



Found Still Life

by Lucy Durfee



Serendipity has its own rewards, especially when you go out wandering with eyes wide-open and a camera in hand. Take the pictures that present themselves to you as you make your way on a trip, or just on the way to work. Keep in mind that this is a still life category, not a landscape, not architecture, not anything big. Necessarily. Think arrangement, but not by you. Nature is very good at arrangement. So is chance.

Still life photography is the depiction of inanimate subjects or a group of objects which are either natural or man-made, via the means of a photograph. The idea is to convey a 'story' within the photograph. Still life photographers

always experiment with different compositions and the play of light and shadow over the objects of their composition.

The first thing to consider is the object or objects that you are going to capture in your picture. The object(s) which are used in the picture need to be arranged in a certain fashion. This is called the composition of the photograph. For our May 2010 assignment, Found Still Life, we will let nature arrange our composition.

The second thing to consider is the background on which the objects are being kept. That too becomes part of the 'story' being told by the photographer. They add to the picture by providing a contrast to the collection of objects in the photograph. Different backgrounds create different effects of light and dark. This has to gel with the composition that the photographer has in mind.

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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. Meetings are held 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 austins shutterbug.com.

MARCH MEETING

Thursday, March 25, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the LCRA Redbud Building located at 3601 Lake Austin Blvd. (corner of Redbud and Lake Austin Blvd.) Visitors are always welcome!

March Program

The program for March is the second bi-monthly competition of 2010. The assignment for March is "Patterns in Nature." You can find out more about the assignment theme, as well as assignments for upcoming months, on page 4. Submit your entries according to the rules that are posted on the ASC website. Be sure and join us for this always interesting and fun event.

Club Dues

Dues have increased this year to offset the meeting space fee of \$100 per month. The increased dues are as follows: Student \$18, Single \$25, Family \$35. Dues can be paid at any meeting. For more information, e-mail Treasurer Marlene Lebel at malebel@sbcglobal.net.

FotoFest 2010

The FotoFest 2010 Biennial takes place March 12 - April 25 in Houston. FotoFest is the longest running and most acclaimed photography biennial in the United States. FotoFest features hundreds of exhibitions and events across the city. For more information on exhibits and events visit fotofest.org.



The third aspect is lighting, which is as equally important as the first two. After all, these photographs use the play of light and shadow effectively to convey the 'story' of the picture. We see life 3 dimensionally. For this reason, the most dynamic photographs are the ones in which the audience could walk into the scene, or reach out and touch the

subject. Lighting for shape will be most emphasized by side light, when your highlights spread along the edge of your subject and add that 3rd dimension.

For our May assignment you will most likely want to use natural light because it gives a special glow and effect to the composition. When shooting in nature, observe and photograph your subject in different types of light. Look for the soft light one has just before it rains, or on an overcast day. Or direct sun may be the best light for your subject when high contrast is desired. You can use a sheet of white foam core or paper on the side opposite to the light source to reflect some light into the shadows. The closer the reflector is to your subject, the more it will brighten the shadows.

So, get out there and find your masterpiece!

Wildflower Field Trip

Saturday, March 27th, 8am

by Lois Schubert and Kathy McCall

We have searched, scouted and scoured the Central Texas area for a field trip this month. In order to keep this trip close to home, this Saturday's field trip will be sort of an all around tour of San Marcos to Luling and Lockhart, taking in Palmetto State Park and, for the energetic, McKinney Falls State Park. We will meet at Aquarena Springs at 8 AM to photograph birds on the walkway and remains of the amusement park that once was there. After spending about an hour and a half or so, we will travel over RT 80 to Luling. Watch for interesting old buildings, a caboose and an airplane in an unusual position. Just outside Luling, there are Indian paintbrushes by the roadside as well as down RT 183 in Luling. More bluebonnets and Indian paintbrushes at the intersection of 183 and I-10. Further down 183 to Palmetto State Park there are interesting and challenging opportunities to photograph...palmettos. There were also plentiful spiderwort along the roadsides and in the ponds. For those not interested in wildflowers, Luling has some fine old buildings to photograph as well as the colorful pumpjacks. Zedler's Mill which is being developed into a park area is just down the road on RT 80.

We'll break for lunch about 1 PM at either the City Market BBQ, or Blake's Cafe (sandwiches, burgers, etc.). Now, if everyone still has a lot of energy, McKinney Falls State Park is just off of RT 183 as you head home to Austin.

This is an brief outline of the schedule for Saturday. The plan is very flexible and everyone is free to go from place to place on their own schedule. More details to follow at the ASC meeting. If anyone has any further suggestions, let us know.

Meeting Changes

Due to a scheduling conflicts at the LCRA Redbud Building, the following meeting dates have changed for 2010:

April 29, 2010 (not April 22nd)

October 21, 2010 (not October 28)

November 18, 2010 (not November 25)

RMSP Newsletter Assignment

The Rocky Mountain School of Photography (RMSP) features a newsletter assignment every month. This is a good opportunity to challenge yourself and think "outside the box." The assignment for March is **Exploring Depth of Field**. Submit only three images to pageo@rmsp.com. Deadline for submission is April 3rd. For more information visit <http://www.rmsp.com/newsletter/pdf/march10assignment.pdf>

Submitted images will appear in an online gallery on RMSP's Web site. All images will be used in the online gallery for this specific assignment only and will be copyrighted to the photographer.

David Johndrow Exhibit

Photographer David Johndrow's work is currently on exhibit at the L. Nowlin Gallery until April 10, 2010. The inspiration for this body of work came while working in his garden, where the most interesting things happen on a very small scale. He has been featured in the October 2007 issue of Black & White Magazine. For more information visit davidjohndrow.com or lnowlingallery.com.

February Meeting Minutes

President, Lucy Durfee, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Visitors were introduced and welcomed by all.

Lucy announced that tonight's program is a slideshow of the Grand Tetons and Yellowstone National Park. Several members who recently visited the parks participated in the slideshow.

Treasurer, Marlene Lebel, explained the dues paying procedure and passed the envelope around the room. The increased dues are as follows: Student \$18; Single \$25; Family \$35.

Events coordinator, Lois Schubert, announced the possibility of the next field trip to be on March 27th. The field trip may be in San Marcos. Details to be announced. She also told the group that the Bandera Scavenger Hunt images will be voted on at the March meeting. Members vote on the best three images in each category.

Vice President/Programs, Pete Holland, announced that he is waiting to hear back from a possible speaker for the April meeting. If anyone has any suggestions for speakers for future programs, please contact Pete.

Lucy announced that TME (The Mindful Eye) is holding an Inspirational Weekend seminar March 6th & 7th. The ASC discount code is AUS20101.

The ABIA Exhibit "Looking Up" will be on display through April 1st. A possible date for a limited number of ASC members to see the exhibit at the airport is March 8th. More details to follow.

Lucy informed the group that she has set up a membership survey and has emailed the link to the current membership. She thanked those who have already submitted their surveys. The survey will take 10 to 15 minutes to complete.

Lucy also emailed the budget to the membership, however, she will be sending out a corrected budget to adjust the overall total.

ASC member, Allen Keith, was introduced as tonight's presenter of the Grand Teton/Yellowstone slideshow.

This evening's refreshments were provided by Tom Delaney, Justin Acker, and Michelle Lofstrum.

Meeting adjourned 9:35 p.m.

Calls for Entry

Communication Arts Photography Annual

Communication Arts Magazine
Deadline: March 26, 2010
commarts.com

Home Page Contest No.3

Austin Center for Photography
Deadline: April 4, 2010
visitacp.org

SRO Gallery Annual Competition

Texas Tech School of Art
Deadline: April 5, 2010
srophotogallery.org

Windland Smith Rice International Awards

Nature's Best Publishing
Deadline: April 5, 2010
naturesbestphotography.com

PhotoPlace Gallery Open

Vermont Photography Workplace
Deadline: April 12, 2010
vtphotoworkplace.com

Great Outdoors Photo Contest

National Geographic Traveler
Magazine & PDN
Deadline: April 26, 2010
thegreatoutdoorsphotocontest.com

Natural Wonders

Vermont Photography Workplace
Deadline: May 3, 2010
vtphotoworkplace.com

Spring Photography Contest

Photographer's Forum Magazine
Final Deadline: May 17, 2010
pfmagazine.com

2010 Hill Country Photo Contest

Hill Country Alliance
Deadline: May 31, 2010
hillcountryalliance.org

NWF Photo Contest

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

Competition Assignments

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

March 2010 - Patterns in Nature

Photographing patterns in nature not only yields fascinating subjects, but in the process can reveal the incredible intricacy and beauty of the world around us. The assignment for March is to participate in the appreciation of the patterns found throughout nature and to share with others these wonders that you can discover anywhere and everywhere (even in your own backyard).

May 2010 - Found Still Life

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work. Keep in mind that this is a still life category, not a landscape, not architecture, not anything big. Necessarily. Think arrangement, but not by you. Nature is very good at arrangement. So is chance. So, get out there and find your masterpiece!

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 - 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.

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 photojournalistic 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.

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

The April meeting will be held on April 29, not April 22nd. The program will feature a presentation by photographer Robert Shults. Robert has traveled and photographed extensively throughout Latin America, Britain and the United States. He presently teaches photography with the Informal Classes program at UT. For more information about his work visit robertshultsphoto.com.

CLUB LEADERSHIP FOR 2010

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	Tom Delaney	266-6490
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	Barbara Hunley	250-1144
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 2010	May 2010
Phil Charlton	Lee Brezik
Brian Loflin	Lucy Durfee
Shirley Loflin	Jane Guerin

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 hunley_barbara@att.net.