

Door County With Hank Erdmann By Cindy Kuffel

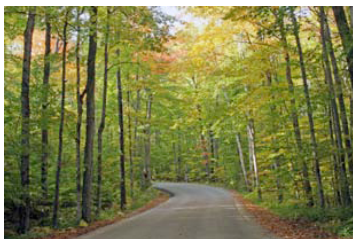
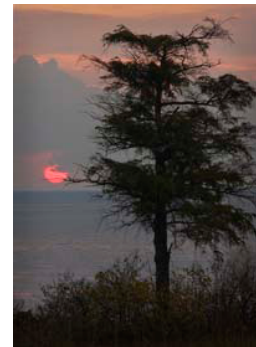
On October 11, 12, & 13, Kent and his wife Janet, Jim and his wife Bonnie, Ray, Ken and Cindy spent 2-1/2 glorious days in Door County photographing the areas lighthouses, beaches, and breathtaking fall colors. Below are some of the highlights

Day One: Everyone met at Bluffside Hotel, Sister Bay, Wisconsin. First stop - Old Stage and Wildwood Roads to shoot a weathered barn and silo.



We then headed to Gill's Rock. Along the way we photographed a grove of birch trees covered in fall color and an S curve off of Cottage Row Road. Peninsula State Park was our next destination where we stopped to photograph the Eagle Bluff lighthouse and sunset. Our day finally ended with dinner at JJ La Puerta Mexican Restaurant in Sister Bay. Once dinner was done we all headed back to our hotels to download our pictures, charge our batteries and head to bed.

Day Two: On the beach at 7:00 a.m. for early morning sunrise at Newport State Park. Stop for a rustic barn on the side of the road. Breakfast at The Viking in Ellison Bay and then a visit to the Townline Art Fair in Ephraim. We then drove through Peninsula State Park, first pull-off – Nelson's Point to photograph a fence and vines. Second pull-off – Mengleberg Lane to photograph Blossom Burg Cemetery. Stop at Middle Lane and Mengleberg Lane for fall colors, Skyline Drive Shanty Bay Overlook for fall color, then over to Sven's Bluff for an S curve along the lake and an open field of birch and aspen trees. Dinner at the Old Post Office in Ephraim for a



traditional Door County fish boil. Before dinner was served we were able to watch the preparations, see how our dinner was being cooked, receive a story on fish boils and laugh at some really BAD jokes by our chef Earl. (Why do they cut the heads off of sardines? So they won't bite each other in the can.) After dinner we all headed back to our room to get ready for

another day.

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Day Three: 6:00 a.m. car ride to Canal Island Lighthouse for sunrise and to shoot different angles of the lighthouse. Breakfast at Bailey's Harbor in the Harbor Fish Market and Grill. After breakfast we headed for the nearby Ridges Sanctuary to photograph

Bailey's Harbor. We photographed a second lighthouse – Ridges Lower Range Lighthouse. We took a rest stop at Bluffside, then headed back to Ridges to photograph the beautiful Fringed Gentians. Off to White Fish Dunes Park to walk the Clark Lake Trail and photograph moss and fall colors. Next we stopped at Cave Point County Park to stretch our legs and tour the area, especially the rock cliffs along the lakefront. Dinner was at the Mission Grill (originally a Catholic church) across the street from the Bluffside Hotel. After dinner some of us photographed the Mission Grill's church steeple silhouetted by the moon, then off to bed.



Day Four: Now its down to just Ken, Hank and me. We returned to the S-curve outside of Gills Rock to try to capture, in different light, the S curve, hopefully with less traffic. Then we headed back to Sister Bay for breakfast at the famous Al Johnson's Restaurant (the place with the goats eating on the roof). After breakfast we bid Hank a fond farewell and started for home.

Special Note: Everyone should try going on an outing and/or a photo tour, the knowledge we gained from Hank and each other was very useful. Hank went out of his way to spend as much time with each of us, even sharing different pieces of his equipment with us. We exchanged ideas, learned about the local Door County areas and had a wide variety of fantastic food.

