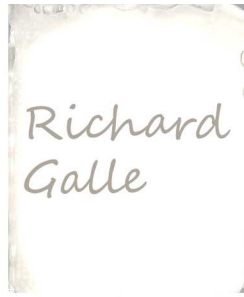


Profile for  
March 2021



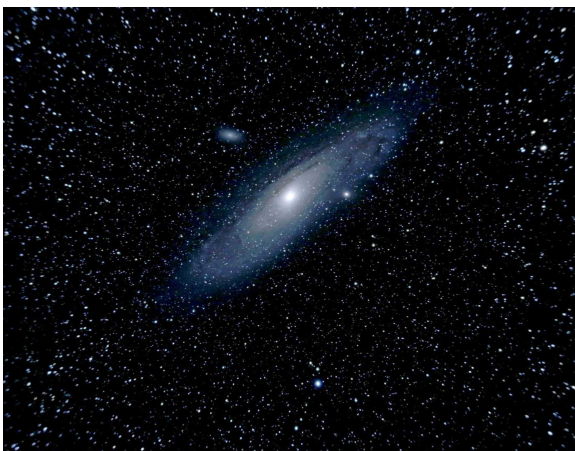
Sibley Camera  
Club Addendum

Photography is a tool to express ourselves in many unique ways and the mind set responsible for this is as unique as each member of the club. I would like to thank Richard Galle for sharing some of his time with us as we get a glimpse of how he sees the world.

**Malcolm McElvaney – Would you mind telling us a little bit about yourself?**

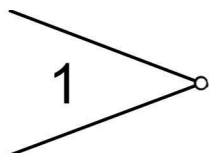
Richard Galle - Hmmmm....well, I was born and raised in Midland, went to Midland High School and Texas Tech University. My first job out of college was as a national park service ranger in Big Bend. I was married once until she came to her good senses and left. Pretty much spent most of my career managing nonprofits including the second largest Red Cross chapter in the U.S. My first camera was a small Agfa box camera. I must have been 7 or 8 years old. My photographic skills haven't improved much since I was 8.

**I have seen some examples of your photographic work, I'm sure you underestimate your skills. What is it about photography that has kept your interest in it so strong?**



Honestly Malcolm, I really got into photography because of spending almost my entire life outside, camping, backpacking, climbing, canoeing and kayaking, and caving and spending so much time in Big Bend as a national park ranger. I wanted to document where I had been both in the United States and in the Alps in Switzerland and Austria climbing. I saw photography as an art form later in life and I try to emulate photographers that I admire, many that I know. As a young child my

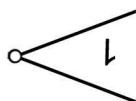
parents used to let me climb up on the roof of the house I grew up in in Midland because in my young mind I was closer to the stars and the moon, which, of course I was by a



mere 12 to 15 feet....lol! One night I saw the full moon as a three dimensional object instead of just a disk. That's when I got so interested in astronomy. I got my first library card when I was around 7 or 8 and my mom took me to the library for the first time to check out my first book on astronomy. I got so into it that my 8th grade teacher at Alamo Jr. High let me teach several classes on astronomy in my science class. One of the first pictures that I saw in that first astronomy book was of M31 or the Andromeda galaxy, our sister galaxy. I knew then that I wanted to take a picture of that galaxy myself some day. Well, it took me decades to gain the skills and equipment that I need to really get into astrophotography and I finally accomplished that desire. I was actually shocked at my first try. I didn't even take dark frames to subtract because what I was seeing on the display on the camera was disappointing. The next day I blended all 10 of the exposures and was amazed at what I ended up with (see picture at start of answer). Now I can wait for the spring and summer, galaxy season, to refine what I can do. Of course, like a great many of photographers, my main interest is landscape photography. I live in the canyons near Caprock Canyons State Park. I live on a working cattle ranch in a cabin....I'm the only one that lives full time on the ranch and to shoot wildlife I literally only have to step out into my yard. I've seen bobcats, cougars, all kinds of wildlife so I'll start tackling wildlife photography soon. My front yard is small and then that opens up to a lake full of bass and catfish.....so I hope to start shooting some of the water birds that surround me including blue herons and many types of hawks and other birds of prey. For some reason I'm covered up with road runners too...my favorite bird.

We started the Sibley Camera Club I believe in 2011....that may be incorrect but it's close. A woman, whose name now escapes me, came in and talked to us about meeting at Sibley and, since I was the "photographer" at Sibley at the time (not to discount Michael's skills by any means) I became the staffer who attended all of the meetings and imparted my meager skills to for months to all of the beginners. Several months into the club Arlon and Reesa Motsch moved to Midland from Houston. Arlon joined the club and began to take over as the main instructor. My job became sitting in the back of the auditorium giving Arlon a hard time. A group of us began going to a hamburger place and ordering foot long chili cheese dogs and talking photography which often imparted more to photography education than the formal meeting. Many of the club members joined the outing club that I originally started in the mid 70's because of our travel schedule to Big Bend, the Davis Mountains, to caves, and float trips down the Rio Grande and assorted rivers. Lots of photographic opportunities there. I believe, from what I've seen, that the camera club has and continues to far exceed everything we did back then. I'm proud of you for the leadership skills and motivation that YOU'VE shown in continuing the advancement of the club!

**That answered so many questions I had planned to ask, thank you for all the**



**information and club formation details. Final question do you share more of your photography online and where?**

Facebook is about it for sharing Malcolm. I do print the ones I like on my medium format printer and cut my own mats and sometimes my own barnwood frames or sometimes a commercially made frame...pretty much to hang in my own cabin. You're doing a great job Malcolm.....glad to see you so involved in the camera club....your talents are really adding a lot to the club!

