

Adventures In Graphic Design

©2002 S. Hughes | PO Box 1156 | Ellijay, GA 30540 | steve@shughes.com

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Suzanne and I just got back from the National Stereoscopic Association's national convention in Riverside California. Normally it's a pretty passive event for us. We watch a lot of stereo slide shows, talk to people we know and I buy stuff. Not this time!

The Atlanta club, which we belong to, is hosting next year's convention in Charleston. Being good club members we offered to help out. First we shot the "Come to Charleston" slide show, which was fun. Then the chairman casually mentioned that he had not had time to put together a handout for the convention.

Normally you have something, usually just a single sheet, which has the date, location and contact name for the next convention in the registration package. So Suzanne and I volunteered to put "something" together we could carry out to the convention. Naturally it couldn't be anything as simple as a flyer. After playing around with a lot of ideas we decided that it had to be something 3D.

First we thought about an anaglyph poster or a lenticular print but neither one could be done in time. Then one of us said, "Why not a stereo card?"

Sounds simple? Sure, all we had to do was print them two to a page, then hand cut each card out with an Exacto knife, our paper trimmer didn't do a very good job, and round the corners *on 550 of them!* We made only one concession to sanity and made them out of card stock instead of the heavy pressboard traditionally used.

Yes, that was 2200 corners rounded with a little hand punch and 2750 hand knife cuts all done in one weekend. My hand still hurts.

The card on this page is a true *Holmes* format stereo card. If you put it in an old stereoscope, you would see a nice 3D image. It was very well received at the convention so I suppose it was worth the effort. On the plus side, I now know a lot about making stereo cards and will certainly make more in the future.

Now we just have to survive something I promised myself I'd never go through again: helping put on a large convention.

