CLOSE UP

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY MISSOURI NATURE & ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Volume 16, Number 4 April 2011

FEATURES:

People & Places
Pages 1 & 2

Meeting Information
Page 3

Nature Calls
Page 3

Contact Information
Page 4

Editor
Barbara Addelson

Contributors
Scott Avetta
Susan Day
Lori Purk
Larry Terrell
Lydia Toth

by Norma Mull

PEOPLE & PLACES

In Celebration of Arbor Day and Earth Day: Take Home Free Tree Seedlings from the April Meeting

Spring is definitely in full swing and April is the month during which we celebrate **Arbor Day** on **April 29th**, and **Earth Day** on **April 22nd**. Both events encourage us to focus on our planet and to take action on its behalf.

The trees we photograph today may have been seedlings a hundred years ago, or started their growth just a few years ago. At the MoNEP April meeting, we will provide two tree seedlings free of charge to those who would like them. These trees are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

All we ask is that you plant them in your yard or that of a family member, friend or a neighbor. The trees were purchased from the Missouri Department of Conservation and will be small and easy to plant. We have 10 varieties of trees and shrubs that are suited for a range of soil and lighting conditions. The varieties were selected based on size, growing conditions, their beauty, whether they are native plants and if they provide food or shelter for wildlife. The largest of the species will grow to a maximum of 35 feet tall.

For every tree our members plant, MoNEP will donate one dollar to the Arbor Day Foundation, up to a maximum of $250. Each dollar we donate will go toward the planting of one tree in U. S. national forests. Our board and volunteer committee staff will plant an additional 150 trees. That means that MoNEP could be responsible for the planting of as many as 650 trees.

Although the trees are very young seedlings and are quite small at this stage, their impact can be impressive. According to the Arbor Day Foundation website, over a fifty year timeframe one tree can generate $31,250 in air pollution control, recycle $37,500 worth of water and control $31,500 in soil erosion. Financially, that is a little under $100,000 per tree. That does not include the aesthetic value to humans or benefits to wildlife. Although the trees are little, they can make a big difference as they grow and thrive.

The species we will have to give away are: **flowering dogwood**, **redbud**, **ninebark**, **spicebush**, **service berry**, **smooth sumac, roughleaf dogwood**, **deciduous holly, American beauty berry, false indigo**. For detailed information on these plants visit: **mdc.mo.gov** and search for **MDC Seedling Order Form**.

Trees will be available starting at 6:00 p.m. on the evening of the April 19th meeting. To get the best choice of trees, members may want to get to Powder Valley as close to 6:00 p.m. as possible. Look for Scott Avetta in the parking lot, where he will be distributing trees, weather permitting. Information will be provided on how to plant the trees and the best habitat for each species.

If you need another enticement to come to the meeting early, remember that the wildflowers should be in bloom at Powder Valley, providing members with opportunities for photos to submit for the MoNEP exhibit in October.

Powder Valley Hallway Exhibit

As mentioned last month, we have been invited to create the hallway exhibit for **Powder Valley** in **October** in conjunction with their 20th anniversary.

Submissions

The **MoNEP Community Outreach Committee** will begin collecting submissions at the April meeting and will continue accepting them through the night of the **June 21st** meeting. We encourage you to submit four nature related images of subjects that can be found in Missouri. Please save your submissions on a CD in the same manner as required for our monthly Share and Show. Information on how to format submissions can be found on the MoNEP web site. Don't forget to put your name, phone number and email address on the CD. We also ask that you include information identifying your subject and where it was taken in each image's file name. Images may be either horizontal or vertical. In order to encourage members to submit images taken at either **Powder Valley** or **Emmenegger Nature Park**, we will accept a fifth entry from each person if it represents one of those two locations.

Selections

Selections will be made and members will be notified at the July meeting. Images that are selected will need to be printed at a minimum of 11" x 14". They should be mounted and matted in white or off-white mats to a finished size of 16" x 20" in time for the August meeting. We will provide information on members who have businesses that can help participants meet these requirements Members will be responsible for the cost of matting and framing their images.

Framing

When it gets closer to the exhibit date, we will have a framing session, and those whose images are selected for the exhibit will help frame the show. Those who are not able to attend this session will need to get their work to one of the other participants, and your work will be framed for you. Framing costs have been approximately $20 per photograph in the past. MoNEP will obtain the framing supplies, so all of the work is uniformly framed.

So, get out there and capture something special. We hope to make this our most spectacular exhibit ever!

NANPA Summit Recap

In March, seven members of MoNEP attended the 17th annual **NANPA Summit** in McAllen, Texas. Among those from MoNEP at the **North American Nature Photography Association** event were **Susan Day,** the current NANPA President, **Richard Day**, **Scott Avetta**, **Don Morice**, **Ken Biddle**, **Ted Moreno** and **Larry Terrell**.

Scott presented a breakout session, with his program **Common Mistakes Photographers Make and How to Avoid Them**.

Most of the members in attendance were able to find time to take a few hundred photographs while in the McAllen area. Expect some of the spectacular birdlife and other images they captured to pop up in the Share and Show presentations over the next few months.

Unfortunately, due to the economy this was the second year in a row with low attendance at the Summit. The NANPA Board has decided to suspend the annual summit in 2012 while they work to revamp the organization. They are making plans to present a new structure to the membership in the near future. As these changes develop we will keep the MoNEP membership posted.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome our newest MoNEP members: **Jim Barrett, Katy** and **Denny Clayton, Donna Frandsen, Corey** and **Susan Isenberg, Nancy Otti, Marcy Pivin, Dale Rentrop, Dick Rosenberger, Deane Sagehorn, Steve Teson, Joyce** and **Jon Thompson**. We are happy to have you in MoNEP.

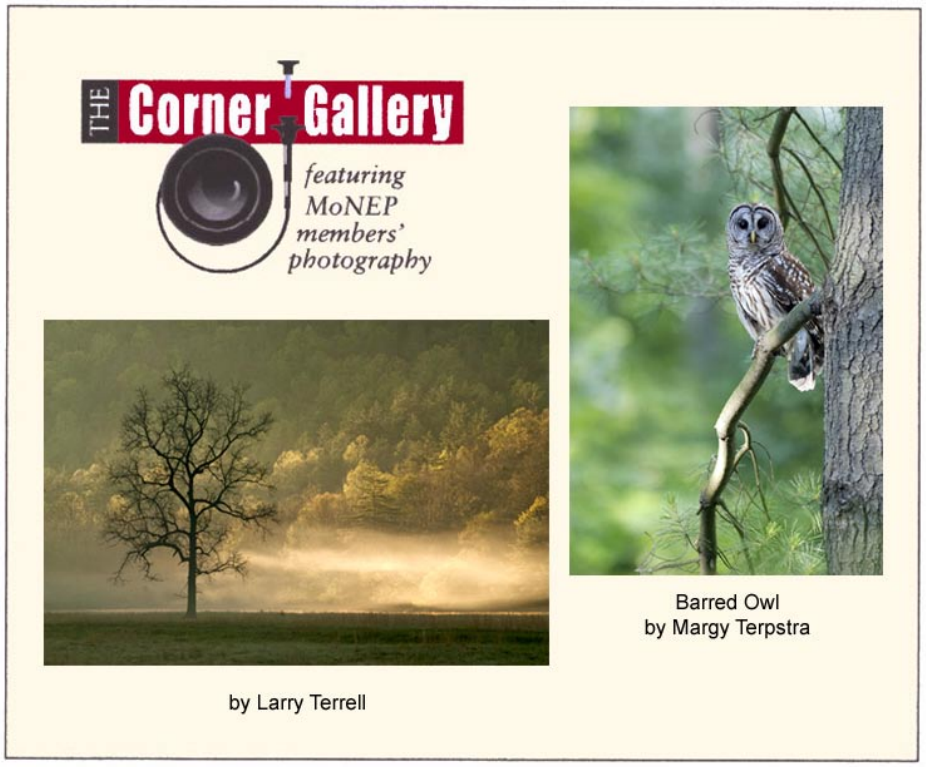
Member News

The **World Wildlife Fund** has contacted **Vearl Brown** in order to publish one of his African giraffe images on their web site.

Joe Coelho's photo of a common green darner is on the cover of the ***American Entomologist*** this spring.

Milton Loessberg will have an exhibit at **Phoenix Potteries Studio & Gallery** in Affton, Missouri. The opening reception for the exhibit, **Art of Nature Photographs**, is **Saturday May 7th from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.** The exhibit includes some shadowboxed prints that combine the art of paper quilling with floral photos. It runs through **Sunday, June 25th**. Visit **www.phoenixpotteries.com** for more information.

Sandy Moriarty has a photography exhibit at the **Gateway Gallery** at **7921 Forsyth** in the heart of **Clayton** from **April 4th - May 21st**.



MEETINGS & programs

Meeting Dates and Share & Show Themes

Tuesday, April 19th – Wild Kingdom
Tuesday, May 17th – It's a Bug's Life

Meetings begin promptly at **7:00 p.m.** at ***Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center***.

Share and Show Nature Images

Members are invited to share their **nature** images at each MoNEP meeting. If you wish to participate, you should prepare up to **four (4) nature-related images**. Be sure to:

- Resize your images so vertical images are 768 pixels high and horizontal images are 768 pixels wide.
- Save your images as .jpg files.
- Place your four resized images on a drive or disc in a folder with your name and the meeting date.
- Give your images to **Jerry Miller** no later than 6:30 p.m. the night of the meeting.

For more information about Share and Show formatting requirements, please see ***Resize an Image for Submission*** in the photo tips section on the MoNEP web site, **www.monep.org**.

April Speaker – Cindy Gilberg

Horticulturist and Missouri native **Cindy Gilberg** will be the presenter at our meeting on **April 19th**. Cindy is a landscape designer and consultant. She co-owned and operated Gilberg Perennial Farms until its close in 2006. She co-authored the recently published ***Shaw Nature Reserve: 85 Years of Natural Wonders***. She writes a monthly column on native plants for ***Gateway Gardener*** magazine. Cindy's presentation will be on ***Native Plants to Attract Birds and Butterflies*****.** She will discuss how adding native plants back into our urban landscapes helps replace and enhance much-needed habitat that has been lost to development. A greater diversity of habitat attracts a greater diversity of fauna, from butterflies and birds to a fascinating range of pollinators. Cindy's presentation will cover habitat requirements as well as specific native plants to include in your garden to attract specific species at various times of the season. You won't need to go any further than your own property to observe and photograph the natural world.

May Speaker – Joe Coelho

Dr. Joe Coelho is an associate professor of biology at Quincy University in Quincy, Illinois, where he teaches courses in zoology, botany, environmental science and other topics including a class on the ecology of the Galapagos Islands. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California, Riverside and a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado, Boulder, both in biology. He performs most of his research on the ecology of wasps and cicadas. An award-winning outdoor writer and photographer, he has also published many scientific papers. Joe will be presenting on photographing in the Galapagos and will share some of his tips for success.

March Speaker Recap

Mike Arduser from the Missouri Department of Conservation started his presentation at the March meeting by saying he wasn't sure he wanted to share a well kept secret with so many people. Fortunately for us, he did divulge a fair bit of information about the **LaBarque Creek Conservation Area**, a 640-acre gem tucked away in northwest Jefferson County. The conservation area is part of the larger LaBarque Creek watershed, which consists of 8,400 acres, most of which is rugged forested land. The area sits upon nearly pure white St. Peter's sandstone and features canyons, waterfalls, some grottos and dolomite boulder fields at higher elevations.

There is a three-mile loop trail through the conservation area, which has some climbs and descents, but also nice vistas from the highest point at 800 feet. The trail traverses an unexpected range of habitats, including several types of forest with closed canopies and open woodlands. There are also streams, sandstone and dolomite glades, cliffs and loose rock communities.

There is a great diversity of living things in the conservation area, including an array of salamanders and birds, ferns, and half of the state's species of mosses and liverworts. The 6.6-mile stream contains the highest diversity of fish species of any other stream in the area. There are many unusual species of sedges along the stream banks, which are home to the green-sided darter, a dragonfly that requires high water quality. Our thanks to Mike for a fine talk and for sharing a very special place.

Since the meeting, our field trip coordinator, **Randy Hunter** visited the conservation area with a friend and reports that there are many good photo opportunities. With stops for shooting, the three-mile loop took him four hours. He indicated that the trail can be a steep and narrow in spots and strongly suggests going with a companion.

April Field Trip

The first field trip of the new year will be held **April 16th** at **Emmenegger Nature Park** in **Kirkwood**. Emmenegger is located just over the highway, beyond the entrance to Powder Valley. However, the group will meet at Powder Valley in front of the Visitor Center **at 8:00 a.m.** and will then head off together to Emmenegger based on current information from nature center staff. Trip leader, **Randy Hunter**, was at the park this week and said the dogwoods are superb. For more information please contact **Randy Hunter** at **314-845-3914**.

Rent-a-Bird-Blind at Daybreak Imagery

Richard and Susan Day offer exclusive bird photography opportunities for 1 to 4 people. They provide blinds and you can photograph orioles, bluebirds, catbirds, cardinals, indigo buntings, goldfinches, and other backyard birds in their flower gardens, at water, or at feeders. They will customize your photo experience, and offer day rates with or without instruction. They block off a couple of weeks each June when the colorful birds are most active. There are a few dates left for 2011. Call **618-547-3522** or email **office@daybreakimagery.com** to reserve your space.

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS	*BOARD MEMBERS*	*VOLUNTEER SUPPORT*	*MISSION STATEMENT*
Scott Avetta **President** **Program Chairman** **3650 Eileen Ann Drive** **St. Louis, MO 63129** **314-487-3280** **scottavetta@hotmail.com** **Don Morice** **Vice President** **63 Bellerive Acres** **St. Louis, MO 63121** **314-383-8267** **donkm63@charter.net** **Linda Moder** **Treasurer/Secretary** **5341 A Sutherland Avenue** **St. Louis, MO 63109** **314-351-6015** **Linda_monep@hotmail.com** **Kathy Cherry** **Recording Secretary** **4370 Marty Ridge Drive** **St. Louis, MO 63129** **314-487-5105** **fishnclick@sbcglobal.net**	**Ken Biddle** **Program Co-Chair** **62 Chesterfield Lakes Road** **Chesterfield, MO 63005** **636-532-5669** **kdbiddle@swbell.net** **Pat Burgess** **Webmaster** **866 Burgundy Lane** **Manchester, MO 63011** **314-592-8653** **pburgess01@earthlink.net** **Jerry Miller** **Digital Committee Chair** **22 Scarlet Court** **St. Charles, MO 63304** **314-517-6395** **sirlukeman@yahoo.com**	**Barbara Addelson** **Newsletter Editor** **314-962-8972** **baddelson@sbcglobal.net** **Vicki & Shawn Northrop** **Membership Co-Chair** **1111 Wilmington Ave** **St. Louis, MO 63111** **314-832-2090** **vicki_northrop@yahoo.com** **snorth70@gmail.com** **Lori Purk** **Community Outreach Committee** **314-869-7427** **PURKYL8R@AOL.COM** **Larry Terrell** **Audit Committee Chair** **636-244-1205** **llterrell@hotmail.com**	**The mission of the Missouri Nature and Environmental Photographers is to provide a forum for individuals interested in the field of nature photography and the environment, provide education, gather and disseminate information, and promote nature photography as an art form and medium of communication.** **Meetings are held at the Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center auditorium on 11715 Cragwold Road, near the intersection of I-44 and I-270 in Southwest St. Louis County. Monthly meetings are held at 7:00 p.m., generally on the 3rd Tuesday. Specific dates are posted in the newsletter.** **MoNEP is an officially registered service mark. Use of the logo without MoNEP board approval is prohibited.**
Visit our web-site at www.monep.org			

MoNEP
Missouri Nature
& Environmental Photographers
Shawn & Vicki Northrop
1111 Wilmington Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63111