
Sent: Saturday, December 06, 2014 7:49 PM
Subject: From The Road 12-06-2014

First message. . . We have departed Texas. Can you say Happy???



First night on the road. . . Best Western in lovely Santa Rosa, NM. Tomorrow Flagstaff, then Bryce!



This is why the room has to have 2 beds!

More to come. . .

JB & Susan

Sent: Sunday, December 07, 2014 9:24 PM
Subject: From The Road 12-07-2014

One day closer and guess you could call this installment mostly boredom from the road. As we cruise down the road Susan will grab a few quick snapshots out the window.

In Albuquerque, if you don't have snow, you make a snowman from whatever blows your way.



The little town of Laguna is still there. . . the church has been kept in good repair and looks a little different from when AA photographed it.



One more boring photo. . . we saw one truck all day with a wreath. . . Merry Christmas!!!



Tomorrow. . . Bryce! Time to start getting serious. . . no more boredom!!!

JB & Susan

**Sent: Monday, December 08, 2014 9:03
PM Subject: From The Road 12-08-2014**

We departed Flagstaff, AZ today in a fog. Everything was dripping wet or covered with frost.



Lake Powell still needs a refill. . .



UTAH. . . Finally!!!!



We are here!



SELFIE!!!!!!



We did stake out a place for tomorrow starting about 3:00pm. The morning we still have to scout out.



Now we begin. The boring stuff from the road now ends and you may not hear from us as often. . .

JB & Susan

Sent: Wednesday, December 10, 2014 9:31 PM
Subject: From The Road 12-10-2014 A

We made a full day of it yesterday and by the time we had all of the housekeeping done, we just gave up and called it a day. Something to say when you live at about 600 feet above sea level and head to this. . .



You have to begin with the usual warning. . .



That guardrail business is for sissies and they get in the way of the view!



Even Susan doesn't care much for the view from the railing.



All you have to do is keep an eye on where your feet are and where you step.



No matter where you go, you have to climb back out.



This was the end of a long day, right at sunset.



We will send a couple of pano snapshots in another email. . .

Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2014
6:17 PM Subject: From The Road
12-11-2014

Today was a very slow day, photographically that is. We had pretty much worked everything we intended to do, so today we just did some exploring. The weather has been just about right, lows in the mid teens, highs in the mid forties and sunny with high clouds at times. Today, a major storm system is moving into the area and tomorrow it is suppose to be very windy, cloudy and they are calling for snow. We are heading to lower altitude in Springdale and Zion N.P.

Today was a cloudy day with an annoying wind and a high only in the upper thirties. Susan wanted to work with an aspen grove and a cloudy day is what works best. JB did a short video of her working with her vertical 4x10 and hopefully it will be up on YouTube by now. The link is below.

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=LwwLpXAuHYM>

Here is one more pano from Sunset Point, looking at the area on a cloudy day.



Do Not forget the coffee!!!



Goodbye Bryce...



Tomorrow we pack and move. . . More to come. . .

Sent: Friday, December 12, 2014 9:16 PM
Subject: From The Road 12-12-2014

We left Bryce Canyon early this morning in heavy fog with visibility about 0.25 mile. . .



By the time we reached the East entrance to Zion the fog was gone, but the storm on the West coast was moving our way.



A familiar sight. . . Checkerboard Mesa. . .



The Temple of Sinawava. . . a familiar and friendly place for us. . .



We found this turkey trying to get into the Lodge... must have been some mixup on his reservation???



Here is our new base of operations for the next two weeks. . .



We even have nice live yard art. . . an 8-point mule deer buck and a doe about 10 feet from our front door. . .



We are forecast to have rain and snow into tomorrow, so we will see what happens then. . . main thing is, we are here!

Sent: Saturday, December 13, 2014 9:06

PM Subject: From The Road 12-13-2014

It rained most of the night and all day today, but that didn't slow us down too much. We headed up to the tunnel since the ranger at the entrance said there was snow in the upper area known as the East entrance. We were unable to pass by these magnificent yellow leaves about half way to the tunnel entrance.







We finally had to give up due to the persistent and increasing rain.



We did make it up to the East entrance. . . what a day makes for the view of Checkerboard Mesa. . .



Nice snow near the East entrance. . .



We headed back down into the valley where there was nothing but rain. The trailhead for Weeping Rock is one of our favorite places. . . we just need for the rain to stop.



At the Temple of Sinawava we had a break in the rain and were able to drag out the cameras for about 30 minutes before the rain came again.



Do Not forget the Coffee!!!

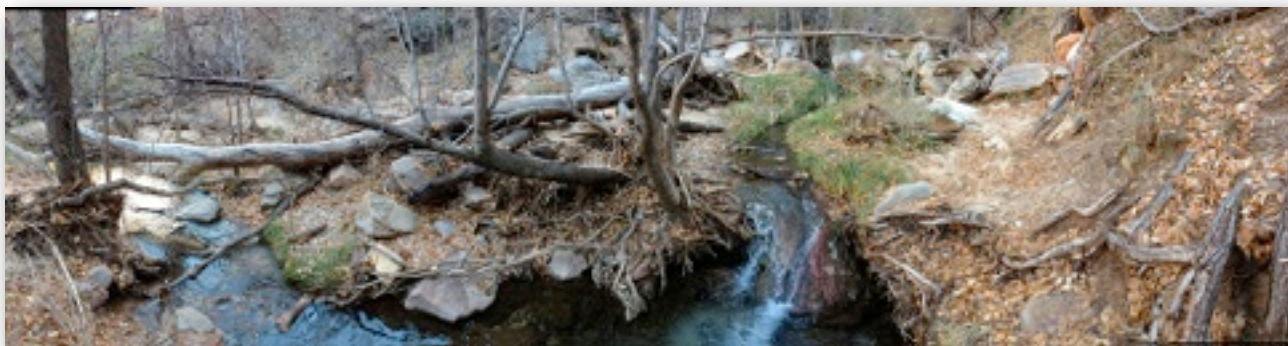


Sent: Sunday, December 14, 2014 10:17 PM

Subject: From The Road 12-14-2014

Today was a full day of photography. Woke to a foggy morning that quickly turned into a sunny day. Started off at 31F and warmed to about 40F. . . just right to be out in this great

place. We started out just exploring, not knowing exactly how muddy it was going to be. We ended up in one of our favorite places. . . and it wasn't that muddy at all. . .



All you need to do is add a camera. . . or two.



This area is a short hike from the parking lot, but it is very steep, with deep sand and plenty of rocks and boulders to navigate. You are always aware of where you step. . . especially with a pack on your back. We have been all over this little stream and know it pretty well, but every year it floods and it is always changing.



You just load up the ol' camera gear and head right into it. . .



Sand, rock and brush everywhere. ..but in between are many gems for the eye... and your film!



The stuff that washes up in a flood can be amazing.



You never know what you will find here. . . the light is amazing. . . soft and reflected into this area by the 1,000 foot canyon walls that surround this stream.



Whatever you do. . . don't forget to have fun!!!



Edward Weston said, you should be able to look down at your feet and see something to photograph.



Don't forget the selfie. . . just to annoy some of you!!!!



Ten sheets of 8x10 for JB and eight of 4x10 for Susan. . . a pretty busy day for both of us.

**Sent: Monday, December 15, 2014 8:54
PM Subject: From The Road 12-15-2014**

It was about 30F this morning and clear as the sun came up. . .but. . . as we got out into the park high clouds started moving in. Then the dread of all LF shooters. . . Wind! We had to retreat to some of the areas we know of where the wind is usually calm. We did group up close together to shoot a few details. Exposures are long working in deep shade requiring you count off seconds and at times minutes. That wind and anything moving is a pain!



You learn to adjust to the changing weather. . . when the sky or weather won't cooperate, you shoot details. . .



Not a lot of hiking today. . . mostly working close to the vehicle. . .



There are times you have to wait for the wind to stop. . . Patience!!!



You CAN remove light you know???



Reflections. . .



Why did the turkeys cross the road???

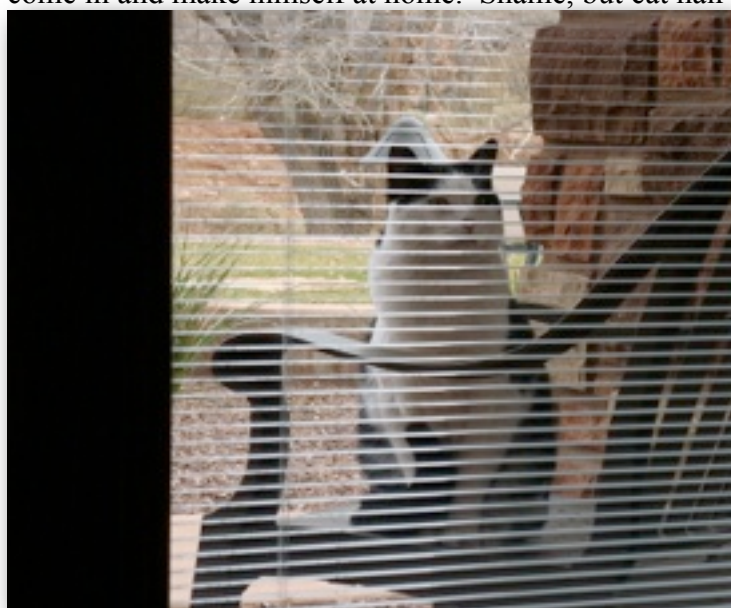


Hiding from the wind. . .



We finally gave up a little early today and headed back to the room. The wind was starting to get to near impossible to work with. The weather is changing again and they say rain by Wednesday. It is great to have different and changing weather.

We did find that the neighbor's kitty was back again this year to visit. He really wanted to come in and make himself at home. Shame, but cat hair and LF don't mix. . . Sorry kitty!!!



The view out our back door. . . just at sunset the sun broke out briefly. . .



Sent: Friday, December 19, 2014 10:49 PM

Subject: The Road 12-16 through 19-2014 A

Well, we have been busy since our last installment several days past. We have had all kinds of weather, from rain, to snow, to wind, to sunshine. It has really been a mixed bag of weather. We lost some time to the rain and even more to windy conditions, but that is the game you play when you choose to arm wrestle with Mother Nature. The temperatures have been warmer than we are accustomed to seeing here in Zion this time of year, with lows right at freezing and warming to the mid 40's most every day. Nothing to complain about, though. . . just about right to be out and absorbed in the surroundings of this place.

Here are some selected snapshots from the past few days. . . not in any particular order. . . some are in the rain, some with cloudy conditions, some out in the sun. . .

The sun was in and out yesterday morning and light rain was off and on, but the view was nice. . .





Here was sunset yesterday from our patio door after the rain had cleared. . .











. . . a few more photos will follow in a second email.

Sent: Friday, December 19, 2014 10:50 PM
Subject: The Road 12-16 through 19-2014 B

When we are unable to get the cameras out, due to the weather, we generally spend our time scouting out places we want to visit later. We have numerous more places we want to visit and the weather appears to be good for the next few days. . . we'll see!

. . . here are a few more snapshots in no particular order from the past few days. . .





During a break due to rain, there was a little digital camera repair going on too. . .





Hope everyone is ready for Christmas?????

Sent: Sunday, December 21, 2014 10:00 PM
Subject: From The Road 12-20 to 21-2014

We have hit it pretty hard the last two days. The weather has not been that bad, lows still around freezing and warming to the upper 40's. . . the worst problem we have had is the wind, but by afternoon it has been dropping to near nothing. You have to carefully pick your places. Fortunately, we know of several areas where we can hide from that LF killing wind.

You have to start your day with a good breakfast and Do Not Forget the COFFEE!!! Wildcat Willie's is our favorite place and they have even gotten to know us over the years.



DO NOT FORGET THE COFFEE!!!!!!



They have some strange decor. . .



Yesterday we retreated to another of our favorite places for the day. This little narrow valley is a great place to escape the wind.



Late in the day and Susan is ready to hike out. I had one more exposure and we called it a day, just in time to make it back to the room and get settled in before dark.



This morning we headed back to a previously selected place so Susan could catch an 8x20 detail while the light was still right.



Susan's 8x20 in place. . .



We scouted a few more places today and ended up at one of those streams that are just too much to bypass. . .



Right THERE!!!



One more place today. . . since the wind, late in the day, went to near zero, we headed to another favorite place just along the road heading to the East entrance.



That step is very important. .



The deer are usually here to greet us at the end of the day. They love the green lawn here next to our front door.



That is pretty much the story from here in Southern Utah. We still have several places that we will be visiting over the next few days. We will keep sending this stuff as long as you guys can stand the mail. . .

Merry Christmas

Everyone!!! JB & Susan

Sent: Wednesday, December 24, 2014 9:56 PM
Subject: From The Road 12-22 to 24-2014

The last three days we have hit the trails and meadows pretty hard every day. The light is really something in some of the canyons and even the meadows when you choose the right time of day. You just have to hike into the right area at the right time. Some areas are right there beside the road, others require a simple hike. . . some others require a climb up a steep trail or down into a stream bed. Most every place offers something unique.

Here are some more snapshots of some of the places we have visited this week so far. . .



The things you find when you get off the road and look. . .



This was a scramble up a very steep canyon wall. . .



The rock up here is amazing. . .



You find things along the road that other people drive right past. . .



Don't forget the step. . .



Yep. . . right there next to that sign. . .





We have spent time two days right along the road heading to the upper area and the East Entrance.



Today we have a storm moving in and it was cloudy all afternoon. . . the light is amazing!



In deep shadow you have to time long exposures. . . we have been lucky in that the wind has not been a factor the last few days.



This meadow has some of the most amazing visuals. . .



Not a hard hike, mostly across a flat meadow, but it is a long way out there. . .



MERRY CHRISTMAS Everyone!



Sent: Thursday, December 25, 2014 10:28 PM
Subject: From The Road 12-25-2014 B

A winter storm blew in overnight. . . maybe Santa brought it with him??? We didn't get out today except to catch a late breakfast. Wasn't that much snow here in Springdale, maybe 1/2" or so. It was mixed with rain since it was only down to near 32 for a low. The sun was out, off and on, by a little after noon, but the clouds never completely cleared. The snow wasn't much of a factor, but the wind was definitely a show stopper for big cameras today.



The penguins didn't seem to mind the weather. . .



This was a good day to catch up on the housekeeping chores. Yes. . . that means reloading film holders. First a lot of 4x10's. . .



Then some 8x10's . . .



Oh yes. . . and those 11x14's also. . .



Ralphie was on all day. Twenty four hours of 'A Christmas Story' . . . how can you go wrong?



Hope everyone had a great day! And, one more time. . .



Sent: Friday, December 26, 2014 9:46 PM
Subject: From The Road 12-26-2014

This was the last day in Springdale and Zion NP. The sky cleared today and there is still a dusting of snow in the deep canyons and the upper areas. The wind was still a factor today, so we decided to head to our usual last day in the park hike. This is an easy trail, not steep, but a long hike into a really interesting area. It is a deep canyon and offers protection from the annoying wind.

Here is the trailhead. . . the really neat stuff is way back there. Fortunately, few people know of this one, or just don't bother. We saw one person once we left sight of the road all day.



The light in this canyon is amazing all day. You are down in a deep canyon with towering cliffs 1,000-1,200 feet above you. Since the canyon runs East/West this light reflects from the walls above all day.



There are some really strange and amazingly twisted trees and eroded rock in this area. . .



You just have to hike yourself and that gear back into the deeper areas of the trail. . .



This fallen tree forms a near square doorway over the trail. . .



The light is soft and enveloping here. . . nice light. . . long exposures. . . meter carefully!



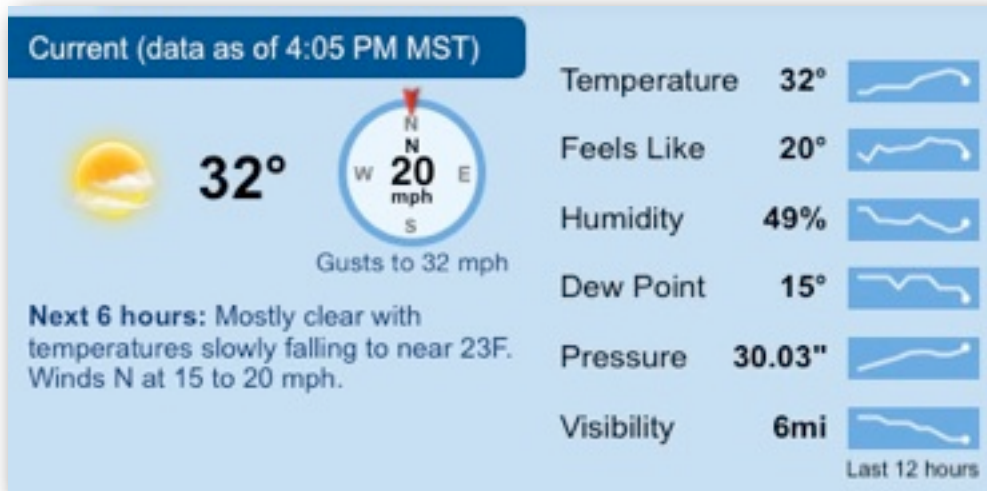
This strange tree has been very difficult. . . we have both worked with it for several years and have not been able to make anything of it. JB is giving it another try this year.



Believe it is time to head out of here. This is what the West Entrance looked like as we were leaving the park this afternoon. Susan lost count at 50 cars in line to get in. . . they stretched all the way back into the town. . . Time To Go! Canyonlands, Arches and Dead Horse Point SP will not be nearly as crowded.



Did anyone mention the wind today. . . this is what the conditions were when we got back to the room at 4:00. . .



We are all packed up and ready to go. . . we load up tomorrow and move to Moab!

Sent: Saturday, December 27, 2014 10:29
PM Subject: From The Road 12-27-2014

Today was a moving day, so all we have are some snapshots along the road as we traversed I-15 to I-70 and the final leg into Moab. There was quite a bit of snow in the upper elevations and once we got into the Moab/Canyonlands area there is a pretty good covering of snow there. It is also finally getting to feel more like winter with more seasonable temperatures. Quite a bit cooler this morning in Springdale. . . about 18 when we were loading up to head out for breakfast.

The deer were just outside our front door this morning. . .



Plenty of frost on the windshield. . .



The things you see along the road. . .



Nice to be able to cruise on the Interstates in Utah!



Susan likes to grab photos through the windshield as we travel. This is a beautiful drive . . here is some of what we saw today. . .





Looks like the next storm system is heading this way. Here was the view from the rest stop on I-70 just before the exit to Moab. . .



Here is the view from our home for the next week. The LaSal Mountains are covered in snow.



This place is such a change from Springdale. There things are close and a short drive yields so many opportunities. Here, the world goes on forever. . . things are big and you drive forever to get someplace. This is a totally different place to photograph. We will see what happens tomorrow. . .

Subject: From The Road 12-28-2014

Date: Monday, December 29, 2014 10:03:13 PM

From: JB Harlin

Yesterday was our first working day here in Moab. We decided to take a look at Arches NP, since it was close and we like to start off sort of easy. The sky was blue with, at times, really nice clouds for a change. We ended up working till after sunset and didn't get back to our home base till late. Here is a little of what happened yesterday. . .



Watch out for tourists!!! These folks stopped near in the middle of the road. . . on a curve. . . with a suitable pullout not more than 100 yards in front and behind where they stopped. . . right!



Yesterday was filled with a lot of waiting. . . don't forget the coffee! It was sunny all day, but it was in the upper 20's and there was that annoying breeze. . .



Still waiting. . . time for some long shadow stuff. . .



Finally, just at sunset, this is what we were waiting for. . .



It was well after dark by the time we got back to home base. . .

Subject: From The Road 12--29--2014

Date: Monday, December 29, 2014 10:14:53 PM

From: JB Harlin

For the last few days the NWS forecast has called for mostly clear sky and a chance of snow Wednesday night into Thursday. Late last evening they added a slight chance of snow overnight. . . this is what we awoke to this morning.



We started out later this morning. . . waiting for the snowplows to clear the roads. We stopped by Arches NP, but as the skys cleared it looked like this would be the best day to head to Dead Horse State Park. Quite a drive and the road was not in too bad shape. . . much colder up there, never warmed above 28 or so, but the clouds and fog, plus the 4-6" of snow were amazing. . .



Here are a few snapshots of today. . .





We are pretty much beat after these last two days. . . there is snow forecast for the next several days and much colder temperatures. . . We'll see what happens. . .

Subject: From The Road 12-30-2014

Date: Tuesday, December 30, 2014 5:57:56 PM

From: JB Harlin

We came in early today. . . actually. . . we slept late and left home base late this morning. There is a major winter storm moving in today, so we really didn't have much planned. The NWS was calling for wind today and they were 100% correct. . . this time! We decided to drive all of Arches NP today just to see what was happening. Not a lot was up, but the temperature was definitely DOWN! We saw temps range from about 20-25 and the wind was estimated to be gusting to 20mph or so. There was blowing snow in places and getting out was. . . for lack of a better word. . . Impossible! A large camera would not have a chance. . . the photographer. . . even worse! (just looked up the conditions at the Moab Airport at 3:25pm and they say 25F, wind N 15, gusting to 20mph. . . Feels Like 14.

We did drive around the park and made quite a few quick snapshots. . . this place is really beautiful, no matter the weather. Mid afternoon and we are back inside at home base. The sun is out right now, but there have been light snow showers off and on. They say the main event is coming overnight and into tomorrow.

You gotta' have the selfie at the park sign. Especially since they now have this great little pedestal where you place your camera. You just have to be savvy (read the Manual!) enough to make the self timer work!

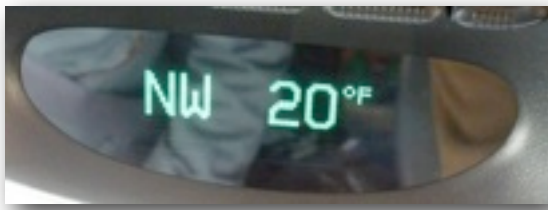


This is really neat. . . here is where they cut the road through what is known as the Moab Fault.

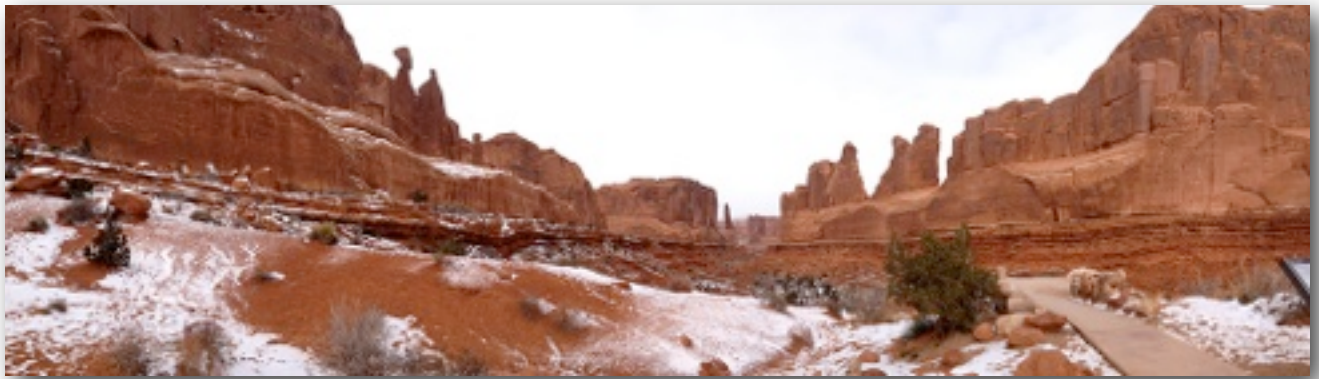


Yep. . . blowing snow and cold today. . .





How about a few snapshots through the windshield?







Here is one more from yesterday, when the wind was not such a problem... Dead Horse Point State Park. Near here is where they filmed some scenes from the Lone Ranger Movie couple years back. It is 1,200 or so feet down to the Colorado R. below.



Time to hunker down and ride out this winter storm!

Subject: From The Road 01-02-2015 A

Date: Friday, January 2, 2015 8:57:42 PM

From: JB Harlin

It has been a busy or bust adventure the last few days here in Moab. Tuesday and Wednesday was a complete wash for photography. It was very cold, in the mid 20's both days, but the killer was the wind. . . steady at 10 and gusting to 25 both days. Impossible to work in, so we took the time to just kick back and do a little sight seeing. We did visit Arches NP both days, but the conditions were just unworkable.

Yesterday was a different story. It was still cold. . . mid 20's to low 30's and for the most part, absolutely no wind!!! We got in a whole day of lugging cameras and exposing film. Spent the entire day at one pullout, working in a new area just below the large rock formation known as "The

Organ." This is one of those 1,200' tall monoliths that stands near the entrance to the park. JB made the difficult climb to the base of the structure to do some details of the interesting rock formation at the base of the monolith. It was a full day in this one place.

It looks like we will be adding one more day to our stay in Moab. The weather here has cleared, but conditions between here and home are not looking favorable. They are calling for inches of snow across New Mexico into the Texas Panhandle, then ice eastward from there into North Texas and home. We will sit it out here one more day to allow this storm system to move on to the east. Oh, the sacrifices one must make!!!

Here are a few images from yesterday. . .

The view from just North of "The Organ". . .



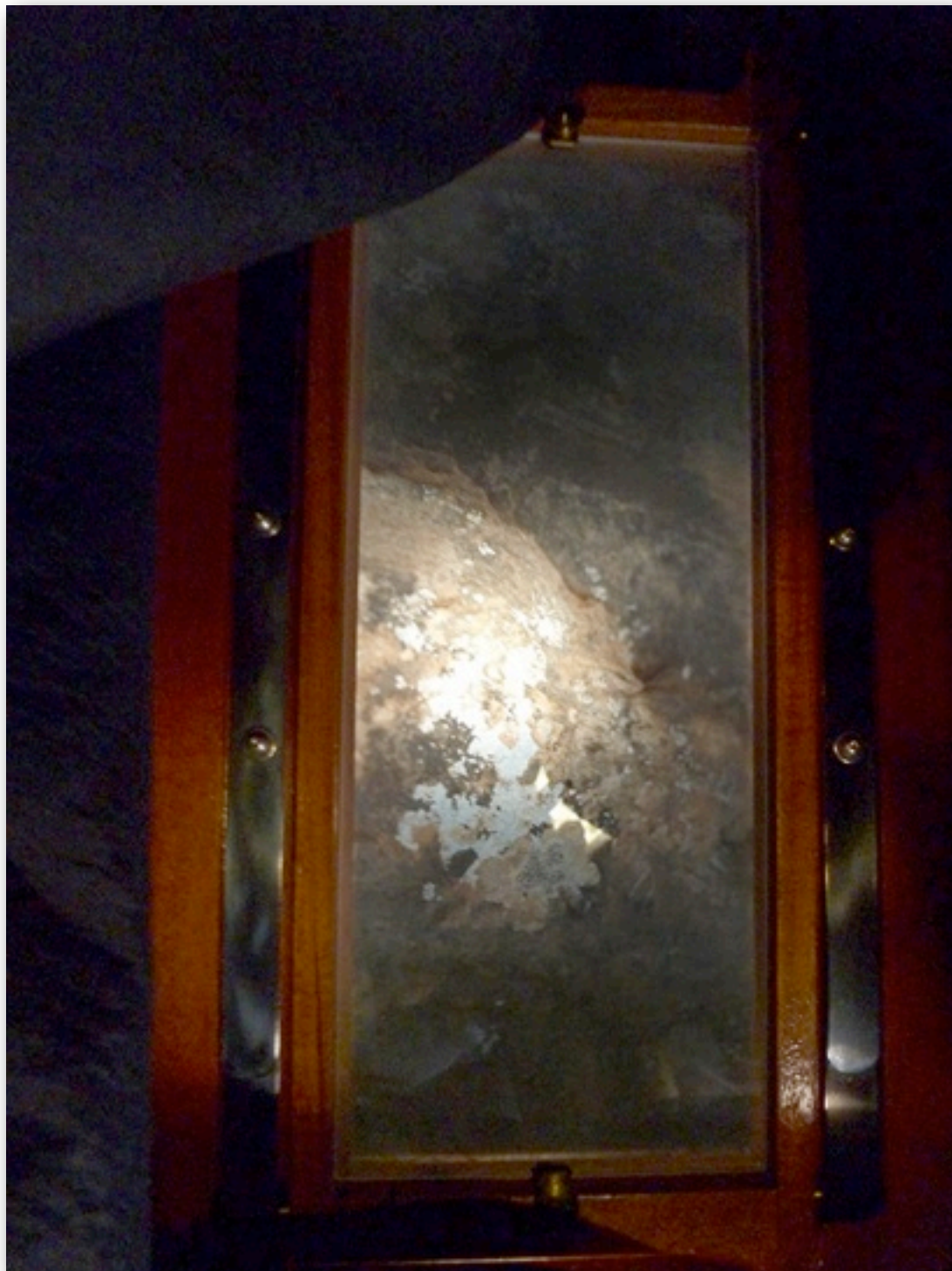
You find some strange rock formations in this place. . .



There are details everywhere you look. . .



. . . and . . . YES. . . that image is upside down and backwards on the ground glass. . .



Don't tell me I can't drag myself and that 50lbs of gear up that steep hillside!





Yep. . . I'm going up there. . .



. . . and this is why!



The view straight up. . . about 1,200' or so. . .



Today was our last day of working here and Susan got in a few final images. Some photos from today will follow in another email shortly. . .

Subject: From The Road 01-02-2015 B

Date: Friday, January 2, 2015 9:56:38 PM

From: JB Harlin

Today was a slow day for us. We hit it pretty hard yesterday (see the previous installment part A). It was clear and sunny this morning with temps in the mid 20's. Susan had on more place she had staked out in Arches, and since the sky was blue for a change, we headed to the area known as "The Garden of Eden" where she broke out the vertical 8x20 one more time. Blue sky around here is something that is fleeting. As the day wore on you could see the hazy inversion setting in.

We made one more trip down highway 128 along the Colorado River and Susan decided to try a rock she had worked several years ago in the river that didn't work out well for her then. That pretty much wrapped it up for us here. We do have that extra day here tomorrow, which we will use to pack everything up and prepare to head to Texas Sunday morning.

A few photo from today. . .

Garden of Eden. . .





You can see the haze building in when you look toward the La Sal Mountains. . .



Along highway 128. . . this road is a beautiful drive as it winds along the Colorado River. . . If you ever come to Moab, don't miss this one!



Susan broke out the 4x10 for another try at those really neat rocks in the river. . .



You do see some strange art around here. . .



Someone asked how cold it has been here in Moab. . . this lizard turned to bronze in the cold at the Arches visitor center. . .



Thanks everyone for following this little adventure. We will let everyone know when we have returned to civilization. Next we have a lot of film to process. . . this ain't over. . .

Subject: From The Road 01-08-2015 Back Home. . .

Date: Thursday, January 8, 2015 9:56:38 PM

From: JB Harlin

Hello once more everyone!

We did return home and this week has been little more than a blur. The gear is stacked in the living room awaiting a quick cleanup and being put away. Some of the clothes are put away. . . Susan did most of the laundry in Moab before we left, so there is little to do there. We will now begin to work on our film notes, which is the first step before film processing starts. JB is already hauling distilled water, and if things go as usual, film processing should start in 2-3 weeks. . . you never get in a rush to process film!



Here are a few stats from this year's adventure;

DAYS ON THE ROAD TOTAL: 31
DAYS IN BRYCE CANYON NP: 4
DAYS IN SPRINGDALE, UT: 15
DAYS IN MOAB, UT: 7
NUMBER OF DAYS PHOTOGRAPHING: 20
SUSAN 4X10 FILM: 93
SUSAN 8X20 FILM: 18
JB 8X10 FILM: 103
JB 11X14 FILM: 21
TOTAL MILES DRIVEN: 3,641

There have been a few questions about when will finished photographs be seen. . . that is a good question for sure. It will take a month, at the least, to process, sort, file and proof the negatives. Then we will begin to sort through what we have and the process of printing will begin. This usually takes 2-3 additional months, since we never get in any rush. It takes time to think things through. . . it is a very intense process of creativity and may take some time for an image to mature. . . some photographs take years to ripen, mature and stabilize into the finished image. We invite everyone to follow us on our web site, our BLOG and FaceBook. We have also put the entire From the Road 2014 e-mail collection on our web site for those that were not on the mailing list. You can download the entire set in PDF format [here](#);

We would like to thank everyone on our mailing list for sticking with us on this trip. It has been fun doing the 'From the Road 2014' updates and we hope everyone enjoyed riding along with us.

JB & Susan