

One Liners

by Beth Suda

Yesterday, you were asked to put your story pitch into one sentence. Though it was a seemingly trivial task, it was interesting to see how difficult this sentence was for some of you to create.

Some of the sentences were short and succinct and others were a series of clauses and pauses. David Rees says that creating a single sentence summary is like writing a thesis statement for a term paper.

"[Good sentences] introduce the characters, explain the significance or the relationship, and hint at a complexity or conflict. It helps us understand what's going on, but also makes us want to know more," says David Rees.

No matter how hard it is to do, creating a one-sentence summary of your story is important, because it can help you focus as well as give insight into the strengths and weaknesses of your idea.

Calin Ilia, MPW Graduate Coordinator, says it best, "Once you have that sentence you know what to shoot for and you don't wander around anymore trying to take pictures versus make pictures."

The following examples are from Lysanne Loute (Team A):

"John Cebuhar, a former pastor, and his wife Virginia, celebrate 29 years of marriage despite living in separate houses, several restraining orders, and John's many trips to jail."

"After more than 30 years away, extensive travel, and calling Macon "her Africa," a former Ms. Missouri, Jan Barton, moves back in to her childhood bedroom to take care of her 90-year-old mother with Alzheimer's and she has to decide this week whether or not to put her in a nursing home."

Don't Forget to invite your subjects to attend the photo exhibition:
Saturday, October 2
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Macon County Expo Center.

thursday

schedule:

8 am-12 pm: Story consultation

1 - 5 pm: Story consultation

7 pm: Self-service eye-openers

7:30 pm: Faculty presentation: David Rees
Break up into teams for final strategy

weather:

Sunny High: 71(Fahrenheit)
Low: 54 (Fahrenheit)

Sunrise: 7:02 a.m.
Sunset: 6:59 p.m.

rangefinder

founders:
Cliff & Vi Edom

co-directors:
Jim Curley & David Rees

director emeritus:
Duane Dailey

MPW coordinator:
Amy Schomaker

graduate coordinators:
Ialin Clea & Jakob Berr

photographer:
An Guangxi

Rangefinder staff:
Beth Wheezy & M-dizzle

The Rangefinder

mpw | The Missouri Photo Workshop

Macon, Missouri

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Stunning photos don't come easy

By: Duane Dailey

The eye-opening photos Tuesday night are visual proof. Images that embed in your mind are not snapshots, they take work. Gaining access in Macon, Mo. may seem daunting; but recall two photos from Craig Walker and Randy Olson.

The stunned Army private pondering his fate.

The hungry grizzly bear shopping the menu from five feet away.

Now consider what those photographers slogged through, not in a workshop week, but in real-life years. In the mandate of "1/250 sec. @ f/8 and be there," it's the "be there" that takes skill.

This week you are there for significant moments in residents' lives. You can show us a glimpse of what life is like here. You'll record everyday moments that no one has seen before.

This is your training camp. You will learn survival skills needed by a freelance or staff photographer. The digital camera does the f/8. Your diligence in gaining access makes pictures possible. You will deliver more than cellphone snapshots. That's your marketable skill.

Learn from the recounting of steps, miles of steps, needed by Craig and Randy. Craig did the duck and weave navigating high school, family, army recruiting, pentagon and beyond obstacles. Note how he anticipated at each step the possible blocks and potential rewards.

Randy just hinted at the obstacles of trekking to the salmon spawning spots. More than grizzlies stood in his way. He didn't tell of the bureaucracies of National Geographic or the new Russia in gaining access. He spent a year inventing underwater equipment before he flew those dangerous miles in a clunky Russian helicopter with just enough fuel on board to get there.

Does this add perspective to your difficulties this week?

MaryAnne Golon shared her transition from print
cont. on page 2...

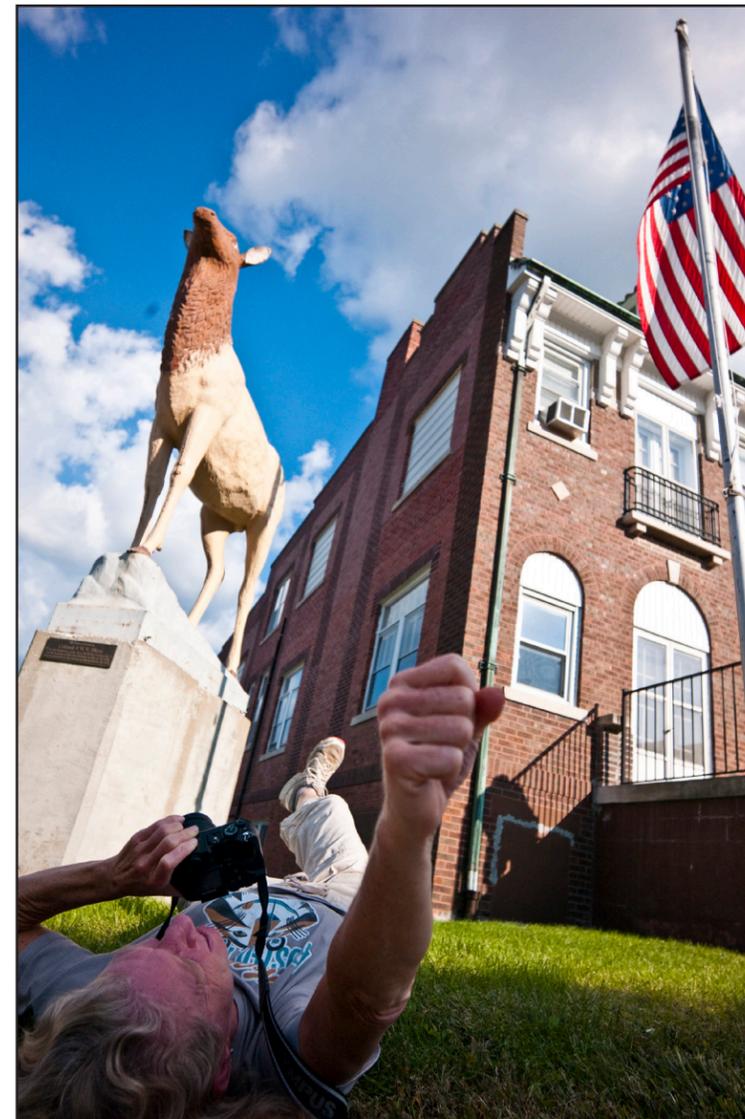


Photo by Jakob Berr



Photo by Peggy Peattie

Top: Macon, Mo., Sept. 29, 2010. Missouri Photo Workshop faculty member Peggy Peattie throws her fist in the air after she successfully waited for several minutes for the wind to turn so that she could take a picture of the Elk together with the American flag.

Left: The photo Peggy took

...cont. from page 1

on the page at TIME to the website delivery at AARP. Digital is your friend. It's our future.

Jim Curley reminded us that the faculty came here for you. They are available, here now, this week in the bubble. At midnight Saturday the bubble bursts. Partake now. Curley reminded us: There is marrow in them thar bones.

Hundreds of photographers have found MPW to be career changing. It happens, every year. But only for those who dig deeper, stay later, go earlier, ask more questions, absorb more, jot notes, write simple declarative sentences, tuck away contacts and build networks. It's more than f/8.

Months from now flashbacks will hit you: "Oh, that's what they were trying to tell me!" It happened to me. It will happen to you.



Photo by An Guangxi

Nikon Reps. Expertise Meets Entertainment

Scott Diussa and Bill Fortney are both new to the MPW team. But the pair proved to be more than capable of taking on the challenge when they brought the two most crucial things to the table, the equipment table that is.

To help make MPW 62 a success, Fortney and Diussa stocked the NPS booth with roughly \$150,000 of rentable Nikon equipment and a hefty bowl of Halloween treats. If the opportunity to go into sugar comatose isn't enough to draw MPW photographers to the table, Diussa and Fortney's extensive knowledge of the equipment and exceptional experience is.

Diussa has been the field operations manager for NPS for ten years. Other than reporting back to the general manager in New York,

his job generally keeps him far away from offices and cubicles.

"Managing NPS is like herding cats- it's a very crazy challenge," Diussa said. "It's a crazy group of people to keep control of. But they sure are a lot fun."

Beyond the management side of his career, Diussa has recently photographed the Vancouver Winter Olympics, World Cup Soccer in South Africa and the Reno Air Races.

The amount of time spent on the road is one of the few downsides to a career that allows employees to photograph such a range of global events.

"I'm away for home about 200 nights a year," Fortney said.

"But we have to go where the work is."

Fortney has been with Nikon professional of his biggest passions. His five photography services for eight years. When asked what his books have made a top selling author.

Fortney and Diussa have been enthusiastic about their time at MPW.

Despite his playful claims, Fortney was never a Catholic priest and his name is not an alias to hide his true identity as Harrison Ford. Fortney's technical title for Nikon is professional market technical representative.

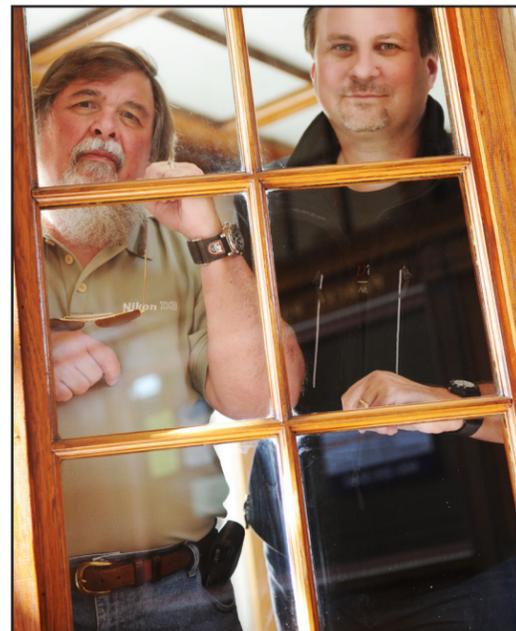
But that does not even begin to accurately describe his range of photographic experience.

Before joining the Nikon team, Fortney was the sports photographer for the Red Skins for a little over a season. "But that was after I was an astronaut," Fortney joked.

Although Fortney has never been to space, combining aviation with photography is one



Photo by An Guangxi



Story and Photo by Christie Megura

First big day... thoughts?



"I had my first cultural experience, I got to shoot 2 guns, a 280 and a rifle, then we went mudding and had to get pulled by a tractor."

-Andri Tambunan



"I ended up with a story that I am very anxious about...398 frames of potential."

-Roger Meissen



"I sat at one point with my legs dangling in a grave...I learned all kinds of crap about diggin' graves."

-Buffy Redsecker