



February 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Full Moon	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 Valentine's day	15	16	17 New Moon
18 Chinese New Year	19 President's Day	20	21 Ash Wednesday	22 Washington's Birthday	23	24
25	26	27	28			

John Heintz-Tinicum Wildlife Preserve is one of our favorite places. Part of the attraction is that it is very close and convenient. It is right on the border between Philly and Delco, right next to the airport and I-95. In spite of all the people, airplanes, and cars, the wildlife inhabitants seem very happy to stop and stay here. This scene was early spring before things started to green up, and there was still a bite in the air. Much to my surprise, as we were returning from the far end of the pond, there was a swan. I have seen swans in parks and zoos, but I have never seen one in the wild. It's mate was hiding behind the reeds; they mate for life. This is a Mute Swan, the largest waterfowl in North America. There is a nice article at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mute_Swan , about these birds and how they got to North America from Europe.

Swans remind us of the Ugly Duckling fairy tale by Hans Christian Andersen (read it at <http://ivyjoy.com/fables/duckling.html>); find the real you that is deep inside, don't settle for what everyone else believes about you, be what God created you to be.

If you look closely at the image, you will notice the swan's head is dirty. That is from sticking it's neck underwater looking for food. The water must be really dirty. Yuck! And if you look above the tree line, you will notice some high-power lines. I always try to arrange a shot so that these man-made objects are not seen. But at Heintz-Tinicum, that is very difficult, being at the center of so much humanity. I also don't ever remember using branches so prominently in the foreground of a picture. It's a little strange, but I'll call it artistic inspiration.

Spring is comin'...

You have received this new calendar each month, with new pictures and dates, as a **free** gift. You can print it, copy it and e-mail it to your hearts content. Send all requests to doug@TheCreatorsFingerprints.com . When you are on our mailing list, you will be updated with events and new photo availability. We promise not to be a pest.

If you like this **free** calendar, feel free to e-mail this to your friends and family, so they can enjoy it also.

I always say that we have been busy, and it is still true. I am not sure why. We have worked on the web site and added a few images on the gallery, cleaned up and added a few links on the other pages. Nothing, yet, on the new "Exercise/ Fitness" web page.

We will have some of our prints at a silent auction at the Church of The Nazarene, Collingdale, PA, on February 24th. It's part of our International Fair, with lots of exotic and delicious food and drink. All proceeds go directly to Missions. Bring lots of money

We will be featuring items on the "Interesting Links" pages. This month we have chosen the "Gardening" page. It might seem too early to be thinking about gardening. After all, the ground is still frozen. But this is a good time to do some planning and thinking about changes, ordering and starting seeds, perennials, bushes and trees. Usually our garden planning starts as we are walking through the garden center. Wouldn't it be nice to start a well designed butterfly garden, or a garden which attracts birds and other wildlife (except the squirrels, bah) or cultivating wildflowers. There are links to several sites which can help you with landscaping design to select appropriate and compatible plants and outdoor décor with your available garden locations. Check it out at <http://www.thecreatorsfingerprints.com/links-14-garden.htm> .

The Creator's Fingerprints

Doug Haas Nature Photography

Nature is so incredibly diverse, interweaving soft textures with rough elements, adding a splash of color amid dull backgrounds, bold designs among camouflage and secrecy. The variety of shapes and patterns seem limitless. And it all coexists and fits together seamlessly. Often inspiring, mysterious beyond rational explanation, we look to nature to understand our place in the universe, to realize we are part of an incredible, intelligent design.

But much of this beauty goes unseen and unappreciated. My wife Chris and I are always looking for those special images which most people just walk past. It is not necessary to visit exotic far off places. Many stunning images are right in our backyard. We especially marvel over the tiny or insignificant; fungi, centipedes, or fallen autumn leaves. Using our macro lens, close up photos of the ordinary shows detail that is dramatic or vibrant. Then looking across the large panoramic overlooks we drink in the immensity of our surroundings. And we are always looking for the unusual, odd and often fantastic scenes. We love to be artistically moody or abstract, offering prints which are beautiful and interesting.

Prints from Doug Haas Nature Photography will always be eye catching hanging on your wall, in your house or office. They also make great gifts which show the recipient that you care and you have great taste. Gift certificates are available. The prints are professionally printed on archival paper with non-fading inks, and should last a lifetime. Total satisfaction or your money back.

Images can be viewed and prints ordered on-line at <http://www.thecreatorsfingerprints.com> E-mail us at doug@TheCreatorsFingerprints.com .