

# THE LIPKA JOURNAL

A PHOTO EZINE WITH

PHOTOGRAPHS / STORIES / OBSERVATIONS

NUMBER 075 JUNE 2026



# WELCOME TO THE LIPKA JOURNAL JUNE 2026



Only two projects this month because I just couldn't eliminate so many of the images. They all seem so happy to be together in this issue of The Journal. I look at the big spaces of the San Juan National Forest on a beautiful sunny day. The Aspens were spectacular and contrasted wonderfully with the evergreens and the clear blue sky. The only thing that could be better would be the muted green and gold leaves among the clouds. (That's next month's Journal.)

On the other hand, it's time for some shadow games. The Stonehenge Memorial at the Maryhill Museum is a replica of the Stonehenge structure in England. This is a fun place to play shadow games with photographic compositions. This is a game where both the photographer and the viewer can enjoy the outcome of some sunny days in Eastern Washington.

# Green and Gold: Sunny Day



## Green and Gold: Sunny Day

When left well enough alone, nature does remarkable things. Man likes to think they can improve upon nature and impose their will on the environment to make things better. Sometimes, this is just fine, other times it's mostly disastrous. Left alone, the world is quite a beautiful place. Every living thing does its best to adapt to the environment around itself to survive and propagate, and more importantly, it does it with beauty.

Consider the mountainsides of Colorado. The evergreens and aspens exist together and on a sunny day in autumn we can see how they make our world a beautiful place.























## A Mostly True Story

Miss Susannah Crabtree arrived on the afternoon train with a steamer trunk, two suitcases and a carpet bag. She asked Amos, the Station Master, where she might find the mayor. After getting directions from Amos, she gave him a dollar to convey her luggage to lodgings appropriate for a young woman.

Upon meeting the mayor, she told him she was the school marm the town needed. "I will educate the town's children in reading, writing and cyphering that will stand them in good stead for the rest of their lives. I will brook no foolishness in my classroom and the children will learn manners, deportment and common courtesy"

The mayor, taken aback by the directness of Miss Crabtree's approach, agreed to hire her as the town's school marm. She educated two generations of the town's children and was successful with all, except those Glenhagen boys. "Those two were quick and too clever," she said, "and I worried that their cleverness would lead to a disastrous end."



# Shadow Games



## Shadow Games

When going out to photograph a place where many have photographed before you, there is a challenge to overcome. Lots of photographers have driven up the Columbia River to the Maryhill Museum and photographed the Stonehenge Memorial. How do you make photographs that are different than what has previously been done?

While I was pondering this dilemma, a family of tourists, children in tow, arrived and began to explore the site. The pent-up energy of sitting in the car for an afternoon was expended in a riotous impromptu game of hide and seek among the stones. Running around while not stepping in the shadows was the object of the game being played.

I thought playing visual games with the shadows would also be a fun way to spend my time at Maryhill.































JOHN W. GIBBS  
BORN JUNE 14  
DIED FEBRUARY 3

BERNARD  
BORN JULY 15  
DIED AUGUST 10





Games are meant to be fun.  
So too with photography.



Silence is the language of wisdom.

Prologue: A photo and six words.

## Postcards from the Creative Journey



Dearest Richard,  
Just looking is essential to photography. I have found a visual curiosity is required if one wants to be a photographer. One must be willing to just stop and look and the world in front of you and wonder what it is, what it is about and what else it could possibly be.

In addition to the visual curiosity, more than a smattering of patience is required. Just looking and wondering why the scene in front of you is enthralling is not enough. After you've figured out why it's wonderful, you may pick up your camera.

JOE



Viscount Bellamy

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# A FEW WORDS AT THE END OF THE JOURNAL



Green and Gold:  
Sunny Day

Green and Gold:  
Sunny Day

Southwestern Colorado is beautiful during the short autumn season. The elevation removes a lot of atmospheric distortion, and the colors are more vibrant than those at the lower elevations where I live most of my life. The beauty of Colorado is undeniable, and I am more than happy to see the patterns, abstractions, and arrange the landscape in a beautiful manner. There is enough ugly in the world, I feel it's my duty to add to the other side of the aesthetic ledger.



Shadow Games

Shadow Games

The Maryhill Museum's Stonehenge monument is a favorite place for tourists, visitors, families, photographers and other artists to visit. It is a one-to-one copy of the famous site in England. When you are standing among a gaggle of tourists how do you separate your "high art" from tourist snapshots? My answer, this time (and maybe every time I head to a tourist location) is to figure out what they are seeing and then see something completely different. Easy to say, yes, but a bit more difficult to put into practice.



Joe Lipka has shared his vision since he began photographing.

In the last forty years, his photographs have appeared in over one hundred and twenty-five juried exhibitions, and twenty five solo exhibitions. His images have been published in *LensWork*, *Black & White Photography* (UK) and *F-Stop Magazines*. His recent book project, *Mostly True Stories*, was featured as a LensWork Bonus Edition Publication in February 2024.

His website [www.joelipkaphoto.com](http://www.joelipkaphoto.com) has continuously evolved since it was launched in 2004. His blog *Postcards from the Creative Journey*, published weekly since 2010, is now part of *The Lipka Journal*.

His newest blog, *The Daily Photograph*, has migrated to Instagram. Don't forget to follow him on this new platform linked below.

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*Joe Lipka*

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Web site: [www.joelipkaphoto.com](http://www.joelipkaphoto.com)

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