

Sibley Camera
Club Addendum

January 2021

Have you heard of Jan Grarup ... He was born in 1968 in Denmark and in 1991 finished his journalism and photography studies. Working both as a staff photographer and freelance he specializes in war and conflict photography. As a photojournalist he has covered many conflicts in his career. The website <https://jangrarup.photoshelter.com/index> contains more information if you interested in some of his work.

"Grarup's work reflects his belief in photojournalism's role as an instrument of witness and memory to incite change, and the necessity of telling the stories of people who are rendered powerless to tell their own." - taken from the website above.

He is also on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/JanGrarup/>.

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Notes from the editor

A big thanks to Conrad Coleman, Tonya Dawson, and Kenneth Rust for contributing material for this months issue. Conrad Coleman's interview about his solo show at Midland Shared Spaces will be shared separately outside of the Addendum in order to share some content beyond just the club membership. This was Kelly Stout's idea to add more interaction between the two sections that make up our newsletter.

Its a new year with new opportunites to learn and try new things. While I am only the editor of the newsletter it is my way of being more active in the club and contribute what I can. In 2020 the facebook group page kept going strong, while face to face meetings wasn't possible the weekly zoom sessions became a new way to meet and learn from many photographers country wide, and the Addendum added another layer of information to the Whats Happening at Sibley Camera Club e-mailed out by Kelly Stout.

That was 2020 but what about 2021? I would like to see a photography fair occur as a way to share our love of photography to more people. In this issue Tonya Dawson is discussing her vision of a co-op photography studio space as a new benefit to the club. Remember even in the age of instant information individuals learning from each other is still an invaluable opportunity to appreciate and cultivate. Imagine what you would like to see happen in 2021 and share your ideas maybe it can become a reality.

Malcolm McElvaney
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The mysterious roadrunner

By Kenneth Rust



Taken in April of 2020

moved; tall and sleek with a long tail. Unmistakably this was a Roadrunner! In all my years of walking at the College, I had never seen one. I had my dog with me and we began to follow it in and around the greenhouse. I also had a cell phone and was able to get a quick photo that was not very good. I returned later in the afternoon, but this time without a dog and armed with a Nikon. The Roadrunner was there and I began stalking him. I got a few shots before he went into some shrubbery. Then, I got onto my knees and followed him. There he was, just staring at me. I lay down low and was able to get some good pictures. It was like he was posing for me. I thought how cool it was that Midland College had a resident Roadrunner.

I only saw him once or twice after that and not again during the summer. Often I wondered about him but figured he had moved on. Then, in mid December, I was again walking a dog there and cut through the greenhouse gardens. I was totally shocked when out jumped the Roadrunner! I had my Nikon and was able to get a quick shot. But now; the mystery. Where had he been? Why did he come back? Do Roadrunners migrate? I felt a certain connection to this bird. Sadly, I have not seen him again. Since there is road work being done next to the greenhouse, he has probably moved on. I will keep watching and hoping.

The camera I used was a Nikon D3500 with a 70-300mm zoom lens. I do not know what the other setting were.

This is the Mystery of the Midland College mascot. It began back in April while walking my dog. We were coming up on the old greenhouse there, across the field from the women's softball field. Over the years, we had made this approach many times, but on this day, we saw a bird sitting on the ground. I thought it was a dove at first, only it was too big and too tall. The bird remained still and, as we got closer, I knew this was not an ordinary bird. Then it

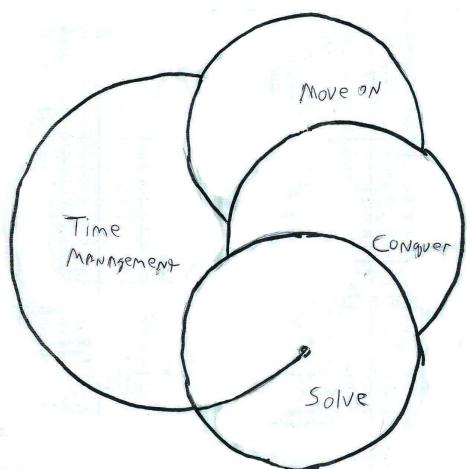


Taken December 15, 2020

Solve. Conquer. Move on.

by Malcolm McElvaney

I was pondering the details of what it would take to emulate taking photos from a child's point of view and while discussing it with someone they mentioned a simple summation that I really liked. "Solve. Conquer. Move on" is applicable to many things but would also fit into that original line of inquiry I will be working on but it is in terms of photography overall I want to cover here. The model I see includes time management to tie these three elements together and could be an useful evaluation tool to help answer the question of what is your is process when dealing with photography. Based on my experiences I consider time a critical factor as there were times if I had the patience I could have gotten some better pictures if only I waited or stopped one more time along the path. I have come to realize the moments I capture present themselves in a limited time frame yet a missed opportunity elsewhere isn't a reason to go faster but get the best results where I am at instead.



Solve – There are usually multiple ways to achieve a similar results yet if in a hurry we tend to pick one solution and follow that through exclusively. Similar results are not identical results so trying more than one solution would also be a worthy time investment. Every picture we take can benefit from looking for multiple solutions (i.e. point of view shift or composition changes) and perhaps just be more patient as time helps improve the conditions of the scene.

Conquer – To master something is to conquer it and it is practice over time that helps achieve this mastery. Every new attempt to take that next picture introduces new challenges as solutions applied to previous pictures may not work exactly the same. This has been what I have found to be true especially as it seems each picture has its own unique set of condition to over come as I make it match my vision for it. There is also an aspect of challenging yourself to push beyond what you have achieved and in the process discover you can do more than you thought.

Move on – The passion for what you do and where you choose to apply that effort will be diverse since we are all unique individuals, but interest do shift over time and new interest captivate us. What I have found is while I may not be focusing on past exploits that the current endeavor can be helpful in looking at them in new ways. Inspiration

comes from many places. Conquering one topic of interest leads to skills sets useful over all as you explore other aspects to build more skills sets from.

I would consider myself an amateur photographer with a definite lack of profit motivation but I feel free to just experiment and be inspired by random tidbits found while exploring drawing, painting, video game, and comic book related material to name a few sources. I need to work on my patience and be willing to conquer more of the odd processes I try along the way. Hopefully you found this new tool of some use and it helps out. If you consider yourself a beginner and are new to photography remember that each success leads one step closer to a plateau and a good vantage point to spot your next challenge to perhaps climb even higher for better vantage points. Other photographers can be inspirational but you will develop your unique style over time just give it a chance to happen.

Once upon a time in 1958

from the Sponsor magazine published on 1 February 1958

The Polaroid camera was created by Edwin Land in 1948 with the first commercial instant camera being the Model 95 Land camera. The instant camera and the process used for self-developing photographs lasted until 2008; however, the passion for this type of photography has been revived by others so is not completely lost. Part of the success for any product comes from advertising its benefits to the consumers of it. Thanks to the Internet Archives and a random keyword search I found yet another piece of history to share covering this aspect of photography and a process used.

Excerpt begins here:

Polaroid is selling the fun of photography according to the firm's admen. They feel this can best be demonstrated with a well-known personality actually having a good time with the camera in a live commercial.

"Film would take away the spontaneity and drama," Scheckinger states. "When Jack Paar opens up the back of that camera and pulls out the picture he's just taken, there's a different expression every time - this adds a believability that would be impossible to duplicate with film."

For the rest of the article go to <https://archive.org/details/sponsormagazine-1958-02/Sponsor-1958-02-1/page/n35/mode/2up?q=polaroid> to read it. It starts on page 34 in the magazine.

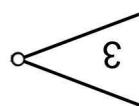
focusTLD

by Tonya Dawson

I'm a native Midlander, I'm employed at Midland Memorial Hospital in the Heart Institute for 24 years, and I have 4 beautiful grandchildren. I love photography because it's endless. The more I dive into it, the more I realize how little I know and want to know more. My grandchildren have given me the motivation to get involved with photography and to keep going. It's opened up my eyes to things that I never noticed before and appreciate it.



I've been thinking about starting a new project by gathering old family photographs and displaying them in an album. After my parents passed away, my brother and I would find ourselves looking through old photographs. Just looking at them takes you back to when you were a child or even when your parents or grandparents were children. I hated for these memories to just be stashed away in a box to be forgotten. Instead, I wanted to share these cherished memories with the younger generations behind me. So I decided to take photos of these treasures and make a documented album. You know, similar to a very tidy scrapbook. I thought the albums would make nice gifts for my children, and they could pass them on down to the grandchildren. Yes, the original photographs are still stashed away in a box, but the albums can be tastefully put together and can easily be kept on a coffee table, etc. to pick up any time to reminisce or just marvel at how times have changed. It's going to be a big project and time consuming, but I think it will be worth it. You can get very creative on backdrops or props with your photos. Going through old photographs made me ponder on days gone by and why we have this love



and passion to capture special moments or especially moments that you don't realize just how valuable they are at the time. This is what it's all about, and I'm so thankful for it. I guess I don't really know what my niche is, but I do enjoy photographing children. They're beautiful!! Something that has been very rewarding for me has been the Zoom meetings on Tuesday nights. This has transpired into something amazing. We have had the privilege of meeting notorious photographers from all over the country. They have been so kind in sharing their photographs and knowledge. Priceless.



Example of a layout at a co-op in Abilene

Recently, in collaborating with David Pine, we have taken his idea of a photography coop back off the shelf to revisit. I'm enthusiastic about sharing this with you all and sharing with the community via social media and word of mouth. With the population in the Midland/Odessa area, I believe this is something that could work as it is already successfully being done in other cities with equal or less population. There is so much talent between these two towns and even going a little further East. Although, real estate is considerably higher in Midland than other areas, it's possible we could get enough committed members to keep the cost down. Of course, there would be further shared discussion, as the idea evolves, on the details as we get people on board and willing to participate.

I have been so excited with the endless opportunities the coop could offer us and the rest of the community. I have taken the liberty to list a few thoughts and facts that I put together just in brainstorming and talking to Steve Ellinger, a professional photographer and member of a coop in Abilene. He has been super helpful and willing to answer any questions. He has also invited us to visit their coop in Abilene.

Those who would be interested in helping, even if you are not wanting to make a commitment but would like to see this project kick off, ie. Researching for property, expertise in social media and networking, reaching out to other photographers you may

already know, etc., please contact me via Facebook Message, email tlambeth@msn.com or 432-528-5648.

Please read the following, and your feedback is greatly appreciated:

MIDLAND FINE ARTS COOP

What is a cooperative (co-op)?

- Cooperatives are created by people who have a specific need and who are willing to work together to operate and organize a company that will meet that need.

Purpose of a co-op in Midland:

- To provide a service for the members and the community

Overall benefits of a photography co-op:

- Access
- Community commitment
- Democratic governance and empowerment

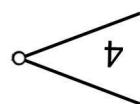
I had a discussion with David Pine, and this is an idea in the making. I think the biggest challenges are:

- Finding members willing to commit including:
 - Studio manager
 - Marketing director
 - Bookkeeper
- A facility
- Keeping the cost affordable

We are providing a service for our community:

Coops are an excellent source of community outreach projects:

- Gallery to display art work of all kinds
- Workshops
- Collaborating can increase your photo production
- Develop a better opportunity to Networking
- Learning from other photographers



More about us . . .

The Sibley Nature Center Camera Club meets on the first Saturday of the month from 10am to 11:30am at the Sibley Nature Center on 1307 E. Wadley in Midland. Come join in on the monthly photo challenges on the groups FaceBook page and be part of the activity as well. In addition to the monthly meeting we are currently doing weekly zoom meetings. We have had some fantastic guest speakers from around this area and the United States. They have been kind enough to share and talk about their journey in photography.

As always we welcome anyone that is interested in photography to join us. Our membership requirements are the \$40.00 annual membership donation to Sibley Nature Center and attend at least one meeting a year. Any questions please contact Kelly at sibleycameraclub@gmail.com.