

In Place: Buchanan Park Photographs



a SoFoBoMo book by
Pat Cooney



Preface

I began this Solo Photo Book Month (SoFoBoMo) on July 9th and completed it on August 5th 2017.

SoFoBoMo is an individual exercise in photo-project design, execution and publication.

It was first conceived by Paul Butzi in 2008 as the creation of a photo-ebook, including 35 or more photographs, captured, processed, sequenced, annotated and presented online by the photographer, all within 31 days.

Although the original SoFoBoMo website closed in 2011, a number of enthusiasts (myself among them) have continued the tradition.

Introduction

Buchanan Park is a mid-sized urban park in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, just half a block from my house.

Why choose to photograph there rather than in some far away, more exotic location? Well, first of all, this choice certainly imposes no significant travel time, effort, or expense on me, leaving more of my time and energy for the photography. In addition, it offers repeated access to a familiar setting as changes in the light, weather, and park happenings offer new photo opportunities.

But what about the subject matter itself? Are not lions and zebras on the Serengeti clearly more interesting than just the local folks at the local park? Well, maybe yes, but also maybe not so much.

After all, interest in the photograph, seen by each viewer, ultimately resides in the eye and mind of its beholder and not so much in what the photographer saw and recorded. The photographer was reacting to what he or she saw, there and then, while making the photograph. The audience is reacting to the object before them, the photograph that the photographer has produced and presented to them.

The challenge of making successful photographs lies precisely in engaging your viewers' interest and, even more so, their emotions. What you photograph is just the starting point of your communication with your audience. All the choices you make while capturing and processing your photograph are means to this desired end point. The reaction the photograph evokes in those viewing it is what really matters.

I hope you enjoy my 2017 SoFoBoMo book.

-- Pat Cooney
August, 2017

“The real voyage of discovery
consists not in seeking new
landscapes but in having
new eyes.”

-- Marcel Proust





James Buchanan, President of the United States, 1857 - 1861

The Liberty Bond House





THE LIBERTY BOND HOUSE

On September 27, 1777, the First Official Court House of Lancaster County (1737-1786) became the Capital of the United States for one day.

During the early 1900's, the Liberty Bond Building was built by then Thaddeus Stevens High School as a replica of the Colonial Era Court House. It was placed at the Penn Square in front of the Wart & Shand building where volunteers sold war bonds during World War I and II. After the end of the second World War, the building was moved to its current location in Buchanan Park.

Many years of weather and lack of attention left the house in disrepair.

During 2013-2014, the Lancaster City/County Loyalty Day Committee agreed to restore the house as close to original as possible. The Loyalty Day Committee, (all volunteers) has been involved in many of the park improvements. Spring 2014 marks the 20th Annual Loyalty Day celebration in Buchanan Park.





The Spanish American War Memorial







IN MEMORIAM

U.S.S. MAINE
DESTROYED IN HAVANA HARBOR
FEBRUARY 15TH 1898

THIS TABLET IS CAST FROM METAL RECOVERED FROM THE U.S.S. MAINE



1898-1902

ERECTED BY GENERAL WM. S. MCGASKEY CAMP UNITED SPANISH WAR VETERANS, THE CITY AND COUNTY OF LANCASTER, IN MEMORY OF VOLUNTEERS FROM LANCASTER COUNTY, IN THE SPANISH AMERICAN WAR.

THE POWDER TANK DONATED BY THE U. S. NAVY DEPARTMENT, WAS RECOVERED FROM THE U. S. S. MAINE, IN HAVANA HARBOR.

THE CANNON AND CANNON BALLS WERE DONATED BY THE U. S. WAR DEPARTMENT, UNDER AUTHORITY OF A SPECIAL ACT OF CONGRESS.

DEDICATED JULY 4, 1913.

THIS TABLET IS CAST FROM METAL RECOVERED FROM THE U. S. S. MAINE.

Beau's Dream Dog Park











Just Enjoying the Park







































































Thanks to Paul Butzi for originating the Solo Photo Book Month
as a framework to improve our craft.

Thanks also to Peter Turnley for his good advice, passed along
during his New York City Workshop in June of 2016,
which informed my approach to these images.

This book was designed and produced by the author using
Panasonic Lumix cameras and lens,
Adobe Lightroom CC software,
and Myriad Pro fonts.

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