

Meet Dr. Gary J. Warr: Oakland County's Modern Day George Perrot

Interviewed by Dr. Mary Bauer



Editor's Note:

Dr. Warr received his dental degree in 1979 from University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry, and has been in general practice for 29 years in Southfield, Michigan. Photography has always been his hobby. He has been involved with video for 30 years and has traveled to over 75 countries. He is still planning new trips.

Mary: Did you watch George Perrot as a child?

Gary: Yes. Didn't everybody?

Mary: What do you call yourself?

Gary: The name of my production company is Fairfield Productions. The TV series is called "Gary Warr Presents" and shows educational travel documentaries from around the world



The Great Wall, China

Meet Dr. Gary J. Warr... continued

Mary: How did you become interested in this field?

Gary: My father was chief of photography at the Detroit Institute of Arts. From him I developed a keen interest in taking photos and developing them in a dark room that my Dad had at home. At age fifteen I bought a Zenith Trans Oceanic Short Wave Radio at a garage sale and rigged a makeshift antenna outside my bedroom window. Late at night I would listen to conversations all over the world and dream of going to all these places.

Mary: How many travel documentaries have you completed?

Gary: Fifteen to date. Egypt, Russia, Kenya, Mexico, Hong Kong, Singapore, Tokyo, China, Thailand, Three Part Amazon River, and Machu Picchu and Lake Titicaca (The highest navigable lake in the world).

Mary: How long does it take to put together one documentary?

Gary: Many hours. It's a labor of love.



The Pyramids, Egypt

I used to study the world globe and look at all the far away places I would like to visit. Joking around with friends, we would talk about going to the Fiji Island someday because they are so remote. Today, photographs from over sixty countries cover my home and office walls and even the operatory ceilings. From there it was a skip and a jump to making films.

Mary: What is the process?

Gary: First there is a lot of research as to where I'm going. Once at the location I shoot all I can. Arriving home I perform a rough edit to make a story. Then I do more research to get accurate facts of what has been filmed. Next, I make and add narration, music, sound and mix it all on



Taj Mahal, India

the location audio. Then comes a final edit, some tweaking to get it right, then more tweaking. Now I add maps, titles, credits and shoot the introduction.

Mary: What is your favorite destination?

Gary: Russia. I've been there twice. It was more interesting as a Communist country, although the people are better off now.

Mary: Most fascinating destination?

Gary: Egypt. You can't beat the pyramids for being interesting.

Mary: Most different destination?

Gary: India. Culture shock in all colors.

Mary: Most moving destination?

Gary: Bridge over the River Kwai in Thailand. The toll on human life is overwhelming.

Mary: Most exhilarating?

Gary: Nepal and Mount Everest from a plane. It's the top of the world!

Mary: Best walking tour?

Gary: Great Wall of China

Mary: What are you doing with these documentaries?

Gary: They are showing in several communities on public access television. My next goal is to get them into the schools as an educational series on the world around us.

Mary: What is your next trip?

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Top: Stonehenge, England

Above: Corcovado Skyline, Costa Rica

Right: Greek Columns, Greece

Gary: I hear Romania is a great travel bargain right now and I have always wanted to visit Transylvania.

Dr. Warr's films can be seen on the internet by Googling: Gary Warr Presents under the video tab. 

