



DIGITAL STEREO PHOTOS

Photos and Article by John M. Davis

At one time the stereoscope and its basket of view cards was found in every American parlor. In 1859, Oliver Wendell Holmes (the elder) developed the inexpensive, compact viewer.

The photos for stereo views cards were taken with a special camera that had dual lenses and shutters and both photos were taken at the same time. The lenses were about 2 1/2 inches apart, which is about the same distance as between your eyes and enables the lenses to record a scene, as your eyes would see it. As a result, although the two pictures appear to be the same, they are not. Each picture is minutely different. As you look into the viewer, each eye sees only what it would see if you were viewing a real scene. Your eyes blend the two views into one and the brain perceives it with the objects standing out in space as in real life perspective.

So, is it possible to take photos with a digital camera that can be viewed in an old stereoscope? The answer is yes, and here is how it is done. You take the first photo and then take a step to your right and take the next photo of the same scene. That is all there is to it. You can even do it without a tripod.

Now the Photoshop work begins. Make a white field the same size as the stereo card. Then you take the first photo and place it on the left side of the card. The next photo goes on the right side of the card. Print it on heavy paper and cut it out. There you have it, a digital stereo card.

Can you believe that the 1902 Sears-Roebuck catalog actually sold stereo view cards for 24 cents each? Well it's true. Today I know they cost a lot more. I also know that not too many people will have stereoscopes today, so if you come to the next meeting I will show you one. You can even look at a digital stereo photo.

June Meeting
Thursday, June 24, 2010
7:00 pm
LCRA Redbud Building
3601 Lake Austin Blvd.
(corner of Redbud and Lake Austin Blvd.)
Visitors are always welcome!



Competition Assignments

Assignments are determined by the Competition Committee a year in advance so that members have at least a year to complete them.

July 2010 - America the Beautiful

What more appropriate theme for the month of our country's birth? Images may be patriotic (lots of flags, for instance) or just communicate the beauty and grandeur of this great land. Or, it can be representative of life in this place we call home. If it screams "USA! USA! USA!" it's fair game.

September 2010 - Whimsey

What does that "whimsey" mean? Well, it's kinda up to you. Dig out Webster for a definition that you can cover in photography. Be it whimsical (whatever that means), fanciful, quirky, capricious, unusual, odd, humorous, merely amusing, funny, hilarious, jokey, witty, comical, droll, or just tongue-in-cheek, get an image and show us your whimsical side.

November 2010 - Live Music

Austin is the Live Music Capital of the World. You've all heard that. Now is your chance to use your photo journalistic talents to do your part to prove it. Your image (or images) should capture a live performance by someone famous, kinda famous, or someone nobody knows (yet). It doesn't matter. They just need to be in the act of performing at a live venue. Do they absolutely have to be doing this in Austin? No, but it couldn't hurt.

January 2011 - Trailer Food

Austin has become a Mecca for trailer food vendors. Most everyone knows about the trailers in the parking lot on South Congress. But if you think that's all there is, look a little harder. They're everywhere! Your assignment, should you choose to accept it, is to document in photographs one or more of these establishments and/or the product that they are selling. You might want to try the food, while you're at it. This could be a very fulFILLing assignment. Knock yourself out!

March 2011 - Texas Spring

Spring in Texas (when we have rain) can be incredible, as we all know. This assignment is intended to get you out and about to capture spring at its best. Naturally, one's thoughts are drawn to images of wildflowers as far as the eye can see, and that is certainly one scenario, but maybe you can do better. Or not. Just remember, you aren't limited to only wildflowers.

Calls for Entry

NWF Photo Contest

National Wildlife Federation
Magazine
Deadline: July 6, 2010
nwf.org/photocontest

World in Focus Contest

Natural Geographic Traveler and
Photo District News Magazines
Early Deadline: August 23, 2010
worldinfofocuscontest.com

Travelographer of the Year

American Photo & Popular
Photography Magazine
Deadline: August 30, 2010
popphoto.com/travelographer2010

New Mexico Magazine Photo Contest

New Mexico Magazine
Deadline: September 27, 2010
nmmagazine.com

The Nature Conservancy Contest

Digital Photo Competition
Deadline: October 4, 2010
<http://www.nature.org/>

National Park Foundation

Photo Contest started June 1
<http://nationalparks.promo.eprize.com/experiencecontest2010/>

The Smithsonian Magazine Photo Contest

Deadline: December 1, 2010
<http://photocontest.smithsonianmag.com/?contest=v8>

Nature's Best Photography

Open Photo Contest
Works with the *Audubon Magazine*
http://www.naturesbestphotography.com/enter_othercompetitions.php



Suggestions for Making a Competitive Picture

- Study the scene. Develop a feeling for what you want the picture to convey to the viewer.
- Include enough material in the image to tell the complete story and remove unwanted material.
- Keep the picture as simple as possible, repetitious objects may make the picture look busy and lessen the impact.
- Fill the frame and keep most subjects out of dead center.
- Keep the horizon level.



Three basics are used to evaluate a picture:

Technique – How well the photographer uses the tools of photography. Sharpness and exposure are key elements. Lighting, focus and lens selection, as well as and/or digital darkroom technique are all factors.

Composition – is the art of combining parts of a picture to produce a harmonious image. Use of compositional elements such as “S” curves, rule of thirds, and triangular arrangements may help in structuring the picture. Often placing heavy elements on the right side of the picture keeps the eye in the picture.

Impact – is the instantaneous interest we perceive when first seeing the picture. Mood and story are two photo techniques helpful in setting the impact or “wow power” ability of an image.

Additional attributes for evaluation are (but not limited to): a clearly defined subject, good story-telling ability, freshness, originality, creativity. The photo should be a cliché or a photo of someone else’s art. Avoid edge or tone merges.

Club Leadership for 2010

President.....	Lucy Durfee.....	814-7935
Vice President/Programs.....	Pete Holland.....	888-5839
Secretary.....	Jane Guerin.....	261-3572
Treasurer.....	Marlene Lebel.....	828-5886
Competition Co-Chairman.....	Fred Peebles.....	441-7913
Competition Co-Chairman.....	Tom Delaney.....	268-8480
Competition Committee.....	Lucy Durfee.....	814-7935
Competition Committee.....	Max Leyard.....	322-0239
Events Coordinator.....	Lois Schubert.....	280-7522
Events Coordinator.....	Kathy McCall.....	264-8602
Hospitality Chairman.....	Linda Sheppard.....	308-1516
Newsletter Editor.....	Barbara Hunley.....	250-1144
Refreshments Chairman.....	Charlaine Matthews.....	418-8405
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 judges for the July competition:

July 2010

Rose Epps
 Marlene Lebel
 Teri Lum

If you have any questions about being a judge, please contact Lucy Durfee at 914-7935.

High Scoring Images from May



Underwater Flower
Brian Stokes



The Needles at Sunset
Dolph McCranie



July Program

July 2010 - America the Beautiful

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Scripps Pier
Kathy McCall

May 2010 Meeting Minutes

President Lucy Durfee called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. It was announced that the club newsletter is now available online. Next month's program will be a presentation by photographer Harry Cabluck who joined the Associated Press in 1969. For more information visit harrycabluck.com.

Visitors were introduced and welcomed. The evening's refreshments were provided by Beverly McCrainey, Phil Charlton and Mark Watson. Members were reminded to contribute to the refreshment kitty during the break. The dues enveloped was passed around.

Lucy announced that Dean Montgomery is stepping down as coordinator of judging and we will need to fill this position. We still need judges for September and November competitions. Contact Lucy Durfee if you're interested in serving as the Judges Coordinator or able to judge in September or November.

Lucy asked if anyone had attended the Photo Expo May 15 and 16 and several people had and had good comments about the presentations.

It was mentioned that if anyone was interested in learning more about the new Photoshop CS5 there are ten live video presentations at Mark Johnson's web site: www.msjpgraphy.com. Mark is an instructor for Rocky Mountain School of Photography.

A possible photo op will be on Memorial Day, Monday, May 31st at the State Cemetery during the ceremonies starting at 10 am.

The Arc of the Capital Area's Building Bridges Art Celebration and Auction is looking for framed Photographs to be donated to the auction. If you are interested, contact Alicia Parrish (512) 476-7044 ext. 217 or aparrish@arcofthecapitalarea.org. Building Bridges celebrates the achievements of all artists with disabilities.

Lois Schubert announced that our first Scavenger Hunt of the year will be Saturday, June 5th. The location and list of items will be emailed to all members on Friday, June 4th. It was also announced that a future field trip will be in October in Smithville during the Photo Festival. A show of hands indicated members would be receptive to a weekday field trip to Hamilton Pool in combination with possibly West Cave Preserve, Reimers Ranch or Krause Springs.

Competition this month was Found Still Life. Before the presentation of images Tom Delaney asked members to sign up for judging. The process is much less stressful now since it is done before the meeting and there is more time for discussion and interaction between the three judges.

Our next competition is in July: "America the Beautiful". Get more information online at the ASC web site.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

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. Meetings are held the 4th Thursday of each month, 7 pm to 9:30 pm at the LCRA Redbud Building, 3601 Lake Austin Blvd. (corner of Redbud and Lake Austin Blvd.) For more information, please visit the club's web site at www.austins shutterbug.com.