

## Thoughts – 01/14/2022



01/14/2022 - Where to start this wonderful new year of 2022? The answer is a road trip to Fort Davis, TX to begin the first major photography session of the year and it was worth the trip today. Having pasted up a few opportunities to start taking pictures while on the road I did break the dry spell in Balmorhea, TX along Hwy 17, featured here as the image you are seeing. While not the ideal setting I did see a sunset on a clear horizon dotted with oil field equipment at 70mph as I got near to home.

I never really have a specific goal in mind but the opportunity to refocus and see what finds me seems to be the overall purpose; however, I'm more open to photographing the less ideal situations as I go out now. The wind was blowing but it was warm and sunny so the challenge was to capture that condition, I have no idea if these will pan out but somewhere along the path to becoming the photographer I am today I don't have to have tangible results to say I succeeded. I learn by

seeing what is possible if dared and if a process comes out of that image then it adds to the bits and pieces for another one.

My camera gear was in better shape than I was this time around but I persisted and pushed my limits enough to do something and come back relaxed and be ready to go again.

01-19-2022 – Examples in the 2022 gallery will show I figured out how equalize the overall values and then combine exposures for maximum effect when the wind is blowing but that isn't so critical as I learned something more valuable on the 15<sup>th</sup> as I walked the Monahans Sandhills State Park earlier than normal as the weather was unknown overall. The afternoon walk in a place I know well yielded one image but my mind was too unsettled to really look for images. Time spent clearing my mind isn't time spent being in a place I planned to visit in the first place. I got some full moon time before I went to bed at the campsite and it did drop in temperature so everything worked out. The train crossing the railroad tracks at night was just luck but experiences like that go with getting out. Every adventure is unique and the next one will be no different.