

ROCKY MOUNTAIN OUTDOORS

THE NEWSLETTER OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN OUTDOOR WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS
SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2013

It's Glacier in 2014!

Article by Don Laine; Photos by Kent Owings

Finally, we've nailed down time and place for RMOWP's 2014 conference.

It will be **July 23 through 27** in the community of West Glacier, just outside the western entrance to **Glacier National Park** in northern Montana. Headquarters will be the **Belton Chalet**, with lodging at the Belton as well as the Glacier Highland Resort, a



Red Bus at Lake McDonald Lodge

motel next door to the Belton.

In addition to the usual conference program from Wednesday afternoon through Saturday evening, pre- and post-conference activities are planned, and

attendees might also want to spend a day or two on their own on the east side of this very big park.

Although planning is still in the early stages, we can announce that RMOWP's own **Tom Ulrich**, who lives in West Glacier and knows practically every inch of Glacier National Park, will be leading a number of field trips into the park. There will also be workshops on photography and writing, a boat trip on Lake McDonald, and guided trips in the park's famed red buses, a fleet of historic open-air buses built in the 1930s and recently completely restored.

Lodging will be somewhat more expensive than we're used to, and expect some noise from the trains that rumble through West Glacier. Rooms at the historic Belton Chalet, located directly across the street from the Amtrak station, start at \$155 per night. Dating from 1910, the Belton's rooms are small but comfortable. The rooms along the back of the hotel, without balconies, are the least expen-



Lake McDonald is the largest in the park at 10 miles long and 472 ft. deep. It's estimated the glacier that carved this valley was around 2200 ft. thick.

sive and also quieter. See www.beltonchalet.com or call 406-888-5000, and tell them you're with Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers.



Water abounds in the park... this long waterfall is along the Going-to-the-Sun Road, west of Logan Pass

Next door to the Belton Chalet is the Glacier Highland Resort, a basic modern motel with rates starting at \$95 per night. Call 800-766-0811 or 406-888-5427. There are several other lodging facilities in West Glacier, which you can find through an Internet search. There's also a KOA with cabins and several other campgrounds in West Glacier, as well as the campgrounds inside the park.

More details will be forthcoming, but in the meantime see www.nps.gov/glac for information on the park and links to lodging inside the park.



Reflections east of Logan Pass along the Going-to-the-Sun Road

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President's Column

Still Photos from Movies

Article & photo by Al Perry

Have you ever thought about making still photos with a movie camera? Now you can.

A movie is simply a series of still photos shot at a relatively high frame rate of say 24, 30 or more frames per second. You may have already created the illusion of motion with a still camera by taking a series of still photos and showing them at say, 24 frames per second---often referred to as time lapse photography. Your brain interprets the rapid showing of still photos as motion.

If you think that digital still cameras are evolving rapidly, digital movie cameras are developing at an even faster rate. In some ways, digital movie cameras are encroaching on still cameras. For example, high-end movie cameras can now record up to 19 megapixels, 16 bit raw images at the rate of 100 frames (still photos) per second. The best still cameras (35mm sized) can record 20+ megapixels, 14 bit raw images at up to 12 frames per second. A few photographers are using movie cameras to "catch" the right moment by "scrubbing" through movie footage and selecting the best frame (still photo). Today, magazine covers and two page layouts are being made, in some cases, with still photos from movie camera footage.

Shown below is a single frame from my movie camera capturing a bumblebee flying near flower blossoms. The original movie was shot at 359 frames per second---359 still photos captured each second. Consider the possibilities.



Mountain Creek © Hector Astorga
Honorable Mention, Black & White Prints 2013 Contest

RMOWP Scott-McKenna Scholarship Awarded

Catlin Carrico of Swanton, Maryland, was selected for this year's Scott-McKenna Scholarship award, according to scholarship chair Mike Hammond. Hammond said she was chosen from among numerous highly-qualified candidates based not only on the merit of her application but what those she listed as personal references had to say about her. Catlin graduated from West Virginia University majoring in agriculture education and is now working on her master's degree at the same school. She holds a 3.56 GPA and also held a job at a local business and has done volunteer work. Hammond said that Catlin has a bond with the outdoors through her upbringing and way of life in the Swanton, Maryland area, and when she completes her education she plans to teach at the high school level.

One person she listed as a reference had this to say: "Cat is one of those go-to individuals that puts a spin on life in a way that young people like, and that spin makes them want to learn all they can from her." Hammond said he asked Catlin what made her think she was eligible for a scholarship offered by an outdoor writing and photography group, and without

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hesitation she said, "Almost everything I will teach has to be illustrated, either by words or through visual presentation, and I want those words and visual presentations to be mine, when they can be." He added that Catlin also commented that modern-day agriculture and the wild outdoors sleep in the same bed and depend on each other. She told Hammond that she hopes to do her part in the preservation of the outdoors, through wise use and modern day agricultural practices she plans to teach.

In her scholarship application Ms. Carrico wrote, "I have always loved the arts. It has been a passion of mine since I was very young, always having a pencil in hand drawing. In high school and now through college that passion has turned to photography and I always have a camera in hand. Agriculture is very involved with the outdoors and conservation; it isn't just cows, sows, and plows, it's a broad spectrum from livestock production to landscaping and recreation. As a part of agriculture education, we strive to promote conservation and preservation of the outdoors through sound agriculture practices. I plan on using my own photographs as much as I can in my lessons as a high school agriculture teacher."

Jack's Jaunts Weathering the Storm

Article & photos by Jack Olson

"If you don't like the weather, wait fifteen minutes."

I've traversed the country, coast to coast, watched local news, and EVERYONE says that. Anxious viewers sweat out a quarter hour in South Carolina, Oregon, Illinois, or Kansas. That phrase has now eclipsed the thousand mark over the years on my Denver TV station.

But, you know, there is an ice pellet of truth in this worn-out babble. If you live in or near the mountains, as many of us do, you sometimes place your life on the line in correctly reading the sky. Do you go ahead...do you turn back...do you seek shelter?

In my early years in Colorado I committed many errors of ignorance. If you survive these you build up a repository of wisdom. There is always another banana peel to slip on, something



The terrible, awful, miserable Trough on Longs Peak, just after the fateful storm.



The snowstorm passes, as I begin to recover my breath and my vigor.

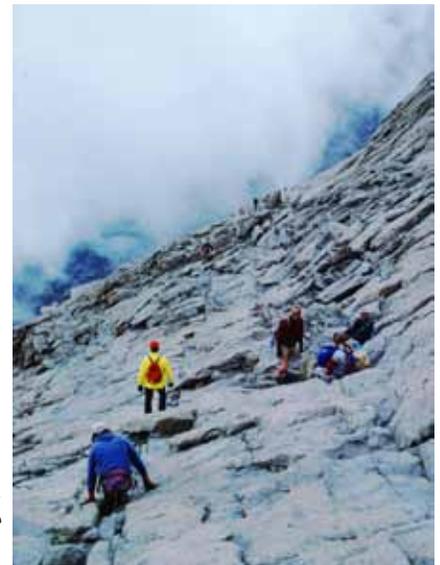
else dumb to do, but you're less likely to repeat the same mistake.

My first near disaster could just as easily have awarded me a third page paragraph in the *Denver Post*. I tackled 14,255-foot Longs Peak in September and amassed a record six miscalculations on a successful, but nearly fatal, ascent of this classic fourteener in Rocky Mountain National Park. At over five thousand vertical feet and sixteen miles roundtrip, Longs would test the

stamina of a neophyte Coloradan.

I didn't tell anyone I was going (miscalculation #1) and began my trek at 7:30 in the morning, way too late (#2). At about 9:30 a pounding hailstorm suddenly struck, but I was able to take shelter in the Agnes Vaile Memorial hut at a feature called the Keyhole. The storm drove off any of the few climbers on the peak. I was alone (#3). A hailstorm at 9:30 in the morning is certainly a sign of unsettled weather and a warning to beat a retreat. I forged ahead when the hail ceased (#4).

I trudged on, having to lose five hundred miserable feet on ledges, and then the most tiresome, crummy, despicable feature on Longs Peak: The Trough. You're looking up a thousand feet of steep, loose rock. Slog, slip, slog. After that you tiptoe ledges two thousand feet above Chasm Lake. Don't look down! Finally, just a friction slope to the top, the Homestretch, making you want to hug the rock, but better to stand erect. Then, there's nothing more above you but air! Great happiness! It's a rough kind of flat, almost as expansive as a couple of football fields. It's also 1 p.m. (#5). I've learned that you'd better be on top of any big mountain by noon, just in case.



The Homestretch is a friction slope leading to the top of Longs Peak. The climb is not as difficult as it looks and you're better off standing up than trying to hug the rock.

After enjoying the view and congratulating myself

see *Jaunts...* page 4

for this solo accomplishment I dropped down on the east side of the summit and scrunched on a ledge to have some lunch (#6). For crying out loud, get the devil off of there! Out of nowhere, over the top from



The Keyhole, barely visible on my second climb of Longs Peak, is the standard, easiest route up Longs.

the west, a violent thunderstorm, a snow thunderstorm, enveloped me. Suddenly, there were balls of lightning at eye level, so close that lightning and thunder were exploding together. I could hardly hear. The ledges began to ice up. I wanted my mother.

The lightning was more terrifying than the ice and I slowly edged my way down. It was becoming harder to breathe, but more important to get out of this mess that was all my fault. I found myself at the top of The Trough. Oh no! But the storm had passed. Oh joy! But I had to descend seven and a half miles and could barely breathe. Oh no! Will I ever be able to make it? The Trough was just me, the rocks, and the gravel all obeying gravity.

But it soon dawned on me that I could breathe, I was strengthening. My pace quickened. Eventually, I was pouring it on. It must have been my lungs tightening in fright. No longer scared out of my wits I knew I could make it. And I did. This was the first, and the worst, but not the last misjudgment I was to make in the Rockies.

As I write this, I find myself sweating, trembling just a bit, and feeling scared all over again. Just wait fifteen minutes.

New Members

Those joining our ranks in recent months include Boulder, Colorado resident **Connie Redak**, a photographer and editor. She writes, "I love nature and nature photography. It is a way of observing that particularly appeals to me. I also have a very large garden and wildlife habitat that welcomes everything from chickadees to cougars." Connie's photos were included in a CD by RMOWP member and photographer Weldon Lee titled "Our Heritage at Risk," concerning the plight of wild horses.

Kathy Mattoon of Gunnison, Colorado is a photographer, writer, audio-video specialist, and artist whose interests include hunting, shooting, fishing, camping, knitting, gardening, photography, and trav-

el. Her professional credits include Rocky Mountain TV, *Sportsmans News Magazine*, and she is co-author of *Winter Trails Colorado - The Best Cross-Country Ski and Snowshoe Trails*, a Falcon Guide whose third edition is due out in November.

Mary Kummerfeldt of Colorado Springs, Colorado, is a photographer whose interests include international travel, fly fishing, and digital photography.

A returning member is **Mary Kline** of Glen Rock, Pennsylvania, a frequent participant in the RMOWP-sponsored photo workshops in Rocky Mountain National Park. Mary is a photographer and landscape architect. She says her interests include native plants, soils, and hydrology, and asked about her professional credits she answers, "My dog thinks I am wonderful."

A new student member is **Kaitlynn Hager** of Raymond, Washington, a photographer and writer who works for the Willapa Harbor Herald weekly newspaper in Raymond, and lists her interests as photography, journalism, wildlife, and forestry.

This year's RMOWP-sponsored Photo Workshop in Rocky Mountain National Park attracted twelve participants from Maryland to California, Nebraska to Texas, and various points in between. They are **April Casey** (Hemingford, Nebraska), **Sherrie Cash** (Centerton, Arkansas), **Chris Ewan** (Ames, Iowa), **Suzi Komarek** (Boulder, Colorado), **Liss Morris** (Potomac, Maryland), **Lisa Martinez** (Escondido, California), **Mia Mestdagh** (Boulder, Colorado), **Thomas Petrochuk** (Mogadore, Ohio), **Nancy Radzienda** (Colorado Springs, Colorado), **Henry Russell** (Lee's Summit, Missouri), **John Sandelovic** (Jarrell, Texas), and **Angela Snyder** (Fort Worth, Texas). All receive a complimentary membership in RMOWP through 2014.

A hearty welcome to all of RMOWP's new members.



Tourist Time! © Emily Harrington
Honorable Mention, People in Nature 2013 Contest

Colorado Hiking Guide Wins E-book Design Award

RMOWP member **Maryann Gaug** of Silverthorne, Colorado, reports that her book, *Hiking Colorado*, third edition, has won a silver award for enhanced e-book design. Maryann tells us that her publishers at Falcon Guides, working with Inkling.com, converted the book to what is called an enhanced e-book. PubWest, an association of small and medium-sized book publishers, in announcing the awards, said that winners will be recognized at the association's 2013 conference in November.

So what is an enhanced e-book? Maryann explains:

"The enhanced e-book is a really cool concept. Go to Inkling.com, and type 'hiking colorado' in the search box. You can read chapter three for free (that's six hikes). Now comes the fun part. Throughout the chapter are various hyperlinks. Click on several different ones (not all at once of course) and a map (of the GPS coordinate), a picture, or a website pops up. There's also a slide show option on many of the hikes."

Travels To and Beyond This Year's RMOWP Conference

Article & photos by Jack Wendleton

In planning my 3-week journey to the RMOWP Conference and beyond, I first contacted Jack Olson. He recommended that my first destination should be the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, which is 18 miles West of Emporia, Kansas. I did not, initially, find the idea of a National Park Service area dedicated to preserving tallgrass prairies to be exciting, and I admit that I was pleasantly surprised. The park includes a well preserved three-story stone ranch house, a massive barn, ranch buildings and prairie interpretive trails.



Ranch house at Tallgrass Prairie
National Preserve

Nearby, the well-preserved town of Cottonwood Falls with its historic courthouse and buildings add to understanding life on the prairies and the Flint Hills country of Kansas in the nineteenth century.

From the Preserve, I travelled to Fort Larned National Historical Site in south central Kansas, 35 miles southwest of Great Bend. Established in 1859, Fort Larned is the best preserved Indian Wars era military post on the Santa Fe Trail. The fort provided protection and assistance for the wagon trains on their way from Independence, Missouri to Santa Fe, New Mexico Territory. In the 1970's, I was part of a

National Park Service planning team sent to address reconstruction/preservation of this vital western fort. After leaving Fort Larned, I stopped at Fort Hays State Historic Site, which is located at Hays, Kansas on I-70. I continued on I-70 to my favorite "hot spot" in Colorado, Glenwood Springs, and took a long dip in the Glenwood Hot Springs Pool. (I forgot to put on sunscreen, a big mistake).

Arriving at Fruita, Colorado, Jack Olson and I drove up to Colorado National Monument and scouted overlooks for best early morning photography.



Ft. Larned parade ground as seen from the officers quarters

Many thanks to Don and Barbara Laine and the committee for a great conference! Personally, the most important thing I learned was -"watch your boot laces." (Note, If any of you attendees have a photo of my black eye & stitches, please send me a copy). Following the conference, I spent two days camping in Colorado National Monument, enjoying a park in which I worked on a number of design/construction projects but never really took the time to explore. Before leaving Fruita, I had the stitches over my right eye removed (the cost of removing the stitches was included in the urgent care process).

In Grand Junction, I called Ed Chamberlin, architect of the award-winning Needles Visitor Center in Canyonlands National Park (this back country wilderness at the confluence of the Green and Colorado Rivers). Over a beer, Ed and I remembered the building that



Award-winning Needles Visitor Center
at Canyonlands National Park

Ed designed and I supervised the construction 22 years ago. I told him I was heading to the wilderness again and would make sure that the park service is taking good care of "OUR"

visitor center. When I arrived at the visitor center and mentioned to the district interpreter and rangers that I had been the project supervisor for the visitor center, they were excited. They love "THEIR" visitor center. We exchanged thoughts about the building and the use that it receives. I took photos of them and they of me. Later, Maryann Gaug sent me a Facebook posting submitted by the Needles District interpreter reporting our meeting. I promised to send them photos of the construction, I took many pictures during the 15-month construction project. Leaving the Needles I stopped to take a few pictures of Newspaper Rock National Historic Site, which is on

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the road going back to U.S. Highway 191. This is an outstanding display of Anasazi rock art.

After Canyonlands, my keen interest in the Southwest Indian history and culture led to the Navajo, Hopi and Zuni Reservations in Arizona and New Mexico. More stories, later.



"Reading the paper" at Newspaper Rock National Historic Site

Journeying into New Mexico, I camped at El Morro National Monument, 50 miles southeast of Gallup. El Morro is a 200 foot sheer sandstone cliff/ mesa known as "Inscription Rock." The Anasazi carved their petroglyphs, and the Spanish conquistadors, early American settlers, and U.S. Army expeditions (using camels) all left their signatures and stories, resulting in a unique recording of adventures. There is a large pool at the base of Inscription Rock which collects the rain runoff from the mesa above, providing water for wildlife, livestock and humans as they travelled by this site. In summer of 1960, I spent my first assignment with the



Life-giving pool of water at the base of Inscription Rock in El Morro National Monument

National Park Service here at El Morro, where I served as a student engineer doing construction surveying layout and inspections.

My last National Park Service/Bu-

reau of Land Management area visit was to the new inter-government agency area, El Malpais National Monument and Conservation Area, just east of El Morro. This area is divided into two units, one managed by the National Park Service, the other by the Bureau of Land Management. An interagency visitor center (The Northwest New Mexico Visitor Center) is located at Grants, New Mexico on I-40. It is staffed by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. It is worth a stop just to see that three government agencies, in two different departments (Interior and Agriculture), can and do work well together. I concluded my travels by racing across Oklahoma on I-40 being chased by tornados back to Missouri.

While travel to the RMOWP Conference is a serious commitment, my journey "To and Beyond the Conference" allowed me to relish the joy of returning to my beloved Rocky Mountains and re-uniting with the RMOWP gang.

Writers' Corner



Formatting Your Manuscript

by Virginia Parker Staat

"Be regular and orderly in your life, so that you may be violent and original in your work."

-- Gustave Flaubert

Often a writer's greatest challenge is to find the perfect enticement that will draw an editor to pick their manuscript from the slush pile and read it. Surprisingly, how a writer formats their manuscript can play a major role. A poorly formatted manuscript too often quickly ends up in the accompanying self-addressed and stamped return envelope.

Many author submission guidelines simply state that writers should "use standard formatting guidelines." These guidelines can be found in The Chicago Manual of Style, the quintessential reference for formatting everything from title to back matter.

A short list of the most basic formatting tips includes the following:

DO

- Type your manuscript.
- Use double spacing.
- Indent paragraphs.
- Use wide margins (at least 1" on all sides).
- Left justify, leaving a ragged right edge.
- Use a simple, easy-to-read font such as Arial or Times New Roman, 12 point.
- Use black ink only.
- Print on one side of the page.
- Use a good quality white paper.
- Use a good printer.
- Number the pages.
- Place your name, date, and manuscript title on each page.
- Include a cover page with the manuscript title, your name, address, phone number, and email address.
- Bind everything together with a paper clip or butterfly clip or leave loose in the envelope.
- Check the author submission guidelines online for specific formatting requests.
- Include a self-addressed, stamped return envelope if you wish the document returned.

DO NOT

- Do not use staples.
- Do not use fancy fonts.
- Do not use ink colors other than black.
- Do not send a handwritten manuscript.
- Do not submit electronically unless submission guidelines request it.