photo subjects. There were even a few times that I picked up a flower at the grocery store so I would have a subject for the day. I found that some of the large shopping malls offer great opportunity for flower photos. Arbor Trails, at the intersection of William Cannon and Mopac, uses a lot of wildflowers in their landscaping. Check out the ox-eye daisies (right) on April 9 and the coneflower on April 25.



As the end of this project nears, I ask myself a couple of questions. Did I learn anything? Definitely. I talked about a couple of things at the beginning of this article but I also learned how to handle my camera a little better. At least I am more familiar with all of the controls and modes. I'll let you decide if my photography has improved.



Was it fun? Yes, a little trying at times but definitely fun. Am I glad that it is over? I am very glad! Even though it was fun there was always the pressure to get that daily photo.

Would I recommend that you do it? Only if you have plenty of time to spend taking photos and only if you are willing to stick with it. Would I do it again? Maybe -- but not for a few years. I'll see how I feel at 75.

February Meeting Minutes

President Lucy Durfee called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Hospitality Chairperson Linda Sheppard introduced the all of the visitors. She and Lucy welcomed them all and invited them to join the club. Treasurer, Marlene Lebel, explained the dues paying process and the fees to join. She then passed the folder around the room.

Lucy told the group about the upcoming NANPA event coming in April and suggested going to the website for more information.

The roster was passed around the room for verification of contact information.

Lucy reminded the group about the upcoming field trip on Sat. Feb. 14th. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Stevie Ray Vaughn statue at Ladybird Johnson Lake. This might be an opportunity to work on our upcoming assignment, "Looking Up."

Guests, David Keenan and Jerry Sullivan, spoke briefly about the Austin Center for Photography and invited anyone interested in the ACP to join. ACP will be hosting their inaugural "Icons of Photography" lecture series March 12, 2009, at the Blanton Museum of Art, featuring an evening with photographer Mary Ellen Mark. For more information, check out their website at www.visitacp.org.

This evening's presenter was Joe Englander. Joe has traveled to and studied the Himalayas for the past 10 years. He spoke about the Himalayan culture and customs and shared many of his inspirational images with the group.

Refreshments this evening were provided by Peggy Teitz and Joyce Davis.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

ASC February Field Trip

by Lois Schubert

Congratulations to the 19 hardy folks who braved the cold weather on February 14th for our first 2009 field trip that began at the Stevie Ray Vaughan statue on Lady Bird Lake.

In addition to gray skies and a cold northerly wind, we were challenged with a creativity assignment from ASC President, Lucy Durfee. She discussed various ways to connect to the creative side of our brain. One successful way is to journal about your photography goals and challenges. We all received paper and pen to jot down our thoughts and were then sent off to photograph in an exercise designed to move us out of our comfort zone and stimulate creativity.

Participants were tasked to identify one or two photography “rules” and then breaking them. ASC members photographed rowers and birds along the shore; some went to the Capitol, some to City Hall, while some, who shall remain nameless, went to Starbucks. The outing ended with a warm and hearty lunch at Shady Grove.

Attendees were Sheryl Alexander, Bev Lyle, Kathy McCall, Bob Lippincott, Doris Manning, Marlene Lebel, Gregg Mack, Robert Mack, Peter Shen, Jane Guerin, Richard Haas, Barbara Hunley, Max Layard, Phil Charlton, Allen Keith, Kathy Van Torne, Rose Epps, Lucy Durfee, Lois Schubert.



by Lucy Durfee



by Keith Allen



by Keith Allen



by Jane Guerin



by Lucy Durfee

Many Thanks to Joe Englander for Our February Program

Approximately 60 members and guests enjoyed Joe Englander's presentation at our February meeting. Joe has traveled to and studied the people of Bhutan and Ladakh for the past 10 years. His images reflect the beauty and culture of the Himalayas. After describing the landscape, the people, and his travel restrictions, he shared a slide show titled "In the Moment, Buddhists of the Himalaya".



Joe Englander, Susan Baughman, and Lela Jane Tinstman

"Buddhism, not only as a religion but as a unified way of life, inspires calm, openness, warmth, and happiness on the part of its people, making it a delight to be among them and a privilege to photograph there", Joe indicated during his slide show. Visit his website to see some of his inspirational images and to learn more about his up-coming workshops – <http://www.englander-workshops.com>.

We really appreciated Joe's generosity in sharing his images and experiences into one of the most remote areas of the world.

Photo Gumbo

The Greater New Orleans Photographic Society invites you to Photo Gumbo 2009, the Gulf States Camera Club Council's (GSCCC) 55th annual convention. This year's convention will take place April 2-4, 2009, at the Homewood Suites by Hilton, 901 Poydras Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. For more info visit www.photogumbo2009.com.

Photography for Biologists Workshop

This intensive workshop is a specialized three-day training venue for the biologist or other professional nature scientist, presented by Brian Loflin. Monday – Wednesday, April 13-15, at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. For more info visit www.thenatureconnection.com.

NANPA Texas Hill Country Event

This regional event will be held April 16-19, 2009. There are numerous sites for photography in the vicinity of Fredericksburg, including: Pedernales Falls State Park, Enchanted Rock State Park, the Lyndon B. Johnson National Historic Park, and beautiful private ranches set up for nature photography. Presented in partnership with the Texas Hill Country Nature Photography Alliance. For more info visit www.nanpa.org.

Calls for Entry

Home Page Photo Contest No. 1

Austin Center for Photography
deadline: March 27, 2009
www.visitacp.org

Twisted Spurs 2009

K Space Contemporary Gallery
deadline: April 1, 2009
www.kspacecontemporary.org

Flower Power

Watson Studio Gallery
deadline: Midnight PST, April 4th
www.watsonstudiogallery.com

Works of Man

The Center for Fine Art
Photography
deadline: Midnight, April 9th
www.c4fap.org

Portfolio Showcase, Volume 3

The Center for Fine Art
Photography
deadline: Midnight, April 28th
www.c4fap.org

29th Annual Spring Photography Contest

Photographer's FORUM
early deadline: April 20, 2009
final deadline: May 11, 2009
www.pfmagazine.com

Documentary

The Center for Fine Art
Photography
deadline: Midnight, May 12th
www.c4fap.org

Photo Equipment For Sale

Complete set of studio equipment for sale. Most of the equipment was bought in 2007 and used very little. The total retail cost is \$3,900.00, asking \$2,500.00 (sorry, cannot break it up). Contact Marvin Thomas for more info at 214-704-6564 (cell) or e-mail at marvin_21316@msn.com.

Competition Assignments

Assignments are determined by the Competition Committee a year in advance so that members have at least a year to complete them. Assignments for the remainder of 2009 are as follows:

Mar 09 - Looking Up

It's time to get everybody's creative mind to go to work. This theme truly has the potential to become absolutely amazing. So work with it, and "look up" often.

May 09 - Night Lights

Set up your tripod and take a photo that captures how you see lights at night--indoor or outdoor, people or places--they all lend themselves to illumination. The main source of the light should be something other than a flash or slave on the camera.

July 09 - Fireworks

Beautiful fireworks can be spectacular to watch. Use your photographic skills

to capture the brilliant light and color of fireworks bursting in the air, do some creative light painting with a sparkler, or whatever you can imagine. The image may include other items or buildings or people, but the fireworks should clearly be the subject of the image.

September 09 - Environmental Portrait

"On location" or "environmental" portraits mean portraits taken of people in a situation that they live in (work, rest or play) and/or a place that says something about who they are. A good environmental portrait is more than just a likeness; it can convey something about the subject's character, story and life. The surroundings can be as important as the subject's face and clothes.

November 09 - Black and White

Shoot a classic black & white image for this assignment. Strive for images

showing how emotive, arresting and inspiring the B&W medium can be - landscapes, still life, textures and details, etc. - whatever you shoot, be sure to realize the full potential of B&W. It doesn't matter how the image got there, as long as the final photo is B&W!

January 10 - Hidden Texas

Pictures entered in this category should expose the real character or spirit of Texas. Take a fresh look at the familiar - capture a view that's rarely seen, or shoot a well-known subject in an innovative and distinctive way.

You may enter two photographs in each competition. These photographs must be digital, and must be submitted by e-mail. Entries must be received by noon on the Wednesday before the meeting.

April Program

Joseph Walsh will be our guest presenter at our April meeting. Mr. Walsh is a photographer by training and a naturalist by inclination. He has spent the past 30 years teaching photography at Amarillo College and West Texas A&M University; while hiking, camping and observing in places as diverse as California, Europe, Canada, and Arizona. Mr. Walsh has trained his eyes and lenses on both the magnificent and the seemingly insignificant. You can visit his website at www.artscapephotography.com.

CLUB LEADERSHIP FOR 2009

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| President | Lucy Durfee | 914-7935 |
| Vice President/Programs | Pete Holland | 689-5939 |
| Secretary | Jane Guerin | 261-3572 |
| Treasurer | Marlene Lebel | 626-5986 |
| Competition Co-Chairman | Fred Peebles | 441-7913 |
| Competition Co-Chairman | Phil Charlton | 918-8061 |
| Competition Committee | Dean Montgomery | 837-3015 |
| Competition Committee | Max Layard | 322-0239 |
| Events Coordinator | Lois Schubert | 280-7522 |
| Events Coordinator | Kathy McCall | 264-9602 |
| Hospitality Chairman | Linda Sheppard | 306-1516 |
| Newsletter Editor | Steven Stokan | 825-8255 |
| Refreshments Chairman | Charlaine Matthews | 418-9405 |
| Webmaster | Barbara Hunley | 250-1144 |
| Electronic Communications | Rose Epps | 502-0608 |
| Roster and Nametags | Rose Epps | 502-0608 |

COMPETITION JUDGES

The following is a list of scheduled judges for the coming months:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| March 2009 | May 2009 |
| Sheldon Lloyd | Lucy Durfee |
| Dan Macry | Jane Guerin |
| Bruce Young | Marlene Lebel |

If you have any questions about being a judge, please contact Dean Montgomery at 837-3015.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Club members are encouraged to submit articles, images, news items, etc. for publication in the newsletter. You will find guidelines for submissions on the ASC website, www.austinshtutterbug.com. Submissions should be e-mailed to sstokan@sbcglobal.net.