



PRISM

Photographic Society *of Northwest Arkansas*

Bulletin

Spring 2005

PSNWA Members Tour Dogwood Canyon

Dogwood Canyon Nature Park sprawls across the Missouri-Arkansas border, just south of Branson, MO. With so many opportunities this incredible 10,000-acre parcel of unspoiled Ozarks landscape truly is a wonder to see.



This was the second trip to Dogwood Canyon for PSNWA members. The tails of this trip from the previous year only helped to make the 2004 trip fill to maximum capacity. And it did not take long for those new to Dogwood Canyon to find out why this park produces so many magnificent images.



Our day began early, with many of the members arriving just after the parks opening in the morning. Part of our PSNWA group tour benefit was free admission into the park and to walk the park canyon before the private tram ride. Most of us could have spent days just photographing the park along the lower walking trails, but by 3:00pm it was time to return to the park headquarters for our guided tour.

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www.psnwa.org

Striving to Improve PSNWA for the Future

PSNWA turned two years old last fall. In this short period PSNWA has become a dynamic organization, with nearly 100 members, well on the way to fulfilling the mission of promoting the art and science of photography through out Northwest Arkansas.



Recently the board of directors met. In this meeting we re-evaluated many of the process and goals we set for PSNWA over the past two years. We looked at the events we sponsor such as the Spring Fashion Seminar, kids camps, classes, special photo tours, competitions, and more. We also looked at budgetary concerns. After considering the goals of PSNWA and the current budget the board of directors has approved \$500 to be spent on improvements to the PSNWA web site. It is the boards goal to create an interactive community through the web site were members can submit images for smaller monthly competitions, have additional member only areas, as well as, individual member web pages. A sub-committee has been formed to prepare the contracts and list of desired features. Please e-mail photosociety@psnwa.org if you have requests or ideas you would like implemented in the PSNWA web site. We hope to start seeing these improvements starting in early 2005.

Remember PSNWA is a member organization led by members. And it takes member input to ensure that PSNWA continues to grow and provide the activities that benefit us all.

PSNWA Chairman
Patrick Ward



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PSNWA Spring Fashion and Fine Art Photography Seminar in Eureka Springs

Photographers interested in improving their photographic skill, and portfolios gathered in Eureka Springs AR for the PSNWA Fashion and Fine Art seminar. The seminar provided the photographers with models and instructor led sessions both indoors in a studio environment, and outdoors around the beautiful and enchanting Eureka Springs.



Eight models provided variety and excitement to the seminars sessions. Models received a portfolio with five of their favorite images, as well as, a CD of all the images returned by the photographers present. Photographers received the opportunity to take pictures of models in settings not readily available to most professionals or amateurs, and increased skill and awareness of Fashion and Fine Art photography.

The seminar was a single day from 9:00 in the morning to late into the evening. Topics included High Key Fashion, Using Reflected Light Outdoors, and Low Key Fine Art Figure Study. And except for a brief rain storm that hampered part of the



Industrial Fashion Shoot, the weather provide for many bright and artistic outdoor images.

There are so many topics to cover in Fashion - Fine Art, and only one day of seminar. The day is packed tight with sessions, and still we only scratched the surface of the genera. We left excited about the event, and look forward to the next seminar May 15th 2005. Seminar images can be found on psnwa.org.

Touring the Oklahoma Aquarium

On August 2004 PSNWA Members enjoyed a field trip to the Oklahoma Aquarium in Jenks, just outside of Tulsa. A wonderful photographic opportunity with over 200 impressive exhibits housing approximately 4000 aquatic animals and fishes from around the world.

Two of my favorite exhibits are the Stingray Touch Tank, where you can touch and photograph stingrays of varying sizes (truly an other worldly species) and the shark exhibit is nothing short of mesmerizing.

Sharks swim above and around visitors who can view them from the exhibit's tunnel and tank windows.



One can find and photograph Nemo (or his double) along with Pterois volitans (Lionfish), Aurelia aurita (Moon Jellyfish), or even a gigantic catfish or sea turtle - just to name a few.

Situated on the Arkansas River, the Oklahoma Aquarium is a public non-profit aquarium whose mission is "Conservation Through Education." They partner with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife

Conservation (regional headquarters are located on the premises), the State Department of Education, private foundations, and individual and corporate sponsors. Educational Wet labs are located north of the facility and are used as Aquatic Resource Centers for school groups, university students, and visitors, providing hands-on learning experience and enabling visitors to participate in studies of the Arkansas River.

The Oklahoma Aquarium provided us with a wealth of photographs, and is truly an enjoyable afternoon.

Deb Manley



2004 PSNWA Fall Fair Competition

The very first event sponsored by PSNWA was the Fall Fair Competition. For three years PSNWA members have assembled the PSNWA booth at the Washington County Fair grounds to display the winners from fifteen different categories.



Participation has grown each year as photographers in the region learn of the event. This year's grand champion and winner of the Olympus Digital Camera was John Carson. His image along with the fourteen other category winners were displayed in the custom built booth for the 60,000 fair attendees to view.



Grand Champion—Nature—John Carson

Additional winners for each category—Next Page.

2004 PSNWA Fall Fair Competition



Dan Carson - Portrait



Daniel Kington - Macro



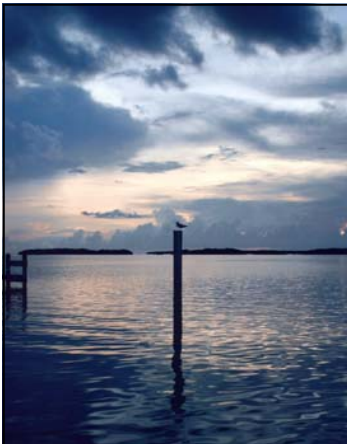
Jim Salmon - Architecture



Deborah Manley - Sports



Robert Smith - Humor



David Stowers - Travel



Tara Cole - Fine Art



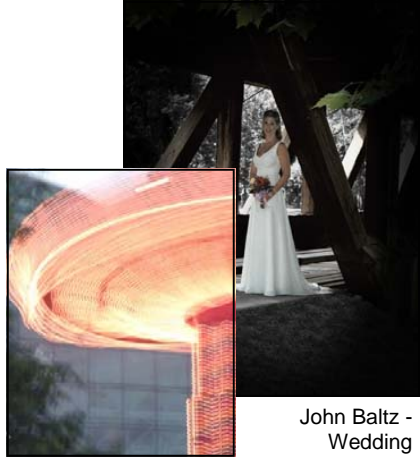
Scott Oestreich - Black White



Leslie Zachry - Digital Manipulation



Melissa Keith - Commercial Still Life



John Baltz -
Wedding

Carissa Bolbe - Time
Exposure



Wendy Dunn - Journalism



Blake Fougousse - Landscape

Dogwood Canyon Photo Tour

Continued from front cover



Once on the parks 4x4 tram we departed upon our private tour of the park. We stopped at many of the large beautiful waterfalls that line the canyon walls before ascending on a series of switchbacks to the fields high above the valley floor. Here we came across Elk herds, Whitetail Deer, Wild

Turkey and American Bison. We were taken to parts of the park seldom seen by tourist including a breath taking view as we drove to an area over looking the neighboring valley with the trees just beginning to change for fall.



Our host driving the tram was a wealth of information, and provided a spectacular trip. Informing the group on the native American history behind many of the waterfalls, and natural sites, while telling detailed stories about the wildlife. The tour provided an abundance of photographic opportunities, during the two and half hour excursion.



We left Dogwood exhausted from the long day of hiking and photography, but it is not long before your thoughts are drawn back to the waterfalls and wildlife. Dogwood Canyon is a unique place, and always provides you with great pictures. You can see more pictures from Dogwood Canyon on the PSNWA web site: psnwa.org.



Looking At the World through a New Lens

Each Spring I have taught a macro photography class for PSNWA. Macro photography has intrigued me since I was a kid, and tried my best to connect a Kodak Instamatic to a simple yard sale microscope. However these early attempts at macro photography resembled more the images you might find in a scientific journal than anything you find on the wall of an art gallery.



With age came appreciation for the image not just seeing the object as close as my lens would allow. I was “seeing the world through a new lens” even though my lens had not changed, but how I used the lens changed my macro photography immensely. My desire to find pattern in my macro photography hadn’t changed but now the hunt for the redundancy in nature grew to include light and shadow, wet and dry, bright vibrant colors to the warm earth tones.



No longer would I be happy to see the seeds of a strawberry imbedded in their independent craters of red on a single fruit. Now I meticulously arrange the small box of strawberries with their foliage facing out and the light highlighting the recently misted skins and the shadows creeping between berries. Perhaps it is studio training coming to the forefront were everything has its place, or perhaps it was just becoming tiresome to constantly be explaining to my friends what the object was they held portrayed on the paper in their hands. What ever the reason, I have realized, it is not the lens and how powerful or fast that lens is that makes a great picture. It is first understanding what you feel is a great picture.

This years Macro photography class will be taught by Dick Murie with my assistance. The class is a two part course with a class on the evening of Thursday May 26th and a hands one tour of the Fayetteville Square and Farmers Market on Saturday May 28th. A great class to get started or pick up new techniques in macro photography.

John Baltz

Fall 2004 Lights of the Ozarks Photo Tour and Member Appreciation Dinner

In December PSNWA members met to photograph the Lights of the Ozarks display on the Fayetteville city square. But before pulling out the cameras we gathered at Sodie's Restaurant in the old town post office for a "Member Appreciation Dinner." Members and guest sat around the reserved portion of



the restaurant enjoying the appetizers and drinks provided the photographic society for the last event of the year.

After dinner the group migrated out side to begin photographing the lights. The display offers a great opportunity for creative photography using long time exposures from 5 to 30 sec. These time-exposure pictures require a sturdy tripod and some winter clothing, but the award is warm glowing pictures with light reflecting off of the brick sidewalks and building.

Creativity is the key to photographing what would normally be snap shots of Christmas lights. In addition to the time exposure of the lights members also dabbled in time-exposures of the various activities such as the pony ride. One of my most favorite tricks of time-exposure is using a telephoto lens then



while the camera is open for around 10 seconds zoom the lens out and back in at various speeds. The resulting effect is unpredictable, but often these make some of the greatest "firework" pictures.

PSNWA and NBS work together to provide free classes for PSNWA members.

PSNWA has developed a strong partnership with the Nadine Baum Studios (NBS) to provide one of the premier benefits for members: **FREE CLASSES!**

Volunteers from PSNWA teach classes at NBS year-round. The classes cover a wide variety of topics and are designed to appeal to photographers of all types and skill levels.



Registering for classes is simple, just go to the PSNWA web www.psnwa.org click on the current class page and select the class of your choice. Registration requires membership number.



Have a class that you would like PSNWA to offer? Please email photosociety@psnwa.org.

It Takes Volunteers Like You to keep PSNWA Active

PSNWA takes great pride in providing active and quality programming and benefits for its members. It takes volunteers like you to keep the organization alive and continue to grow and improve. Your support and input wanted and needed. Opportunities to volunteer are wide and varied. Members can do anything from serve on the board to teach classes, participate in planning committees to making phone calls. If you would like to find out more about becoming an active volunteer, please email photosociety@psnwa.org. Include your name, phone number and email address.

Spring 2005 Schedule of Events

PSNWA

- Feb 3 - **Society meeting, 7:00 pm** *ROTC
Guest Speaker—Tim Ernst
- Feb 10 - **Mutual Photo Critiques and
Open Darkroom Use 7 to 9 pm
***Nadine Baum Studios
- Feb 24 - **Photoshop Intro & Basics Class**
Free to PSNWA Members
***Nadine Baum Studios 7 to 9 pm
- Mar 3 - **Society meeting, 7:00 pm** *ROTC
- Mar 10 - **Judging the Winter Competition**
****Open Darkroom Use 7 to 9 pm**
***Nadine Baum Studios
- Mar 24 - **Low-Key Techniques Class**
Free to PSNWA Members
***Nadine Baum Studios 7 to 9 pm
- Apr 7 - **Society meeting, 7:00 pm** *ROTC
- Apr 14 - **Digital Printing and
Open Darkroom Use 7 to 9 pm
***Nadine Baum Studios
- Apr 28 - **Photographic Composition Class**
Free to PSNWA Members
***Nadine Baum Studios 7 to 9 pm
- May 5 - **Society meeting, 7:00 pm** *ROTC
- May 12 - **Digital Darkroom - Group Discussion**
on PhotoShop
****Open Darkroom Use 7 to 9 pm**
***Nadine Baum Studios
- May 15 - Annual Fashion Shoot
See Web Site for details
- May 26 - Macro Photo Class Part 1
Free to PSNWA Members
***Nadine Baum Studios 7 to 9 pm
- May 28 - Macro Photo Class Part 2
Free to PSNWA Members
9:00 a.m. Fayetteville Square

*PSNWA Meetings held at
Restaurant On The Corner
3582 N. Hwy 112 Fayetteville, AR
(North off I-540 Exit 66 approximately 1 mile)

**Open Darkroom fee payable to NBS

*** Walton Art Centers' Nadine Baum Studios
Located South of Walton Art Center on West St.

