

IAPP

e-MONITOR

Welcome to the premier issue of the International Association of Panoramic Photographer's monthly newsletter

What is the e-Monitor?

The e-monitor's description is defined in the last box of the last page of each and every issue, and here it is:

The monitor on the rear of a digital camera is a device we use to quickly examine information about our photos. The IAPP e-Monitor was designed to give our membership a quick look at what is going on with the IAPP and with panoramic photography in general. It was originated to give our membership quicker information while they await the release of the PANORAMA.

What it is Not!

The e-Monitor is not a substitute for the PANORAMA-The Journal of the IAPP. The Journal originally was designed as a printed magazine issued quarterly to the IAPP membership. For a variety of reasons the Journal has had difficulty meeting that type of deadline, not the least of which is the high cost of layout, publication, and distribution. The cost of a single issue of the PANORAMA is between \$3,500 and \$5,000, to have it laid out, printed, and mailed to the membership. Multiply that by 4 and you can understand how much money it takes to send out the quarterly publication. Lately, to stay in the black,

the decision was made to distribute the Journal in an electronic form and limit the number of issues per year. We hope to return to a printed publication next year if all of our moneysaving plans pay off.

How do the PANORAMA and the e-Monitor differ?

The PANORAMA is laid out as a 30-40 page Journal that includes information on the major conference of the IAPP, any workshops or mini-conferences that have been or will be held, highlights of members, Photo Contest winners, listings and biographies of the IAPP Officers and Board members, and a variety of material that has been gathered over the course of several months. This has always been the device that has been used to inform the membership, in detail, about the events that are coming and those that have passed. These issues have become collector's items and many of the IAPP members have full collections which show the evolution of the IAPP and dramatically shows its history.

The e-Monitor is not as extensive and all-encompassing as the PANORAMA. Instead its advantage is that it can take information and distribute it to the membership in a quick and informative fashion and can do that in a periodic manner. The e-Monitor is planned to be a monthly mini-magazine with several immediate benefits over its bigger brother.

The e-Monitor is assembled, edited, and electronically published by the

Secretary of the IAPP. Since that person is a volunteer, the cost of the layout is FREE! The "e" in e-Monitor means "electronic." It will be distributed ONLY electronically to the membership — it will NOT be printed (although there is nothing to prevent the membership from downloading and printing it, in fact, it is laid out for you to do just that). This means that "printing" costs are FREE! Since the majority of IAPP members do have email they will be notified as to when and where to download the issue and, hence, the distribution will be FREE! As you can see, there is a pattern here. The e-Monitor's total cost will be FREEEEEE! Well, almost! To fill the monthly publication we do need articles and photos from the membership and we will ask for those every month. We currently have sufficient material from the IAPP Officers and Board members to fill up several issues but, if it gets to the point where very few members are sending in material then the e-Monitor will shrink in size. The e-Monitor has no particular number of pages to fill each month so it can be as many pages or as few pages as we have material to include.

This is an experiment to enhance the panoramic community's desire for more panoramic "stuff." Please help us make it worthwhile.

The first issue of the e-Monitor begins on the next page. Enjoy, and give us your comments.

Bryan A. Snow — IAPP Secretary

IAPP

e-MONITOR

WHEN THE WEATHER IS NOT CONDUCTIVE TO OUTDOOR PANS, GO INSIDE



SAN FERNANDO CATHEDRAL
2008

HOW TO GET THOSE SHOTS WITHOUT GETTING THROWN OUT

Security guards are instructed not to let “Professional” photographers shoot inside most public buildings. There are ways to get ‘the shot’ without going behind their backs!

There is an old saying we all grew up with — “It’s not WHAT you know, it’s WHO you know.” This phrase was never truer than it is today. Ever since 9-11, security is tighter in public buildings and the dreaded “tripod police” seem to come out of the woodwork the instant those three feet are placed on the floor.

We’ve heard it all before. “I’m sorry, but you are not allowed to take photos in here.” “But,” you say, “those people are using their camera phones to take photos.” “Well,” they say, “small cameras are okay, but professional photographs are not allowed.”

Arguing with most security guards is usually a waste of time, for you and the guard. But, if you do some preliminary work before you go in to set up your equipment, you stand a better chance of getting the shot, and possibly more.

The above shot I took inside San Fernando Cathedral in downtown San

Antonio, TX. While Cathedral personnel do not prowl the aisles inside, they come around every few minutes, just in time to make those quickie photos almost impossible. They are not worried about terrorists setting bombs inside, but the Catholic Archdiocese has a justifiable fear that their historic cathedral might be used inappropriately in some print or advertising.

As long as you know what the people who control your target facility are worried about you can usually find a way to allay their fears if you know how to “work the system.” Now, I don’t mean that we do anything wrong or break any rules, but, instead, do just the opposite, go ask permission from the people in charge.

It’s true that most people who control the facilities that we would like to photograph have these rules in place for a reason. If you show these people that your photographs will not compromise their security or cause harm to their reputation, and will in fact, help

to bolster their public relations, they will be more inclined to, not only give their permission, but sometimes even

SAN FERNANDO CATHEDRAL



Top of Page: Interior of San Fernando Cathedral. Above: Exterior of San Fernando Cathedral

Punch holes here

MISSION CONCEPCIÓN



MISSION SAN JUAN



help you get the best shot you can get.

For the shot of the interior of Mission Concepción (below), also in San Antonio, I had officials turn on the lights that would allow a better image; I had them ask some of the public that were going to walk in for a casual visit to wait for a few minutes while I finished my imaging; and they also let me into areas of the Mission where the public is normally not allowed to visit, much less photograph.

How did I get the officials to give permission to shoot the interior of most of the Missions in the city? I began by asking permission of the Rector of San Fernando Cathedral. Unfortunately I could never get past his secretary. I called on numerous occasions but the secretary told me that he was out, or was in a meeting, but her standard answer was "He has your phone number and he will call you when he can."

I called about every third day for several weeks with no luck. Finally, in desperation, I printed and framed the photo of the interior of San Fernando Cathedral (which is on Page 1) and went to his office. I introduced myself to his secretary who immediately told me he was not there "and would call me when he could." I uncovered the 12 X 36 inch framed photograph and presented it to

her and asked her to give it to the Rector with my compliments. Her mood immediately changed and she told me how magnificent the photo was and she would give it to the Rector as soon as he came in. I left my card stuck in front of the frame (I had another permanently attached to the rear of the frame) and I thanked her and left.

That afternoon the Rector called to thank me. From our resulting conversation and images that he had seen of a Baptism that my wife had photographed for one of his parishioners, he asked us to come over and talk. From that meeting he asked my wife to shoot his official retirement portrait and he gave me permission to photograph the Missions.

When you can walk into an office at any of the San Antonio Missions and announce that the person who is overseeing the restoration of the Missions had given you permission to photograph, the people are more than happy to not only let you in but assist you in any photography you wish to do. It was not just because a top official had given permission (which removed responsibility from the individual rangers at the Missions) but, also because these people support any actions that would put the Missions in a better light and bring more people to visit.



MISSION
CONCEPCIÓN



**MISSION
SAN JOSE**

Punch holes here

I always present a framed photograph of whatever subject I have been allowed to shoot to the person who gave permission. This is what “working the system” means.

If there is a subject you wish to shoot then you certainly should do as much preparation for it in advance of taking out your camera. The most famous landmark in the city is Mission San Antonio de Valero, otherwise known as The Alamo. This Mission is operated by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Inc. and while their website asks that you not take photographs INSIDE the shrine there is no mention of restrictions on OUTSIDE photography. However, if you contact the staff you will find that you can, indeed, photograph inside the Alamo itself if you apply for permission in advance. You can fill out a form called “Request To Photograph At The Alamo” and the form indicates that photography is limited to “...non-commercial and documentary use.”

How about outside photography? If you set up a tripod with a large camera to shoot the exterior of the Alamo, a Ranger will definitely approach you and ask you not to shoot from the Alamo-side of the curb. You can shoot from the city side if you want to. The

explanation is quite reasonable. The site is a shrine where men gave their lives fighting for Texas liberty and it should be treated in a respectful fashion. People constantly shoot the exterior of the Alamo with point and shoot cameras, cell phone cameras, and the like, but it is not something that should be done on the Alamo property. It is not illegal that I know of but it certainly falls into the category of, as we Texans say, “Somethin’ that shouldn’t be done.”

It might take a little time and effort to do the right thing when attempting to photograph an important or impressive building but, if it’s worth doing it’s worth doing right. And the best thing is, if you take the time to get to know the people responsible for the operation of the buildings, and the rules to follow, you might be amazed at what else they might be able to show you that you never even knew existed inside those structures.

(My thanks to Sherri Driscoll, Museum Educator at The Alamo for taking the time to answer my questions on the rules of Photography at the Alamo.)

— Bryan A. Snow

IF THERE IS A SUBJECT YOU WISH TO SHOOT THEN YOU CERTAINLY SHOULD DO AS MUCH PREPARATION FOR IT BEFORE TAKING OUT YOUR CAMERA.

MISSION ESPADA



Go to the Top for Permission

In San Antonio, the four Missions (the Alamo is the exception) are owned by the Catholic Archdiocese. But the grounds surrounding the individual Missions are controlled by the National Park Service. Be sure to read the NPS rules on photography on NPS property but it is always a good idea to talk to the ranger in charge.

WHAT IS MY PANORAMIC SETUP?

Punch holes here



**MISSION
SAN ANTONIO
DE VALERO
(THE ALAMO)**

I'm the type of photographer who likes to know what type of equipment different photographers use. The vast majority of panoramas I take are shot with a Canon 5D digital full-frame camera. My standard setup is to use a 45 mm perspective control (Tilt/Shift) lens. I have it set on a Jasper Engineering Panorama adapter sitting on a Manfrotto tripod. I almost always shoot with the ISO setting at 100 or 200, the aperture at f/11 or f/16 and ALWAYS have the camera set to Manual. Likewise every shot is taken with a cable release.

I do, on occasion, revert to taking panoramic images using a Mamiya RZ67 on the Panoramic adapter and 120 Fuji Velvia film. I overlap the frames, scan the transparencies with an Epson Perfection 4490 PHOTO Scanner and then stitch all

the digital files together with AutoPano Pro software. On very rare occasions I will use a Fuji GX680 medium format with perspective controls. Although, weighing in at a whopping 10+ pounds, it is not for trekking through the woods or up and down mountains (hence the rare occasions). On some other occasions I will use my IPHONE and stitch together the images with AUTOSTITCH.

Hardware/software

I use an Apple MacBook Pro for both studio and field work. I take a portable USB powered 300 GB drive from Western Digital on trips.

We just brought in a closeout on 50 packs of the Museo Panoramic Cards.



The only inkjet Fine Art Panoramic Cards. Folded they measure 3 7/8" x 9 1/8".

**EXCLUSIVE IAPP OFFER
ONLY \$30 a box**

50 Pack

**We bought the entire remaining stock
- but when they are gone, they are gone!**

IAPP ONLY price at www.itsupplies.com



13th Annual Star Island Photo Retreat

September 9-12, 2010

Punch holes here



Note: If you have attended this program in the last couple of years and you recruit a new person to register, you will each get 10 percent off your room and board cost, a savings \$30-40. You can bring up to 5 new people and get 10% off for each one! Room and board rates this year are the same as last year.

Registrar: Peter Randall
377 Goodwin Road
Eliot, Maine 03903
Phone: (207) 451-9457
or [Email Peter](#)

Members of the New Hampshire Society of Photographic Artists will journey to [Star Island](#) again for our annual four-day immersion in fine art photography. This unique weekend program is an opportunity to share your work with other film based and digital fine art photographers. We welcome non-members too!

Participants offer various short programs, and a special guest photographer will present an evening program and workshop. Members of the [International Association of Panoramic Photographers](#) have been invited to join us this year. We have arranged to visit Appledore Island and Celia Thaxter's unique 19th century garden, and you have the option of rowing to nearby Smuttynose Island.

Forty-six acre Star Island is located ten miles off the coast of New Hampshire. It is the second largest of the nine islands that make up the Isles of Shoals and its historic 19th century Oceanic House and adjacent buildings become the village home for thousands of visitors each summer. Guest rooms are simple and shared bathrooms are down the hall. Motel units have two twin beds and a half bath. Morning coffee is served on the porch and the hotel has a snack bar, gift shop, and bookstore.

All meals are included, and one night we offer an optional lobster dinner (additional fee), and, because there is no bar, BYOB and snacks to share at social hours before dinners.

Sign up early to reserve your room, as space is limited. Last year we had to turn away people who wanted to register at the last minute.

Registration: A room and board deposit of \$75 per person and registration fee of \$85 per person are due with registration. Non-NHSPA members include \$25 dues. Please mail one check, payable to "NHSPA," and a completed [registration form](#) to Peter Randall (address above). Room and board deposit and registration fee refundable until July 1.

[Download registration form](#)

Room & board: Adult (18+years)		Motel	
Triple	\$296		
Double	\$317	Double	\$354
Single	\$406	Single	\$563

Another Note: This year we are leaving from Portsmouth aboard the M.V. Thomas Loughton. From I-95, take exit 7 (Market Street); the wharf is about one mile on the left, opposite the large Sheraton hotel. Plan to arrive about one-half hour before the 4:25 pm departure. We'll return to Portsmouth on Sunday at 4:45 pm. Parking is \$10 per day and the boat fee is \$44. The balance of room and board, boat, and parking fees are paid on island. Credit cards, checks, and cash are accepted.



THINGS TO DO ...



EASTER ISLAND TAPATI FESTIVAL JAN 28 - FEB 7, 2011

www.360atlastravel.com

Cash in those frequent flyer miles and join us on Easter Island this February, as winter becomes summer!

Join 360° World Atlas creator, Everen T. Brown on a custom designed adventure, highlighted by the yearly Tapati Rapa Nui Festival.

Spend a week exploring incredible sites with some of the island's best guides, hand selected for their expertise. Our scheduled tour will allow for the best light for photography and plenty of free time to return to your favorite sites and enjoy the solitude of the island even more.

Visit Easter Island's most famous locations:

- Orongo, Rano Raraku, Ahu Tongariki, Rano Kao, Puna Pau, Ahu Tahai, to name just a few!
- Comprehensive sightseeing with exceptional English speaking guides
- Experience Easter Island's Tapati Rapa Nui Festival events
- Plenty of free time to indulge your interests, from photography to beach activities, it's up to you!
- Custom designed souvenir pack with Easter Island guidebook included!

Features:

- 3 nights Deluxe Hotel Rooms at the Novotel Lima, with Buffet Breakfast
- Lima City Tour with a visit to the Gold Museum with private English speaking Guides
- 7 nights Superior Hotel Rooms at Manavai Hotel – Easter Island, with Continental Breakfast and Early Check-in Upon Arrival
- Island tour with private English speaking guides
- Meals as indicated in the Program
- Custom Designed Souvenirs to Commemorate this Expedition
- All Transfers for Arrivals and Departures
- All Gratuities for Tour Guides and Transfer Personnel

Expedition Easter Island - \$3300.00 double.
Single supplement - \$990.00
Group Air fare Lima-Easter Island-Lima \$909.00

Extend your trip with a Machu Picchu extension. Check the website for details.

Book Now!

Call (800) 272-4114 or (801) 364-2642

THE 5TH ANNUAL PANORAMA PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST AWARD WINNERS SHOW

Sept 7 to Oct 1, 2010

The Valley Photo Center Gallery
1500 Main Street
Springfield MA 01115

Opening Reception:
Sunday, Sept 19, 1-4 PM
(refreshments compliments of IAPP)

(The Gallery is on the 2nd floor of the MALL which is in the same complex as the Marriott Hotel)

TIPS & TECHNIQUES

While we think of equipment as being cameras, tripods, film, lenses and the like, we should also include today's smart phones on that list. These phones have much greater abilities than to just transfer voices over the airwaves. The applications that are available for these electronic marvels can be a great advantage to photographers everywhere.

Enter the Digital Age

Having had an iPhone for a couple of years has allowed me to check out a number of applications or "apps" that could be quite useful for photography. One of the best aspects of the phones is the built-in GPS. This allows the phone to locate its position (and yours) on the earth. If it contained nothing else beside a phone at least you would know where you are (assuming you didn't know to begin with).

Apps: Necessary or just useful?

Over the years I have come to rely on several apps as being quite necessary and some that are more useful than anything else. Here is my current list of apps which I consider necessary:

THE WEATHER is a Necessity

Tapping the icon for THE WEATHER CHANNEL gives me the current weather condition for my present location. I can tap another button and see the hourly conditions of temperature, precipitation, and wind over the next 12 hours. Tap another button and I can see the forecast for the next 36 hours, and another button will give me a 10 day forecast. While any prediction over 3 days is considered "iffy" it still allows you to plan as best as you can. You can input any city you wish and it will give you the conditions there. It will also give you any Severe Weather alerts that are currently in place.

Radars, radars, radars

Since I live in San Antonio I also have an app entitled TEXAS RADARS. This gives me an overall statewide view of Texas, Oklahoma, and parts of Louisiana, Arkansas, and New Mexico. Tapping along the bottom of the screen I can bring up more detailed radars of 15 major cities or locations throughout the state. They have radar apps for every part of the country.

Satellite Photos

I have a website bookmarked on my iPhone that, when you tap it, it logs on to the internet and downloads a current weather satellite image of the entire continental United States, Mexico, the Gulf of Mexico, and several hundreds of miles into the Atlantic Ocean. This image can be zoomed in to get close up views of any state. This allows you to keep an eye on storms that are near to you or are in the vicinity of where you are going. That internet site is: www.ssec.wisc.edu/data/g8/latest_g8vis.gif

Useful Apps

There are also useful apps that I have that are, well, useful. For panorama photographers there is an app called AUTOSTITCH which will take several of the images you have shot with the iPhone's internal camera and, automatically stitch them together into a panorama. I use this when I am wandering around during the middle of the day, looking for potential landscapes to shoot when the lighting is better. If I see something that has potential I will shoot a series of overlapping images with the iPhone's camera, tap the images I want to stitch, and, in a matter of seconds, I have a panorama.

Along with this app I also use another separate one called GEOTAG. This one, once you tell it what the image number is, will stamp it with the longitude and latitude of its location providing you tag it from the same place you shot the image or panorama. This will allow you to

locate the exact location when you go back.

There is an app called GOLDEN HOUR and, from the title, you probably have a pretty good idea what it does. OK, we all have a pretty good idea when we most enjoy photographing but this app will give you the time of the beginnings of Astronomical Twilight, Nautical Twilight, Civil Twilight, Sunrise, End of Golden Hour, the Time that the Sun is at its maximum elevation, the Beginning of the evening Golden Hour, Sunset, the beginning of Nautical Twilight, Astronomical Twilight, and Astronomical Darkness. This is all done in list form and as a graphical representation. You can adjust the date forward or backwards to get the above times for any date.

Another useful app is called iEPHEMERIS. and it will show you the phases of the Moon, the sunrise/sunset and moonrise/moonset times.

And if that's not enough?

I also have an app called DOFMAS-TER, with the DOF meaning Depth Of Field. This one asks for you to input the camera's format (6X7, 35 mm, 4X5, etc), the focal length of the lens, the f/stop, and the distance where you would like to focus. It will then tell you the Near Limit and the Far Limit of your focus.

An app called PARK MAPS has a complete set of maps (although not super detailed) of all National Parks in the U.S. and their locations throughout the country. Another app, called BIRDS, gives you photos and descriptions of hundreds of birds that can be found throughout the U.S.



Satellite photo of the continental U.S.

Apps: Some are just Convenient

On your way to your photo location you can use URBANSPOON to help you find a nearby restaurant by inputting the type of food you want, and the limit you want to spend.

STARMAPPRO will identify the constellations and planets for you when you are out under the pristine night skies of a National Park (or anywhere else).

FLYBY will give you the dates and times when some of the brighter satellites, such as the International Space Station, the Space Shuttle (when it's up) and others fly over.

3DSUN will inform you when a large solar disturbance has occurred and when you can expect to see a large Auroral display in the northern parts of the country.

Too Much Technology?

These are just a few of the thousands of applications that exist for these smart phones. Those who have Android phones or others will find similar apps and we certainly welcome members to send in their list of useful and/or necessary apps that they use for photography.

When you look at everything that is available with more coming all the time, you might wonder if the technology is too much, that it is invading everything and keeping us from doing the photography we enjoy doing. Remember, these are just tools that can be used to make your photography easier. You certainly don't need them to shoot any panorama that you wish to. You can rely on paper maps to get you where you are going; weather radios to give you a weather forecast during your trip; lami-

nated paper depth of field calculators instead of the electronic one; and a collection of Park Maps to tell you where things are located within the park. While that is true, and you should still carry paper maps to assure your destination, you might stop to consider how much stuff you are taking in your vehicle and then realize that the smart phone is less than 5 inches long, less than 3 inches wide, less than 0.5 inches deep, fits in a holster on your belt and can carry gigabytes of data. And the very best thing that it can do is to call for help when you need it.

How much do they cost?

The cost for these iPhone apps ranges somewhere between FREE and \$19.99. Most of them are \$0.99 to \$2.99 each.



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We welcome any and all articles and photos from IAPP members for inclusion into the IAPP e-Monitor. This is a publication for the IAPP, by the IAPP, and about the

IAPP. There are many talented members that have images and information to share and we desperately need it. Please send all articles and photos to:

IAPP

c/o Bryan A. Snow
9207 Warriors Creek
San Antonio, TX 78230

Coming Next Month!

Feature:

Panoramic Group Photography

Review:

IAPP Questionnaire Results

Tips & Techniques:

How to turn your landscape photo into art!