Contact Sheet

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## Just Like Being There

One of the joys of photography is that there are really no boring trips anymore. Your eye is constantly open for a possible image that you can capture with your camera. But what happens when you take those eyes to an exotic location? Sometimes your mind just dances with the possibilities. And one of our long time members, Roger Boe, M.D. from Pocatello, just experienced such an adventure. Earlier this year Roger and his wife went with about twelve other people on a month long excursion into China, Tibet, and Cambodia in May of this year. He shared his thoughts and feelings about the trip with us at the last meeting of the Eastern Idaho Photographic Society.

Roger stated that his true love in photography has always been landscape types of images. But recently, he has found that he is starting to include a lot more people in his images; and he has found that this has become almost like wildlife photography. There is just that moment when then male elk lifts his head and starts to bugle that just defines the image. Taking the photo a few seconds earlier when he was grazing would be okay - - but not spectacular. Adding people to an image is the same concept. You want to show emotion, the smile, the laugh, the sorrow, etc. You want to capture the feelings and spirituality of the people in an area. He was experiencing a culture that was 3000 years old, and he wanted his pictures to

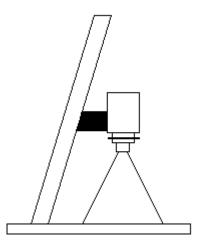
include those feelings and

impressions. And after his presentation to our club, we know he succeeded!

Religion is outlawed in China, but everywhere there are images of Mao Tse-Tung. All houses have his picture hanging in some prominent location. Tiananmen Square is massive in size, but it is dominated by a huge photo of Mao that looks over the entire square. This person who has been dead for many years has become the religion of the people. His 1.3 billion people convey this reverence to his image at all times, and Roger felt his presence as he went throughout the country.

China is extremely powerful, but at the same time it is not very advanced. The cities are bustling and trying to catch up to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The countryside still has almost no mechanization to do its chores. In fact, there aren't even any oxen or horses to plow fields and do the hard manual labor. It is truly done by human hands. Roger found many images to show the tremendous disparity in this country.

One of the main frustrations of taking photos in China was the presence of much smog. Yes, they are trying to advance their industries, but they are like the U.S. was 50-100 years ago with no concern about pollution. Roger said that many times the dogs will start barking when the sun comes out since it is such an unusual sight, only about 30 days per year. This made for very flat lighting and very limited visibility of the



countryside. But many of their national treasures are statues, etc., which can be seen from close up where the smog doesn't interfere with the image.

The trip through Tibet was enthralling. Tibet remains very religious (Buddhist) in spite of the fact that China killed all of the monks, lamas, and other religious leaders. The area is dominated by the Potala Palace with its 999 rooms, started in construction about 1200 A.D. Most of the county is over 12,000 feet in elevation; but Roger found that since he came from Idaho, he did not have too much trouble adapting to this environment. Roger stated he had no trouble walking all the steps up to the palace.

Roger stated that he did the entire trip with his Nikon digital camera. He shot entirely in RAW mode so that he had better control when he would get back home. He did not take his laptop with him since there are some areas of travel restrictions if you have that accessory. He did have an Epson hard drive that allowed him to view and store images; but toward the end of the trip, he wished he had a larger capacity of memory with him. He had to sort through images to delete some of those he thought were not as good - - and this is something he wanted to do in his home in Pocatello when you have time to really evaluate the quality of an image. Sometimes an image has to sit and marinate for a month or two before you find its true potential.

After your presentation to our club, we feel the spirituality of the people just like you tried to convey in your photos. Thank you, Roger, for taking us along with you on your adventures. Now all of us can say we've been to China, Tibet, and Cambodia! Don't forget meeting date shift!

# **Club Notes**

Special thanks to Farr's Jewelry for the use of the digital projector at the last Advancement Program. We learned a lot!

### **Field Trips**

Our next field trip will be to get some fall colors around Jackson, Wyoming. We will meet for breakfast at the restaurant that is opposite the visitor's center at 10:30 a.m. Since we will have two meetings before this date, we will see if we can get a couple of car pools arranged from IF to Jackson. This area is fun in the "off season" when there aren't a couple of million visitors in the region.

Our field trip coordinator has to resign because of health problems in her family. We wish everyone well in your family, Kathy. But this means we need someone to step forward to replace her post. You do not have to go on each field trip that is set up, but we would like for someone to suggest where we go, what time we need to meet, etc. There are plenty of members in the club that you can tap for information about this region if you are stuck for an idea. Please step forward and help!

### **Advancement Program**

The theme of the Advancement Program for October is: **Critters. (How about that for a wide open topic!)** Please bring three of your best images, slides, digital image files and join us at 1900 Grandview in the Conference Room at 7:30 p.m. on October 18. It is amazing how all of our photography improves as we share these images with one another.

### **Juried Show**

If you look at your calendar today, you will note that this newsletter came a week earlier than normal. This is because the Juried Show is a week earlier than normal this year! Because we will be part of the Idaho Falls Art Walk on October 4 where patrons of the arts visit various art galleries in our community, we have shifted our night of judging to a week earlier. This should give us more exposure to a different community group than just the people who come to our show at EITC each year. We want to show what good images are being created by photographers in this area!

The Arts Council sponsors this event each year and we were invited to be part of this year's showing. There was a \$150 entry fee, but for this the Arts Council will mail out about 100 postcards inviting our friends and whomever we choose to come on the tour. Now, because of our nonprofit status, we were able to approach the Eastern Idaho Technical College and they will be paying our entry fee. They feel this is a way they can show the community how they have sponsored the arts and photography over many years.

### Thanks, EITC, for your support!

### Now for those date changes:

#### September 26:

Framed and matted photographs with hanging devices in place and your name and print name on the back must be into EITC on Wednesday, September 26 between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. The room we get to use should be the same one we have used for the past few years, but there will be a sign on the outer door of the main student building that faces Hitt Road as to the location where you bring your prints.

We will have you fill out a 3x5 card (hopefully, legibly) with this information while you are delivering your prints so that we can get this information into the computer for the judging the next night.

#### September 27:

We invite all members to join us for a dinner at Garcia's at about 6:00 p.m. to meet the judges. There will be a table set up so you can be with other club members and the judges. We are not a wealthy club and our only way of really compensating our judges is to treat them to a dinner. Fortunately, they have been willing to give us their input for such miserly wages!

We will try to get the judging started by about 7:30 p.m. sp that even if you don't come to the dinner, please come to the juried portion of the show. What an incredible learning opportunity! Also, we need your help at the end of the judging to transport the pictures from this building to the Administration Building next door where the actual show is held.

#### September 28:

Please come and help hang the show. We will start hanging the show at about 8 a.m. and it will go very quickly if we get a lot of help.

Tell your friends to come to our show. Tell them to come again on the Art Walk on Thursday, Oct. 4.

# **Monthly Meeting**

## Date: Sept. 27, 2007

# Time: 6:00 p.m.

### Location: Garcia's Restaurant

### **Program:**

Yes, it is here again! Our annual Juried Show and Sale starts with a dinner with the judges at 6:00 p.m. with the judging starting at about 7:30 p.m. Please come to both events. You won't be disappointed!

## Graffiti

EIPS is a group of amateur and professional photographers who have joined together to further the art and craft of photography. Please join us and expand your horizons. Sharing knowledge makes all participants better at their craft. We meet on the first Thursday of each month for our educational lecture. Then the third Thursday is our Advancement Program where we share some of the images we have done. We meet at 7:30 p.m. in the 1900 Grandview Ave conference room. We all become better photographers!

Make sure you tell your friends about the Art Walk on October 4. We feel privileged to be part of this community wide event.

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