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PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY MISSOURI NATURE & ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Volume 16, Number 9 October 2011

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Margy Terpstra

Larry Terrell

Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns.

George Eliot
English Novelist
1819-1880

PEOPLE & PLACES

Holiday Show

The **2011 MoNEP holiday show and party** will be on **Tuesday, December 13th**, starting at **6:00 p.m.** at **Powder Valley Nature Center** at 11715 Cragwold Road in Kirkwood, Missouri.

This will be our first party at Powder Valley, and we are looking forward to a great evening. **Margy** and **Dan Terpstra** are coordinating the logistics for the gathering. This will be an alcohol free event and we will be providing **finger foods** again this year. If you are willing to bring an appetizer or dessert, please make sure that anything you bring is easily served and can be eaten without cutlery. For planning purposes, we ask that those who are bringing food email Margy to let her know what you are bringing. Margy and Dan would like to have 6 volunteers to help with set-up, starting at 5:30 p.m., and another 10 to help with clean up after the event. They are also seeking 2-30 cup coffeemakers to borrow for the evening. If you are able to volunteer for one of these tasks or can provide a coffeemaker, please contact Dan or Margy Terpstra by email at **hummerhaven@sbcglobal.net** or at by phone at **314-606-6957**.

Jerry Miller and Pat Burgess are already busy planning and preparing the annual holiday slide show. Please note that the submission deadline has passed, and they are unable to accept any additional images. The show will begin around **7:15 p.m.** in the auditorium. Please remember that **food and drinks are not allowed in the auditorium**. We hope you will join us in celebrating the holidays and another great year for MoNEP.

MoNEP Photo Exhibit

Celebrating Missouri, the MoNEP photo exhibition, is now hanging at Powder Valley Nature Center thanks to the leadership of **Lori Purk** and **Don Morice**. We thank the many members who assisted with the framing of the mounted prints and those who helped Lori and Don with the exhibit installation on September 30th: **Ken Biddle**, **Bill Lubben**, **Jerry Miller**, **Margy Terpstra** and **Larry Terrell**. Of this effort and all the wonderful volunteers, Lori said, "What a great group of people we have! The framing session was fun and everyone pitched in to get the job done. We had quite a few in attendance. I really appreciate the help from everyone." The exhibit will be on display through most of October.

The exhibit is already such a hit, particularly with the staff of the Missouri Department of Conservation, that they have asked us to hang the exhibit at their **St. Louis Regional Office at Busch Wildlife Area** for the months of November and December.

Thanks to those members who submitted work for the exhibit: **Barbara Addelson, Scott Avetta, Tim Bade, Ken Biddle, Vearl W. Brown, Jim Campbell, Kathy Cherry, Mark Cherry, Joe Coelho, Glenn Curcio, Jane Deeker, Scott Evers, Mark Freeman, Michelle C. Jones, Bill Lubben, Mark McAmish, Monica McAmish-Bahr, Rich Merz, Beverley Miller, Jerry Miller, Don Morice, Vicki Northrop, Shawn Northrop, Randy Oleson, Lori Purk, Joe Schmidt, Kevin Sees, Richard Spener, Susan Standish, Margy Terpstra, Larry Terrell and Dug Threewitt.**

New Members

We want to welcome our newest MoNEP members: Gary Eaves, Tim Engelman and Ed Peck.

Member News

MoNEP member **Lori Purk** was selected to participate for the sixth year in ***Celebrating Creativity***, a juried exhibition at the Mildred M. Cox Gallery at William Woods University in Fulton, Missouri. The exhibit was on display from August 25th to September 18th. The jury honored one of her two accepted pieces, ***Dewy Morning*** with an **Award of Excellence**. Visit **www.williamwoods.edu/ur/detail.asp?ID=3131** for an article about the show. Congratulations to Lori.

Kevin Sees has an image of the grass pink orchid on the July page of the ***MDC 2012 Natural Events Calendar***.

Membership Renewal

It is time to start collecting membership renewals for 2012. **Dues are $25 per person or $35 for a two-member household**. Membership chairs, **Vicki and Shawn Northrop** want to start with a clean slate this year to ensure that they have the most current information for each member. Therefore, they are asking everyone to fill out the entire membership form as though registering for the first time. You can submit your membership renewal form along with payment to Vicki or Shawn beginning at the October meeting. You can also mail your form to: **Vicki Northrop, 1111 Wilmington Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63111**. Payment can be made by check made out to **MoNEP**, or they will accept the exact cash payment at the membership desk at the back of the auditorium at the October and November meetings. We are unable to accept credit or debit cards.

Address Change?

If at any point during the year you move or change your email address, please be sure to contact our membership committee chairs, Vicki and Shawn Northrop. Not only do they maintain the MoNEP database, they maintain and update the MoNEP email address list. So, if you would like to continue to receive the MoNEP newsletter, Close-Up, by email, please share any email address updates with Vicki and Shawn. To contact them you can send them an email at: **vicki_northrop@yahoo.com**.

Powder Valley Anniversary

Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center is celebrating its 20th anniversary on **Saturday, October 22nd** from **10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** There will be activities for the public including a photo scavenger hunt, live reptiles and amphibians and crafts for children. There will be a performance of songs about nature from the musical duo WildHeart and a comedy-magic act from The Fishin' Magicians. The event is free and open to the public. Reservations are not required. For more details, visit the MDC web site: **mdc.mo.gov/newsroom** and scroll down to the Powder Valley headline.

MDC 2012 Calendar

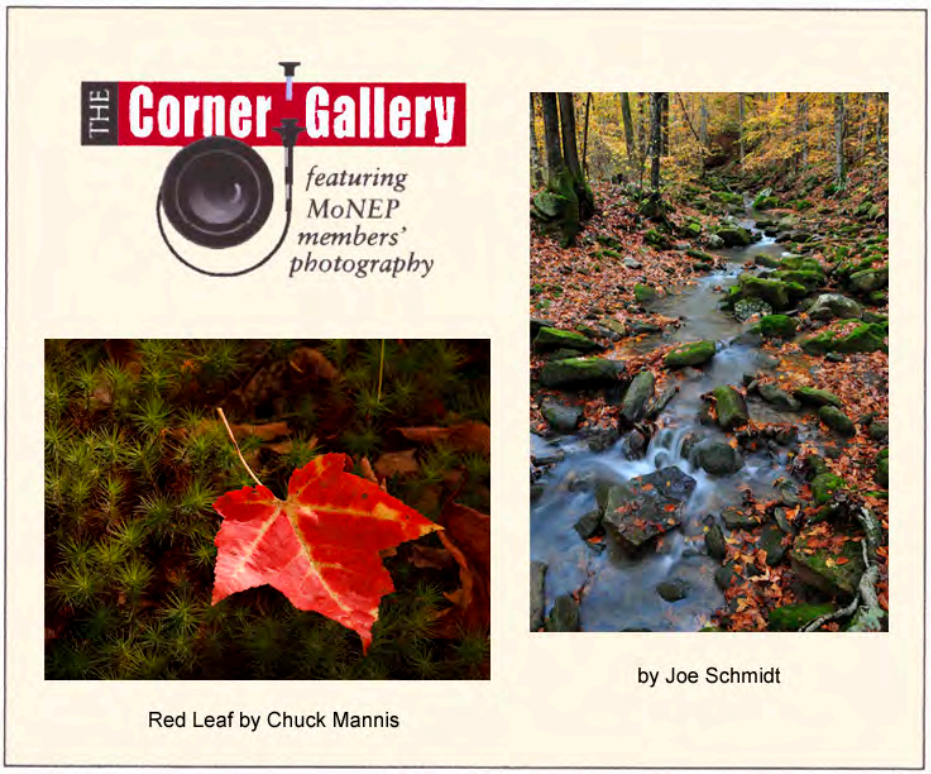
The Missouri Department of Conservation's ***2012 Natural Events Calendar*** is now on sale at Powder Valley or at **www.mdcnatureshop.com** for a mere $7. The calendar is great for keeping up to date on the timing of seasonal changes, including what is in bloom, bird nesting dates and a wealth of other natural phenomena. There are also great photos, including those of past MoNEP speaker **Danny Brown**. This is a great holiday gift for the naturalist or photographer on your shopping list. The calendar will also be for sale at Shaw Nature Reserve.

Fall Color

For the latest update on where the color is in Missouri, check out **http://mdc.mo.gov/node/4548**. This page on the Missouri Department of Conservation's web site indicates that mid-October is usually the peak of fall color in Missouri, although it varies from region to region. The web site provides detailed reports, which are updated weekly on the color of the different regions. They specify what trees, shrubs and vines are vibrant and which hues are dominant in the landscape at the time of the update. For a wonderful brochure, ***Follow the Show of Missouri's Fall Colors***, view **http://mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/resources/2010/05/fallcolors2011.pdf**

September Field Trip Recap

Saturday, September 24th was a day of good weather as eight MoNEP members gathered at the Saint Louis Zoo for the monthly field trip. At 7:00 a.m. the Zoo was fairly empty of visitors, the light was good and the animals were active. Despite extensive construction, there was a lot to see and photograph. The 24th was the first day the new baby elephant was on display and the group visited it as well a number of other animals. By 9:00 a.m. the crowds began to gather, so the group was grateful to have had the Zoo to themselves for a while.



MEETINGS & programs

Meeting Dates and Share & Show Themes

Tuesday, October 18th – Orange
Tuesday, November 15th – Rocks

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 **Pat Burgess** no later than 6:30 p.m. the night of the meeting.

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

October Speaker

Harry Jackson will be the speaker at our **October 18th** meeting. Harry is a writer and photographer with the ***St. Louis Post-Dispatch***. His articles on health and fitness include a weekly column, ***Trail of the Week***, which appears in the Wednesday ***Community*** section. Each week he highlights different hikes in the region. His talk will feature some trails in our area that offer good opportunities for photography, along with ideas on how to find other new areas for great images. Mr. Jackson will provide tips on where to look for some of our area's gems including web sites he finds useful, magazines and brochures. He will talk about one of the keys to prizewinning photographs, patience, and will cover photography contests within 90 minutes of St. Louis. Mr. Jackson has a journalism degree from Kansas State University. He has been a journalist since 1969 having always worked as a writer-photographer, and he has twice won the Kansas Press Photographer of the Month award. He is a member of the National Press Photographers Association as well as NANPA.

September Speaker Recap

At the September meeting, MoNEP member **Richard Spener** and his wife, **Toni Armstrong**, treated the audience to a presentation on their remarkable adventures canoeing the waters of the North Slope of Alaska. Their presentation on ***The Alaskan Arctic - by Camera and Canoe*** featured the challenges of paddling, camping and photographing in the wilderness north of the Arctic Circle. They shared awe-inspiring images of the rugged landscape, distinctive wildlife and flowering plants that grow on the tundra in three separate areas of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: the Utukok River, Canning River, and Kealok Creek to Teshekpuk Lake. Few people have ever visited these remote areas.

To get to their starting point Richard and Toni travel as far north as they can by commercial airline, then hire a bush pilot to take them over the Brooks Range to their put-in site. They carry everything they need with them, including two extra days worth of food, in case foul weather prevents their plane from being able to retrieve them as scheduled. In addition to food, they fly in all their gear, including their camping equipment and 16-foot nylon folding canoes. Richard carries his camera equipment securely in Pelican cases and relies heavily upon his 100 mm and 400 mm lenses, as well as a 1.4x teleconverter. He always uses a polarizer in the Arctic light, which is ever present up that far north in the summer. One of the biggest challenges they face is the lack of power to recharge camera batteries. Richard takes six batteries for the nearly two-week trip and minimizes battery usage by turning off the preview function on his camera. He also carries a portable hard drive for downloading images from his memory cards along the way. On the other hand, Toni takes just a fanny pack worth of camera equipment, which she uses to photograph the many beautiful flowers they find along their route.

Their images were breathtaking, with many landscapes, the beautiful low flowers of the tundra and a lot of wildlife, including many species of birds, musk ox, caribou, grizzly bear, ermine and ground squirrels, among others. The only truly off putting creatures were the mosquitoes, which Richard and Toni wisely did not show us until the very end of their talk! Until that point, most everyone in the audience seemed ready to sign up for an excursion to this vast and fascinating land at the top of the world.

Our thanks to Toni and Richard for taking us along on their courageous adventures. We also thank them for the work they do to preserve the special areas of Alaska as board members of the Alaska Wilderness League.

October Field Trip

The October field trip will be at the **August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area** on **Saturday, October 22nd**. The Conservation Area is located off of Highway D in the St. Charles area. From Highway 40 travel south on Highway 94 a short distance to Highway D. Then travel 1.5 miles west on Highway D. The group will meet at the **Visitor Center** at **7:00 a.m.** For more information, contact **Randy Hunter** at **314-845-3914**. For a map of the site, go to: **mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/resources/2010/05/6299_4199.pdf**

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MISSION STATEMENT

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.

MoNEP meetings are held once a month at the Powder Valley Conservation Area Nature Center on 11715 Cragwold Road, near the intersection of I-44 and I-270 in southwestern St. Louis County. Monthly meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, January through November. Meetings take place in the Nature Center auditorium. Specific dates are posted in the newsletter.

MoNEP is an officially registered service mark. Use of the logo without MoNEP board approval is prohibited.

MoNEP
Missouri Nature
& Environmental Photographers

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VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.monep.org