INFORMATION and TIPS



New Grand Canyon Circuit PT Circuit - 6 judgings! Closing April 9, 2012

The Grand Canyon Photo Travel Circuit in Arizona is being revived and now will have six judgings. You can submit up to 4 images in PT-Open and 4 in Architecture, up to 8 images with 48 judgings for \$36. Fees and dues must be paid BEFORE APRIL 9TH. Details and entry form available at: http://www.apsocietyaz.com/GCI_1.htm



BERKS Photographic Society Photographic Conference

June 8, 9 and 10, 20012

Boehm Science Building, Kuztown University, Kutztown, PA

Phone: 610-373-7239



Planning a Trip?

Contact Travel Aide Director, Ellie Webster, FPSA. PSA has volunteers who will provide you with information on where, what and when to photograph at your destination. Contact: elliewebster2@sbcglobal.



Photo Travel Division Bi-Monthly Print Contest

Every other month any PSA member may send in two PT prints and receive a critique by a qualified PSA judge, as well as testing their skills against other photographers. Postage required. naruasogitis@hotmail.com



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Looking for two (2) Deputy Exhibition Standard Directors. Candidates need to possess computer skills and be skilled in Microsoft Office and Excel. For more information contact: mariasphotos@hotmail.com

Next Issue:

 PSA Int'l Conference San Francisco, CA
 September 16-22, 2012
 Marriott San Franciso
 Airport

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY! February 14th, 2012



Winitou Springs, Colorado Springs, CO



Roxanne Overton Named Projected Exhibition Director for San Franciso Conference.

Roxanne Overton has agreed to manage projected entries for the San Francisco conference exhibition. She has been shooting images, both land and underwater, since the 70's and became a member of the Boise Camera Club after moving there in 2007, serving on that board, as Print Chair, Special Events Chair, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster. In PSA, she chaired the 2011 Website Contest, and is the Administrator of EID Study Group 37. Travel inspires her to record scenes from other cultures and geographical locations, and she says, "I love that an image allows us to capture a moment in time and savor it for as long as we want so we can take time to explore what the photographer is showing us." Her work has won both local and international photographic awards.

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Photo Travel Division

Chairman Maria Drumm, PPSA

1st Vice George Bebout, APSA

2nd Vice Tom Tauber

Secretary Shirley Bormann

Treasurer Larry McDonald

to be submitted to

dianemckinley2@yahoo.com

Newsletter articles and photographs

PSA Photo Travel Newsletter

Volume 1 · Jan/Feb 2012

MIA until April 2016

Roger McCarthy Grandfather!

Roger Mc Carthy, our retiring Director of interclub competitions is a new grandfather!

Congratulations!



WHAT IS OUR FEARLESS LEADER MARIA DRUMM DOING IN INDIA?

I am teaching English to engineers. This is a College started by several rich Indian business men who wanted to help educate the poorer people in the countryside. The college is about 32% Muslim and about the same for Hindus and Christians. The students' native language is Tamil which is what is spoken in Tamil Nadu, one of the most southern states in India. This area is famous for its great temples and is a pilgrimage place for the three religions named above.

I found that universities in developing

I found that universities in developing areas want American teachers but cannot afford them. When I retired I learned that going to a country and teaching (business, culture, law and English) is a great way to get to see the country, appreciate the people and the culture as well as get some great images! When I was in India as a tourist in 2010 I mentioned to my guide that I would like to come and teach in South India. He found me the position for a small fee. I am treated like a maharani. I have a driver that takes me to and from the college. They have installed hot water and a shower in my apartment and I even have a refrigerator and microwave oven. The people invite me to their homes and my camera has opened the way to many exciting

...taken from an original email from Maria





Where are you now? ... By Maria Drumm

I am teaching in south India in a city called Tiruchirapalli. It is in the state of Tamil Nadu. I am having a wonderful time and would like to share some of the things you do not see as a tourist.

In the morning on my street there are all kinds of "calls". At 5:20 the call to prayer goes out to all the Muslims in the area. It is soft and melodious but within seconds all the dogs start to howl. It is their signal to wake up the neighborhood. The lady who sells vegetables has a message. If you live above the ground floor you can lower your basket down and she will fill your order. The Herb lady, carrying her goods on her head, has another call. At 8:00 all the children arrive for school in their uniforms and the amplified messages are broadcast

to all. The children are brought by grandmothers, fathers on their motorcycles or arrive in small yellow open taxies called "autos". Everyone with a vehicle drives with their horn. While all of this is going on, here comes the goat herder with his flock. Life in India is total bliss for a photographer. There is a picture around every corner. Did I mention the Ice cream cart in the afternoon and the little boys bring water to the mosque?



place... very common for everyone to eat with their fingers!

NOT HERE...

photographers.



Aerder comes about 8:00am, the same time the kids go to school

the goat

FOCUS

Congratulations...

to Roxanne Overton, Maria Korab-Laskowska and Stan Bormann (Secretary Shirley Bormann's husband) for being featured as an individuals who have made significant contributions to the Photographic Society of America (PSA) during their short tenure of membership.



Travel Tips...

The most valuable travel item besides my camera equipment that I can take anywhere I travel?

#1 is my electric wand and my instant coffee. I carry a mug too. In many hotels there are no facilities for having your morning coffee. I like mine before I have to face anyone so I can have it in the privacy of my room. I like the mug because I can make instant soup too with my wand. I never leave home without it! Be sure you have an adapter. The wand has a built in converter.

#2 without a doubt is as washcloth! I take two; one in my packed luggage and one in my carry one so after a long plane ride, I can wash my face in the lady's room at the next airport.

.. Maria Drumm

#1 I don't take a purse. Money and passport go into familiar over-theneck passport/money case. Lipstick, comb, change go in fanny-pack (never been a problem). I take two carry-ons -- camera bag and a sturdy,

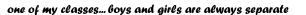
but simple backpack. The latter holds reading material, meds, basic overnight needs (toothpaste), and extra sweater or lightweight parka. It's great for delays and really works

...Mary Ellen Brucker

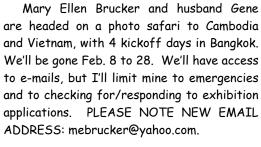
I wear a top loading camera bag fanny pack. My hands aren't as steady as they once were and I can't take out a tripod for the people/cultural photography I love to take. I used a cheap piece of elastic tied on to each side of my fanny pack (neck strap loops) and ran it through the tripod mount on the bottom of my camera. I had the length so the weight of the camera bag tugged a bit against the camera when I hand held it at eye level. It triangulated and steadied my camera so I could shoot in low light and/ or on the run and I came home with wonderfully clear images. Cost - maybe 50 cents worth of elastic.

...Roxanne Overton

Travel Tips continued on Page 3



Roxanne Overton is new to the travel group and in charge of the Digital Image Competition.. She is currently in Vietnam and has returned to the states....."After unpacking I'll be reading competition rules and getting myself acquainted with my new job."



they saw a camera (actually, they were not friendly or even neutral even without seeing a camera). I felt threatened in the market while I was holding a camera. Even if I was not shooting, people held their hand or hats over their faces. In reviewing my images, I could see the hostility in the faces and would say it was definitely not a pleasant experience. There were long drives over dirt paths. We met with chiefs and saw some voodoo

ceremonies but it seemed staged to me.

In October I went to West Africa:

Niger, Togo, Benin and Ghana. No, I

would not recommend these places for

FOR SURE HERE...

And - here's a place that I would encourage you to go!

Places You Would Never Travel Again?

South India is a totally different The people were very hostile when story. Everyone wants their picture taken. Sometimes I just have to say "no" because I have already taken lots of cute little girls with big brown eyes or little boys in their white hats.

> It is an atmosphere of acceptance and interest in foreigners. I feel totally safe and secure, even at night walking from my neighbor's home in Trichy where I am living for three months.

> > • • •from Maria Drumm

AND HERE...

There are many places I would love to go back to and Antarctica comes to mind especially. I have heard that many who go there feel the same way. I would also return to Alaska even after having been there 4 times. I enjoy being away from big tourist sights and enjoy small towns and villages in Europe—especially in Germany and in the US too. Although I enjoyed what I saw in Russia and Ukraine, I would not return anytime soon since there are too many places I haven't seen.









The Magical People of Jaisalmer by Roxanne Overton

A lazy orange sun rises through the haze into a cerulean blue sky filled with flocks of green parrots greeting the new day. This is Jaisalmer in western India. A photographer's dream. Approaching by car across the Thar desert, you can feel what it must have been like in the 12th century as your caravan neared its destination. You are entering an enchanting world of color, culture and fable quite unlike anyplace else on earth.



We entered the city gates and were greeted by a Gypsy lady and her two children with their life's needs atop their camel



This family set the magical mood that was maintained throughout the time we spent there.

Everywhere we looked we saw riots of color and scenes that made it impossible to guess which century we were journeying through. The colors dazzled and the faces mesmerized. The architecture and streets were unlike anything we had ever seen before. Everyone was curious and friendly. Most allowed their photos to be taken and were intrigued when they could review the images on the camera back. What I would have given for a printer and paper!



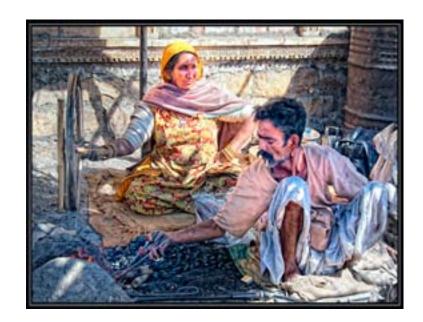




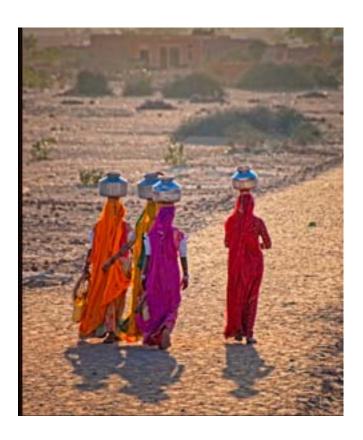
I'm passionate about people and love photographing them. To get images that show the personality you have to get to know the person before asking permission to take their picture. I am rarely turned down. I've been known to beg. And since we only speak sign language the process is simplified.

Jaisalmer has been a crossroads for caravans for centuries upon centuries so the population offers many distinct cultures. One is the Lohar people. They are among the 80 million nomads that make up seven percent of India's population. They carry their belongings in rickety wood carts and the people that we met were blacksmiths. They started as weapon makers but now make mostly farm tools and kitchen ware and are fast being put out of work with cheap Chinese imports.

They are born into poverty, have no education, live without state recognition or benefits and their children are born to this sad circle of life. It's a circle of life that no longer works in our modernized world yet they haven't the means to change it.







Another ancient way of life we were privileged to share was the gathering of water for a rural village.

Twenty miles outside of the city gates there is a village that has been there for centuries. Like those before them, the womens' job is too keep the village supplied with water. They have deep wells about a mile from their homes and they make 12 trips a day to collect their water. It doesn't matter if it's hot, cold, sand storms or mud. The village needs water to survive.

The empty water containers ride out on their heads and return full the same way. A constant parade of chatter and laughter as they make their way back and forth across the golden desert.

Then it was time for us to join the other desert travelers and return to our base. Our time in Jaisalmer was done ... for this trip. Surely this magical spot deserves another visit.



NEXT ISSUE WILL BE SENT OUT MARCH 14TH.

looking for...ARTICLES, PHOTOGRAPHS, STORIES, TRAVEL TIPS AND MORE.

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES
ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1ST.

SUBMIT TO
DIANE MCKINLEY
dianemckiney2@yahoo.com

Then it was our turn to experience the desert journey that so many before us had taken. We did it for pleasure while they made their journeys out of necessity for life itself. The velvet sky, turning pink and orange with the setting sun, enveloped us as our camels plodded rhythmically across the golden sands. A slight breeze accompanied us and we climbed the dunes into a mysterious world that changed shapes with every glance.

We each had a guide and camel to ourselves and we had been taken to an area away from the tourists spots so we shared these dunes with perhaps a half dozen other camels. Tracks appeared and disappeared, colors changed as the sun set deeper and we finally arrived at the top of a dune. We left our camels to rest with our guides and continued on our own to explore our new environment.





Travel Tips... continued from Page 1

I have a few clothing items I find very useful on nearly any kind of trip— ...By Judy Burr

Glove liners that are basically thick gloves which enable one to operate a camera and keep your hands at least a bit warm. If I am in really cold areas, these are the first layer and are covered by other glove/mittens when I am not photographing, but when it is just a bit chilly, they keep my hands from getting uncomfortably cold.

I always have a plastic poncho in my camera bag in case of a sudden downpour—they are cheap and cover you and your bag; they have "saved" me and my gear more than once.

Another item that I bought on a whim has been very useful and that is a bike helmet liner made of Coolmax®; mine is made by Headsweats® and if very lightweight and unbelievably warm—at least enough to keep a chill off. It doesn't take up much space so it is easy to carry.

The other 2 items I like to take are Teeth Wipes and/or wisp®—both devices for cleaning teeth without good water available. One is actually a small brush and the other you put on a finger and wipe your teeth. These are usually used on a plane or in an airport, but can be used anytime you need a dental freshener. I also often take an extension cord that will work wherever I am going so I will have extra outlets. Some small riverboats may have only one outlet in a cabin and this can be very useful.

Items I can't do without... .. Nancy H. Brown

Agree totally with Maria -- 2 washcloths are imperative, plus zip-lock bags for damp ones. And I always carry a foldable travel toothbrush and tiny toothpaste in my handbag, so I can brush my teeth on the plane or airports. In addition I always have a small hand sanitizer in my purse -- not just for travel.

Travel Tip: Put a copy of your itinerary
-- hotel names and address, and dates there, in
the small outside pocket of your luggage. Then
write"Itinerary Inside" on a piece of masking tape
and tape it on the pocket. If your luggage gets lost,
hopefully, it will be sent to the appropriate location,
rather than back home.

Recommended country: Cambodia has had a very brutal history, but the people are so resilient. It has now leapt into the 21st century with state of the art electronics at the airports and visitor sites and a world-class museum in Siem-Reap. Yet the villages are unchanged, and there's the incomparable Angkor.