

Mr. Sohm was awarded the Gold Medal in New York City for “*Best Coffee Table Book.*” 4090 books were entered in 65 categories. The medals awarded for best Coffee Table Book are:
Gold: *Visions of America: Photographing Democracy*, photographed and written by Joseph Sohm (Visions of America, LLC Publisher), foreword by Paul Theroux
Silver (tie): *American Farmer: The Heart of Our Country*, by Paul Mobley and Katrina Fried (Welcome Books) and *Wildlands Philanthropy: The Great American Tradition*, by Tom Butler and Antonio Vizcaíno (Earth Aware)
Bronze (tie): *Horse Warriors: India’s 61st Cavalry*, by Henry Dallal (Henry Dallal Publishing); *Paris Icons*, by Leslie J. Little (Icon Images)

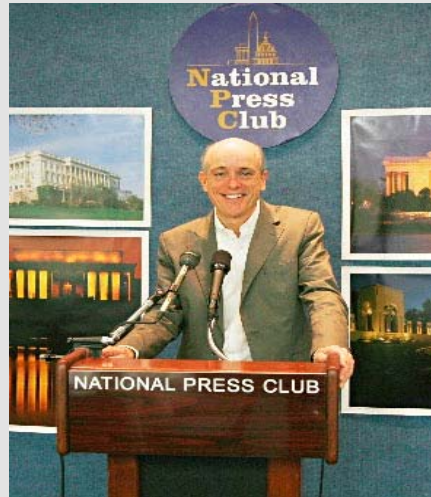
Visions of America was photographed and written by Joseph Sohm, designed by Peter Green Design and published by Visions of America, LLC in Ojai, CA. VISIONS OF AMERICA will be available in bookstores in 2009 by MIDPOINT TRADE BOOKS in New York, or by sending an email to: jan@duplain.com. In Ojai it is available at the Ojai Valley Museum. The book is 312 pages, one foot square and weights seven pounds and retails for \$75. A slipcover version sells for \$95. The ISBN# is: 9780970795717.

Author-photographer Joseph Sohm recently spoke about his book at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. CSPAN’s *BOOK NOTES* is expected to air his talk on or around July 4, 2009. VISIONS OF AMERICA addresses a single question: *How do you photograph democracy?* After all, democracy is an “*idea*,” and not something one can easily wrap one’s lens around. But photographing democracy is indeed what Joseph Sohm has done in this epic journey across the fifty states. To capture this country’s incredible diversity, Sohm framed his national work as George Seurat might a pointillist painting. With each photograph, an individual dot was applied to his American canvas. Spanning three decades, tens of thousands of images were assembled in what becomes a compelling mosaic. With a foreword by legendary travel writer, Paul Theroux, and lyrics by two of America’s most distinguished songwriters, Alan and Marilyn Bergman, *Visions of America* is a work of historic value and significance.

Visions of America is a perceptive work about both the photographer and the photographed. Reflecting on the wisdom of the founders, coupled with personal observations about American history, Sohm takes us on an insightful journey down the back roads and byways of the U.S., ultimately leading to a deeper understanding and appreciation of who we are as a nation and a people. *Visions of America* is a sweeping portrait of life in the American democracy, a portrait that shows us US, the United States

Public Speaking and Multimedia Presentations

Since 1978, Joseph Sohm has made keynote speeches and multimedia presentations to more than 100 venues across America. He has been represented by some of America's leading speakers agencies, including Washington D.C.'s, **Jan Du Plain Speaking Agency** (current), Boston's **Lordly & Dame** and **American Program Bureau**.



Joseph Sohm speaking about Visions of America at the National Press Club, Washington, DC, on May 11, 2009.

Currently, Joe Sohm speaks and presents images and audiovisual modules on three subjects close to his heart:

- ***Visions of America:*** an inspirational multimedia journey through America's Past, Present and Future. Joseph's live commentary is augmented by original music, multi-projector modules, inspirational Founding Father quotes and some of Joe's best images taken over a lifetime of shooting America.

Visions of America is also the title of Joseph Sohm's tabletop book. It is an insightful journey down the back roads and byways of the U.S., ultimately leading to a deeper understanding and appreciation of who we are as a nation and a people. The book is in honor of America's 225th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

- ***Pictures of Success — I Brake For Photographs:*** a live narrated multi-projector slide show featuring Joe's best images over 20 years of shooting America. Joe shares tips on cameras, film, locations and lighting tips. But more than technical tips, Joe discusses the practical and psychological tricks to *getting great pictures*. Photographers and non-photographers will be informed and entertained with Joe's pictures and stories.



Joe Sohm speaks with Mayor Bloomberg and former Mayor Ed Koch in this [presentation](#) at the [Museum of the City of New York](#).