



## February 2009

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

I continue my campaign against winter.

Actually, I don't mind winter. It is the bitter cold that I don't like. Yes, I know there are colder places than south-east Pennsylvania. And, yes, I know, there are places where it doesn't get bitter cold in the winter. I also realize I could move there if I was so much against this bitter cold winter. But that is not my point. If I lived at one of those places, I wouldn't be able to complain about the cold. Actually, I would still complain about the cold, but it would be a warmer cold.

This image was taken a few years ago next to the big tree behind our house. The maple tree is so large that two people couldn't put their arms around it and touch fingers. One bonus we get from the tree is bark mulch. As the tree grows it breaks off the bark in nice manageable chunks that we use for mulch, which you can see in the image.

The bluebells are hand-me-downs from my mother's garden. They would spread and she would dig them out each year, and I would pick up the bulbs and bring them home. They are still spreading in our yard. The pansies are perfect springtime flowers because they can withstand the cold weather and snow and are nice and bright.

The broad leaf plant is an annual sedum. We got it at an end-of-the-year sale at a garden center, but they come up every year so it doesn't matter when you get them. This plant grows to a height of three feet and fills in an area very well. When it's neo-flowers bloom in the late summer, there are lots of different types of bees and flying insects doing their pollinating thing. I say neo-flowers because they don't look like much, but the bees love it. We leave the stalks up all winter for a nice accent in the garden.

This image was taken in the beginning of April, so it gives us something to look forward to.

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No art or craft shows this month. Those things start up next month. Chris is really enjoying this time off.

I have done a few things on the web site. I added music to most pages, using other peoples music. Check it out. Our Kid's page has finally done it. It gets the most hits of the entire web site. This is good because we have tried to make it a fun and safe place for kids to discover their world and figure out where they fit in that world. We don't make any money from it, but it is a labor of love. Check it out and send a link to your younger friends.

# **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. We try to capture beauty, things unusual or interesting; hopefully all three. 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](mailto:doug@TheCreatorsFingerprints.com) , and be specific in the title, I am brutal with spam.

