

TIPS ON TRIPS

The Art Of Storytelling

(NAPSA)—According to the Travel Industry Association, Americans make over 1 billion trips each year, the vast majority of these dedicated to leisurely pursuits.

No matter how brief or long the trip, one of the best ways to preserve and share travel memories is storytelling through words and photos immediately after returning from a vacation.

Professional photographer and author Dane Howard stresses the importance of storytelling as a way to preserve memories of special times spent as a family.

According to Howard, “As a child, I treasured my collection of National Geographic magazines and loved the travel stories that the photos told. Now, as a husband and father of two, I strive to create that same reference library for my family’s memories.”

Howard believes that one of the best ways to do this is to create a photo book, which allows travelers to customize hardcover books with photos and captions that truly tell their story.

Photo site www.Shutterfly.com is a leading online resource for such photo books that only require a quick photo upload. The site has several travel-themed books, or visitors can find inspiration for travel styles and stories from other users through its gallery community, available at <http://community.shutterfly.com>.

There, thousands of books are posted, rated and commented on,



Photo books can be a great way to document a vacation, event or lifetime.

and the “make one like this” feature makes it simple to use someone else’s book as a template.

In fact, the Web site cites its No. 1 gallery topic as “Travel” with the most popular Travel sub-groups being “Europe,” “Tropical” and “U.S.”

Howard says, “Life is filled with significant events that become your life’s story. Periodically document life ‘chapters’ to share online and in person.” He offers the following tips for maintaining memory preservation year-round:

- Make a habit of reviewing your memories. Revisit at least once a month.
- Author while you browse your photos. This saves time and helps with editing.
- Let the images jog your memory and the story will follow.

“When complete, photo books can serve as coffee-table fodder and create opportunities to gather as a family and relive special times,” says Howard.