



ACADEMY STREET: A CHANGE OF PACE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
JOE LIPKA

A CHANGE OF PACE

All of us get stuck in a rut at some point. It could happen at any time, occur anywhere while doing anything. We momentarily lose sight of our goal which causes us to arrive quickly at a dead end. Consequently, the creative work grinds to a halt. When I am photographing my inner voice announces this situation to me by proclaiming: “I just lost it” or “I can’t seem to figure out what I am doing.” The antidote, of course, is to change, do something different, or just move away from the task at hand. The best thing for me to do is to walk away from the project because I know that I will come back to finish it once my mind has had an opportunity to become clear again. The object is to give my subconscious a chance to process all the information I have jammed into it.

There are so many ways to make that necessary change. Consider that a change of pace could be a different daily routine in the morning, an exploration of a different type of cuisine, or a new hobby. Or, it could be something as simple as getting up and walking outdoors. The act of physically getting up, going outside and walking around often clears my mind. My experience is that as my mind clears, I see different things and more importantly I see those things differently. It is then with refreshed ideas that I am able to return to my original project and move forward towards the goal.



















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END NOTES

Sometimes you do have to walk away to improve your vision. I was photographing the Cary Elementary School and had “hit the wall” creatively and couldn’t see any more. The answer, of course, was to go out and take a walk. I left the school and began to walk up Academy Street. It was not the first time I walked Academy Street with my camera. Academy Street was the first place I tried to complete a photographic project. Significant changes have been made, some by man, some by nature and I was there to see them all again. By the time I had traversed Academy Street, I was ready to return to Cary Elementary School and resume photographing the school.

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