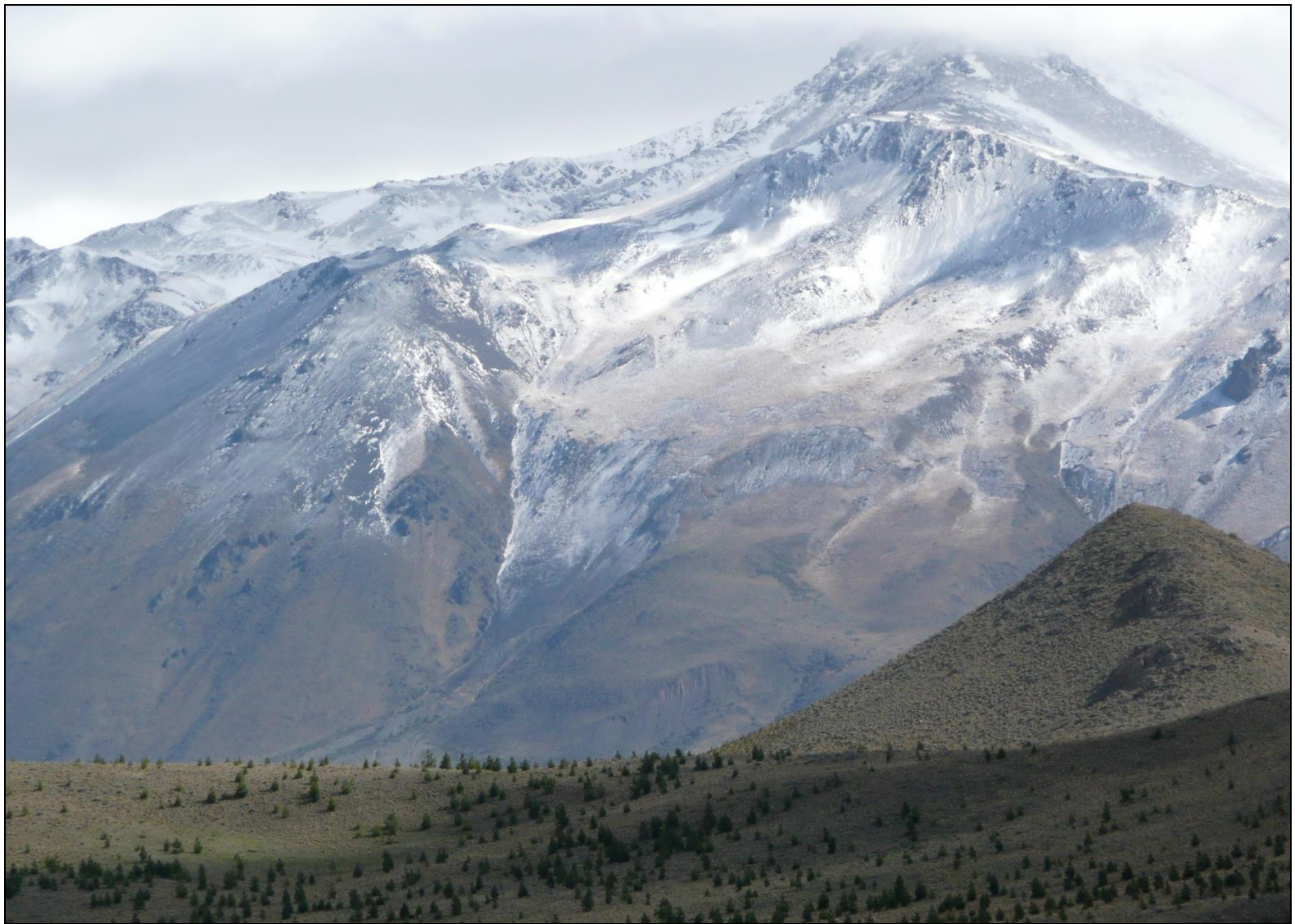




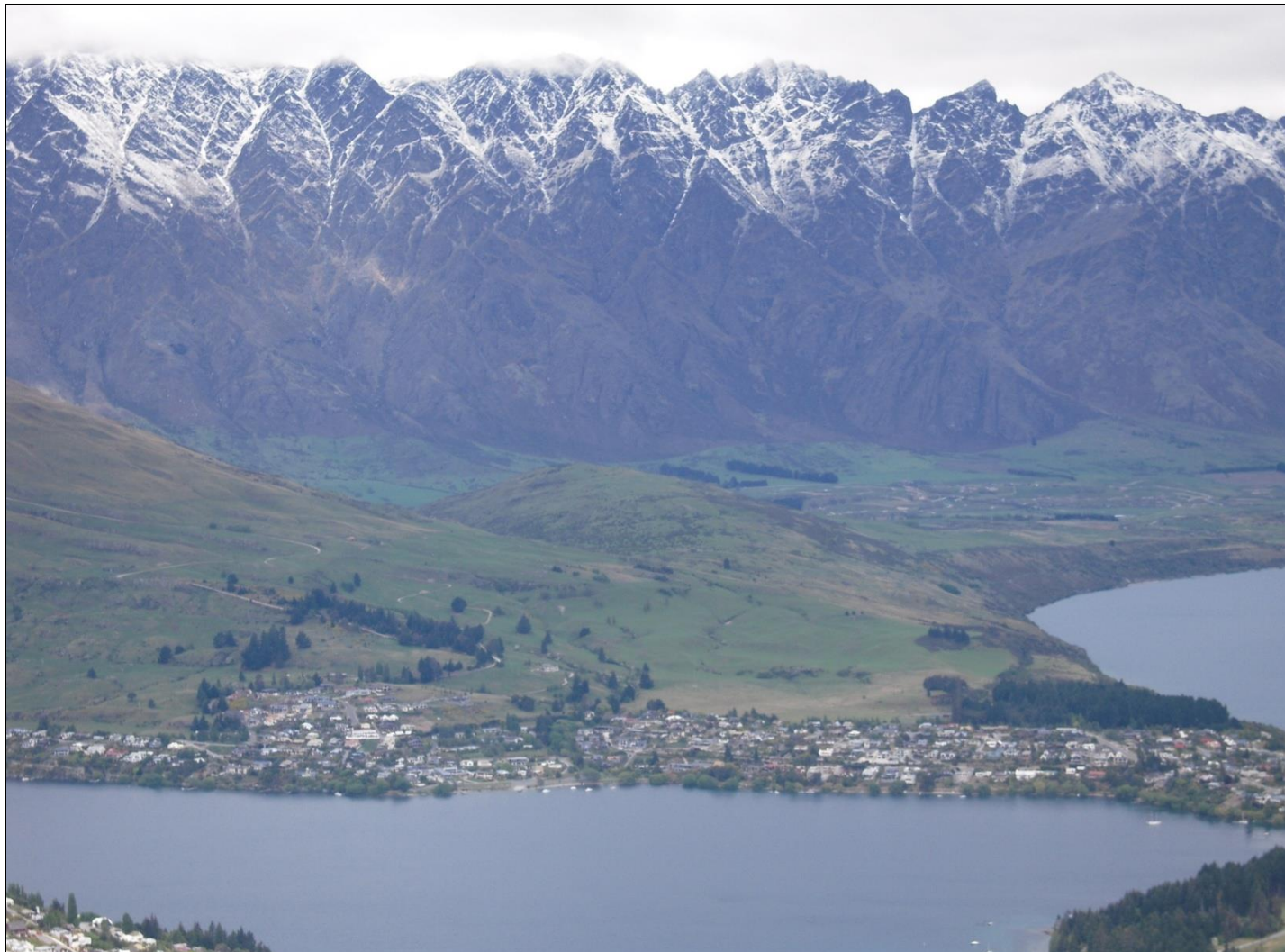
Mt. Denali, Alaska. Driving to Fairbanks one foggy day we saw Denali high above the line of fog; truly an awe-inspiring moment (svetulcho.org). Rose Smith



The grandeur of this Patagonia mountain left me in awe.
Taken in 2010 on a tour with the North American Welsh
Choir. Dan Proud



Moraine Lake, Banff National Park, Alberta, Canada. I have never been there but the pictures are so beautiful.
Anne Urbanski



Remarkables Mt., Queenstown, New Zealand. Scale and beauty of the mountain backdrop with lake and city beneath created a striking sense of spaciousness and beauty. Dan Proud



An alpine meadow in full summer bloom in Glacier NP. There are big-horned sheep on the mountainside and amazing plants, animals and minerals in one photo. Dirk Herr-Hoyman



A dry glacier to show the impact of global warming. Al Nettleton



The Flatirons in Rocky Mountains foothills in Boulder, CO.;
the Tedesco family is going up. Tedesco family



Mammoth Cave, Kentucky: the Tedesco family is going down. Tedesco family



Looking back at Santa Monica Pier, California. This picture is incredible because the light pollution makes it look like daytime. Sometimes pollution can look nice! Mei-lien Converse



Pismo Beach, California. The swells of the surf and the green rolling hills were a breathtaking combination. Ruth Calden



Mendocino California coast where we stay. Peter Anderson



Memorial Union on a foggy morning makes me feel peaceful, instantly. Barb Chatterton

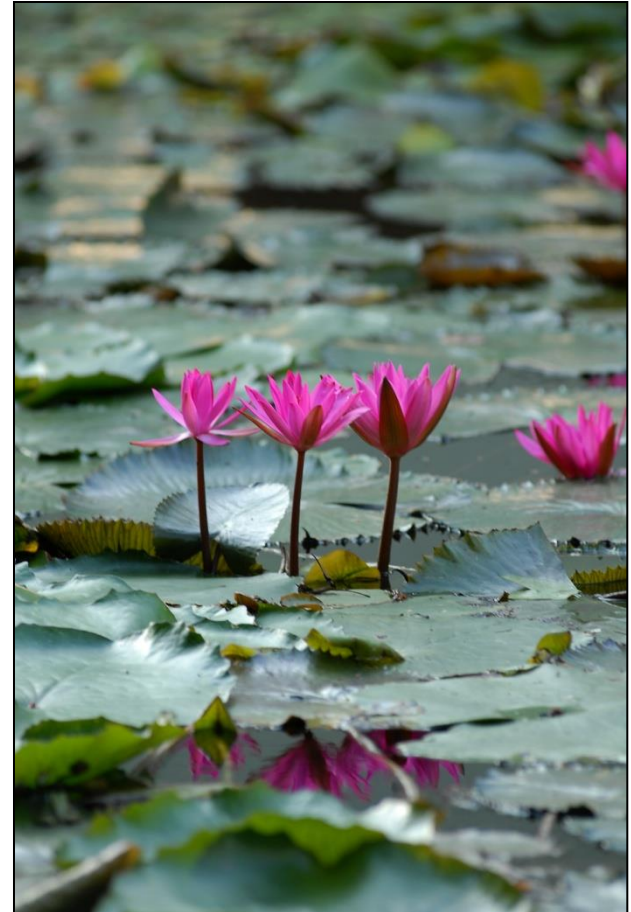


The Potholes Fall Creek Gorge, one of my favorite Indiana creeks. Awesome! Bill Parmenter



Lake Mendota seen from Allen Park Beach,
Madison, Wisconsin. Ron Frye

Miracles are attributed to healing waters of Lake Haviz thermal in Hungary. For me, swimming in a late fall snow flurry and beautiful water lilies made Lake Haviz awesome. Penny Eiler





Pictured Rocks National Seashore, Lake Superior. We were blown away by this beauty during a sunset cruise along the shore. This picture "does it" for both of us. Barb & Ron Frye



The layers, colors, slopes and swirls of the Grand Canyon are an awesome sight. Mary Mullen

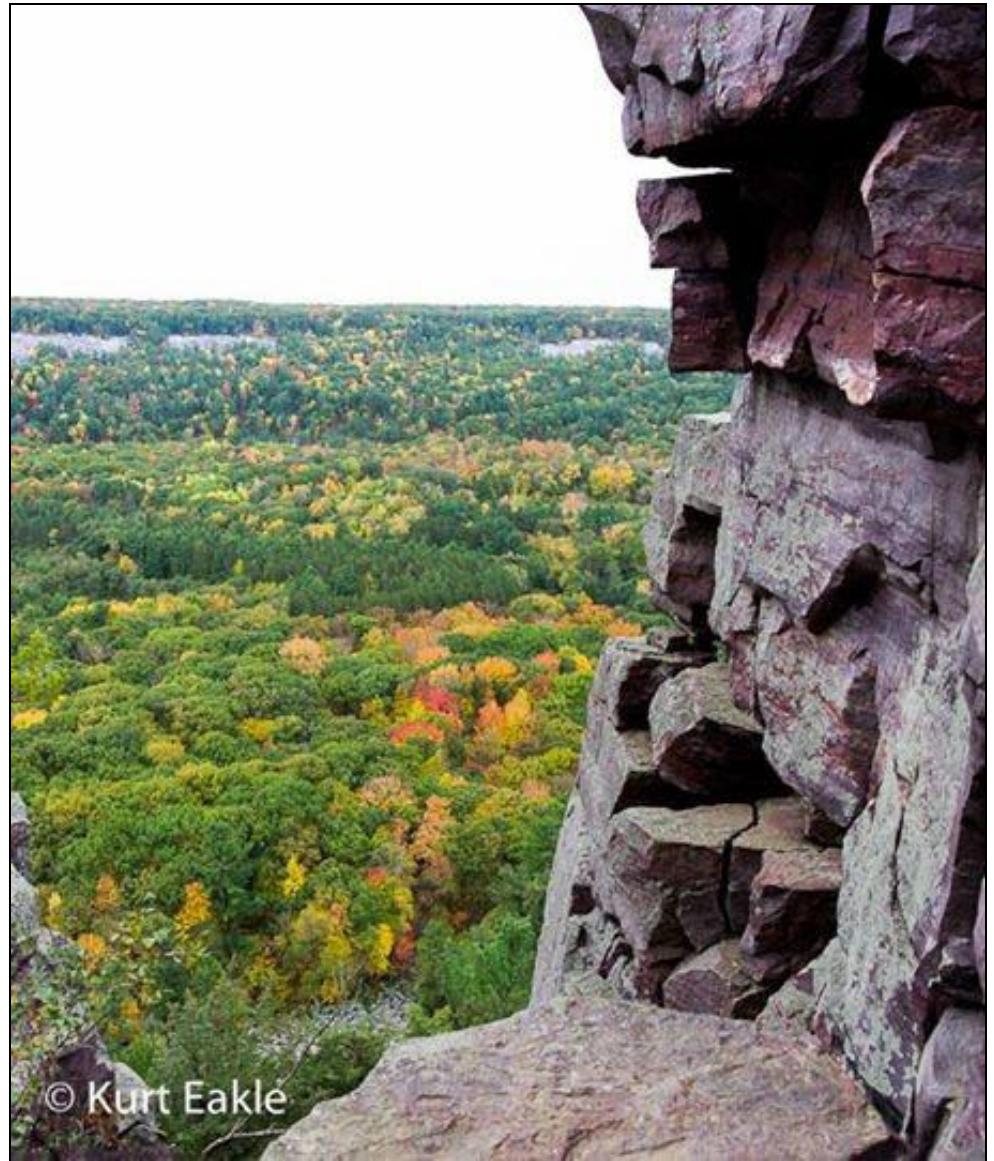


These cliffs seemed like the playthings of giants set down in the desert, dwarfing everything else. And all around.... silence and open space. Dan Proud



Hiking down the crater of Mount Haleakala, Maui, Hawaii in 1980. It looks like a lunar landscape. Rick Ruecking

An awesome picture of Gibraltar Rock on the Gibraltar Segment of the Ice Age Trail, Lodi, Wisconsin
(Photo by Kurt Eakle).
Ron Frye



North of the Boulder Dam, Nevada is an empty, preserved wilderness. The Bowl of Fire literally looks like its name. The red colors of the iron-filled sandstone in this area are truly a wonder of nature. Mary Mullen





A favorite place of ours to visit, Parfreys Glenn in Baraboo, WI
Tree roots on the rock faces. Ron Frye

Donald Sroat, my brother-in-law, facing our goal, Half Dome Yosemite National Park, October 1982. We were among the last hikers that year to ascend terrifying steel cables on it's far side. Don died in 1995 and his ashes were scattered at Half Dome. He was a wise older brother to me. Rick Ruecking





The photo from Irish fest, Milwaukee, WI of a scowling man inspires awe in me as an example of the wonderfulness of unexpected moments in street photography Marty Drapkin



I continue to be thrilled by all of the wonderful Prairie intergenerational experiences (Photos Nifty Gifty 2013 Carl Wacker) Kathy Converse



This photo of a man holding a baby inspires awe because of the tenderness of a captured moment. Marty Drapkin

Creativity - to remake the mundane so that we see it anew with awe. Anne Pryor

(Artwork - "Crib" by Brenda Baker 2012 Farm/Art DTour, Fermentation Festival in Reedsburg, WI)





Awesome technology! This is ultrasound of my yet unborn granddaughter at 7 months. I can really see that she already looks like her mother! Metje Butler



I'm inspired by those who value heritage and maintain their dedication to culture daily, despite pressures to homogenize. They make this world far more fascinating. Anne Pryor (Jose Chavez of Milwaukee installs cartonerias in exhibit at Dane County Regional Airport)





This 28 year old mother has MS and her 10 year old daughter has cerebral palsy. I'm was awed by the mother's optimism and positive attitude in the face of great difficulty. She refused to let her daughter miss life's experiences because of her disability.
Marty Drapkin



A rose in November--either remembering the summer, or hoping for the next summer. Tony and Terri Prudlo



Sunflowers are my favorite flowers because their heads can be so big and showy and they have such a mathematical pattern to them. Kate Liu



I am inspired to paint by the random beauty of wild flowers (Black Earth Prairie). Kathy Converse



Humpback whale seen during our cruise to Alaska. Such magnificent animals at home in their kingdom. Al Nettleton



San Luis Obispo, Big Sur coast. Paula and I were delighted to find a sea lion close to shore. We took pictures and watched for quite awhile. We noticed people looking at another beach 100 yards away. We wandered over; this is Paula's face as she saw 100's or 1000's of mothers, bulls, and baby sea lions making a huge ruckus. It was totally unexpected. Carl Wacker



In Algonquin National Park, Ontario, I was transfixed by the curiosity and playfulness of the young foxes. Kathy Converse

Our barn cats spent some of their time in the house. They usually chose to have their kittens inside in a nice, cozy box my mom would prepare. Both mamas are awesome to me because they did what they needed to do and generally did it calmly. Lynn Pawelski



Sweet Dana my guide dog. Her amazing skills included finding things for me like buildings and even items I couldn't remember in a store... she would touch my leg with her nose and lead me there!! She was awesome and I miss her terribly. Lorry Bond



Note: Dana sitting in children's car seat.



Mookie looking out....fur and ice....contrast of warmth and cold. Ruth Calden



I am inspired by beautiful animals who live long and well (snapping turtle). Anne Pryor



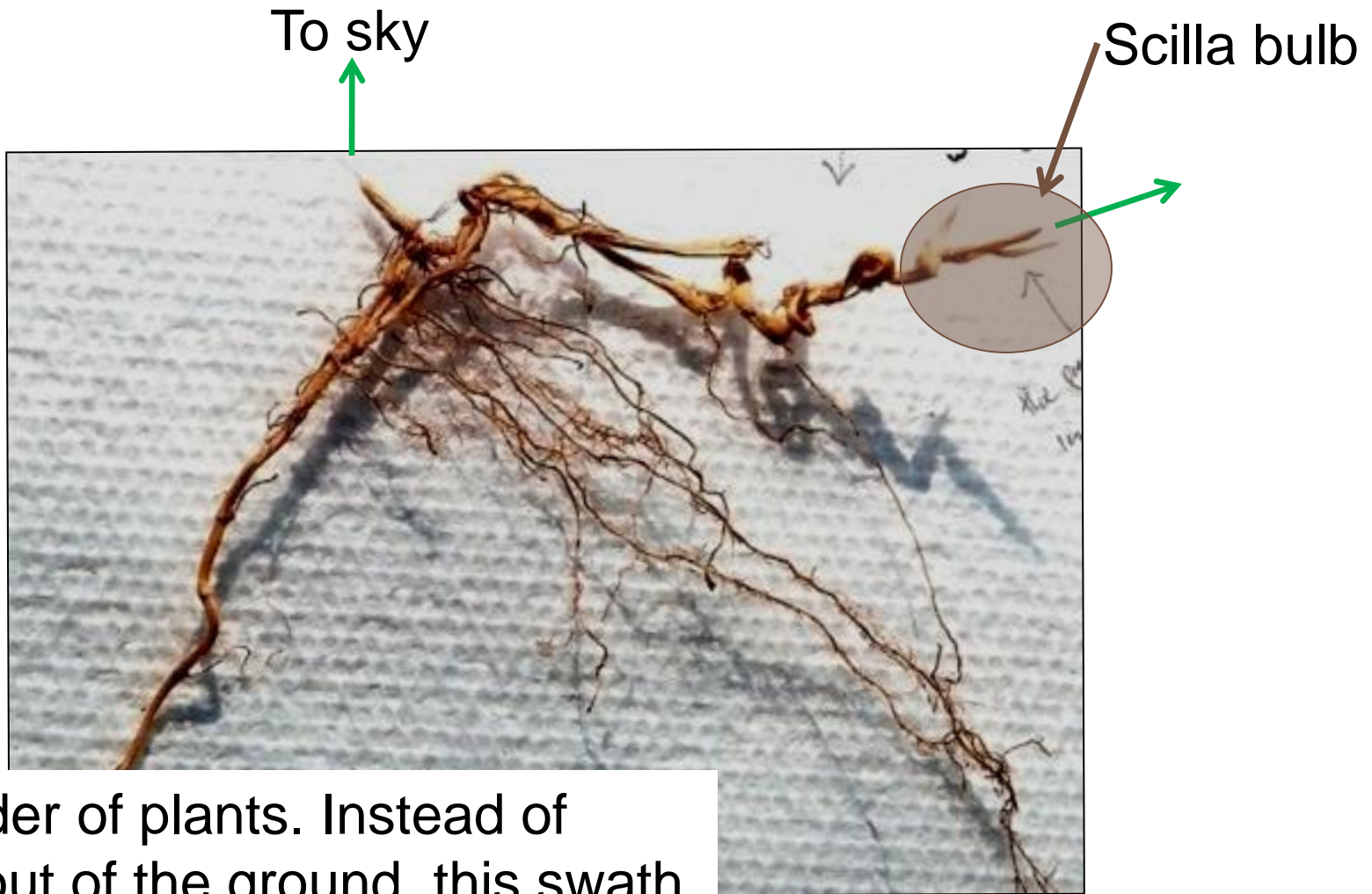
The milky way connects the Northern and Southern Cross. Photo of dark Laguna Cejar in Northern Chile in October just after sunset. You can see the bright Moon inside the arch; with Venus above and Saturn and Mercury below. On the left large and small Magellanic Clouds satellite galaxies, red airglow near the horizon; and lights of small towns across the horizon. (Photo Nicholas Buer) Nevenah Smith



Awe inspiring when viewed with a scientific eye because it shows the influence of the moon on our oceans. The Bay of Fundy, Nova Scotia, has the highest tides on our planet, and Wasson Bluff is known for its fossils. Bob Park



An amazing underwater picture of Shicheng City, in Zhejiang province, China. The city, 1341 years old, was submerged in 1959 during dam construction. Water seals the city from wind and rain erosion, so it remains in good condition. (Boredpanda.com) Nevenah Smith



The wonder of plants. Instead of growing out of the ground, this swath of grass stayed underground and used switchback bends to muscle its way through a scilla bulb, which then could not sprout! Metje Butler

Visiting the space shuttle invited our family to appreciate human ingenuity in the spirit of discovery and exploration.
Tedesco Family





The astronomical clock in Prague. How did they figure time out anyway? The wonders of science. Al Nettleton

Antikythera mechanism is an ancient analog computer designed to predict astronomical positions and eclipses. Developed by Greek astronomers about 100 BC. Recovered in 1900 from a shipwreck. Rick Ruecking





Stones at the beach edge in Alaska caught my curiosity. Tides separated them into sizes on the beach; skinnys were on edge, and fatties lying flat. The physics of how moving waters did that is awe inspiring to me. Metje Butler



Hearing the Mormon Tabernacle 360-voice choir and orchestra in front of a mammoth Tabernacle organ left a lasting impression. Dan Proud



Churches are awe inspiring communities for me; Prairie, my small-town Presbyterian church, or Christ Chapel (shown here), at Gustavus Adolphus College. My friends and I met for chapel daily to touch base, gaze at colorful windows, hear a message (often focused on social justice), and harmonize to LBW offerings. Lynn Pawelski



Old Church and pipe organ in Haarlem, Netherlands. Mozart played that organ at age 10, in 1766. When we visited in March 2006, a music professor was giving his students an opportunity to play the organ. The church was really cold so Katherine and I walked laps church while listening to that amazing instrument. Kate Liu



In Dunblane Scotland, I walked right next to this stained glass window. This was a striking experience being so close, I could almost touch it. We had seen many cathedrals in our trip and I was amazed at their history. Dirk Herr-Hoyman



Tsurugajo Castle and cherry blossoms near my apartment in Japan in 2006. I felt awe whenever I took time to slow down and admire the beauty all around me. Tara Rollins



Carl by the largest Moreton Fig (Banyan) tree in North America (in Santa Barbara, CA). Carl Wacker



Muir Woods, Coastal Redwoods, CA. I spent a lot of time in awe and hush among these magnificent redwoods and giant Sequoias in the Sierras. (grayline.com) Rose Smith



Paula and I trying to get our arms around a giant Sequoia in Sequoia National Park. Carl Wacker



Paula counting the rings in a sequoia felled after more than 3000!!! years of life on earth.
Carl Wacker



I love the sometimes-crazy architecture of nature. Mesquite trees are one of my favorites. Rugged and wispy, lazy-looking and strong. Lynn Pawelski



Spring in Chicago...luxuriant blossoming cherry tree
midst crowded houses. Ruth Calden



Rounded boulders with their peachy colors form a natural rock garden for cacti and other desert plants. A combination of relatively timeless rock and flora that find the climate and location hospitable enough to thrive in. Mary Mullen



Driving through the Smoky Mountain National Park on my way to North Carolina. I drove a UHaul over 10 miles of twisty but beautiful roads. Dirk Herr-Hoyman



The warm gold of the sun on the Wisconsin snow on a very cold day and also the little lumps of snow perched like birds in the pine trees was awe inspiring. Mary Mullen



Madison during winter of 2008. We all complain about winter, but it has a beauty of its own that I can't help but love. Kate Liu



The peace of an early morning after a snowfall. Everything looks so fresh. You see things you didn't notice before because of the way the snow outlines their shape. Lynn Pawelski



The plentiful snow in WI took on amazing shapes. Is this a stick figure without a head, a cross buried in the snow, a moose with odd antlers, a guy who stayed out all night in a big snowstorm, or something else altogether? Nature as humor is pretty awesome. Mary Mullen



Ice cave Apostle Island, WI This spectacularly beautiful ice formed almost instantly and looks like the stalactites and stalagmites in caves that took eons to form. Ice takes the coloration of underlying rock structures. They are a generous gift. (philipschwarzphotography.files.) Metje Butler



I am in awe of everyday people who work in big ways and small for the common good. (People gathered in Fort Collins, CO for a 30th reunion of the Peace Blockade). Anne Pryor



On this cold winter's evening, I could feel the energy of people with protest signs going in and out of the Capitol. The thick fog created an eerie Halloween's eve feeling with the lighted dome. Looking at this picture brings back all those emotions for me. Barb Chatterton



Very inspiring to be among the masses of dedicated Madison Capitol protestors. Randy Converse



The vigil at the gates of Ft. Benning, GA was more meaningful by the presence of "Puppetistas" and crosses left in a fence. Each cross bore the name of a man, woman or child killed or missing due to teachings of School of the Americas. Being part of a large demonstration is always moving. Penny Eiler



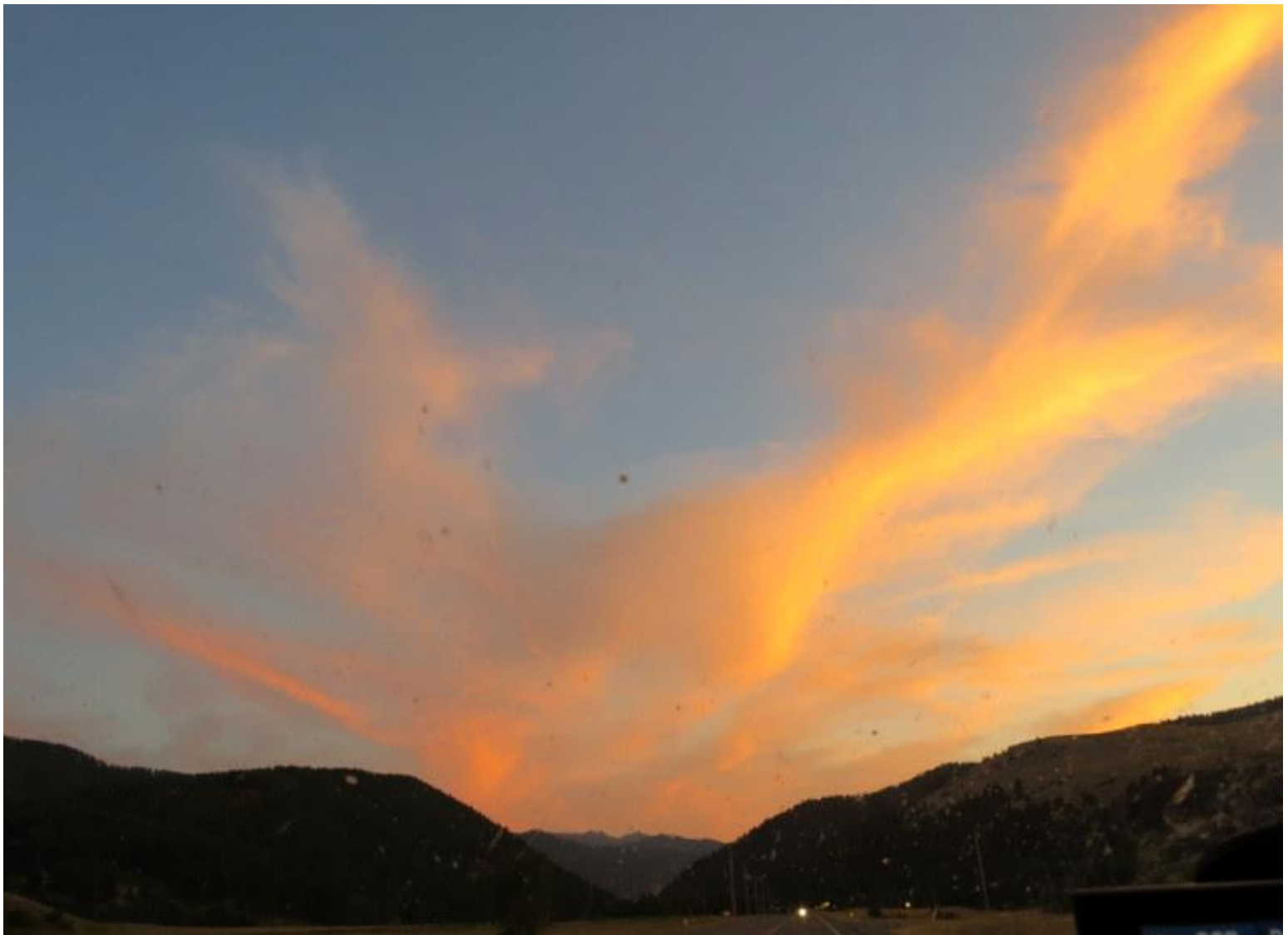
Findhorn Scotland is a magical place. A house in a neighborhood build out of whiskey barrels in this whiskey brewing region and Findhorn having an eco bent. This looked like a Hobbit house; I was waiting for Bilbo to come out and greet me. Dirk Herr-Hoyman



I am always amazed by clouds and the messages they give us....maybe rain is coming! Randy Converse



A Rainbow at Hobart Bay, Alaska
Wilderness without end. Al Nettleton



Thrilling sunset in the path of a forest fire in Yellowstone National Park, summer of 2013. Kathy Converse



The night sky connects us to that which is greater than ourselves. And it's right there, every evening! All we need to do is look up. Anne Pryor

Today's program will end
with a video of Peter Seeger
and others singing

[“To My Old Brown Earth”](#).

From PBS American Masters series
"Pete Seeger: Power of Song" in 2007

I think it summarizes our feelings of awe
for the earth and its creatures.

Thank you to all contributors of
photographs and comments.

Kathy Converse