



# CLOSEUP

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY MISSOURI NATURE & ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Volume 18, Number 1

January 2013

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### Editor

Barbara Addelson

### Contributors

Scott Avetta

Larry Terrell

## PEOPLE & PLACES

### New Year Message from Scott

I would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy New Year! Another year has passed, and we thank you all for participating in MoNEP.

2012 was a busy year for MoNEP. We had another strong seminar with Rob Sheppard as our presenter. Our photo exhibit, which started out at Powder Valley, was also displayed at MDC's Discovery Center in Kansas City and Runge Conservation Nature Center in Jefferson City. We have additional requests for shows in 2013.

The income from our seminar helps MoNEP support selected organizations that fit our mission. We continue to support a University of Missouri-St. Louis scholarship and the Shaw Nature Reserve Youth Photo Contest, as well as other mission related efforts.

The second half of the year was a little tricky with the changes in venues required by budget cuts at Powder Valley Nature Center. 2013 will also require adjustments in locations. Although we are working to minimize the changes month to month, please keep an eye on the newsletter for monthly meeting dates and locations. We are lining up a strong set of speakers that you will not want to miss.

Although things run smoothly most of the time, we do have occasional mishaps. We stay on track because of the dedication, planning, time and energy of the Board, support staff and volunteers. They are outstanding and do whatever it takes to make all of this happen. I cannot thank them enough, and I hope you will take a moment to thank them as well.

### Scott's Message continued

If you haven't already renewed your membership for 2013, we hope you will attend the next meeting and do so. We are proud of the fact that our dues are the same as when MoNEP began over 18 years ago. All the best in 2013!

— Scott Avetta, MoNEP President

### MoNEP 2013 Exhibits

MoNEP has been invited to show our work in two back-to-back exhibits next summer and fall.

The first exhibit will be at the **Runge Conservation Nature Center in Jefferson City in July and August**. We will be showing members' work related to all things natural found in Missouri.

Then, **Shaw Nature Reserve** has invited us to submit an exhibit for the Bascom House in **September and October**. We will be showing work related to the Missouri Botanical Garden's 2013 theme, which is **Food**. This theme can be interpreted many ways. We suggest you think about who eats what, or who eats whom in nature in Missouri. Subjects can include: insects and other animals feeding on plants, animals hunting prey or grazing, birds feeding their young; spider webs for capturing prey; butterflies, bees and hummingbirds feeding on flower nectar; squirrels storing nuts; edible native fruits trees and shrubs.

It would be great if some of the work in the first show could be used for the second exhibit, so please keep this in the back of your mind while you are out photographing in the coming months. More information, including submission details and dates will be covered in future newsletters.



Ken Biddle

## New Member

A warm MoNEP welcome to our newest member, **Emil Davidzuk**.

## 2012 Holiday Show

The 2012 MoNEP Holiday Show and party was another great success. Thank you to all who made it such an enjoyable evening. As we've done for many years now, we would once again like to acknowledge and thank **Margy and Dan Terpstra** for all their work coordinating logistics and volunteers and purchasing, delivering and arranging for the setup of food and drinks for our gathering. They do a truly great job organizing the event. Thanks also to the many volunteers who helped Margy and Dan with setup and cleanup or who brought food to share. The Holiday Party and Show are significant undertakings, and we are so fortunate to have so many people who are willing to give their time and energy to make it a great celebration of the year.

The Holiday Show that **Jerry Miller and Pat Burgess** created was magnificent, as we have come to expect. They spent hours sorting through members' images, arranging the presentation and setting it to wonderful music. Kudos to them for a brilliant job! Our thanks as well to the many members who submitted images this year: **Ken Biddle, Vearl Brown, Pat Burgess, Jim Campbell, Kathy and Mark Cherry, Judy Colombini, Bill Duncan, Scott Evers, Loena and Ron Gerdes, Jane Griesehauer, Joe Klipsch, Michelle Jones, Butch Lama, Leandra Lewis, Christy Lonero, Beverley, Jerry, Jeremy and Sandra Miller, Mark McAmish, Monica McAmish-Bahr, Rich Merz, Linda Moder, Don Morice, Larry Morrison, Norma Mull, Marcy Pivin, Sarah Radke, Jim Rhodes, Dick Roman, Don Sheahan, Richard Spener, Jim Stroup, Dan and Margy Terpstra, Larry Terrell, Dug Threewit, Rick Walters, John Watson, and Sammylane Wirth**. Without your images there would be no holiday show!

We were fortunate to have good weather and to be in another great location at the Ethical Society. There was plenty of fine food, good company and fantastic nature photography!

## Request from Scott

For those of you who try to speak with me on meeting nights, I am sorry if I keep things short. Meeting nights are very busy and when members ask me a question or give me information I find it difficult to remember all the information accurately. It would help me, and ultimately you, if you would email me or call me sometime after the meeting with the questions or information so I can be sure to get back to you or pass the information along. Many thanks! -Scott

## Thanks to Lori Purk!

The newsletter editor would like to thank **Lori Purk** for taking the reigns and putting out the November-December issue of Close-Up. Lori was the newsletter editor for nine years. I appreciate her coming out of retirement and dusting off her editorial skills so I could enjoy a wonderful vacation. Many thanks, Lori, for all your hard work and your continued dedication to MoNEP. - Barb

## Webmaster Address Change

Should you need to contact the **Pat Burgess**, the MoNEP webmaster, by email, please note that he has a new email address: **wpb691@gmail.com**.


## Jennifer Wu Workshops

Professional nature photographer, **Jennifer Wu**, is a past seminar presenter for the St. Louis Camera Club and a member of the elite *Canon Explorers of Light*. She will be leading several workshops in 2013. In addition to tours to Namibia, Greenland and Iceland, she will be leading two tours with Canon to photograph brown bears in Alaska in July. Visit **[www.jenniferwu.com/workshops](http://www.jenniferwu.com/workshops)** for details on all her trips.


## Attack of the Black Vultures

For those members planning to visit the Everglades, be warned that migrating black vultures have taken to attacking park visitors' cars. They have apparently developed a habit of ripping off windshield wipers and other rubber or vinyl parts of automobiles. This behavior is exhibited by at least one other bird species, the kea, an alpine parrot in New Zealand. However, it seems a much less likely behavior for a vulture. The birds do not appear to eat the rubber. They just rip it off and drop it. Park officials have tried many different techniques to discourage this behavior, but have had to resort to handing out tarps and bungee cords to cover visitors' vehicles, as other efforts have failed.

**THE Corner Gallery**  
featuring  
MoNEP  
members'  
photography



Scott Evers



Frosty Flight - Lori Purk



# MEETINGS & programs

## Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

**Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

NOTE: The January and February meetings will be held at the **Sunset Hills Community Center at 3915 S. Lindbergh Blvd, 63127**. The Community Center is located just south of the intersection of Lindbergh Boulevard and West Watson Road/Eddie & Park. Enter at the front of the building. The meeting rooms are located on the main level to the left of the entrance.

## January Meeting – Jeff Hirsch

Our **January 15<sup>th</sup>** meeting presenter is **Jeff Hirsch**, a digital imaging specialist with 25 years experience in the field. Jeff will present ***After the Click - Digital Photo Workflow with Adobe Lightroom***.

The advances in digital photography over the last decade have made it easier than ever to capture hundreds, if not thousands, of photos every time we go out to shoot. The problem is that all of those images start to pile up on our computers in a hurry and we rapidly find ourselves with a mess on our hands as it gets harder and harder to keep them all organized. How do you find that one needle in all your photographic haystacks? *Lightroom* - that's how! The presentation will include an overview of some best practices for managing your entire photography workflow as well as some tips specific to nature shooters.

Jeff has maintained a lifelong passion for photography since he first learned to develop black and white film in his father's darkroom at age 7. It was during his high school years that Jeff was first exposed to the earliest personal computers. He was curious to learn more about these strange devices and how they might reproduce an image on screen. At the time, he did not make the connection between photography and what he was seeing on the computer. But before long, the two pursuits began to merge into one - that of digital imaging. As digital imaging technology progressed, so did Jeff's understanding and skill set. From the earliest digital cameras and scanners to today's mega-pixel DSLR systems and advanced printers, Jeff's knowledge has kept pace with the latest imaging technology. The same evolution was also happening with image editing and page layout software. From *Digital Darkroom* all the way up to *Photoshop*, *InDesign* and *Lightroom*, Jeff has continued to grow and learn new processes, techniques, efficiencies and skills.

These days, Jeff splits his time between graphic design, photography and Macintosh tech support. An expert in geek-to-English translation and an Adobe Certified Expert in *Lightroom*, he teaches *Photoshop* and *Lightroom* to individuals and groups. To see Jeff's own work and to learn more about his classes and tips for using *Photoshop* and *Lightroom*, visit [www.jeffhirsch.com](http://www.jeffhirsch.com).

## Greg Basco Book

Past MoNEP speaker, **Greg Basco**, has written an eBook with fellow photographer, **Glenn Bartley**. ***The Guide to Tropical Nature Photography*** is packed with over 450 pages of information and images on techniques for macro, bird and landscape photography. Although targeted towards working in the tropics, the guide will help you wherever you shoot. According to the book's web site, [www.theguidetotropicalnaturephotography.com](http://www.theguidetotropicalnaturephotography.com):

"Successful tropical nature photography is all about having a diverse photographic toolkit to ensure that you're ready to deal with the technical challenges of each shot, freeing your mind to work on the artistic side of your photography. We'll be taking you through the equipment you'll need, and we'll also teach you how to use that equipment in a variety of ways. And we'll give you tips on finding your subjects and "seeing" images in the field so that you can produce a beautiful and colorful tropical portfolio. What's more, the techniques you learn here will open up whole new worlds for your photography back home and on future travels. We believe strongly that if you can capture great images in the tropics, you'll be well-equipped to capture great images anywhere in the world.

Topics covered include the following:

- Exposure strategies for natural light.
- Auto-focus and other settings for shooting wildlife.
- Beginning and advanced flash techniques.
- Sharpness, exposure and depth of field concerns for tropical landscapes.
- Natural history tips to help you find great subjects.
- Gear recommendations and post-processing tips.

With over 400 pages of text, illustrative figures, example images and showcase photographs with shooting data, *The Guide to Tropical Nature Photography* is a bargain in the world of specialized photographic ebooks!" The book is available for purchase at \$39.99.

## Eagle Days

It is that time of year when large numbers of bald eagles have moved into both Missouri and Illinois for the winter. On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 282 eagles were counted in Northwestern Missouri at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge. Sixty of them were adults. **The Missouri Department of Conservation** will host **Eagle Days** in **Clarksville, Missouri** on **Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** and **Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** There will not be an Eagle Days event at the Old Chain of Rocks Bridge this year due to budget cuts at MDC, but that is still a good spot for seeing these phenomenal birds. Visit the MDC website for more information: <http://mdc.mo.gov/events/eagledays>. Other prime spots for seeing eagles include Lock & Dam 24 in Clarksville, Missouri, Lock & Dam 25, East of Winfield and The Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary, on the Missouri side of the river near Alton, Illinois.

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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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

***VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT [www.monep.org](http://www.monep.org)***



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& Environmental Photographers

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Susan Day

Michelle Jones

Lori Purk

Richard Spener

## PEOPLE & PLACES

### 2013 MoNEP Exhibit Update

Runge Conservation Nature Center in Jefferson City will be celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. MoNEP has been invited to have an exhibit at Runge during July and August as part of the celebration. MoNEP is also scheduled to have an exhibit at **Shaw Nature Reserve** during September and October. We are seeking members' photographs to include in these exhibits. If you are interested, please prepare and submit up to **five** nature mages to **Lori Purk** by the April meeting. Images should be of subjects that can be found in Missouri. Please also keep in mind that our second exhibit has a more narrow subject matter focus, with a theme of **Food**. Since we will not be able to show as many pieces at the second exhibit, those that fit the theme the best will be moved to the second venue. This theme can be interpreted many ways. We suggest you think about who eats what, or who eats whom in nature in Missouri. Subjects can include: insects and other animals feeding on plants, animals hunting prey or grazing, birds feeding their young; spider webs for capturing prey; butterflies, bees and hummingbirds feeding on flower nectar; squirrels storing nuts; edible native fruits trees and shrubs.

Once the submissions are collected, a committee will select the work to be displayed. Members will be notified by the end of April. If your work is selected, you will be responsible for having your work printed, mounted and matted. We will most likely have a group framing session sometime in May or June. Submissions should be sized the same as they would be for *Share and Show* or

MoNEP Exhibit Update continued

the *Holiday Show* and labeled with your name, the title of the piece, what the subject is and where the photograph was taken. Please refer to the MoNEP web site for more information on how to resize your images before putting them on a CD for submission.

Please include your name, email and phone number with your submissions. Feel free to contact Lori Purk at **314-869-7427** or **purkyl8r@aol.com** if you have any questions. As always, we look forward to sharing some of our group's incredible work with the public.

### Message from Scott

I wanted to take time to focus on thanking the board and all the volunteers during these busy times. They put in a great deal of work to keep things running smoothly, even when obstacles occur. All these people pay annual dues and pay to attend our seminars. They do not receive freebies, even though they may miss some of the events to work in the background. Many of our volunteers have a full plate in and out of MoNEP. Some are working excessive hours, have family matters or may have health issues. We do not publicize these things. Yet, despite these challenges, things get done. At times we may not be as prompt answering emails or responding to other items. Please remember this in your correspondence. An occasional thank you goes a long way. I want to thank all the members for working with us on the issue of meeting locations. I also want to thank you for the continued strong attendance. It is one of the things that stand out to our speakers. - Scott



Pat Burgess

## New Members

On behalf of MoNEP we would like to welcome our newest members: **Jack Butler** and **Patricia Collins**.

## Member News

**Richard Spener** will be presenting a photography seminar at the **Ethical Society** on **April 1<sup>st</sup>** at **8:00 p.m.** Richard will focus on how to take better digital photographs. Richard's aim is to move them from snap shot shooters to creative photographers. Much of the program will be on composition. The program is geared for all levels of photographer, from the beginner to the advanced, and is open to the public.

## Scott Avetta's Classes

This spring **Scott Avetta** will once again be offering photography classes at the **Missouri Botanical Garden** and **Shaw Nature Reserve**. His topics at the Botanical Garden include **Basic Photography**, **Garden Photography**, and **Capturing Dragonflies: Jewels of the Garden**. The Basic Photography classes are very appropriate for relatively new photographers. If you know anyone who is just starting out you may want to encourage them to look into the Scott's Basic classes. His offerings at Shaw Nature Reserve are: **Seeing Nature Through the Lens** and **Seeing Nature Through the Lens with a Close-up View**. Most classes are multi-day programs, featuring discussion in the classroom, shooting in the field and constructive feedback sessions. For more information and to register, visit [www.mobot.org/classes](http://www.mobot.org/classes).

## Noppadol Paothong Exhibit

**Noppadol Paothong**, photographer for the Missouri Department of Conservation and a favorite MoNEP presenter, has an exhibit at the **Ober Anderson Gallery** in Kirkwood through **Thursday February 28th**. The gallery is located at **101A W. Argonne** in downtown Kirkwood, across from the **Amtrak** station. The gallery is open on **Wednesdays** through **Saturdays** from **12:00 to 5:00 p.m.**, or by appointment.

## BugShot/Belize

Join recent MoNEP presenter, **Alex Wild**, and others on an insect photography workshop in Belize in September. For details visit the **BugShot** website at [bugshot.net](http://bugshot.net).

## Zoo Science Seminar

**Richard Spener** and his wife, **Toni Armstrong**, are among a group of Alaska Wilderness League Board Members who are hosting **Florian Schulz** for a presentation at the **Saint Louis Zoo** on **March 6<sup>th</sup>** from **7:30 to 9:00 p.m.** Florian, an award-winning nature photographer and author, will be presenting: **To the Arctic: Bringing a Remote Yet Vibrant Land to Life**. Florian has produced a wonderful book that is a companion to the IMAX movie **To the Arctic** that has been showing at the St. Louis Science Center. If you like polar bears you don't want to miss this presentation. Admission is free and the presentation will be in the Living World. In addition, Richard has written that there will be a private get together with Florian on the night of March 5<sup>th</sup>. If anyone would like to attend this private event, please call Richard at 314-434-2072.

## WGNSS Photo Contest

The **Webster Groves Nature Study Society**, or WGNSS, is hosting a Natural History Photo Contest. The deadline for submissions is **March 2<sup>nd</sup>**. There are five categories and cash prizes. Details on the categories, prizes and judging criteria can be found at [www.wgnss.org](http://www.wgnss.org).

## Winter Bird Photography

There are many opportunities for bird photography this season despite the always-unpredictable temperatures. Eagles, trumpeter swans, gulls, kestrels, hawks, ducks and white pelicans are in the bi-state area along the flyways, so now that your blood is thicker than it was in October, be sure to check out some of these winter events and opportunities:

### Bald Eagle Days - Pere Marquette

Dates: 2/13, 16, 19, 25, 27, 3/ 5 & 6

Location: Pere Marquette Visitor Center, Grafton, Illinois

Reservations: required

Admission: free

Phone: 618-786-3323

[www.greatriverroad.com/pere/eventsPere.htm](http://www.greatriverroad.com/pere/eventsPere.htm)

### Masters of the Sky - National Great Rivers Museum

Dates: 2/16, 17 & 18

Show times: 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m.

(Free live eagle display at 12 and 2 p.m. in the gallery)

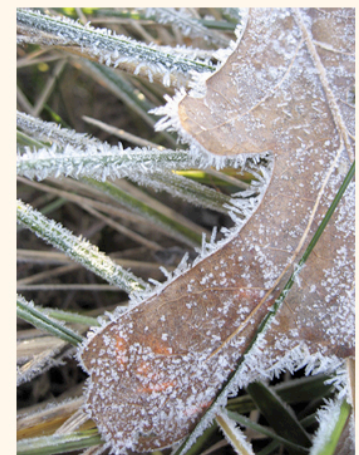
Reservations: 877-462-6979

Admission: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children

Eagles have also been spotted over the past few weeks near Alton, Grafton and Hardin IL, as well as the Lewis and Clark Confluence Tower, Golden Eagle Ferry, Elsberry Lock and Dam and Clarksville, MO.



Sequoia in Snow  
Mark Cherry



Rick Walters



# MEETINGS & programs

## Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

**Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

NOTE: The February meeting will be held at the **Sunset Hills Community Center at 3915 S. Lindbergh Blvd, 63127**. The Community Center is located just south of the intersection of Lindbergh Boulevard and West Watson Road/Eddie & Park. Enter at the front of the building. The meeting rooms are located on the main level to the left of the entrance.

## February Meeting – Sunset Hills

**David Hanlon**, a professor at St. Louis Community College, will be our February presenter. David leads instruction in photographic art and history at the Meramec campus. He has exhibited his photographs both regionally and nationally for the past thirty years and is active in writing about the history of the medium. His new book, ***Illuminating Shadows: The Calotype in Nineteenth Century America***, will be published in 2013. David is also a board member of the International Photography Hall of Fame (IPHF) and is the Chair of Curatorial Committee.

David will discuss the ways in which individuals have approached and interpreted nature through a variety of photographic mediums in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The exploration of both the landscape and natural forms for topographic, aesthetic or emotional reasons in the history of photography will be discussed.

## March Meeting – The Ethical Society

**Mark H.X. Glenshaw** is an award-winning naturalist who has closely observed and documented the lives of a mated pair of Great Horned Owls in Forest Park in St. Louis, Missouri, since December 2005. During this time, he has observed and photographed a vast range of behaviors including hunting, mating, nest-site selection and rearing of young. He shares his work on his blog, ***Forest Park Owls***, at [forestparkowls.blogspot.com](http://forestparkowls.blogspot.com)

Mark's talk will cover how he found these owls, basic facts about the species and the different behaviors he has been able to see and document with photos and videos to illustrate these behaviors. He will provide tips on how to dress, walk and behave so that you can get close to wildlife and photograph without disturbing your subjects. While Mark takes many photos and videos of these owls and other wildlife in Forest Park, he does not consider himself a photographer. Rather he views himself as a naturalist who uses cameras to document what he sees. His work has been featured in *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, *St. Louis Magazine*, KTVI Fox 2, *The West End Word* and *Show-Me Missouri*. He leads tours of the owls' territory called owl prowls. He also gives talks for interested individuals and small groups as well as for formal events throughout the area.

## St. Louis Camera Club Seminar

Although the topic is not nature photography, MoNEP members may be interested in this year's **St. Louis Camera Club Seminar on Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 to 4:00 at Maritz in Fenton**. The presenter is **David Stoecklein**, one of the members of the elite group of photographers, the **Canon Explorers of Light**. David Stoecklein photographs the American West and his images include portraits, cowboys and cowgirls at work, horses, farms, ranches and landscapes. You can see his images on his web site: [stoeckleinphotography.com](http://stoeckleinphotography.com). Registration for the seminar is \$25 and includes lunch. You can register online at [www.stlcameraclub.com](http://www.stlcameraclub.com).

## January Speaker Recap

**Jeff Hirsch** gave a blockbuster presentation, ***After the Click – Digital Workflow with Adobe Lightroom***, at the January meeting. The presentation itself will be posted on the MoNEP website soon, complete with notes. Suffice it to say that Jeff made a great case for using Lightroom, which is designed with the photographer, rather than the graphic designer, in mind. It more easily enables the user to grade and organize their photos through its Library Module. The Develop Module, for processing your images, is powerful, flexible and fast, and never modifies the original image. He reviewed the steps he follows in his workflow and pointed out that you can sync development settings across multiple images so you can process batches extremely fast. He addressed archiving and storage issues and recommended saving images in Adobe DNG RAW format. This retains all RAW capture data and metadata, but with lossless compression, providing files that are almost one-half the size of RAW files. Jeff also emphasized his belief that we should all shoot in RAW. He likened it to using the whole Crayola factory rather than a box of 8, 16 or 24 colors. In closing, Jeff left us with one last thought: It is an amazing time to be a photographer! Our sincere thanks to Jeff for a wonderful presentation.

## NANPA Summit 2013

**The North American Nature Photography Association's** annual summit will be held in Jacksonville, Florida from **February 28<sup>th</sup> to March 3<sup>rd</sup>**. The event features an all-star cast of today's top nature photographers. See what **Art Wolfe, George Lepp, Tony Sweet, Lewis Kemper, Guy Tal, Clyde Butcher** and others have to say to help you improve your photography.

There will be three days packed with great programs for both professional and amateur photographers. There will be a special event featuring the Jacksonville Symphony. ***Nature and Music: Jacksonville Symphony Celebrates Nature Photography***, is an amazing collaboration that will feature the images of Robert Glenn Ketchum and the NANPA Showcase winners with a live performance of nature-inspired music. Registration includes activities, Exhibit and Trade Show admission and breakfast and lunch daily. For more information on the range of opportunities available to attendees visit the Summit web site: [www.naturephotographysummit.com](http://www.naturephotographysummit.com).



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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. Specific dates and meeting locations are posted in the newsletter and on the MoNEP web site.

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



**MoNEP**  
**Missouri Nature**  
**& Environmental Photographers**

**45 Bellerive Acres**  
**St. Louis, MO 63121**

***VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT [www.monep.org](http://www.monep.org)***



# CLOSEUP

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY MISSOURI NATURE & ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Volume 18, Number 3

March 2013

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### Editor

Barbara Addelson

### Contributors

Kathy Cherry  
Michelle Jones  
Jerry Miller

## PEOPLE & PLACES

### 2013 MoNEP Exhibit Update

**Runge Conservation Nature Center** in Jefferson City will be celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. MoNEP has been invited to have an exhibit at Runge during July and August as part of the celebration. MoNEP is also scheduled to have an exhibit at **Shaw Nature Reserve** during September and October. We are seeking members' photographs to include in these exhibits. If you are interested, please prepare and submit up to **five** nature images to **Lori Purk** by the April meeting. Images should be of subjects that can be found in Missouri. Please also keep in mind that our second exhibit has a more narrow subject matter focus, with a theme of **Food**. Since we will not be able to show as many pieces at the second exhibit, those that fit the theme the best will be moved to the second venue. This theme can be interpreted many ways. We suggest you think about who eats what, or who eats whom in nature in Missouri. Subjects can include: insects and other animals feeding on plants; animals hunting prey or grazing; birds feeding their young; spider webs for capturing prey; butterflies, bees and hummingbirds feeding on flower nectar; squirrels storing nuts; edible native fruits trees and shrubs.

Once the submissions are collected, a committee will select the work to be displayed. Members will be notified by the end of April. If your work is selected, you will be responsible for having your work printed, mounted and matted. We will most likely have a group framing session sometime in May or June. Submissions should be sized the same as they would be for *Share and Show* or

MoNEP Exhibit Update continued

the *Holiday Show* and labeled with your name, the title of the piece, what the subject is and where the photograph was taken. Please refer to the MoNEP web site for more information on how to resize your images before putting them on a CD for submission.

Please include your name, email and phone number with your submissions. Feel free to contact Lori Purk at **314-869-7427** or **purkyl8r@aol.com** if you have any questions. As always, we look forward to sharing some of our group's incredible work with the public.

### Smoky Mountains: Newfound Gap Road Closure

For those planning a spring visit to the Smokies, please be advised that Newfound Gap Road is closed to through traffic due to a large landslide at mile marker 22. This is the main route through the park from Gatlinburg, Tennessee, to Cherokee, North Carolina. It is possible to drive from the park entrance at Gatlinburg up to Newfound Gap but not beyond. From the Cherokee entrance, you can drive as far as Collins Creek.

The National Park Service estimates that the road will reopen in mid-May. Until then, if you wish to travel from the Tennessee side to the Cherokee side of the Smokies, you may want to follow Highway 40 around the east side of the park and enter there. Plan your Smoky Mountains shooting accordingly! Visit the National Park Service website for updates and further information at **[www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/temproadclose.htm](http://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/temproadclose.htm)**



Great Horned Owl Nest  
Bill Duncan



## New Members

Welcome to our newest MoNEP member, **Susie Brent**.

## Member News

**Michael Abbene** will be leading two photography courses at the **Saint Louis Zoo** this summer: "Photography at the Zoo" for students entering 7th or 8th grade will be held on June 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8:30-11:30 and "Photography at the Zoo 2" for students entering 9th, 10th, or 11th grades on July 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-11:30. If MoNEP members have children, grandchildren, other young family members or friends who might be interested in signing up, on-line registration for Zoo members opens on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Registration for non-members begins one week later.

**Glenn Curcio's** stunning image of a blue morpho butterfly is the cover shot of the current **Show-me Missouri** magazine. His images of the **Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House** are also featured inside. Some his images of the Butterfly House are also posted on line at [www.showmemissouri.net](http://www.showmemissouri.net).

## Membership Co-Chair Update

**Michelle Jones** has kindly taken over for **Vicki Northrop** as MoNEP's membership co-chair. Michelle will serve alongside **Shawn Northrop**. They will share the responsibility of processing new memberships and renewals, maintaining the email list and handling registration for special events such as our biennial seminars. Thanks, Michelle, for stepping in and helping out. We also want to thank Vicki for all her hard work these past several years despite ever increasing demands at her "real" job. We appreciate your keeping everything in tiptop shape!

Members, if you need to update any of your information, such as your email or postal address, please contact Michelle or Shawn at [michelle@mmjones.us](mailto:michelle@mmjones.us) or [snorth70@gmail.com](mailto:snorth70@gmail.com). Please note that our new mailing address is in care of **Michelle Jones, 45 Bellerive Acres, St. Louis, Missouri 63121**. To contact the co-chairs by phone, please call Michelle at **314.383.6256**.

\*\*\*\*\*

*The Camera always points both ways.  
In expressing your subject, you also  
express yourself.*

~ Freeman Patterson  
Photographer/Writer

## Nature Photography Ethics

It is the beginning of that time of year when there will be so many subjects vying for our photographic attention. Fields of wildflowers and baby birds in the nest will speak to us and we will try to capture some of these wonders of nature. There has long been much debate as to how far we as photographers should go to get that great shot. This may be a good time to think about the ethical implications of photographing nature. A good guide for this is the North American Nature Photography Association's (NANPA) Principles of Ethical Field Practices. It is easy to forget that "every place, plant, and animal, whether above or below water, is unique, and cumulative impacts occur over time." Here are a couple of the NANPA Ethical Practices to remember:

- Learn patterns of animal behavior and know when not to interfere with animals' life cycles.
- Use appropriate lenses to photograph wild animals--if an animal shows stress, move back and use a longer lens.

This is particularly important when around nests sites or dens with baby animals. Our presence can cause extreme stress to young and adults. Learn more at [www.nanpa.org](http://www.nanpa.org).

## Camera Club Seminar

Although the topic is not nature photography, MoNEP members may be interested in this year's **St. Louis Camera Club Seminar** on **Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 to 4:00 at Maritz in Fenton**. The presenter is **David Stoecklein**, one of the members of the elite group of photographers, the **Canon Explorers of Light**. David Stoecklein photographs the American West and his images include portraits, cowboys and cowgirls at work, horses, farms, ranches and landscapes. You can see his images on his web site: [stoeckleinphotography.com](http://stoeckleinphotography.com).

Registration for the seminar is \$25 and includes lunch. You can register online at [www.stlcameraclub.com](http://www.stlcameraclub.com). The registration deadline is April 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Santa Fe Photographic Workshops Contest

Santa Fe Photographic Workshop's first photo contest of 2013 is now open. The theme for this year's semi-annual contest is **Animals**. The deadline for entries is May 7<sup>th</sup>, and the fee for entering three images is \$40. (\$30 for entries submitted by March 19<sup>th</sup>.) There is a \$10 fee for each additional entry. For more details on the contest including how to enter and prizes visit their website at: [www.santafeworkshops.com](http://www.santafeworkshops.com)

**THE Corner Gallery**  
featuring  
MoNEP  
members'  
photography



Dried Mud  
Jim Rhodes



Dick Roman



# MEETINGS & programs

## Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

**Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

NOTE: The March meeting will be held at the **Ethical Society**. The Ethical Society is located at **9001 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63117**, just ½ mile west of the intersection of Clayton Road and Brentwood Boulevard, on the north side of Clayton Road. The meeting room is located on the lower level and is easily accessible from the parking lot at the back of the building.

## March Meeting – The Ethical Society

**Mark H.X. Glenshaw** is an award-winning naturalist who has closely observed and documented the lives of a mated pair of Great Horned Owls in Forest Park since December 2005. During this time, he has seen and photographed a wide range of behaviors including hunting, mating, nest-site selection and the rearing of young owls. He shares his work on his blog, **Forest Park Owls**, at [forestparkowls.blogspot.com](http://forestparkowls.blogspot.com)

Mark's talk will cover how he found these owls, some basic facts about the species and the different behaviors he has observed and documented with photos and videos. He will provide tips on how to dress, walk and behave so that you can get close to wildlife and photograph without disturbing your subjects. Although Mark takes many photos and videos of these owls and other wildlife in Forest Park, he does not consider himself a photographer. Rather he views himself as a naturalist who uses cameras to document what he sees. His work has been featured in *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, *St. Louis Magazine*, KTVI Fox 2, *The West End Word* and *Show-Me Missouri*. He leads tours, called owl prowls, of the owls' territory. He also gives talks for interested individuals and small groups as well as for formal events and groups such as The St. Louis Bioblitz, Wonders of Wildlife-St. Louis, Missouri Department of Conservation and Washington University in St. Louis. He was awarded the Citizen Scientist Award for the 2006 St. Louis Bioblitz by the Academy of Science-St. Louis.

## April Meeting

**Dr. Patricia Hagen**, executive director of the **Audubon Center at Riverlands** will be the presenter at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Dr. Hagen led the development of the National Audubon Society's efforts to establish an Audubon Center in the St. Louis region. Her presentation will be on the things to see and do at the Riverlands. She will also focus on some of the birds we can expect to see there over the coming months.

Dr. Hagen received her Doctorate in Public Policy Analysis from Saint Louis University. She spent twenty years at SLU, where she served as Associate Provost for Research, Associate Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

## February Meeting Recap

**David Hanlon**, a professor of photographic art and history at St. Louis Community College at Meramec, provided an overview of the history of nature photography at the February meeting. David discussed the different approaches photographers have used to interpret nature. Early nature photographers focused on one of two things: scientific documentation of plants and animals or capturing the landscape or scene for its aesthetic value. To document plants, photographers would place a leaf or flower on photo-reactive paper to capture its image.

Many early nature photographers wanted to capture the lighting, shadows and reflections one would see in paintings. Themes included rural settings with hillsides and livestock, only adding people later when using them as a subject to represent agrarian society or rural life. The subject matter changed over time. People were captured interacting with the environment. They were photographed admiring an object like a flower or a scenic view.

The use of soft focus was popular to suggest the emotions the photographer wanted the image to suggest. A photo of a wooded pathway might be taken from a vantage point featuring the trees growing over the path to imply a journey or as a path with a turn in the distance to suggest an unknown journey, the twists of fate or uncertainty.

The term "en plein air" was used to describe painters who worked outdoors, but the term was also used to describe photographers who traveled great distances to photograph the grandeur and expanse of the outdoors. They traveled with very large 200-pound cameras and a supply of glass plates weighing about 20 pounds each. They used mules to transport these tools and developing chemicals high into the hills of the West. They would photograph grand landscapes and develop the panes in the field to ensure that the image was successfully captured before moving to the next location.

Photography has gone through many stages and trends. As painters started exploring shapes and abstraction, photographers began looking for the abstract shapes, textures and forms in nature. Abstract images showed textures, colors and patterns to tell a story. In the 1900's images appeared with the geometry of natural objects as the focus. Photographs of subjects such as pea tendrils curling around a vine or a cactus with spines radiating from its center became more common. The 1920's saw nature photographers becoming more descriptive, working close to the subject.

David also talked about the "development" of the photographic negative from photo-reactive paper to daguerreotypes to gelatin emulsions. Black and white images fell out of favor with the advent of the color negative but have regained some popularity recently particularly with the advent of digital processing.

It was inspiring to see how photography has helped us see the natural world from the very simplest of subjects to the grand beauty of natural landscape. Our thanks to David for sharing the amazing evolution of nature photography over the past 150 years.

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**Visit our web-site at [www.monep.org](http://www.monep.org)**

MoNEP  
45 Bellerive Acres  
St. Louis, MO 63121





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Volume 18, Number 4

April 2013

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### Editor

Barbara Addelson

### Contributors

Scott Avetta

## PEOPLE & PLACES

### MoNEP Exhibit Deadline – 4/16

The deadline for submitting images for the MoNEP exhibits at MDC's **Runge Conservation Nature Center** and **Shaw Nature Reserve** is **Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>** at our monthly meeting

If you are interested, please prepare and submit up to **five** nature images to **Lori Purk** at the April meeting. Images should be of subjects that can be found in Missouri. The exhibit at Shaw Nature Reserve has a more narrow subject matter focus, with a theme of **Food**. Since we will not be able to show as many pieces at the second exhibit, those that fit the theme the best will be moved to the second venue. This theme can be interpreted many ways. We suggest you think about who eats what, or who eats whom in nature in Missouri. Subjects can include: insects and other animals feeding on plants; animals hunting prey or grazing; birds feeding their young; spider webs for capturing prey; hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees feeding on flower nectar; squirrels storing nuts; edible native fruits trees and shrubs.

Submissions should be submitted on a CD. They should be sized as they would be for *Share and Show* or the *Holiday Show* and labeled with your name, the title of the piece, where the photograph was taken and what the subject is. Please refer to the MoNEP web site for more information on how to resize your images before putting them on a CD for submission.

Please include your name, email and phone number with your submissions. Feel free to contact Lori Purk at **314-869-7427** or **purkyl8r@aol.com** if you have any questions.

### MoNEP Meetings Return To Powder Valley Nature Center

MoNEP will be based back at **Powder Valley Nature Center** for our monthly meetings through September. Powder Valley Nature Center is located at **11715 Cragwood Road, in Kirkwood, Missouri**. The nature center is at the Missouri Department of Conservation's Powder Valley Conservation Area near the junction of Highways I-44 and I-270. The meeting times will continue to be from **6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

### Share and Show Returns

Starting at this month's meeting, we are resurrecting **Share and Show**. For those new to MoNEP, members are invited to submit and share a few of their nature images during the meeting. We often suggest a theme to challenge members with an assignment, however you are not limited to that theme. The theme for April is **Potpourri**.

If you wish to participate, you should prepare a maximum of **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 in a zip file with your name and the meeting date.
- ❖ Send your zipped images to **share@monep.org** by **midnight on the Friday the week prior to the meeting. (April 12<sup>th</sup> for this month)**

For more information about *Share and Show* formatting please see **Uploading Share and Show Images** in the tips section at **monep.org**.



Turtle  
Monica McAmish-Bahr

*In nature, nothing is perfect and everything is perfect. Trees can be contorted, bent in weird ways, and they're still beautiful.*

~ Alice Walker  
American Author  
1944 - present



## New Members

Welcome to our newest members: **Susie Brent, Daniel Buckenmyer, Daniel Esarey, Carla Hsie, Bob Lawrence, Roger Ottwell, Marilyn Schaefer and Will Solomon.**

## Member News

**Linda Alessi** has been recording videos of a pair of barred owls in a nest box using an infrared camera. She has kindly shared the footage with The World Bird Sanctuary, which has put the clips on YouTube. The links are: [youtube.com/watch?v=rYH34K6cPX0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYH34K6cPX0) and [youtube.com/watch?v=x6o86E4UoVM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6o86E4UoVM).

**Lori Purk** was the featured artist for the month of March for the **Missouri Artisans Association – Best of Missouri Hands**. Lori was interviewed for the honor and you can read more about her at <http://intouch.bomh.org/lori-purk-featured-artist/> Congratulations!

**Margy Terpstra** has been invited to present two different programs at the **Strawberry Plains Hummingbird Migration Celebration and Nature Festival** at **The Strawberry Plains Audubon Center near Holly Springs, Mississippi**. The festival will be held **September 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>**. Margy will offer an updated talk on ***Our Garden is for the Birds*** and another, ***Add the Magic of Moving Water to Your Garden***, on each of the three days. The festival generally has an attendance of 8,000 people during the 3-day weekend.

## Saint Louis Zoo Art Exhibit

***Inspired by Nature***, a collection of stunning original paintings by internationally acclaimed wildlife artist and conservationist, **Robert Bateman** will go on display in **Peabody Hall at the Saint Louis Zoo on April 19<sup>th</sup>**. Peabody Hall is a former elephant house on the Zoo grounds. The exhibit features more than 20 major wildlife paintings from Bateman's portfolio. The subjects range from the American bald eagle to the African rhinoceros. There are many lessons for the nature photographer in Bateman's work. In writing about his image of the African buffalo he said: "The basic concept for this painting is a big letter T, which I want to hit you like a Mack Truck. To give a little lyric twist, I echoed the form of the bull's horns in the two egrets that are slipping off to one side." The exhibit will be up through 2014.

## March Meeting Recap

Our thanks to **Mark Glenshaw** for an engaging talk about a pair of great horned owls that nest in Forest Park. Mark has been observing these two birds and their offspring regularly since December 2005. During this time, he has watched, photographed, and videotaped the owls hunting, hooting, mating and raising their young. He shares his discoveries on his blog, ***Forest Park Owls***, at [forestparkowls.blogspot.com](http://forestparkowls.blogspot.com).

Mark first became interested in the owls when he encountered the two of them in the summer of 2005. He watched them for thirty minutes as they hooted together in a duet. Intrigued by the experience, Mark began to read about great horned owls and attempted to see them regularly. At first his sightings were inconsistent, but in December 2005 he found the male in the large hollow of a cottonwood tree. He watched as the male groomed and hooted and then flew away. He soon discovered that he had come upon the birds' roosting and nesting area rather than the hunting area where he had seen them previously. This roosting area provided Mark with far more regular and reliable sightings of the owls.

Great horned owls are one of the most common species of owl in North

America. Their range extends from the tundra south through the U.S. and Central America into South America. They live in woodlands, deserts, prairies and rain forests. Although at a casual glance males and females look much the same, there are differences. The males are smaller than the females and have low, long calls with fewer notes than the females do. Males tend to be 20"-22" tall with more varied color. The female is 22"-25" tall and weighs over 3-4 pounds and she has more uniform coloration.

Great horned owls are swift, silent flyers. They hunt from a perch, swooping down in an effort to capture their prey. Mark shared a remarkable bit of video he recorded of one of the owls nearly catching a bat in midair. They eat the widest variety of prey of any North American owl and are even known to eat skunks.

The owls nest in tree holes and start mating in November or December. They lay their eggs in mid-January and the young hatch in February. They fledge at 6-8 weeks and leave their parents' territory at 7-9 months, just as the adults are gearing up to start the cycle all over again. Over the years, Mark has watched as the pair has raised 17 young. Although he calls himself an amateur, he is quite a remarkable self-taught expert!



Dan Terpstra



Jim Stroup

# MEETINGS & programs

## Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

NOTE: The April and May meetings will be held at Powder Valley Nature Center

## Share and Show Nature Images

Members are invited to share up to **four (4) nature-related images** at the upcoming meeting. The theme for April is *Potpourri*. Please follow the instructions on **Uploading Share and Show Images** in the tips section at [monep.org](http://monep.org). We ask that you:

- ❖ Resize your images so vertical images are 768 pixels high and horizontal images are 768 pixels wide.
- ❖ Name your images according to the directions at [monep.org](http://monep.org) under tips.
- ❖ Save your images as .jpg files.
- ❖ Compress your four resized images into a zip file.
- ❖ Send your zipped images via email to [share@monep.org](mailto:share@monep.org) by midnight, Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

## April Meeting - Dr. Patricia Hagen

At the confluence of two of the greatest rivers in North America--the Mississippi and the Missouri--is an abundance of natural riparian habitats and accessible public lands that provide incredible opportunities for wildlife viewing. Federal and state agencies, as well as non-profit organizations such as Audubon, cooperate in land management and public outreach to conserve these precious natural resources and to ensure that the public understands and appreciates this area's significance and beauty.

**The Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary**, owned and managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and **The Audubon Center at Riverlands**, located within the Sanctuary, demonstrate an important example of this conservation and public outreach work. Every season brings beautiful changes to the Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary, providing a multitude of opportunities for the public to connect to a broad diversity of species of birds, and to appreciate the changes in the wetland prairie and bottomland forest habitat over the year. **Dr. Patricia Hagen, Vice President and Executive Director of Audubon Missouri, and Executive Director of the Audubon Center at Riverlands** will describe the region's wonderful natural habitats as well as what can be seen over the seasons, with an emphasis on the Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary.

Dr. Hagen received her Doctorate in Public Policy Analysis from Saint Louis University. She spent twenty years at SLU, where she served as Associate Provost for Research, Associate Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.



## 2013 Field Trips

**Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>** marks the return of the MoNEP Field Trips. **Randy Hunter** and **Bill Lubben** have been hard at work planning for the season. Here are some updates on MoNEP outings:

- ❖ Field trips will be offered monthly from April to October, depending on the weather.
- ❖ Some field trips will be held on both Thursdays and Saturdays at the same location.
- ❖ Randy and Bill will do their best to scout locations prior to the trip dates, and may offer an alternate site near their chosen destination should conditions require a last minute change.

Please remember to take some photographs of other field trip participants. We are always looking for people shots for our holiday show and public event displays.

## April Field Trip

The first field trip of the year will be at **Shaw Nature Reserve in Gray Summit, Missouri on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**. The meeting time is **6:30 a.m.** and the gathering spot is the **parking lot for the Bascom House**. In addition to your camera gear you may also want to bring along water, sunscreen, insect repellent, a hat and a snack.

## Tips for Dramatic RAW Images

Greg Basco was back in St. Louis recently to present at a St. Louis Camera Club meeting. His talk was on *The Art of Biodiversity: In-Camera Techniques for Producing Dramatic Rainforest Images*. Despite the title, many of the techniques Greg discussed are easily adapted to temperate areas. Greg discussed coping with areas of strong light and shade and balancing on-camera flash with natural light for emphasis. He suggested learning to use flash off camera for a more natural look. He often works with multiple flashes, and will use them in tandem with flashlights for creative macro images.

Greg touched on composition and advocated simplifying the world for stronger images. In dense forest it is often advantageous to photograph a small slice of the scene than to try to get an effective shot of the tangled jungle. Greg showed two images of a couple of scenes, one with the broad view and another in which he reduced the number of elements. The latter were much stronger and more evocative photographs. Greg also showed several fine examples of eye-catching images that utilized the golden spiral and golden triangle as compositional elements. He talked about giving animal subjects some space in portraits and the benefit of including a sense of place. As always, Greg's presentation was informative, his passion contagious and his images, stunning.

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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. Specific dates and meeting locations are posted in the newsletter and on the MoNEP web site.

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***VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT [www.monep.org](http://www.monep.org)***



**MoNEP**  
**Missouri Nature**  
**& Environmental Photographers**

**45 Bellerive Acres**  
**St. Louis, MO 63121**





# CLOSEUP

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY MISSOURI NATURE & ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Volume 18, Number 5

May 2013

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### People & Places

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### Editor

Barbara Addelson

### Contributors

Scott Avetta

## PEOPLE & PLACES

### Share and Show

Last month we attempted to restart **Share and Show**. However, with new procedures and an earlier deadline, we did not receive many submissions. We will try again this month. The deadline for submissions is **Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> by midnight**.

To participate, prepare a maximum of **four (4) nature-related images**. Please be sure to follow these steps:

- ❖ Resize your images so vertical images are 768 pixels high. Horizontal images should be 768 pixels wide.
- ❖ Save your images as .jpg files.
- ❖ Name your resized images with your name, the year and the month of the meeting. For example: Membername-1305-1 for the first image. Follow that protocol for each of the four images you submit.
- ❖ Place your four resized images in their own folder, also with your name and the month of the meeting.
- ❖ Compress or "zip" the folder. To zip files on a Mac with OS X, right click on the file folder. Select Compress. For a PC, the steps are much the same. Right click on the folder. Select "Send to" then "Compressed folder". In both cases, the system will compress the files, which will take a few moments.
- ❖ Attach your zipped folder to an email message and send your images to **share@monep.org by midnight on the Friday the week prior to the meeting**. The deadline for May is Friday the 17<sup>th</sup>.

The theme for this month is **Springtime**.

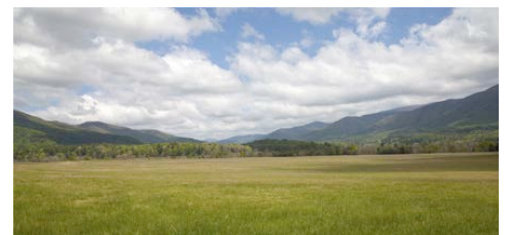
### MoNEP Speakers

Recruiting speakers for our monthly meetings requires a lot of time, effort and creative thinking on the part of the MoNEP program co-chairs, **Ken Biddle** and **Scott Avetta**. Although we have some speakers return every year or so, Ken and Scott are always looking for new and fresh programs. If you have any ideas about potential presenters, the program co-chairs would be happy to hear from you and to consider your recommendation. Please contact either Ken or Scott with your suggestions. Their emails are **kdbiddle@swbell.net** and **scottavetta@hotmail.com**.

It would be ideal if members could send their suggestions including the person's name, their subject area and their contact information. Please include any additional information that you can provide. Among other qualities, we look for speakers who have a history of doing public presentations or teaching. Remember that many of our programs run between 45 minutes and an hour and that we do not expect our nature related speakers to always have professional level images. Thanks for your help in identifying possible future MoNEP presenters.



Forest Park  
by Judy Colombini



Cades Cove - Spring  
Rich Merz

## Member News

**Vearl Brown** has two images being used in different publications. His amazing image of a sun bear showing its remarkably long tongue has been picked up for the second time by **National Geographic KIDS** magazine for a special edition. Additionally, one of his images has been used in a display panel on bald eagles for the **Illinois Department of Natural Resources**. Congratulations, Vearl!

**Michelle Jones** and **Don Morice** have some of their work on display and for sale at the Visitor's Center in Kimmswick this month.

**Fran and Chuck Mannis** are among the photographers whose work will be on display later this month in an exhibit, **The South Island Exposed: Images of New Zealand**. The exhibit, curated by trip leader, **Stewart Halperin**, will be at the **Chesterfield Arts Center** from **May 24<sup>th</sup> to June 7<sup>th</sup>**. The Opening Reception is May 24<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m. Chesterfield Arts is located at 444 Chesterfield Center. For information visit [www.chesterfieldarts.org](http://www.chesterfieldarts.org) or call 636-519-1955.

## Clarence Cannon NWR Photo Contest

Clarence Cannon National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) will hold a photo contest to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the refuge. Amateur and professional photographers may submit photos from April 1st to September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in the categories of wildlife, plants, and landscapes. Winning photos will be featured in a 2014, 50th anniversary edition calendar. All photos will be displayed on the refuge website and at the visitor center during special events.

Photographs taken at the Clarence Cannon NWR up to two years prior to the contest, no earlier than April 1, 2011, will be accepted for submission. Contestants may enter three photos in each category for a total of nine photos per person. A digital and print copy must be submitted for each photo. For more information go to: [www.fws.gov/refuge/clarence\\_cannon](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/clarence_cannon).

~~~~~  
"It is spring again. The earth is like a child that knows poems by heart."

~ Rainer Maria Rilke  
Czech Author  
1875-1926

## April Meeting Recap

The stunning **Audubon Center at Riverlands**, which opened last year, was the culmination of years of planning by the **National Audubon Society** and **Audubon Missouri**. Leading that effort for over five years was **Dr. Patricia Hagen**, the featured speaker at our April meeting and the Center's Executive Director.

The mission of The Audubon Center at Riverlands is "to connect people to the beauty and significance of the Mississippi River and the Great Rivers confluence, to inspire conservation of the river's rich diversity in birds, wildlife and other natural resources, and to support healthy, vibrant communities."

Dr. Hagen provided us with an overview of the ecological importance of the Riverlands area and its surrounding habitats. The Center is situated amidst 3,700 acres of restored prairie, marsh and forest, which are part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary. Designated an **Important Bird Area**, the Riverlands is part of the the Mississippi Flyway, a vitally important bird migration route for nearly 325 species of birds.

The Mississippi River is a meandering river that people have tried to tame

## April meeting cont'd.


since early European settlement. In the 1880's the Army Corps of Engineers took over the task of building an organized levee system. Levees were constructed all the way from New Orleans to Cairo, Illinois by 1926. However, the river was not tamed, and there have been some major floods along it, including the Great Flood of 1993.

After 1993, the Army Corps of Engineers bought vast numbers of acres that had been flooded. They started to work with environmental groups, such as The Audubon Society to manage these lands for wildlife, especially birds, since the area is particularly vital to migrating birds. It is also a terrific place for bird watching.


Dr. Hagen spoke of several birding hot spots within the Riverlands area. Hot spots are areas that are especially rich with bird life during migration. These include Choteau, Ellis and Maple Islands. The Audubon Center hosts bird walks, as well as Great River Canoe Voyages and many other events to share the sanctuary with the public. The Center is open from 8-4, seven days a week and has wonderful viewing areas and exhibits.

Our thanks to Dr. Hagen and the Audubon Society for their great work.

**THE Corner Gallery**  
featuring  
MoNEP  
members'  
photography



Norma Mull



Margy Terpstra



## MEETINGS & programs



### Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

**Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

NOTE: The May through September meetings will be held at **Powder Valley Nature Center**

### Share and Show Nature Images

Members are invited to share up to **four (4) nature-related images** at the upcoming meeting. The theme for May is **Springtime**. Please follow the instructions on **Uploading Share and Show Images** in the tips section at **money.org**. We ask that you:

- ❖ Resize your images so vertical images are 768 pixels high and horizontal images are 768 pixels wide.
- ❖ Name your images according to the directions at money.org under tips.
- ❖ Save your images as .jpg files.
- ❖ Compress your four resized images into a zip file.
- ❖ Send your zipped images via email to **share@money.org** by **midnight, Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup>**.

### May 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting – Ted MacRae

Entomologist and photographer, **Ted MacRae** will be the presenter at the May meeting. His talk will be on ***Approaching the Unapproachable: Tips and Tricks for Field Photography of Wary Insects***. Ted specializes in photographing tiger beetles in their natural habitats. These colorful beetles are fast runners and powerful fliers, making them among the more difficult insects to approach. Ted will describe some of the techniques that he uses to obtain close-up and macro photographs of these beautiful beetles and how these techniques can help when photographing other insects as well.

Ted is a research entomologist who pursues his passion for beetle taxonomy in his spare time. Interested in insects since childhood, he started collecting them seriously when he was in college and now has a collection of about 75,000 specimens. Ted also enjoys studying other areas of natural history and took up nature photography in 2007. He blogs about his experiences and thoughts on ***Beetles in the Bush*** at <http://beetlesinthebush.wordpress.com>.

In his biography on his blog, Ted writes, "I believe that to be a truly competent natural historian, one must understand not only the elements of their chosen specialty, but also the natural systems of which they are a part. Thus, I write not only about insects, but also the plants on which they depend and the natural communities in which they occur, the landforms that harbor these communities, and my experiences in exploring these landscapes."

### May Field Trips

#### Thursday May 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>

The May field trip will be offered on both **Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>** and **Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>**. The destination is **The Glassberg Family Conservation Area** near Eureka. Members should meet at the **Commuter Parking Lot at Interstate - 44 and Highway 109 in Eureka at 6:30 a.m.** on either or both days to caravan to the field trip location.

The Glassberg Family Conservation Area is a fairly new addition to the Missouri Department of Conservation's sites. It encompasses parts of the LaBarque Creek and Meramec River watersheds. It is primarily forested with some old fields and a pond. The conservation area has a variety of different habitats and plant species, with both upland and bottomland forests. It is bordered to the north by the Meramec River.

In addition to your camera gear you may also want to bring along water, sunscreen, insect repellent, a hat and a snack. For more information on the field trip, please contact trip leaders **Bill Lubben** or **Randy Hunter**. Bill will lead the Thursday trip and can be reached at **314-965-2639**. Randy will lead the Saturday trip and he can be reached at **314-845-3914**.

### Smoky Mountains:

#### Newfound Gap Road Re-Opened

There is great news for those headed to the Smokies this spring. Newfound Gap Road, which had been closed due to a landslide, has been repaired and is now open again. This route cuts through the park from the Tennessee side to the North Carolina side, and saves those crossing over much time and mileage. Visit the National Park Service website for updates and further information on the park at [www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit](http://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit).

### Birds, Beer and Bluegrass!

Support **The Audubon Center at Riverlands** by attending their second annual ***Birds, Beer and Bluegrass!*** evening on **Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup> from 5-9 p.m.** Join Audubon as they celebrate birds and nature while enjoying good food, craft beers and music. Dinner will be a tasty barbeque buffet. Bluegrass music will be provided by the **Local Gents**, winner of the Riverfront Times 2011 "Best Bluegrass Band." There will also be a silent auction featuring on-the-water nature experiences, Cardinal tickets, bird-themed jewelry, wine baskets and more. The cost is \$60 per person and **reservations are required**. Go to <http://riverlands.audubon.org/events> to reserve a spot or call **636-899-0090**.



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# CLOSEUP

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY MISSOURI NATURE & ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Volume 18, Number 6

June 2013

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### Editor

Barbara Addelson

### Contributors

Lori Purk

## PEOPLE & PLACES

### MoNEP Exhibit

Over two-dozen MoNEP members' images have been selected for inclusion in the MoNEP photography exhibit at the Missouri Department of Conservation's **Runge Conservation Nature Center in Jefferson City** beginning on **June 29<sup>th</sup>**.

Runge Conservation Nature Center is celebrating its 20th anniversary. The staff at the center is very excited to have another MoNEP exhibit displayed in their main lobby. They anticipate that many visitors and conservation partners will be able to enjoy viewing the work while attending the various events they have planned as they celebrate throughout the month of July. The photographs will be on display from **June 29<sup>th</sup> to August 30<sup>th</sup>**. The building is open **8-5 on Tuesdays – Saturdays with extended hours to 8 p.m on Thursday**. The center is closed on Sundays and Mondays.

We would like to thank MoNEP member **Tina Crist** for her help ordering supplies for the framing session this week and for allowing us to use her studio, **Home is Where the Art Is**, to gather and frame the pieces.

### Fall Exhibit at Shaw Nature Reserve

Starting in September, some of the images from the exhibit at Runge Nature Center will be moved to **Shaw Nature Reserve**, where they will be on display in the Bascom Manor House through the end of October. Those images will be in keeping with the Garden's 2013 theme, **Food**, and will emphasize feeding relationships in nature. We will furnish dates and times when you can see the exhibit as the opening approaches.

### Nature Photography Day

**NANPA**, The North American Nature Photography Association, is sponsoring its 8<sup>th</sup> annual observance of **Nature Photography Day on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>**. This day was designated by NANPA to promote the enjoyment of nature photography and to explain how images have been used to advance the cause of conservation and protect plants, wildlife, and landscapes locally and worldwide.

NANPA encourages photographers to invite family members, friends and neighbors to join them on June 15th on a photo adventure in the backyard, at a garden or anywhere you can find a slice of nature. They ask that members of photo clubs, like ours help spread the word, and they encourage people to observe the event by reminding others of how images have been used to protect the natural world. Visit a gallery or museum exhibit of nature photographs or share your own nature images on a blog, website or Facebook. You can also upload your best shot of the day onto NANPA's Nature Photography Day page on Facebook.

### Landscape, Nature & Travel Photography Seminar

**Schiller's** is hosting a **Tamron** seminar on **Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, from 7-9 p.m.** Presenter, **Rob Moody**, will take you from the first steps of setting up and evaluating your scene all the way to the final capture, with the goal of improving your images from quick snapshots to high quality photos. The cost of the seminar is \$25. To register online go to [www.regonline.com/HowToSchillers](http://www.regonline.com/HowToSchillers).



Clearwing Moth Sips from Milkweed  
at Busch Wildlife  
by Christy Lonero

*The whole idea of compassion is based on a keen awareness of the interdependence of all these living beings, which are all part of one another, and all involved in one another.*

~ Thomas Merton  
Monk, Author, Poet  
1915-1968

## Member News

Recently retired MoNEP member, **Scott Evers** has opened a booth in **Grafton's Artisan Village** where he is displaying and selling his work. He is selling various sized canvas gallery wraps, framed prints and note cards. Scott is planning to have his work there at least through the fall. The Artisan Village is located at **15 E. Main Street in Grafton Illinois**. It is open Wednesday through Sunday, with hours on Wednesday and Thursday from 10-6, Friday and Saturday, 10-8 and Sunday from 11-6.



Scott Evers

Four of **Lori Purk's** nature photographs have been purchased to decorate the halls of **Boone County Hospital in Columbia, Missouri**. Two are images of reflections on water, and the other two are a copper butterfly and a dickcissel. The two reflections will be very large pieces and the other two medium-sized. Lori said, "I am honored to have my work chosen to be shown in a place of healing."

**SammyLane Wirth** has an article in the June issue of **PSA Journal**. The journal is published by the **Photographic Society of America**. Her article, **Botanical Impressions** includes several of her images.

## Noppadol Paothong

Missouri Department of Conservation photographer **Noppadol Paothong**, has won a **Gold Medal** from the **2013 Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPYs)**. His stunning book, **Save the Last Dance**, focusing on the vanishing grassland grouse species of North America won in the category of **Mid-West Non-Fiction**. In celebration of this award, Noppadol is offering free shipping on orders of the book through the month of June. Visit his website **www.savethelastdancebook.com** for more information or to place an order. Our congratulations, Noppadol!

## May Meeting Recap

**Ted MacRae** shared some amazing images and many tips and tricks for photographing live insects in their native habitats during his presentation, **Approaching the Unapproachable**, at the May meeting. Ted, a Senior Research Entomologist and Project Lead at Monsanto, covered some of the basics of field macrophotography.

He talked about equipment considerations, choice of subject, strategies for getting close to the subject, image backgrounds, use of perspective and techniques for handholding the camera.

As both an insect collector and photographer, he goes into the field prepared for both activities. He generally wears polyester-cotton pants, a lightweight t-shirt that he doesn't mind getting dirty, hiking boots and a hat. In addition to his collecting supplies, he carries a waist pack and a camera backpack.

When photographing insects in the field, your desired subject will influence the camera equipment choices you make. For larger subjects that are quick to take flight, such as butterflies and dragonflies, Ted uses a longer lens, tripod and natural light. For smaller subjects, such as beetles that are often found on the ground, he

suggests shorter lenses and supplemental lighting and he hand holds the camera. Although you can take close-up or macro images of insects with many cameras and lenses, if you become passionate about it, it certainly helps to invest in a macro lens or two.

As always, it helps to know a bit about your subjects' habitats and behaviors. To get close to wary insects you have to sneak up on them. You want to prevent the insect from fleeing and then get it to resume its normal activities. Ted suggests getting low to the ground and using the landscape to your advantage. As you work the subject, you should be able to get in closer and closer to it, so you can capture the amazing beauty and diversity of insects in their natural habitats. This way you can show the insect and give the viewer a sense of the kind of surroundings in which it can be found.

Ted talked about corralling or blocking flightless species so you can get in closer or using their escape into the shade to get a good front portrait. Another way to get close is to take advantage of insects that are preoccupied with feeding, mating or laying eggs. Another tip is to capture insects on mornings when it's cold and

*continued on page 3*

**THE Corner Gallery**  
featuring  
MoNEP  
members'  
photography



Green Heron  
by Butch Lama



by Larry Terrell



# MEETINGS & programs

## Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

**Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

NOTE: The May through September meetings will be held at **Powder Valley Nature Center**

## Share and Show Nature Images

Members are invited to share up to **four (4) nature-related images** at the upcoming meeting. The theme for June is **Close-ups**. Please follow the instructions on **Uploading Share and Show Images** in the tips section at [monep.org](http://monep.org). We ask that you:

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- ❖ Name your images according to the directions at [monep.org](http://monep.org) under tips.
- ❖ Save your images as .jpg files.
- ❖ Compress your four resized images into a zip file.
- ❖ Send your zipped images via email to [share@monep.org](mailto:share@monep.org) by midnight, Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.

**June 18<sup>th</sup> Share & Show Theme: Close-ups**

**July 16<sup>th</sup> Share & Show Theme: Geometry**

## June 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Tom Terrific

Join us on **Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, at 6 p.m.** for a presentation on **Butterfly Gardening** by **Tom Terrific**. Tom returns to MoNEP to show us how to attract and keep butterflies in our yards and gardens. He will talk about his **Ten Commandments of Butterfly Gardening**. The Ten Commandments include site selection and preparation, host and nectar plants, native plants and lots more. His Butterfly Gardening book is a free download through his website, [www.butterflygardening.org](http://www.butterflygardening.org) or [www.tomterrific.com](http://www.tomterrific.com). Tom has been a gardener for many years, with a specialized focus on butterfly gardening for the past 11 years. He has presented on the subject for many years and at many local garden clubs and cultural institutions including Powder Valley, Shaw Nature Reserve and the Butterfly House.

## June Field Trip

The June field trip will be on **Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>** at the **Missouri Botanical Garden**. Members should meet in the parking lot at **6:45 a.m.** The Garden is free to St. Louis City and County residents on Saturday mornings. MBG members can bring in a limited number of guests depending on their membership level, so we suggest members bring their cards with them, to help others in the group get in without charge.

In addition to your camera gear, you may also want to bring along water, sunscreen, insect repellent, a hat and a snack. For more information on the field trip, please contact **Randy Hunter** at **314-845-3914**.

May Recap, continued from page 2

the insects are not yet active, or after they've just emerged.

Ted emphasized getting low to shoot the insect, providing a unique perspective and allowing them to stand out against their background. He cautioned us to think about the background so it doesn't distract from the subject but shows the insect to its best advantage. He also recommended getting low to shoot landscapes of the insects' habitats, which also can provide a much more interesting perspective than from five feet off the ground.

Finally, if all else fails, Ted showed some examples of how he has confined insects to get their images, shooting in a terrarium, a white box or on a rock in his hotel room! Thanks to Ted for an outstanding presentation. His passion for his beloved beetles was very evident, and we admire the amount of time, effort and patience he has to get the amazing images he shared with us. To learn more, visit Ted's blog at [beetlesinthebush.wordpress.com](http://beetlesinthebush.wordpress.com).

## Sustainable Backyard Tour

Members **Jim and Judy Stroup** will have their home open as part of the **2013 Sustainable Backyard Tour** on **June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 11-4**. They invite MoNEP members to visit their backyard at **11044 Teakwood Drive in Crestwood, Missouri**.

The Stroups have taken steps to reduce their carbon footprint by planting raised bed vegetable gardens, reducing the size of their lawn, planting native species, using a rain barrel, keeping bees, installing a geothermal system for energy for heating and cooling and hot water and a roof mounted solar panel array.

Although not focused on nature photography, this event has lots to do with the environment. For those interested in seeing several different properties on the tour you can sign up at: [www.sustainablebackyardtour.com](http://www.sustainablebackyardtour.com). Jim said that it is interesting to visit several houses to see the different things people have done to implement green practices into their lives.

To get a preview of the installation of Jim's and Judy's geothermal system and solar array visit Jim's gallery at [www.pbase.com/jimslug98/solar\\_panel\\_installation](http://www.pbase.com/jimslug98/solar_panel_installation) or at [www.pbase.com/jimslug98/geothermal](http://www.pbase.com/jimslug98/geothermal). If you have questions, contact the Stroups at [jstroup01@charter.net](mailto:jstroup01@charter.net).

## SNR Youth Photography Contest

MoNEP and **Shaw Nature Reserve (SNR)** are co-sponsoring SNR's 2013 youth nature photography contest. **Take A Shot!** is open to children ages 14 and under. Entries must be taken at Shaw Nature Reserve between **April 1st and October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013**. All entries must be received at the SNR Visitor Center by **4 p.m. on October 15<sup>th</sup>**. The four categories are: **Flora, Wildlife, Miniature World of Nature** and **People in Nature**. Detailed contest rules and submission forms can be found online at [shawnature.org](http://shawnature.org) under **Take A Shot Youth Photo Contest**.

| <b>OFFICERS &amp;<br/>BOARD MEMBERS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>BOARD<br/>MEMBERS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>VOLUNTEER<br/>SUPPORT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>MISSION<br/>STATEMENT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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**Visit our web-site at [www.monep.org](http://www.monep.org)**

MoNEP  
45 Bellerive Acres  
St. Louis, MO 63121





# CLOSEUP

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY MISSOURI NATURE & ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Volume 18, Number 7

July-August 2013

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Editor  
Barbara Addelson

Contributors  
Christy Lonero

## PEOPLE & PLACES

### Shaw Photography Series: Finding Your Focus

For many MoNEP members, **Shaw Nature Reserve (SNR)** is a favorite spot for nature photography in the St. Louis area. Located 40 miles west of downtown St. Louis, the Nature Reserve is part of the Missouri Botanical Garden and has an interesting history all its own. Over the past 35 years, the Reserve has hosted a number of photography workshops conducted by regionally and nationally recognized photographers, including MoNEP President, Scott Avetta. In 1980 and again in 1982, Ernst Haas led photo workshops at the Nature Reserve, as did Jay Maisel in 2003.

This fall and during the winter and spring of 2014, SNR will be offering a series of presentations and workshops as part of the **Shaw Photography Series: Finding Your Focus**. The series kicks-off on **September 20<sup>th</sup>** with **An Evening with Jim Brandenburg at the Missouri Botanical Garden**. Tickets for the two-hour presentation go on sale on **August 1<sup>st</sup>** and cost **\$20 for Garden members, \$24 for non-members**. To register and for information on the Brandenburg presentation or any of the other programs, visit **shawnature.org**.

Other events planned for the photography series thus far are:

**\* September 28: Todd Weinstein**  
The Essence of Street Photography

**\* September 28: Stewart Halperin**  
How to Make Better Images As You Travel Around the Globe

**\* October 5: Jeff Hirsch**

Shooting & Processing High Dynamic Range (HDR) Images

**\* October 5: Mark Katzman**

The Art of Environmental Portraits

**\* October 12: John Nagel**

Publishing a Book of Your Photographs for \$100 or Less

**\* October 12-13: Scott Avetta**

Observations & Conversations with Nature

**\* November 9: David Hanlon**

Historic Photographic Process

**\* December 14: Greg Basco**

Creating Your Own Light: Flash and Flashlights for Nature Photography

**\* January 11: Danny Brown**

Techniques & Equipment for Photographing Missouri Wildlife

**\* February 8: Jeff Hirsch**

Shooting & Sharing: Photography in the Age of Social Media

Registration for all of the events opens on **August 1<sup>st</sup>**.

### Membership Renewals

**Last call for membership renewals!** If you haven't renewed, this will be your last newsletter! If you want to continue your membership, you can download a membership form from our website, **www.monep.org**. You may turn the form and your dues in to **Michelle Jones** or **Shawn Northrop** at the July meeting or mail it to Michelle at: **45 Bellerive Acres, St. Louis, Missouri, 63121**. If you are not sure whether you have renewed or not, you can check on your membership status by contacting Michelle at **michelle@mmjones.us**.



Richard Spener

*Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time.*

~ John Lubbock, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Avebury  
English banker, philanthropist, scientist  
1834-1913



## New Members

A warm welcome to new members: **Pam Caraffa, Harold Clifton, Mike Davidson, James Hawk, Jennifer Perkins** and **Rheba Symeonglou**. We're happy to have you join us!

## Member News

On June 28<sup>th</sup>, **Jim Campbell** was among 33 artists exhibiting their work at the **Old Orchard Gallery** in Webster Groves. Jim had three pieces on display.

## Original MoNEP Members

**Scott Avetta** was wondering how many of the original MoNEP members are still members. If you were one of the originals, please let Scott know at [scottavetta@hotmail.com](mailto:scottavetta@hotmail.com).

## MoNEP Exhibit

**Lori Purk** and **Christy Lonero** traveled to the **Runge Nature Center** in Jefferson City on June 28<sup>th</sup> to hang the MoNEP photo exhibit. Thanks to both of them for their time and significant effort to hang our images. For a sneak peek, Christy sent the following image.



Runge Conservation Nature Center is celebrating its 20th anniversary. The MoNEP exhibit is on display in their main lobby. Many visitors and conservation partners will be able to view the work while attending the various celebratory events they have planned throughout the month of July. The photographs will be on display **through August 30<sup>th</sup>**. The building is open **8-5 on Tuesdays - Saturdays with extended hours to 8 p.m. on Thursdays**. The center is closed on Sundays and Mondays.



Ken Biddle

## June Meeting/Field Trip Recap

We were entertained and educated at the June meeting by the very enthusiastic **Tom Terrific**. Tom is an avid butterfly gardener who shared ways to attract butterflies to your yard. He walked us through his **Ten Commandments of Butterfly Gardening**. These include growing host plants on which adult butterflies can lay their eggs, and young caterpillars can feed. The host plants are species specific, with certain butterflies laying eggs on only one or two kinds of plants. For instance, the monarch only lays eggs on species of milkweed plants.

Tom also grows nectar plants as food for the adult butterflies. He has planted over 200 species to provide a smorgasbord on which many different butterflies and caterpillars can feed. Butterflies are cold-blooded, and the warmth of the sun keeps them active. Tom has planted many of his beds in full or partial sun. He also advises designing the garden so it's in a place where you can see it and enjoy it.

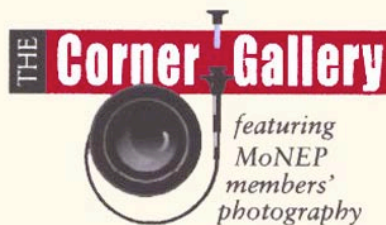
Tom doesn't use any pesticides, even the "safe" ones, because they will kill both good and bad insects. Nor does he use predatory animals to control unwanted insects, because they will also affect the kinds of insects the butterfly gardener is trying to attract.

While many gardeners are inclined to tidy up their gardens for the winter by cutting back dead stalks, Tom emphasized that most of our local butterflies overwinter as chrysalises on these dormant or dead plants. If you cut back all your plants you will be sending all of next year's adult butterflies to the landfill!

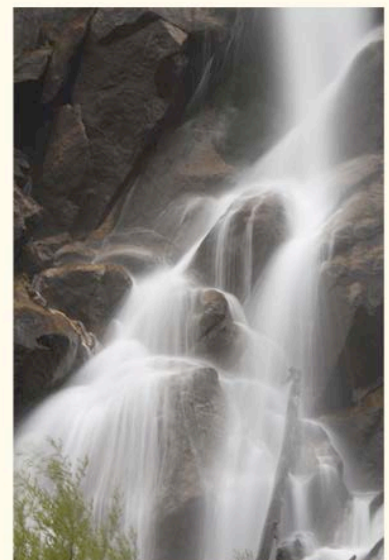
He provides wet spots in the yard so the butterflies can land and sip water. When the ground is dry, he uses a sprinkler to maintain moist areas. This also helps them get salts from the soil. Finally, he shared an easy way to prepare your soil. Once he identifies a spot for a new bed he lays newspaper over the area, two layers thick. He places nine inches of really good soil, such as the Garden Mix from St. Louis Compost on top of the newspaper and he is ready to plant.

Our thanks to Tom for his talk, and also for allowing us to visit his garden later that week for the June field trip. About 20 MoNEP members attended the field trip during which Tom so graciously answered questions and allowed us to set up tripods and photograph throughout his yard.

Tom maintains two websites where you can find much more information and can download his free book. They are [www.butterflygardening.org](http://www.butterflygardening.org) and [tomterrific.com](http://tomterrific.com).



Marcy Pivin



Waterfall - Kathy Cherry

# MEETINGS & programs

## Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

**Tuesday, July 16: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. – Powder Valley**

**Tuesday, August 20: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. – Powder Valley**

**NOTE: For July we will have Share and Show from 6-6:30. The formal presentation will begin at 6:30.**

## Share and Show Nature Images – due 7/13

Members are invited to share up to **four (4) nature-related images** at the upcoming meeting. The theme for July is **Geometry in Nature**. Please follow the instructions on **Uploading Share and Show Images** in the tips section at [monep.org](http://monep.org). We ask that you:

- ❖ Resize your images so vertical images are 768 pixels high and horizontal images are 768 pixels wide.
- ❖ Name your images according to the directions at [monep.org](http://monep.org) under tips.
- ❖ Save your images as .jpg files.
- ❖ Compress your four resized images into a zip file.
- ❖ Send your zipped images via email to [share@monep.org](mailto:share@monep.org) by midnight, **Saturday, July 13.**

## Share and Show Themes

**July 16<sup>th</sup> Share & Show Theme: Geometry in Nature**

**August 20<sup>th</sup> Share & Show Theme: Road Trip**

## July Speaker – Scott Avetta

MoNEP President and photography workshop leader, **Scott Avetta** will be the presenter at the July meeting. Scott will focus on **Creating Strong Compositions**, which are critical to keeping the viewers' interest. Scott will talk about some of the essentials, starting with subject and lens selection. He will emphasize the critical time that is spent in the field behind the viewfinder and will talk about how to pay closer attention to not only the subject but also to the entire scene. How you arrange the visual elements in the entire scene is crucial to the success of an image. He will also cover additional adjustments that can be made after the image is recorded, using unedited and edited images for comparison.

## August Speaker – Stacey Morse

**Stacey Morse**, Director of Chesterfield Arts, will be presenting **Developing Your Creative Vision** at the August meeting. She will discuss her technique of "the art of seeing" to explore and discover unique characteristics in urban and natural environments. She will focus primarily on a grouping of images captured over the years from travels out West.

Stacey has a BFA in photography from Maryville University and has been a fine art photographer since 1987, specializing in black and white and color compositions. At the start of her career (pre-digital), Stacey worked with a variety of photographic equipment including 35mm, 4x5, 5x7 and 8x10 view cameras.

## July Field Trips – 7/18 & 7/20

The July field trip will be held on both **Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup>** and **Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>** at the **Saint Louis Zoo**. Members should meet at the **Zoo's North Entrance** (The Living World) at **7:45 a.m.** **Bill Lubben** will lead the Thursday field trip and **Randy Hunter** will lead the Saturday visit. In addition to your camera gear, you may also want to bring along water, sunscreen, insect repellent, a hat and a snack. Please contact Randy at **314-845-3914** or Bill at **314-965-2639** for details.

## Holiday Show Submissions

The 2013 MoNEP Holiday Show and party will be held on Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. One of the highlights of the evening is a digital presentation of members' photographs. **Jerry Miller** and **Pat Burgess** create the show, but we need member's images!

### Submission Guidelines:

Each current MoNEP member may submit up to 20 nature images for the show. In addition to your 20 nature shots, we would like to include images of other members in action. Submissions can be turned in to **Shawn Northrop** or **Michelle Jones** at the **August 20<sup>th</sup>** or **September 17<sup>th</sup>** meetings. You may also submit your images via the MoNEP website by sending them to [share@monep.org](mailto:share@monep.org) by **September 30<sup>th</sup>**. Instructions on resizing and submitting your images can be found in the Tips section of the MoNEP website at [www.monep.org](http://www.monep.org).

### Format:

Digital submissions are required. Any slides need to be scanned. Place up to 20 images on a **CD-ROM in a folder with your name as part of the folder's title. Each individual photo file should also have your name included as part of its title.** However, no text should appear on any of the images.

### Image size:

Images should be resized to **768 pixels on the longest side**. Vertical images must be sized with a height of 768 pixels and horizontal images with a width of 768 pixels. The resolution can be between 96 and 300 dpi (dots per inch). The size of each image should be less than 2.5 MB. For further information about resizing your image, please see the instructions at [www.monep.org](http://www.monep.org).

### Image Release

When you submit your photographs, you are providing MoNEP with permission to use your images in the Holiday Show, in the MoNEP newsletter, on the website and in promotional materials for the club. However, you will retain all rights to your images and will be given credit for each use. Your images will only be used to promote MoNEP and the mission of the organization. They will not be sold or used in any other ways than those stated above.

### Tips for submissions

Please include a variety of your strongest nature photos that have not been submitted in previous years. Bear in mind that we need images from all four seasons and that we must have them by the **September 30<sup>th</sup>** deadline.

## **OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS**

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**Digital Committee Chair**  
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**Field Trip Co-Chairs**  
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**314-845-3914**  
**Bill Lubben**  
**314-965-2639**

## ***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. Specific dates and meeting locations are posted in the newsletter and on the MoNEP web site.

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***VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT [www.monep.org](http://www.monep.org)***



**MoNEP**  
**Missouri Nature**  
**& Environmental Photographers**

**45 Bellerive Acres**  
**St. Louis, MO 63121**





# CLOSEUP

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY MISSOURI NATURE & ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Volume 18, Number 8

September 2013

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### Editor

Barbara Addelson

### Contributors

Michelle Jones

Dick Roman

## PEOPLE & PLACES

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The 2013 MoNEP Holiday Show and party will be held on Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. **Jerry Miller** and **Pat Burgess** create the show, which features member's images.

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Each current MoNEP member may submit up to 20 nature images for the show. In addition to your 20 nature shots, we would like to include images of other members in action. Submissions can be turned in to **Shawn Northrop** or **Michelle Jones** at the **September 17<sup>th</sup>** meeting. You may also submit your images via the MoNEP website by sending them to **share@monep.org** by **September 30<sup>th</sup>**. Instructions on resizing and submitting your images can be found in the Tips section of the MoNEP website at **www.monep.org**.

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#### Tips for submissions

Please include a variety of your strongest nature photos that have not been submitted in previous years. Bear in mind that we need images from all four seasons and that we must have them by the **September 30<sup>th</sup>** deadline.

Below are a number of tips to bear in mind as you select images to submit:

1. We would like a variety of your strongest and sharpest nature subjects.
2. The more images we get, the greater our flexibility in choosing the right subjects for the show. Please provide us with as many quality pictures, up to the limit of 20, as you can.
3. Remember to include images from all seasons.
4. Only submit images you have not submitted in the past.
5. We cannot use all of the images provided, but we aim to include everyone who submits photographs.
6. In addition to your 20 images, please submit photos of yourself or other MoNEP members in the act of doing nature photography.
7. Bear in mind images submitted after **September 30<sup>th</sup>** deadline cannot be included in the holiday show.



Dug Threewitt

*It seems to me we all look at Nature too much, and live with her too little.*

~ Oscar Wilde  
1854 – 1900  
Irish Writer and Poet

## Membership Communications

It has recently come to our attention that newly registered members have not been receiving MoNEP group emails. We sincerely apologize for this and are working to correct it. If you think you are not receiving email notices such as meeting reminders, the newsletter or other communications, please don't hesitate to contact Michelle Jones at 314-496-7616.

## Member News

Members **Scott Avetta** and **Glenn Curcio** both have images in the soon to be released book, **Missouri River Country**, by Dan Burkhardt. The book focuses on the scenery and history of the Missouri River Valley from Hermann to the Confluence and includes a section on Shaw Nature Reserve.

**Lori Purk** just had a solo exhibit of her photography at Columbia Bottom Conservation Area. The exhibit, which was Columbia Bottom's first ever, included images of birds, plants, insects and scenery and filled eight of the panels in their Visitor Center.

**Clark Willett** was chosen to be a guest artist at the **Fine Art Gallery** in Clayton from **August 4 to September 14**. He will also have a booth at **Scott Air Force Base** the first week in October. Additionally his work will be on display at **Red Box Boutique** at the **Foundry Art Center** in **St. Charles** on **December 6 and 7**. He will also be in three shows in **September**: **Queeney Park Art Fair**, **Cedarhurst Art and Craft Fair** in Mount Vernon, Illinois, and **Mosaics Festival for the Arts** in **St. Charles**.

## MoNEP Exhibit at SNR

Starting earlier in September, a number of the images from the MoNEP exhibit at Runge Nature Center in Jefferson City were moved to **Shaw Nature Reserve**, where they will be on display in the **Bascom House** through **October 31<sup>st</sup>**. This exhibit, **What's on the Menu**, is in keeping with the Missouri Botanical Garden theme for 2013, **Food**. The exhibit at SNR emphasizes feeding relationships in nature. The Bascom House is open seven days a week from 10-4 each day.

Many thanks to Lori Purk and Christy Lonero for taking down the exhibit in Jefferson City and moving it to its present location in the Bascom House.

## SNR Youth Photo Contest

MoNEP and **Shaw Nature Reserve** are co-sponsoring SNR's 2013 youth nature photography contest. **Take A Shot!** is open to children ages 14 and under. Entries must have been taken at Shaw Nature Reserve between **April 1<sup>st</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013**. All entries must be received at the SNR Visitor Center by **4 p.m. on October 15<sup>th</sup>**. The four categories are: **Flora, Wildlife, Miniature World of Nature and People in Nature**. Detailed contest rules and submission forms are available online at [shawnature.org](http://shawnature.org) under **Take A Shot! Youth Photo Contest**.

## Adobe Creative Cloud Update

Thanks to **Dick Roman** for sharing the wonderful news that Adobe has listened to the vast amount of feedback from photographers about the *Photoshop Creative Cloud* pricing. They have announced a special offer for their loyal *Photoshop* customers. If you own *Photoshop CS3* or higher you are eligible for a special Creative Cloud membership offer. For just \$9.99 per month, you can have access to *Photoshop CC*, *Lightroom 5*, 20 GB of online storage, *Behance ProSite* and their online video tutorials. This will be the ongoing price if you sign up by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

## Jim Brandenburg – Shaw Photography Series

Join Shaw Nature Reserve for the kickoff of their **Shaw Photography Series: Finding your Focus** on **Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**. World-renowned nature photographer, **Jim Brandenburg** will be the featured presenter at this opening event, which will be held at the **Missouri Botanical Garden** from **7-9 p.m. on the 20<sup>th</sup>**.

This unforgettable evening will showcase the exquisite nature photography of this Minnesota native, photographer and filmmaker. Mr. Brandenburg will share his stories of over 30 years of capturing the beauty of nature as he has traveled the globe. He worked for many years with National Geographic, which resulted in numerous magazine stories, several television features and many National Geographic books. He has been published in magazines such as *Time*, *Life*, *Smithsonian*, *National Wildlife* and *BBC Wildlife*.

The registration fee is \$20 for MBG/SNR members and \$24 for non-members. For more information, visit [www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/learn-discover/adults/classes-tours-workshops.aspx](http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/learn-discover/adults/classes-tours-workshops.aspx). Registration ends on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.





Jim Stroup

Old Man of the Forest  
Bill Duncan



# MEETINGS & programs

## Meeting Date, Time and Location

Tuesday, September 17: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** The September meeting will be held at Powder Valley. We will have Share and Show from 6-6:30. The formal presentation will begin at 6:30.

## Share and Show Nature Images – due 9/14

Members are invited to share up to **four (4) nature-related images** at the upcoming meeting. The theme for September is **Curves**. Please follow the instructions on **Uploading Share and Show Images** in the tips section at **monep.org**. We ask that you:

- ❖ Resize your images so vertical images are 768 pixels high and horizontal images are 768 pixels wide.
- ❖ Name your images according to the directions at **monep.org** under tips.
- ❖ Save your images as .jpg files.
- ❖ Compress your four resized images into a zip file.
- ❖ Send your zipped images via email to **share@monep.org** by midnight, Saturday, 9/14.

## Share and Show Themes

September 17<sup>th</sup> Theme: Curves

October 15<sup>th</sup> Theme: Local Nature Photo Ops

## September 17<sup>th</sup> Speaker – Mike Leahy, MDC

Join us as **Mike Leahy**, the **Natural Areas Coordinator** for the **Missouri Department of Conservation**, shares some of the best places to see and photograph Missouri's original natural landscapes. Mike is the author of the MDC publication **Discover Missouri Natural Areas – A guide to 50 great places**, which was published in 2011. Mike's guide can help you locate and explore some of Missouri's best remaining biological, ecological and geological features. While much of that natural landscape is gone today, there are remnants that are being preserved within the MDC's system of designated natural areas. Mike will talk about some of these spots. He will also focus on areas close to St. Louis that weren't featured in the book but will be of interest to nature photographers.

His guidebook also covers the basic concepts of natural communities and describes and maps the ecoregions of Missouri, providing context for the 50 featured areas. Access to each site is described and a contact telephone number is provided for more detailed information. The guide includes easy-to-use maps, which show area roads, parking lots and established trails.

Mike has a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and a Master of Science degree in Forestry from Michigan State University. He has worked for more than 20 years for state natural resource agencies.

## July Speaker Recap

Our thanks to **Scott Avetta** for an enlightening presentation on **Creating Strong Compositions** at the July meeting. Some of Scott's key points were:

Subject Choices:

- ❖ Careful observation of the scene is critical.
- ❖ Base subject choice on the light and surroundings.
- ❖ When you find a scene or subject you like, work the scene from different angles.
- ❖ Evaluate and interpret the scene through the viewfinder and do most of your cropping in camera.

Things that influence composition:

- ❖ Light
- ❖ Background
- ❖ What needs to be in focus?
- ❖ Does it have mood?
- ❖ The repetition of color, shape and space can add depth to your image.

Things to bear in mind as you look through the lens:

- ❖ Edges – keep them clean
- ❖ Aperture selection - great way to control the subject within the scene
- ❖ If the subject appears vertically then shoot it vertically
- ❖ Provide some room for your subject
- ❖ Look for mergers and work hard to eliminate them
- ❖ Highlight colors and shapes
- ❖ Framing devices can be effective, e.g. trees

## August Speaker – Stacey Morse

**Stacey Morse**, **Director of Chesterfield Arts**, and a fine art photographer presented a wonderful program, **Developing Your Creative Vision**, at the August meeting. Key points from her presentation included:

- ❖ Each of us has a unique vision. Don't assume that a subject that has been shot before can't be unique.
- ❖ Open your thinking. What are the different angles you can use to approach a subject?
- ❖ Take the ordinary and make it extraordinary.
- ❖ Challenging subjects can provide great opportunities
  - ❖ Fog – the absence of light and diffused scenery can be very evocative.
  - ❖ Dramatic Cloud – the sky becomes the focus
  - ❖ Horizontal Layers – give the eye the opportunity to move around. Involves the viewer in the scene.
  - ❖ Light and shadow can be very interesting
  - ❖ Grand expanses often benefit from using silhouettes of people or trees to give depth and perspective.
  - ❖ A series of elements can provide you with light, texture and form.
  - ❖ Pull back and go wide for a landscape and then go closer and try varying perspectives.
  - ❖ Monochromatic scenes can be very successful when there are textural differences within the scene.

Stacey encouraged us to explore any space we are in with our cameras. There are subjects everywhere around us, including the very ordinary, that can be the basis for wonderful images. Many thanks to Stacey for sharing her vision and her beautiful photos and providing inspiration!



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**Missouri Nature**  
**& Environmental Photographers**

**45 Bellerive Acres**  
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# CLOSEUP

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Volume 18, Number 9

October 2013

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### Editor

Barbara Addelson

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Michelle Jones

Lori Purk

## PEOPLE & PLACES

### Holiday Show

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This annual event is a nice opportunity to socialize with other MoNEP members and enjoy a fabulous digital presentation of members' images set to music by **Jerry Miller** and **Pat Burgess**. Food and drink are served before the show, which will begin at about 7:45 p.m. in the auditorium. You are welcome to invite family and friends to enjoy the evening with you.

This year **Judy** and **Jim Stroup** are joining **Margy** and **Dan Terpstra** as the coordinators of the gathering. MoNEP will provide finger foods, wine, beer and soft drinks. If you are willing to bring an appetizer or dessert, please make sure that what you bring is easily served and can be eaten without cutlery. If you are going to bring food, please email Margy at [hummerhaven@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hummerhaven@sbcglobal.net) to let her know what you're bringing.

### Volunteers needed:

Margy and Dan would like to have 3 volunteers to help with set-up starting at 5:30 p.m. and another 6 to help with clean up after the event. If you are able to volunteer for one of these tasks, please contact Dan or Margy by email or by phone at **314-606-6957**. Judy and Jim would like to have 4 volunteers to help monitor the food areas. If you are able to help in this way, please email Judy at [jstroup01@charter.net](mailto:jstroup01@charter.net) or call the Stroups at **314-843-0417**.

We hope you will join us in celebrating the season and another great year for MoNEP and its members.

### New Meeting Location & Time

Beginning with the October meeting and for the next six months, MoNEP's meeting time and location are changing. As of **October 15<sup>th</sup>**, we will meet at **The Ethical Society** from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** We will meet in the large room on the lowest level of the building where we have had lunch during past seminars.

The Ethical Society is located at **9001 Clayton Road, Richmond Heights, Missouri, 63117**. It is west of Brentwood Boulevard on the right hand side of the road. Go down the steep driveway to the back of the building where there is a large parking lot. Use the back entrance to the lower level from the parking lot. It is toward the right end of the back of the building.

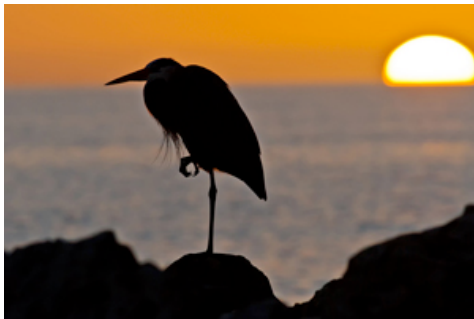
### Help Wanted:

We could use help setting up and taking down chairs before and after the meeting. If you are able to help with setup, please be at The Ethical Society by 6:30 on the evening of the meeting.

After the meeting, everyone is invited to the Plaza Grill at 7750 Carondelet in Clayton for socializing and a bite to eat.

### SNR Youth Photo Contest

This is the final call for entries for the Shaw Nature Reserve's 2013 youth nature photography contest. **Take A Shot!** is open to children ages 14 and under. Entries must have been taken at Shaw Nature Reserve between **April 1<sup>st</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013**. All entries must be received at the SNR Visitor Center by **4 p.m. on October 15<sup>th</sup>**. The four categories are: **Flora, Wildlife, Miniature World of Nature** and **People in Nature**. Contest details and forms are online at [shawnature.org](http://shawnature.org).



Florida Sunset  
Mark McAmish

*October is the fallen leaf, but it is also a wider horizon more clearly seen. It is the distant hills once more in sight, and the enduring constellations above them once again.*

~ Hal Borland  
1900-1978

American Author & Journalist

## New Members

Welcome to our newest MoNEP member, **Jack McCarty**.

## Member News

As some of you may know, longtime member **Lori Purk** graduated last October from the **Missouri Master Naturalist Program** as an Intern. Since then, Lori has been working towards her certification by completing at least 40 service hours and 8 hours of advanced training. On August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013 she obtained her certification as a Missouri Master Naturalist and is a member of the **Great Rivers Chapter**. Lori has been named the chapter photographer. Lori said this about the experience, "I have really enjoyed all of the different things I have been able to learn and being able to participate in a variety of environmental projects this past year. I highly recommend the program to my fellow MoNEP members and would love to talk to and help anyone who may be interested in becoming involved with the program." Congratulations to Lori on her achievement and her commitment to learning more about nature and the environment!

**Jim Rhodes** has kindly shared a link to his images from a backpack trip he took along the **Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore** in the Upper Peninsula of Lake Michigan. To see Jim's images of this beautiful spot, go to his Flickr site: [www.flickr.com/photos/jimrhodes\\_photos/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/jimrhodes_photos/) and then click on sets.

**Richard Spener and Toni Armstrong** had a well-attended exhibit opening at the **Missouri History Museum**. 250 people turned up to see their exhibit: **50 Years of Wilderness: Through the Lens of Missouri's 8 Wilderness Areas**. The exhibit will be on display at the museum until **January 5th, 2014**.

If you are interested in learning more about Missouri's wilderness areas, John Karel, former Missouri State Parks director, will give a presentation on October 22nd. Richard and Toni will be there to take attendees through the exhibit and answer questions.

To view the images that are part of the exhibit, visit Richard's website [richardspenerphotography.com](http://richardspenerphotography.com) and click on additional images.

## MoNEP Exhibit at SNR

Sixteen photographs taken by MoNEP members on feeding relationships in nature are on display at the **Bascom House** at the **Shaw Nature Reserve**. The images in the exhibit, **What's On the Menu**, reflect the 2013 theme for the Missouri Botanical Garden, **Food**. The exhibit includes a variety of subject matter from birds eating insects and other birds, pollinators at flowers feeding on nectar and critters feeding on other animals lower down on the food chain. It was a challenging theme we were presented with and as usual MoNEP members rose to the occasion. Thanks to all who submitted work. Without your participation, we would not be able to take part in exhibits like this and to share our work with the community. The Board thanks everyone involved in making this exhibit a success. The exhibit is on display **through October 31<sup>st</sup>**. The Bascom House is open seven days a week from 10-4.

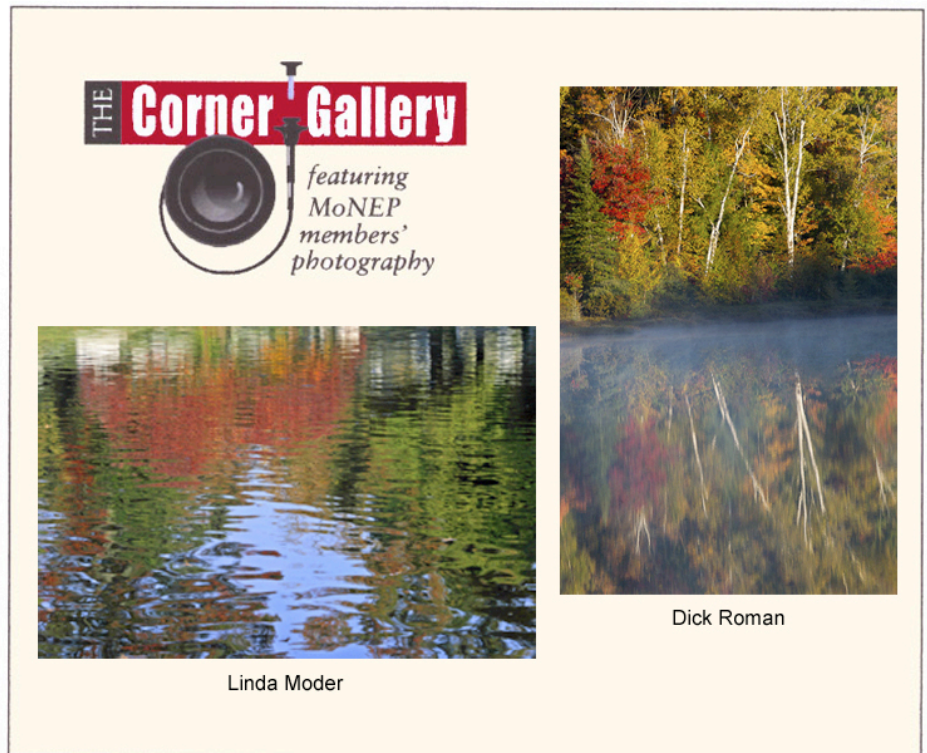
## IPHF Opens

The **International Photography Hall of Fame and Museum** opened to the public on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Located at **3415 Olive Street** in the Grand Center area, IPHF is currently featuring an exhibit of nature images. For details, visit [www.iphf.org](http://www.iphf.org).

## September Meeting Recap

Mike Leahy, the Natural Areas Coordinator with the Missouri Department of Conservation was the presenter at the September meeting. He talked about some of the very special natural places in Missouri and the fact that Missouri is a state with good biodiversity. That is due, in large part to the fact that Missouri is the meeting place of four different ecological regions: the Central Plains in the glaciated northern part of the state; the Osage Plains around Kansas City, the Ozark Highlands across the southern part of the state from border to border, and the Mississippi River Alluvial Basin in the Boot Heel. Within these regions are varied natural communities and many wonderful areas to explore. Among them are:

- Englemann Woods, near Labadie: a prime spot for spring wildflowers and fall color with large old hardwoods
  - Prairie Slough, near Elsberry: eagles in winter, migrating warblers in the spring, wood ducks and herons
  - Pickle Springs, near Farmington: a National Natural Landmark with box canyons, waterfalls and unusual plants and animals
- Our thanks to Mike for introducing us to some natural gems. For more information visit: [mdc.mo.gov](http://mdc.mo.gov).





## MEETINGS & programs

### Meeting Date, Time and Location

Tuesday, October 15: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 19: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** The October and November meetings will be held at The Ethical Society from 7-9 p.m.

### Share and Show Nature Images – due 10/12

Members are invited to share up to **four (4) nature-related images** at the upcoming meeting. The theme for **November is Local Nature Photo Ops**. Please follow the instructions on **Uploading Share and Show Images** in the tips section at [monep.org](http://monep.org). We ask that you:

- ❖ Resize your images so vertical images are 768 pixels high and horizontal images are 768 pixels wide.
- ❖ Name your images according to the directions at [monep.org](http://monep.org) under tips.
- ❖ Save your images as .jpg files.
- ❖ Compress your four resized images into a zip file.
- ❖ Send your zipped images via email to [share@monep.org](mailto:share@monep.org) by midnight, Saturday, 10/12.

### Share and Show Themes

**October 15<sup>th</sup> Theme: Local Nature Photo Ops**

**November 19<sup>th</sup> Theme: Backlight/Silhouettes**

### October 15<sup>th</sup> Speaker – Mitch Leachman Naturescaping: Landscaping for Life

Bird gardening, butterfly gardening and habitat gardening are all good terms, but **Mitch Leachman**, the Executive Director of the St. Louis Audubon Society, prefers the term Naturescaping. He describes naturescaping as landscaping for nature, or landscaping for life, including our own! "We face a host of challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, not the least of which is maintaining a healthy, functioning environment. Naturescaping in urban spaces of all kinds can make a real difference for at-risk plants and animals, ecosystem services and our own well-being." Re-connect with nature in your own landscape. Share that experience with others. Watch your life change. Mitch Leachman will discuss this topic and a new program that supports it called **Bring Conservation Home**.

Mitch is the Executive Director of the St. Louis Audubon Society and coordinator of their Bring Conservation Home program. He joined the Audubon network in 1997 and has been active with the St. Louis chapter since 2001. On staff since 2008, Mitch plans and coordinates many chapter activities, including *Bring Conservation Home*, community stewardship projects, fundraising, communications and outreach. To learn more about the important work done by our local Audubon chapter visit their website at [www.stlouisaudubon.org](http://www.stlouisaudubon.org).



### October Field Trip

The October field trip will be held on **Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**. The destination is the always-photogenic **Shaw Nature Reserve**. Members should meet at **7:00 a.m. at the Bascom House parking lot**. In addition to all of your camera gear, you may also want to bring along a water bottle, sunscreen, insect repellent, a hat and a snack. Coffee is generally served in the Bascom House once it opens at 10 a.m. It will also be a great opportunity to view the MoNEP exhibit. **Randy Hunter** is the contact for this outing. You can reach Randy at **314-845-3914** for details or questions.

### Shaw Photography Series

As many of us know, Shaw Nature Reserve is a local nature photographer's dream. Located just outside of St. Louis, its 2,400-acres feature beautiful tall grass prairies, interesting glades, oak-hickory woodlands and bottomland forest. Interspersed throughout the Reserve are many aquatic habitats including wetlands, ponds, a creek and the meandering Meramec River.

Over the past 35 years, the Reserve has been proud to host numerous photography workshops conducted by regionally and nationally recognized photographers, including Ernst Haas in the early 80s. Haas was a pioneer in the use of color film when it was introduced in the late 1940s and he quickly became recognized as a master of this new medium. Haas led two workshops at the Reserve in the early 1980's. The Nature Reserve and a few dedicated photographers here in St. Louis, including **Scott Avetta**, worked with **Lydia Toth**, manager of SNR's education programs, to design a year of photographic events and workshops. The **Shaw Photography Series: Finding Your Focus** kicked off with a magnificent presentation by one of today's premier nature photographers, Jim Brandenburg, on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Since then there have been a number of workshops at the Nature Reserve, with more to follow this fall, winter and spring. Upcoming workshops include:

- Creating Your Own Light: Flash and Flashlights for Nature Photography with Greg Basco, 12/14/13
- Techniques & Equipment for Photographing Missouri Wildlife with Danny Brown, 1/11/14
- Shooting & Sharing: Photography in the Age of Social Media with Jeff Hirsch, 2/8/14

The presenters and topics for the spring have yet to be announced, but planning is underway. Stay tuned for the spring listings, which should come out February 1st. Visit [shawnature.org](http://shawnature.org) for more information.

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## PEOPLE & PLACES

### Holiday Show

The **2013 MoNEP Holiday Show** and party will be held on **Tuesday, December 10th**, at **6:00 p.m.** at **The Ethical Society in Clayton**. The address is **9001 Clayton Avenue, St. Louis, 63117**. This annual event is a nice opportunity to socialize with other MoNEP members and to enjoy a fabulous digital presentation of members' images set to music by **Jerry Miller** and **Pat Burgess**.

### Ethical Society Entry:

Please note that parking and the evening entry to The Ethical Society are at the rear of the building. Follow the driveway down the hill and along the side of the building to the large parking lot at the back. Enter through the door on the right hand side of the lower level as you face the building from that lot.

### Refreshments:

Food and drinks will be served in the large meeting room on the lower level of The Ethical Society starting at **6:00 p.m.** Attendees can gather there before and after the presentation. **Judy** and **Jim Stroup** are joining **Margy** and **Dan Terpstra** as the coordinators of the party this year. MoNEP will provide finger foods, wine, beer and soft drinks. If you are willing to bring an appetizer or dessert, please make sure that whatever you bring is easily served and can be eaten without cutlery. For planning purposes, please email Margy at [hummerhaven@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hummerhaven@sbcglobal.net) to let her know what you are bringing.

During the evening, please take a moment to introduce yourself to someone you don't already know and to thank our wonderful volunteers who

make this event possible. You are welcome to invite family and friends to enjoy the evening with you.

### Presentation:

Jerry Miller and Pat Burgess are busy preparing another spectacular annual holiday slide show. The show will begin at about **7:45 p.m. in the auditorium**. Please remember that food and drinks are not allowed in the auditorium.

### Volunteers needed:

Margy and Dan would like to have 3 volunteers to help with set-up starting at 5:30 p.m. and another 6 to help with clean up after the event. If you are able to volunteer for one of these tasks, please contact Dan or Margy by email or by phone at **314-606-6957**. Judy and Jim would like to have 4 volunteers to help monitor the food areas. If you are able to help in this way, please email Judy at [jstroup01@charter.net](mailto:jstroup01@charter.net) or call the Stroups at **314-843-0417**.

We hope you will join us for this special evening to celebrate the holidays and another great year for MoNEP and its members!

### Holiday Cards for a Cause

St. Louis Camera Club President, **Karen Kotner** has a set of beautiful holiday cards for sale at the Siteman Cancer Center in the city's Central West End. The cards come in a mixed box of five images and sell for \$5 a box. Proceeds will help provide financial assistance for patients in need at Siteman's Breast Health Center. Cards may be purchased in the Barnhard Health and Cancer Information Center, located in the lobby of the Center for Advanced Medicine on Siteman's main campus at 4291 Parkview Place in St. Louis.



Ken Biddle

*It is an incalculable added pleasure to any one's sum of happiness if he or she grows to know, even slightly and imperfectly, how to read and enjoy the wonder-book of nature.*

~ Theodore Roosevelt  
Politician, Author,  
Historian, Explorer,  
Conservationist  
1858-1919



## Member News

**Richard Spener** is one of the twelve finalists in the 2013 **Theodore Roosevelt National Park** photo contest. All the finalists will have their images printed in the 2014 Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association calendar, which raises funds to support North Dakota's national parks and wildlife refuges. Richard's winning image is of a bison silhouetted on the side of a hill with the Badlands in the background. The grand prizewinner will be announced on December 7<sup>th</sup>.



Richard Spener

**Sammylane Wirth** has won an award in the **Senior Artist Competition** in Photography at **Southwestern Illinois College** for the second straight year. The winning works, created by East Side residents over 60, were displayed at the SWIC Belleville Campus in October. Sammylane's winning image was **Red in a Sea of Yellow**.



Sammylane Wirth

## MoNEP Speaker Wins Award

**Greg Basco** has won a very prestigious **Nature's Best Windland Smith Rice International** photography competition award. His award is in the **Art in Nature** category. All of the winning and honored images will be featured in the Fall/Winter issue of *Nature's Best Photography* magazine. This is the second time Greg has won one of these coveted honors. Over 25,000 images were submitted in this year's competition in a range of categories.

## October Speaker Recap

Birds are in trouble and need our help. According to the St. Louis Audubon Society's Executive Director, **Mitch Leachman**, 20 common bird species have declined in number by over 50% in the last 40 years. Over 30% of the nation's 800 bird species are at risk. One of the factors at play in this decline is habitat loss. 99% of Missouri prairies and 90% of the state's wetlands are gone. Developed land in the St. Louis area has grown three-fold since 1960. It is estimated that throughout the U.S. 1 billion birds die each year hitting windows and that ½ billion birds are killed by cats.

Although those numbers are alarming and depressing, there are things that each of us can do to help reverse that trend. Mitch highlighted the St. Louis Audubon Society's program, **Bring Conservation Home**, which seeks to create a growing mosaic of functional habitats throughout the region.

What is a functional habitat? It is one that meets the needs of native wildlife by using more native plant species in the landscape. Native insects in our area rely heavily upon native plants for food. Few insects find food from the non-native plants that are so prevalent in our yards and gardens. Our use of non-native plants as well as herbicides

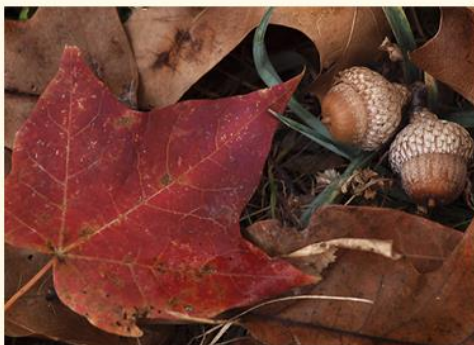
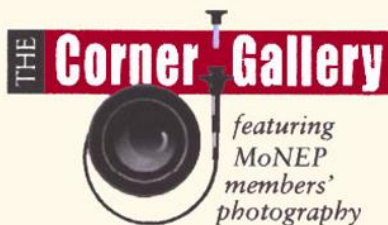
and pesticides has reduced the native insect population. Every Missouri songbird eats insects as a source of protein, which also contributes to the decline in the bird population.

St. Louis Audubon promotes the practice of naturescaping, which offers many benefits to plants and animals, including humans. Its benefits to the environment and to us include:

- ❖ more tree cover
- ❖ reduced storm runoff
- ❖ less grass to mow
- ❖ less watering
- ❖ reduced greenhouse emissions
- ❖ reduced pesticide and herbicide use
- ❖ varied nature experiences in your own backyard

One of the great features of the program is that for a nominal fee of \$25 homeowners receive a visit from a team of St. Louis Audubon's trained habitat advisors. They tour the property and create an extensive report with recommendations of simple steps to improve the land's value as habitat. They take a holistic approach, addressing both needs and threats to creating a more functional backyard habitat.

Visit [www.stlouisaudubon.org](http://www.stlouisaudubon.org) to learn more about the project. We thank Mitch for a very informative program.



Norma Mull



Thirsty Tiger  
Butch Lama

# MEETINGS & programs

## November Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

**Location:** The Ethical Society

## Meeting Location & Time

We have recently changed MoNEP's meeting time and location. For the next five months we will meet at **The Ethical Society** from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** Meetings will take place in the large room on the lowest level of the building.

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## Set-Up Help Wanted:

We could use help setting up and taking down chairs before and after the meeting. If you are able to help with setup, please be at The Ethical Society by 6:30 on the evening of the meeting.

## After Meeting Socializing:

After the meeting, everyone is invited to the **Plaza Grill** at the **Crowne Plaza Hotel** in downtown Clayton where you can get a bite to eat and visit with fellow members. It is located at **7750 Carondelet** at the southeast corner of Carondelet and Bemiston Avenues.

## Share and Show Nature Images – due 11/16

Members are invited to share up to **four (4) nature-related images** at the upcoming meeting. The theme for **November is Backlight or Silhouettes**. Please follow the instructions on **Uploading Share and Show Images** in the tips section at **monep.org**. We ask that you:

- ❖ Resize your images so vertical images are 768 pixels high and horizontal images are 768 pixels wide.
- ❖ Save your images as .jpg files.
- ❖ Name your resized images with your name, the year and the month of the meeting: Membername-1311-1 for the first image, -2 for the next, etc.
- ❖ Place your four resized images in their own folder with your name and the month of the meeting.
- ❖ Compress your folder with its four resized images into a zip file.
- ❖ Send your zipped images via email to **share@monep.org** by midnight, Saturday, 11/16.

## Upcoming Share and Show Themes

**November 19<sup>th</sup> Share and Show:**

**Backlight/Silhouettes**

**January 21<sup>st</sup> Share and Show: Water**

## November 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Jim Flasar

Dr. **Jim Flasar** will be our presenter at the November meeting. During his talk, **Dives with Teeth**, he will share images and information on his specialty, underwater photography. An outstanding photographer, Jim has been diving and photographing around the world since 1986. His program will focus on several different species of sharks, including tiger, oceanic white tip and bull sharks. It will also include the spectacular sailfish, using their bait-ball technique to obtain their prey. Lighting techniques, composition, exposure, and strategies for staying alive will be discussed. This program is one that is both fascinating and beautiful. You will not want to miss it, even if you have no intention of diving with sharks yourself! When he is not exploring the ocean and its amazing creatures, Jim is a veterinarian with a practice in Chesterfield.



Jim Flasar

## January 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting – Richard Day

**Richard Day** will be back as a presenter at our January meeting. The title of his program is **From Start to Finish: Photo Workflow and Backups**. Richard will explain the workflow he uses to organize, file, and backup photos for Daybreak Imagery. He will provide tips for photo editing, downloading images, and setting up a filing system so you can find your images later. Also included will be a brief processing session followed by a discussion of various backup options.

## Shaw Photography Series

There are still a few spots available in upcoming workshops that are a part of the Shaw Photography Series. These include:

- **Creating Your Own Light: Flash and Flashlights for Nature Photography** with **Greg Basco**, 12/14/13
- **Techniques & Equipment for Photographing Missouri Wildlife** with **Danny Brown**, 1/11/14
- **Shooting & Sharing: Photography in the Age of Social Media** with **Jeff Hirsch**, 2/8/14

Visit **shawnature.org** for more information. The presenters and topics for the spring have yet to be announced, but planning is underway. Stay tuned for the spring listings, which should come out February 1st.

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**Visit our web-site at [www.monep.org](http://www.monep.org)**

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