

3-D Imaging Past & Present

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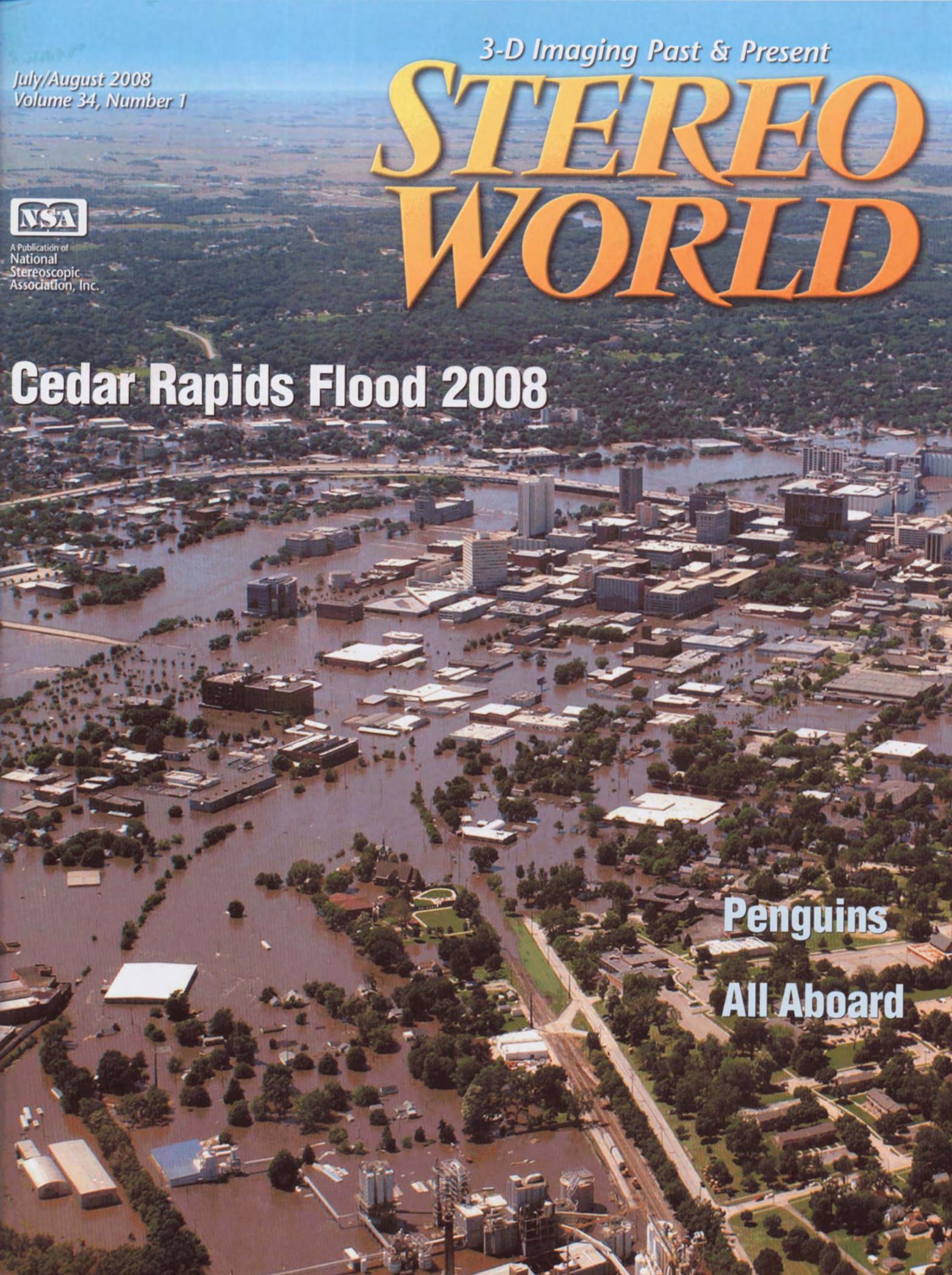


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STEREO WORLD

Cedar Rapids Flood 2008

Penguins
All Aboard



'50s Flavored Finds

A taste of the late '40s through the early '60s found in amateur stereo slides

by Mark Willke

The Big Catch

Stereo photos are a great way to preserve a moment in time so that you can return and experience it again and again. Of course people captured important events like weddings, graduations and holidays in 3-D during the stereo boom of the '50s and '60s, but what better way to capture the results of that big fishing or hunting trip than stereo slides?

I've come across several accumulations of slides that included shots of people holding fish after a day on the water, but our first image here shows some of the largest I've seen in such a slide. In fact, the man appears to have to assume a rather uncomfortable pose just to raise his arms high enough to keep the fish off the ground! This Kodachrome slide is mounted in a gray cardboard Technicolor mount, and an inscription on the front lists the man's name and "1960".

Stereo photos would seem to be an ideal way to document the outcome of hunting trips as well, although such slides seem to be a bit less common than those showing proud fisherman displaying their catch. Our second image this issue was apparently taken in a basement where I'm guessing there will soon be a massive plucking and processing operation to put all those ducks into the freezer for future meals.

The two women are holding ducks in their laps, and I count nine additional ones being held by the men for a total of 11! It's not clear who the hunter was in this case, although I would guess it was the young man and perhaps his father. Of course, there's always the chance that these are just domestic ducks whose time for slaughter had come, but the people seem to be displaying them a bit too proudly for that to be the case!

This Kodachrome slide was mounted in a gray cardboard Technicolor mount labeled 1958.



This column combines a love of stereo photography with a fondness for 1950s-era styling, design and decor by sharing amateur stereo slides shot in the "golden age" of the Stereo Realist—the late 1940s through the early 1960s. From clothing and hairstyles to home decor to modes of transportation, these frozen moments of time show what things were really like in the middle of the twentieth century. If you've found a classic '50s-era slide that you would like to share through this column, please send it to: Fifties Flavored Finds, 5610 SE 71st, Portland, OR 97206.

As space allows, we will select a couple of images to reproduce in each issue. This is not a contest—just a place to share and enjoy. Please limit your submission to a single slide. If the subject, date, location, photographer or other details are known, please send that along too, but we'll understand if it's not available. Please include return postage with your slide. Slides will be returned within 6 to 14 weeks, and while we'll treat your slide as carefully as our own, Stereo World and the NSA assume no responsibility for its safety.

