

# Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers & Photographers 2006 Conference

## DETAILS: Field Trips & Workshops

### Field Trips:

**Arches National Park** - Natural stone arches and fantastic rock formations, which look as if they were sculpted by an artist's hand, are the defining features of this park, and they exist in remarkable variety. Just as soon as you've seen the most beautiful, most colorful, most gigantic stone arch you can imagine, walk around the next bend and there's another—bigger, better, and more brilliant than the last. It would take forever to see them all, with more than 2,000 officially listed and more being discovered or "born" every day. Ambitious hiker/photographers will set out early on foot to catch the best light, while those who want to take it a bit easier but see more of the park will join a guided bus tour.

**Scott M. Matheson Wetlands Preserve** - Owned by the Nature Conservancy, this lush oasis attracts more than 200 species of birds and other wildlife, such as river otters, beavers, and muskrats. There is a handicapped-accessible one-mile loop trail, boardwalks over the wet areas, and a two-story viewing blind. Our group will be given a guided walk, with opportunities for photography. Bring long lenses, and also some mosquito repellent. *Note:* There are no restrooms at the preserve.

**Sunset Boat Ride** - This 30-mile jet boat ride on the Colorado River is designed especially for photographers, with the boat stopping at the best scenic spots along the river. In addition to colorful rock cliffs and canyons, there are arches, petroglyphs, and American Indian ruins. The trip, operated by Canyonlands by Night, will be preceded by a Dutch oven dinner. Participants should wear light jackets or sweaters.

**Guided Petroglyph Tour** - American Indian rock art is found throughout this area, created by prehistoric people including the Paleo-Indians, who lived here as long ago as 10,000 B.C., and the later ancestral Puebloans and even modern Utes. Most of the images that have survived are petroglyphs - designs pecked into rock surfaces - but there are also some pictographs - painted designs. We'll be led to some of the more interesting rock art sites with local expert Dell Crandell

**Sunrise Photo Shoot** - On Saturday, at 5:30 a.m., those intrepid photographers who choose to rise early will head for a location fairly close to Moab. We will look for good morning light, inspiring landscapes, and any other targets of opportunity. Strictly optional.

**Dan O'Laurie Museum of Moab** - The history of Moab from prehistoric times to the present is depicted at this growing museum, which begins with geology exhibits and gradually moves into modern times, including some hands-on activities. We'll learn about the area from museum director Rusty Salmon.

**Film Museum and Winery at Red Cliffs Lodge** - Moab and the surrounding red rock country have been a popular location for making movies since it was "discovered" by famed director John Ford. Red Cliffs Lodge provided the scenery for many of Ford's movies, including "Wagon Master" and "Rio Grande." A museum at the lodge has exhibits from the earliest films

to the present, including props, posters, and photos, and the scenery's still spectacular. There's also a winery on site with free tastings. See [www.redcliffslodge.com](http://www.redcliffslodge.com).

### **Workshops & Critiques:**

**Photography Tom Till Style** - This digital slide show and workshop is being presented by Moab resident Tom Till, an internationally-known scenic and nature photographer whose work you've seen in magazines, calendars, books, and as framed fine-art photography. He has a gallery in Moab at 61 N. Main Street, and you can also see his work online at [www.tomtill.com](http://www.tomtill.com).

**Round Table Discussion: Making a Living As A Freelancer** - Working pros from RMOWP will be joined by local reporter Lisa Church, who writes for the *Times-Independent* of Moab and the *Salt Lake Tribune*, to explore the different ways that freelancers can actually make enough money to pay the bills.

**Photography Critique** - Entertaining and informative for all, whether you brought photos or just sit and enjoy them, this program looks at various photographs with an eye on how they could have been improved upon. Those who want their shots critiqued should bring 3 to 5 slides or digital images on CDs to the meeting room 15 minutes prior to the program.

**Migrating to Digital Photography** - Studies indicate that in four short years, 90% of professional photos will be shot with digital cameras. This workshop, presented by Steve Schweitzer, will guide us through the transition from film to digital, explaining the differences between the two formats, how a digital camera sees color, what white balance does, and how to use the camera's advanced functions to get professional results.

**The Digital Workflow - From Camera to Print** - Photographer Joe Zinn continues our exploration of digital photography by looking not only at the camera but at the process beyond the camera. He'll be exploring how to read histograms and how to make the most of digital photography techniques.

**Website Creation 101** - It seems like everybody has a website, and if we're going to succeed as outdoor writers and photographers we're going to have to at least consider jumping on the bandwagon. In this workshop, web guru Steve Schweitzer explains the basics of setting up our very own websites, and the pitfalls to avoid.

**Writers' Critique** - Here we critique (gently, positively) the work of members with the purpose of improving that particular work. Those who wish to participate should bring at least 5 copies of no more than 4 pages of double-spaced unpublished work. This should not be your best writing; it should be something you need help with. This is a chance to receive help and advice from other writers. If there's time we'll talk a little about writing groups.