

Rocky Mountain Outdoors

the newsletter of Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers & Photographers, Inc.

July—August, 2015

Ouray Calling

With **RMOWP's 2015 conference in Ouray, Colorado September 21 to 24** just around the corner, we hope that everyone has their lodging or camping lined up and is preparing their registration form if it hasn't already been sent in.

Elsewhere in this newsletter (see pages 6, 8, 9) there are several articles concerning the conference, but here are a few important things you need to know:

- The conference runs from **Monday afternoon, September 21, through Thursday evening, September 24**, so if you're planning to attend the whole shootin' match be sure your lodging check-out is Friday, September 25 or beyond.
- Ouray sits at 7,800 feet elevation – pretty high for you lowlanders – and our 4X4 trip into the mountains will be going up to about **12,000 feet**, where the air is thin! You won't be hiking at that elevation so it shouldn't be



Autumn color below the Sneffels Range © William Horton

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too strenuous, but those with heart or respiratory conditions might want to discuss the trip with their doctors. Medications are available by prescription to minimize the chance of altitude sickness.

- **Mountain driving is slow**, and road construction doesn't help, so allow plenty of time to get to Ouray and for any excursions you plan to take on your own during the conference.
- **Weather** in Ouray in September is likely to be warm during the day and cool or even downright cold at night. We suggest you be prepared for **temperature extremes** and wear layers. A packable rain jacket might be good, too, just in case.

We won't have nearly enough time to see and do all there is to be seen and done in the Ouray area, so many of you will undoubtedly be doing things on your own, before or after or even during the conference.

In the September-October newsletter, and at rmowp.org in early August, we'll have an article by member William Horton on **"25 Places for Autumn Color Around Ouray,"** with brief descriptions of each area, directions on how to get there, and cautions regarding safety hazards and road conditions.

You can also research Ouray at the community's official website, ouraycolorado.com.

Three Photos from 2014 RMOWP Conference in Art Galleries

I guess it was worth it for RMOWP-member William Horton to get up before dawn and stay out past the golden hour while at last year's conference in Glacier. Three of the photos taken there have been included in two exhibi-

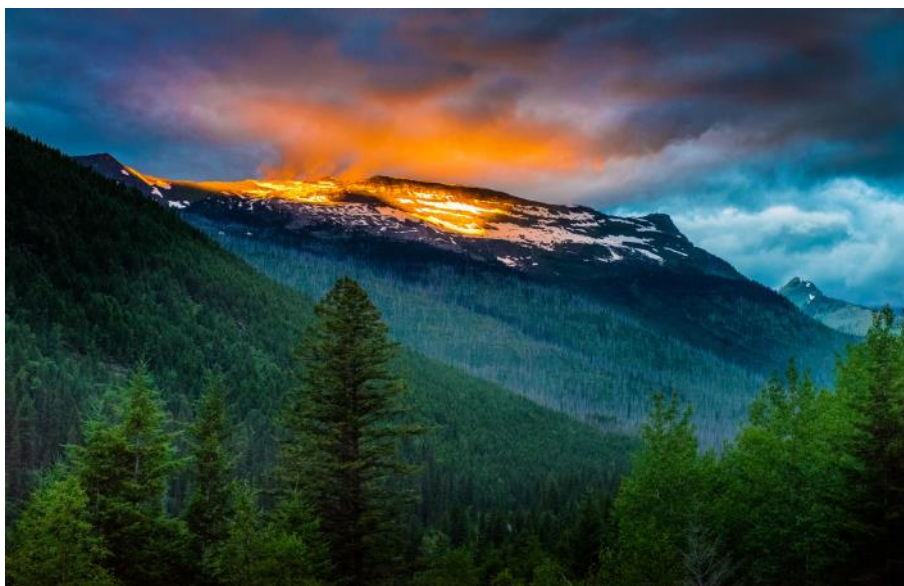


"Glacier God Beams" is part of a show called *Interpretive Landscapes* running from June 12th through July 25th at the [DARKROOM Gallery](#) in Longmont, Colorado.

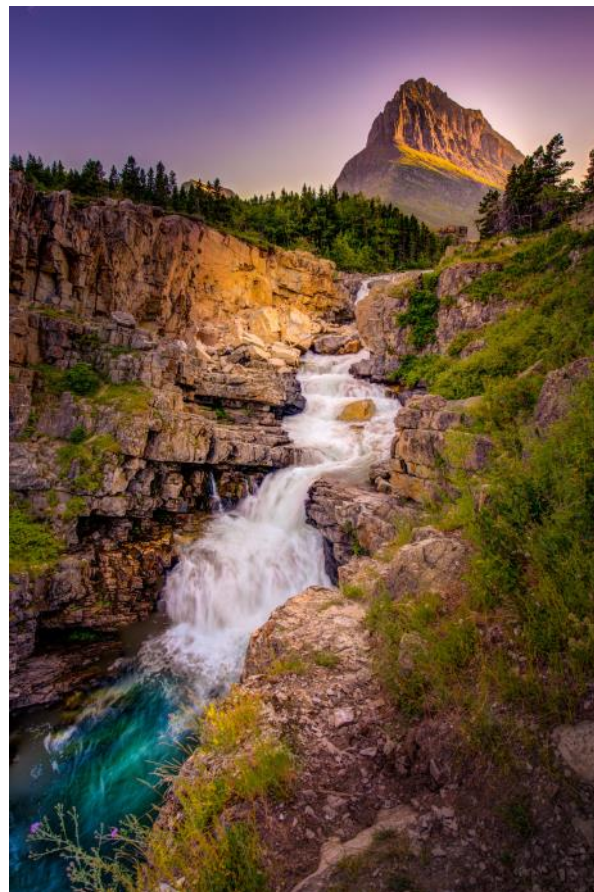
tions opening in June 2015.

If you want to see the whole collection from Glacier National Park, go to <http://williamhortonphotography.com/my-portfolio/glacier-national-park/>

By the way, there is no connection between these two galleries, just an interesting coincidence.



"Fire on the Mountain" is also part of the *Natural Realm* show at the [Darkroom Gallery](#) in Essex Junction, Vermont.



"Swiftcurrent Falls" is part of a show called the *Natural Realm* running from June 25th through July 19th at the [Darkroom Gallery](#) in Essex Junction, Vermont.

Writer's Corner

The Storyboard Process

Virginia Parker Staat

"Storyboarding can be likened to taking your thoughts and the thoughts of others and making them visible by spreading them on a wall as you work on your problems."

~ Michael Michalko

Whether you are a photo essayist, a videographer, or a writer with illustrations, using the storyboard technique can enhance your story process. Storyboards are graphic organizers, offering a visual element when planning how you will tell your story. Storyboarding is a creative thinking technique that enables you to visualize your sequence of events. Done well, the storyboard becomes the blueprint for your project.



Virginia's early storyboard for her photo essay *Ballet of Birds*

While long associated with script writing, storyboards have become key in many fields, including communications, logistics, and web and software design. Animator Webb Smith is credited with inventing storyboarding in the 1930s while working at Disney Studios. Smith drew a series of events on pieces of paper for the short film *Three Little Pigs* and pinned them to a bulletin board. The rest, as they say, is history.

The process of storyboarding begins with identifying the key elements of your story, including the narrative (text and/or audio), the image (photo or illustration), and the transitions. Roughly sketch or print your images and arrange them with the appropriate narrative. During this process, the storyboard will likely resemble a comic strip. Next, determine if the content of each element meets your targeted audience's needs. As you brainstorm through the elements, continue to rearrange your notes and images until a logical flow appears.

Storyboard templates can be found for free online. Notebooks are also available to purchase (see Circa and Moleskine products). My storyboarding is far more archaic.

I simply use sticky notes and the side of my refrigerator, a door, a wall, or a bookcase. I sketch crude illustration ideas or print thumbnails of photos, then tape them up along with narrative ideas to accompany each page or slide. As the story develops, I rearrange the photos and sticky notes until I'm satisfied with the sequence.

In this example, I have included a small portion of a preliminary storyboard attempt from my photo essay *Ballet of Birds*. The photos were taken at Mary's Point in the Bay of Fundy during the sandpiper migration. I printed thumbnails of digital photos that I wanted to use in the essay and sequenced them according to a ballet folk dance. My field journal provided narrative ideas, which I transferred to sticky notes for placement next to the appropriate image.

The storyboarding process can also be accomplished in Photoshop®, PowerPoint®, or similar software. The second example is a completed Photoshop® storyboard for a tiny flipbook that I made called *Chasing Raven*. While on the Dempster Highway in northern Canada, we watched a brown bear feeding on a caribou carcass. The entire time, two flocks of ravens tormented the bear, alternating between one flock providing distraction while the other fed. After taking nearly a hundred digital images with a long-distance lens, I pulled only those photos that had the bear positioned in the right side of the grid. Through trial and error, I reorganized the photos into a sequential pattern suitable for the flipbook.

If you've never used the storyboard process, I encourage you to give it a try. Storyboarding is a helpful creative thinking technique, providing a clear anchor for sequencing events. It can quickly narrow a bulky or difficult topic. Because visualization is a powerful tool, storyboarding can bring a logical flow to your work and improve the relationship between your images, narrative, and your audience's ease of reading.



Final storyboard for Virginia's *Chasing a Raven* flipbook

2015 RMOWP Photo Workshop

Nic Showalter

Eight participants gathered in Estes Park, CO for our 2015 photo workshop in Rocky Mountain National Park. We enjoyed good conditions, willing photographers and a vibrant environment to develop and refine our photography skills.

Fred Lord returned for his 4th year as our landscape instructor, Jared Gricoskie returned for his 7th year as our wildlife teacher.

We always have a tentative schedule and then shift our plans when clouds cover the sun, rain falls or the weather threatens. We shot sunrises, sunsets, moving water, aspen trees, wildlife and flowers.

Over the last several years we have blended post-processing techniques in with our after-lunch critique sessions. Participants submit images for critique and as part of that feedback we do post-processing of the image on a screen so all can see.

Now that moose are so prevalent in the park, participants enjoy one morning on the west side of Rocky Mountain National Park looking for and capturing the largest mammals in the park.

An early morning optional hike to Dream Lake for sunrise was a unique experience of complete fog that broke well after sunrise affording some dramatic images for those eager enough to leave our basecamp at 3:50 am.

Reversing a trend over the last several years, there were more Canon shooters (7) than Nikon.

Thank you to RMOWP for your continued support and encouragement of this event!



© Larry Parker

© Larry Parker



Workshop attendees & instructors © Nic Showalter

New Members

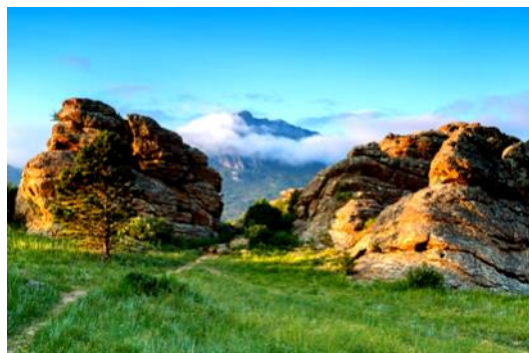
RMOWP has garnered several new members in recent months. Briefly, they are Myra Wood Bennett of Grantsburg, Illinois, Daniel Brown of Taos, New Mexico, Andrew Fowler of Providence, Utah, Sandy Heise of Boulder, Colorado, and Layne Whyman of Fruita, Colorado, plus a returning member, David Drew of Wichita, Kansas.

In addition, the eight persons attending this year's photo workshop in Rocky Mountain National Park receive one year free membership in RMOWP. They are Robert Camp of Aspen, Colorado, Dave Elendt of Garland, Texas, Pansy Fryman of Garden City, Kansas, Cindy Hanes of Maroa, Illinois, Theyla Mirowski of Conifer, Colorado, Sandra Molinaro of Bel Air, Maryland, Larry Parker of Prescott, Arizona, and current RMOWP member Henry Russell of Lees Summit, Missouri.

Welcome, one and all.

We hope to see you at a conference – Ouray, Colorado is the place this September. Information can be found on the website, www.rmowp.org. Articles for this newsletter are always welcome, and in fact you may have noticed one in the last newsletter by new member Andrew Fowler.

You can find additional information about these new members in our online membership directory. If you've lost the login info, contact us at info@rmowp.org.



© Dave Elendt

Want this newsletter e-delivered?

Let us know: info@rmowp.org

Subject: E-mail RMO

Thanks!

Jack's Jaunts

Passing the Torch

Articles & photos - Jack Olson

What is even better than returning to a place you love? Returning with your wonderful, extraordinary, fun nieces. We did it, we really did it. In 1988 I traveled to Europe with Amy (age 21) and Melinda (age 18). Amy had one more year in college to finish; Melinda had just graduated from high school and was moving on to college. It was a perfect time to undertake our "trip of a lifetime". I think we all know there are many trips of a lifetime, but this was their first one.

We began planning about three years before. Rather than just ask where they'd like to go I started by asking them to think of the kinds of experiences they'd want in Eu-



Amy (L) & Melinda (R) sample the yummy Dutch pastry "*gemandelbroodje*"

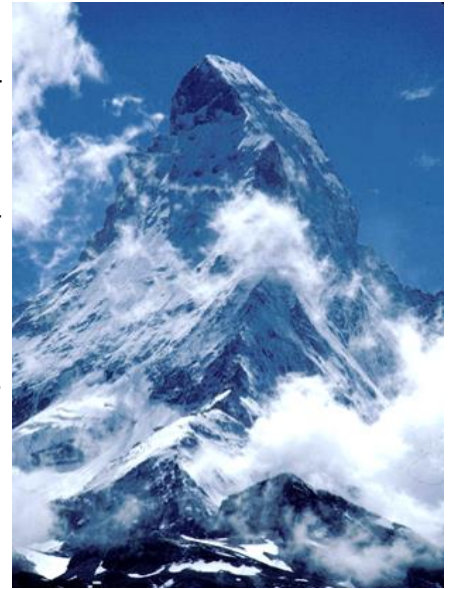
rope. Then we went from there. It turned out we had many common preferences. They wanted to hike, ride bikes, play with different languages, and meet some of my friends. They were interested in cultural sites like castles and cathedrals. They wanted to be in the mountains and along the coast. They were excited to try different food specialties. We had six weeks.

We started in Denmark. My friend, Jette, lived in a hundred-year-old farmhouse not far from the North Sea coast. We drove up the lane to the house and there, stuck in the bushes, were Danish and American flags. What a welcome. Jette's daughter, Sofia, is between the ages of Amy and Melinda. Amy was later to name her daughter Sofia. One night the girls went into town and did those things that are too cool for us oldsters.

More friends awaited in Holland. I had attended college there in 1958-59 (how is it possible it could have been that long ago?). We visited my friends in a small town outside Amsterdam and another family in Rotterdam. At the latter, Amy became smitten

by a boy her age, something that lasted until she returned to the U.S. and met the man who would become her husband. We took a 30-mile bike ride through the Dutch countryside and stopped by the castle where I had gone to school.

Then we began a whirl through Belgium, France, Luxembourg, and West Germany (a year before the Wall fell). Each of these was outstanding but I can't keep writing about everything. We were anxious to hike as high as we could and that was spelled Switzerland. The Berner Oberland features the Eiger, the Jungfrau and more Alps than you can shake a walking stick at. We hiked and hiked, miles through meadows with the sounds of cowbells, and to the base of the Eiger.



Matterhorn emerging from the fog

We threaded through high passes to the south and began hiking out of Zermatt. It was totally socked in with fog as we climbed, trying to locate a small settlement I'd found in the past. Finally, a crude wooden sign pointed the way to the village and we came upon a small shop where we each bought a bottle of pop. As we sat there at a rough picnic table, the fog began to clear and then, looming far above us appeared---the Matterhorn. Oh sigh.

I mentioned that the girls wanted to play with languages. They're good at that. I was in charge of Dutch and German. OK in Dutch, not so much in German. Why did they keep those miserable linguistic complexities that the Dutch dumped over a century ago? Amy chose French. We only got on one wrong Paris Metro and had a big argument with a cashier over something in a museum. Not bad. And Melinda took her excellent Spanish and desperately tried to make it sound Italian. All in all we just whizzed through Europe.

Enough about places; there were Italy and Austria ahead, and more West Germany. But what have remained are memories from 27 years ago. Whenever we get together, which is usually only once a year, the girls and I relive our adventures. Laughing is a big part of our memories. Swiss fondue, pastry, maybe a little beer or wine. Fun with friends. Hiking and more hiking. There's a closeness we'll feel the rest of our lives. There is nothing like sharing with the next generation.



Hiking in the fog above Zermatt

Scholarship Awarded to Texas Student

Scholarship Chair Mike Hammond announced that the 2015 Scott-McKenna Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to Andrhea Massey of Mart, Texas. Andrhea sent the following bio, plus an article (see *Coyote Studies* on the next page). Congratulations and thank you, Andrhea.

I was born at home in a small house surrounded by towering pine trees. I was the youngest of six kids. My mother raised us by herself, working two and sometimes three jobs to make ends meet. When my brothers and sisters got older, they also worked to help pay for basic living expenses, but it was never enough. We spent years struggling to get by. Despite this, or maybe because of this, my siblings and I grew up strong. It was the beginning of a beautiful life.



Andrhea Massey standing in the Colorado River at Colorado Bend State Park in Central Texas. © Paula Massey

Ever since before I can remember, I have been fascinated with the outdoors and nature. Some of my favorite things to do are hiking, kayaking, writing, and camping. Whenever I needed to cheer up, I went to the woods. I would sit under oak trees and persimmon trees, still and silent, as deer and squirrels foraged underneath them. I spent all my free time learning everything I could about everything around me, sometimes from books and sometimes from what I liked to call “adventures.” One summer, I spent weeks watching a beaver, learning things like the fact that they make slides, stash food underwater, and love apples (especially the red ones). I found out where it liked to sit in the sun and waited until it came, giving me a close-up view of it and a great memory. These days, I like to do research on wildlife, such as coyotes. I learned about coyote bioacoustics and non-lethal depredation techniques. It has been my dream for seven years now to get my college education and create a Nature Research, Rehabilitation, and Education Center where I can teach everyone about

wildlife and their habitats using animals that would otherwise be put down. My goal is to provide a home to animals that are either too badly injured to be released back into the wild or too used to humans to be able to fend for themselves. I also want to rescue and rehabilitate wildlife and the ecosystems in which they live, such as abandoned mine land reclamation and restoring forests and prairies. My center will be a mix between a national park, a zoo, and a museum. Just thinking about it makes me grin.

Classes at my dream college, Rocky Mountain College in Billings, Montana, begin August 23, 2015. I will be there, ready to earn my education and make a difference in the world. My thanks to the Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers Scholarship Committee for tipping the scales in my favor and giving me a chance to give back to the world.

Bring Two Photos for Members’ Choice Contest

Maryann Gaug

Conference time is getting closer! Along with clothes, photos for the critique, something you’ve written to share at the writers’ forum, and goodies to donate to the auction, remember to bring two photos for the Members’ Choice contest.

In past years, members have supplied many wonderful photos to be judged by the membership. We grouped them into categories, so more people would have a chance to win. However, the last couple of years, we had only enough photos to fill one or two tables, so members judged all entries in one overall category.

Please fill the Members’ Choice competition with your wonderful photos. Each person can enter up to two matted prints that can be color or black and white, in Scenic, Flora, or Fauna categories. If we have enough photos, a winner will be picked in each category. Altered/manipulated images are also eligible. Print size is a maximum of 8 x 12 inches and the final matted size is not to exceed 12 x 16 inches. The entries should not be framed, just matted. The photos have no time limit as to when they were taken, so if you just stumbled upon some great photo you took three years ago, bring it!

Members’ Choice photos can be submitted when you register and the deadline will be announced at the conference. Votes must be submitted before the raucous auction begins on Thursday.

Looking forward to seeing many Members’ Choice entries this year.

Coyote Studies

Andrhea Massey

In the west, the sky was lit up like a bonfire in beautiful oranges, yellows, pinks and purples. In the east, the night was starting as stars and deep midnight blue took over, chasing the sun away. As the crickets serenaded and owls blinked their sleepy eyes, a girl crept through the trees. She was silent as she followed the game trail, her eyes scanning the brush for movement, her ears straining to hear every rustle, her hands fastened on a camera that hung around her neck as she tried to keep it from swinging.

She had set out just before sunset, hauling a tattered backpack of supplies with only a pocket knife and a can of pepper spray for protection. Even now, as she made her way through knee-high brush and thorny mesquite trees in the dwindling light, she was not afraid, although she knew she ought to be. She was too focused to be afraid. As she reached the edge of the trees, she felt the breeze brush past her and turned to face it. If she wanted to find what she was looking for, she knew she had to stay down-wind. One wrong move would blow a whole month's worth of planning.

As the sunset disappeared and the full moon lit her path, she heard it – although many would say it was a mournful noise, she thought it was beautiful and joyous. With a grin, she mimicked the coyote's song. They paused, like they always did, while a single coyote sang a low note, a question: "*Who are you?*" She howled in answer and was delighted when the whole pack joined in again. After everyone was quiet again, she trudged on. She knew the coyotes would likely respond with what was known as an "approach response," which was basically them trying to find out who she was. Tonight, she would see the coyotes she had studied from afar for almost a year. Frowning, she put her camera in her backpack – it would do no good at night. Moving silently, walking a few feet and then pausing to listen, she worked her way towards a fence line, where a good sized tree grew. She climbed it when she reached it, resting comfortably on a limb about fifteen feet off the ground like she had planned. Time passed and she was about to give up and go home when she heard it – a rustle and then a squeak. Whipping her head to the side, she saw them – the alpha pair, a younger coyote tagging along behind. They were hunting, had just caught a cactus rat. She watched, awed, as they worked their way closer and closer. They moved from one cactus growth to the next without so much as a rustle, cocking their heads and pricking their ears to listen before springing into the air and landing on their target. It was amazing, the skill and cunning they possessed. As they finished hunting, they turned to go and the girl was crushed by disappointment – they hadn't come close



Coyote on the Hunt © Al Perry
Honorable Mention, Fauna
2011 Contest

enough for her to see very well in the dim light. Thinking quickly, she cupped her hands around her mouth and howled – the coyotes froze and looked in her direction, startled...before she knew it, they were almost directly under her tree, sniffing around and placing a scent marker. They were beautiful, silent, graceful. Her favorite animal.

After they left, the fear the girl should have felt all along arrested her - she was too afraid to budge. In the dim light, with their stealth, she wasn't sure they were gone. Coyotes could be dangerous, especially when startled and protecting their territory, and she had a long walk to get home. Somewhere nearby, a pair of owls hooted – without really even thinking about it, she mimicked them. When they answered, she did it again – and then, with a rustle of feathers, a pair of owls landed in her tree, on a branch not five feet away. She smiled – owls, apparently, had an approach response as well. Gripping her pepper spray in one hand and her pocket knife in the other, she started home, jumping even when the breeze whispered through the brush, wondering if it was really worth it. As she curled up in bed for the night, she smiled and decided it was definitely worth it, at least for her. She couldn't wait for her next adventure.

RMOWP Calendar

Aug 25, 2015 ~ Newsletter submission deadline

Sep 21-24, 2015 ~ Conference in Ouray, Colorado

June 1-4, 2016 ~ Conference at Bryce Canyon
National Park, Utah

See www.rmowp.org for details

How do I get to Ouray?

Heading to Ouray, Colorado for the RMOWP conference in September?

One of the best things about Ouray is its spectacular mountain scenery, but this wonderful mountain location – miles from the lights of any major city – make getting there a bit of a challenge.

Those planning to **fly** will likely land in Denver (340 miles northeast) or Albuquerque (285 miles south of Ouray) and rent cars for the remainder of the trip. Other options include the Colorado Springs Airport (270 miles east of Ouray), but the closest real-but-small airport is at Grand Junction, just under 100 miles north of Ouray. Both Colorado Springs and Grand Junction are served by American, Delta, and United airlines.

Those **driving** to Ouray, which includes just about everybody, will encounter major roadwork on U.S. 550, just north of Ridgway if they're coming from the north. The construction, which involves removing part of a mountain to widen the road, is scheduled to be completed by October 15, a prediction that has everyone in Ouray laughing hysterically. Expect delays of up to half an hour. And if you're thinking of camping at Ridgway State Park you might want to think again. The construction is just south of the campground entrance, between the park and Ouray.

Driving in from the south? It's a beautiful but slow drive over Red Mountain Pass between Durango and Ouray, but not for the faint of heart or anyone with a fear of heights. It's also frustrating for the driver, because despite some of the most beautiful scenery in America just outside your windshield it is absolutely necessary to keep your eyes on the road at all times.

Speaking of motoring, here's some advice for you penny pinchers: **Buy your gasoline or diesel fuel** anywhere but Ouray. This past June regular gas was about 30 cents a gallon cheaper in Montrose (along your route if you're

coming in from the north) and about 25 cents a gallon cheaper in Durango (to the south) than in Ouray.

See you there!

What to Bring to Conference

Where does the time go? In just over two months we'll be gathering in Ouray, Colorado for the 2015 RMOWP Conference, and it's not too early to start organizing the stuff you'll want to bring. So here's a checklist:

- **WRITING FOR THE WRITERS FORUM** - Your written work will be gently and positively examined with the purpose of finding ways to improve it. Works can include stories, poems, photo essays, or other formats with an outdoor theme. Participants should bring at least 12 copies of the work, and although the length of the works can vary, about 1,200 words or less would be best. It should not be your best work, but something you would like help with. Spectators are welcome.
- **PHOTOS FOR THE PHOTO CRITIQUE** - Entertaining and informative for all, this program looks at photographs with an eye to how they could be improved. Those who want their shots critiqued should bring 3 to 5 digital images on CDs or flash drives. The critique will be led by Bad Cop Tom Ulrich and Good Cop Jack Olson.
- **PHOTOS FOR MEMBERS' CHOICE CONTEST** - Conference participants are the judges for this one. Members may submit one or two matted prints, either color or black and white, and the photos may have been taken at any time since the beginning of photography. Altered/manipulated images are eligible. Each entry is to be designated as Scenic, Flora, or Fauna. Print size is a maximum of 8 x 12 inches that is matted to a final size not to exceed 12 x 16 inches, and entries should not be framed. Place your name, photo title, and designate "Members' Choice" on the back of each submission.
- **DONATIONS FOR THE AUCTION** - The RMOWP Auction is not only a lot of fun but also raises some necessary funds for the organization. We'll be receiving donations from our corporate friends, but members' donations are also needed. Bring your own matted photos (maybe your Members' Choice Contest entries?), published books, craft and gift items, photo equipment, or whatever you find lying around the house, with the exception of spouses.

Thanks!



Sandhill Crane © Fred Lord
1st Place, Published Images, 2014 Contest

President's Column

Mirrorless Cameras Revisited

Al Perry

Some time ago, you may recall me extolling the virtues of mirrorless cameras. Here I go again. In 2014, for the first time, sales of digital single lens reflex ("dslr") cameras actually declined after increasing by double digits for a decade or more. Sales of point and shoot cameras have also declined precipitously as smartphone cameras have increased rapidly. Sales of mirrorless cameras are growing.

So where do mirrorless cameras fit in? In my view, mirrorless cameras are positioned between dslr cameras and smartphone cameras in terms of weight, size, sensor size and cost. Also, it seems most research and development is being directed toward smartphone and mirrorless cameras.

Here are the advantages I experience with mirrorless vs. dslr cameras: 1) less weight of camera and lenses, 2) lower cost, and 3) ease of use. By ease of use, I am referring to a high quality electronic viewer that shows overexposure ("zebra pattern") and items in focus ("peaking") in good and low light. Also, movies are much easier with mirrorless cameras that have electronic eye level viewers than with dslr cameras whose optical eye level viewer does not work during movie recording.

For those who want the advantages of a mirrorless camera and a full size sensor, Sony just announced the Sony Alpha 7R II for high resolution stills and movies along with in-camera image stabilization. Third party lenses, including Nikon and Canon, can be used with Sony mirrorless camera bodies.

Recently, Samsung came out with a mirrorless camera that takes still photos at 15 frames per second, along with 4K movies plus slow motion at 120 frames per second. Oh, and by the way, Samsung's sensor was rated the best ever for aps-c (advanced photo system type-c) crop factor cameras by DXO Mark, which quantitatively tests cameras and lenses.

In the enthusiast market, Sony has just released a mirrorless camera (RX10 II) with 14 frames per second still photos along with 4K and slow motion movies with a constant f/2.8 lens ranging from 24 to 200mm.

Meanwhile, traditional single lens reflex optical viewer cameras have few of the features buyers want today and are dropping in sales.

In order to reduce weight during a 13 hour hike on lake ice earlier this year, I carried mirrorless cameras and lenses while photographing ice caves. One image from that hike is included here.



Ice Cave, Lake Superior, Wisconsin, February 2015 © Al Perry

Bringing a Dog to Ouray?

If you're thinking about bringing a dog with you to the Ouray conference, be aware that pets are not permitted in the meeting room. However, there is a **daytime pet-sitting** service that comes highly recommended: Chris' Pet Grooming. Phone 970/325-4822; email chrishinkson@yahoo.com.

Wanted: Seriously Flawed Photos ... Seriously!

At the upcoming conference in Ouray this fall, William Horton will demonstrate techniques to rescue less than perfect images. For this presentation "Fixing Flawed Photographs," he needs ... flawed photos.

When asked if he didn't have a few flawed photos of his own, he broke down in sobs mumbling about the crushing blow to his ego. So please rescue Bill by sharing some of your images that could use a little improvement.

These don't need to be total rubbish, just ones that fall short of their potential. Maybe they were taken in the gray hour. Or your spouse or children hid your tripod that day. Any image (RAW format if possible) that needs rescue, repair, or resuscitation will be appreciated.

E-mail Bill (william@horton.com) to get instructions for uploading your photo. Or, put the file on a CD, DVD, or thumb drive and send to the address below.

William Horton Photography
838 Spruce Street, Boulder, CO 80302

Buck Knives Introduces New Signature Series

North America's best-known crappie fisherman, Wally Marshall, has teamed up with Buck Knives to introduce the "Mr. Crappie by Buck Knives" brand of products. The new series is comprised of short fillets, medium fillets, and a diamond coated fishhook and knife sharpening tool. Each handle is in Wally's signature yellow and features a rubberized or textured grip.

"Having the opportunity to work with such a great knife company is a dream come true," said Marshall.



Mr. Crappie Slab Slinger 6.5", with & without sheath

build these superior fillet knives, I can tell they have the same intensity as I do about the 'Mr. Crappie by Buck Knives' brand."

The fishing fillets are available in three blade lengths: 4", 6" and 6.5". Each knife has a full tang structure with a nylon and tactile-feel handle for a comfortable, secure, non-slip grip and superior handling. An injection molded nylon sheath with drain holes is included with each knife.

For information on the new Mr. Crappie series and Buck Knives' other products, see www.buckknives.com.



Mr. Crappie Slab Shaver 4", with & without sheath

"Since I started working with the fine Buck employees one-on-one to

RMOWP Plans 2016 Conference

Don Laine

The National Park Service celebrates its 100th anniversary next year, so of course RMOWP has to have our annual conference in a national park. We haven't been to Bryce Canyon National Park in southern Utah since 2000, so your conference committee decided it was time to go back.

Therefore, next year's RMOWP conference will take place at **Bryce Canyon National Park June 1-4, 2016**. That's Wednesday afternoon through Saturday evening.

One of the things we especially like about Bryce Canyon is the hoodoos – spectacular red rock sculptures carved in stone – but for those who enjoy forests there are also plenty of trees, including bristlecone pines, which can live thousands of years.

Our headquarters will be the Best Western Plus Ruby's Inn, just outside the park entrance, with lodging for \$109 per night at Ruby's and \$79 per night at Bryce View Lodge, a more basic but perfectly adequate motel across the road that is part of the Ruby's Inn complex. Ruby's also has an adjacent full-service campground and several restaurants on site.

More details will follow as soon as we figure them out, but mark your calendars now!



A formation at Agua Canyon viewpoint along the scenic drive © Don Laine

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