


The Photographic Society of America – Photo Travel Division  
Digital Study Group 1

Round:	1	Maker's Name	Bill Rau
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Image No:	1	Image Title:	Sand Dunes	

**BURKE COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** You did a pretty good job capturing the scene, as the significant elements are present. The exposure of the hills and sky is very good, pretty much the way you would expect to see them. There is quite a bit of medium-toned foreground, which seems to lessen to overall impact.

**Improvements:** If the foreground were lightened, then it would be competing with the dunes in the background. It seems better then to improve the composition of the scene by cropping the foreground significantly. A small amount of added color enhancement and sharpening would also improve the scene.

**Visual Feedback:** Yes

**Interest:** Above average    **Technical:** Above average    **Composition:** Good

**DOERRIE COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** Hi Bill,

This is a gorgeous image of the Death Valley dunes. I'd hoped to get over there this spring and never did manage to do so .... and after seeing this, I'm regretting it all the more! The colors and lighting are beautiful, as are the ripples in the sand.

**Improvements:** Technically, the only thing I found to wonder about is the sky. Even after enlarging the image, I can't quite tell if the sky is pixilated, or if the cloud formations are the reason for the texture there. My tendency in those situations is to give it the benefit of the doubt and assume it is the clouds. I played with it a little bit with noise reduction, but I couldn't tell much of a difference, so I'm not quite certain what, if anything, to suggest. It wasn't really distracting, though, so perhaps you're better off leaving it alone. (Sometimes my efforts to "fix" things just end up creating a new mess to clean up.) Your composition is really nice as well. I especially like the sticks and buried log in the lower right corner. I debated at first whether I was distracted by so much white sand in the foreground and middle ground. However, after playing with a horizontal crop, I decided I preferred your vertical one and that the amount of sand helped add to the story. Overall, I really can't find much of anything I would do any differently to this beautiful image. Nice job!

**Visual Feedback:** No

**Interest:** Impressive    **Technical:** Above average    **Composition:** Impressive

**DONG COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** Lovely image of DV sand dunes. I like the log at the front, which gives depth of distance. Well composed.

**Improvements:** Maybe try to position your camera to lower right, which will bring the log closer. Increase the contrast of the foreground sand dunes.

**Visual Feedback:** Yes

**Interest:** Above average

**Technical:** Above average

**Composition:** Above average

**SUKUMAR COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** I like the diagonals, the leading lines in the sand, the shapes and colors of the dunes, and your choice of the vertical format.

**Improvements:** The image could do with some contrast enhancement.

**Visual Feedback:** No

**Interest:** Above average

**Technical:** Good

**Composition:** Above average

**Image No:** 2 **Image Title:** Watering Cans



### **BURKE COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** The milk cans do have a certain appeal to them, as they are not common-place these days. The interest would be greater if there were more surroundings to that the viewer would have better appreciation of the actual setting. The colors are about right and there is plenty of detail.

**Improvements:** The overall appearance of the image could be improved with a small amount of color enhancement and sharpening.

**Visual Feedback:** Yes

**Interest:** Good    **Technical:** Above average    **Composition:** Good

### **DOERRIE COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** Nice capture of the shapes, lines and colors of the watering can image.

**Improvements:** Technically, it seemed slightly soft on my screen (although that may be my monitor), so I tried sharpening it a little bit. I also decided I liked it better with a little bit more cropping on the top to place more emphasis on the shapes and line of the watering cans and slightly less emphasis on the bright color in the wall (although you don't want to lose too much of that). Your composition is very nice in this image as well. One thing I am debating about in the photo travel division is whether there is enough in this image to place it in a particular location setting to tell the story of time and place. I could do that with your descriptors, of course, but those would not be available to a photo travel judge. Thus, I'm wondering if perhaps this image might not do better in CPID or EI. I do really like the shapes, lines and colors, though.

**Visual Feedback:** Yes

**Interest:** Above average    **Technical:** Above average    **Composition:** Above average

### **DONG COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** Good color. Nice composition.

**Improvements:** need to find more interests for this image.

**Visual Feedback:** Yes

**Interest:** Good    **Technical:** Good    **Composition:** Above average

## **SUKUMAR COMMENTS AND RATINGS**

**Comments:** Strong graphic elements (diagonals, repeated elements), pleasing colors, tonality and texture make this an impressive image, but it is too soft.

**Improvements:** Image really needs sharpening.

**Visual Feedback:** Yes

**Interest:** Above average

**Technical:** Improvements helpful

**Composition:** Above average