

Outsiders Help Celebrate Clinton

What a delight it was to have student and professional photographers in our town during the recent MU Photojournalism workshop! Thanks to Dan and Kathy Miles, Christa Atchison and the Chamber of Commerce, Mayor Gibbons and the city of Clinton, Cathie Goth and the Benson Center for their initial support in the months of planning. You all said “yes” to a great opportunity for Clinton to celebrate through pictures. And, you gathered other Clinton residents together to make the workshop a success.

Thanks to all the Clinton area residents who opened their homes, businesses and lives to complete strangers for the sake of telling a story through pictures. And, the final product of pictures shown at the Benson Center was captivating.

We were fortunate to have one of the photographers stay with us. Our “boarder” was Joe from Central South Dakota and his passion for photography was, as he put it, “large mammals.” He quickly added, “bears and tigers.”

“Well, have you considered fish or deer?” I quizzed him, knowing that he was out of luck on the “large mammals” around here. He was pleased to work with the Missouri Department of Conservation with pictures of fish and his photo story was about Gabe Suthoff, a football player for the Clinton Cardinals.

His experience in Clinton was obviously very different than his big game photo shoots, sitting in jungles for hours waiting for the opportunity to get just the right shot for the National Geographic magazine. But the 27-year-old photographer was intrigued by our small town and he appreciated the chance to learn from other professionals.

Clinton left a lasting impression of a great place to live, just as Dan Miles indicated in his Monday, October 3 column. Our hat goes off to the *Clinton Daily Democrat* for all the free publicity and all the work they put into making this workshop a success.

The Clinton Daily Democrat allows us to celebrate Clinton each day. Our small town is fortunate to have a daily newspaper that is eager to print local pictures and news. Thanks Dan and Kathy and all your staff for keeping us informed and helping us celebrate our town with each edition.