

This Winter in Oregon

Laurie and I are thoroughly enjoying exploring our new home state of Oregon. It is quite beautiful. This past winter was relatively warm which made exploration easier. To take advantage of the warmth, fellow photographer, Greg Burke and his friends, Dave Ehle and Chris Janowski, planned a float trip on the John Day River in eastern Oregon for mid-February. They invited me to join them for my first float on this river.

To save on the weight and bulk of my gear, I switched to a lighter and smaller tripod head; something I rarely do. In the process of switching, I forgot to transfer the mounting plate, which I discovered only after we had started to float down river. My tripod was useless to me. We awoke on our first morning to beautiful mist and fog that had collected in the river valley overnight. Greg generously loaned me his tripod which I used to photograph this image from the top of the river bluff:



River Fog and Morning Sunlight

I photographed the next two images while we floated the river. Both images show portions of areas under consideration for wilderness designation.



Sunlit Point Bar and Shaded Wall



Curving Basalt Columns

In March, Greg and his wife, Debra, took me further east to see the state's largest western juniper—an enormous individual for this species. We then visited a small, isolated series of sand dunes where I photoed the image on the right shortly after it began to rain. The wind blew the rain from behind my left shoulder to in front of me on the right. The area to the right of the foreground bush is light because of the 'rain shadow' effect of the bush. But as the rain continued to fall, this shadow area of sand slowly began to darken with moisture, too.



Debra and the largest Western Juniper in Oregon



Rain Starting to Fall on Sand Dune at Edge of Forest

Fall Along the Sespe River

Last November, my friend, Dennis Nord, and I spent a couple of nights camped in the Sespe River drainage located in Los Padres National Forest, Ventura County CA. The cottonwoods were in full fall color:



Fall Colors, Sespe Drainage, no. 3



Fall Colors, Sespe Drainage, no. 2

Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge

Earlier this year, I accepted the offer from the manager of Kodiak NWF to come see the Refuge. My plan is to visit this August and September to photograph the archipelago's magnificent landscapes, fall colors, and renown brown bears for the first time. The fun will start though, before landing on Kodiak. Getting around Kodiak and its surrounding smaller islands is accomplished by small plane or boat. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (the agency which administers the National Wildlife Refuge System) requires volunteers to go through dunker training which prepares one for the remote event of an emergency water landing. During early June in Newport OR, I'll participate in this training which includes being dunked in a swimming pool. I'm excited for the opportunity to photo Kodiak, and look forward to sharing with you some of the results in a future newsletter!

Wildling and Wuksachi Workshops this Spring

Once again, the Wildling Museum (Solvang CA) and Wuksachi Lodge (Sequoia National Park) are offering my workshops. For the majority of each workshop, I'll be taking participants out to photo at locations I'll choose based on the then-current weather in Los Padres National Forest and Sequoia National Park. If you'd like to learn more, please see:

[Wildling Museum workshop](#) (May 15-late afternoon; and May 16)

[Wuksachi Lodge workshop](#) (May 30-afternoon and early evening; May 30-morning). This workshop is part of a great get away weekend package offered by Wuksachi Lodge.

Each workshop has a limited number of spaces, so if you're interested sign up soon!

Cheers,

Jeff

www.lumnos.com

Previously, you expressed interest in my photographs or workshops. If you no longer wish to receive emails from me, please reply and ask to be removed from my list. I manage my own mailings, and never give your address to anyone.