



# CLOSE-UP

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# MoNEP News

## Holiday Show Submissions

Image submissions for the **2016 MoNEP Holiday Show** are due at the **September 20th** meeting if you are submitting in person, or by September 30th for email submissions. As in the past, **Jerry Miller** and **Pat Burgess** will create the show using members' images.

### Submission Guidelines:

Each current MoNEP member may submit up to 20 nature images for the 2016 show. In addition to your 20 nature shots, we would like to have images of other members in action. Submissions can be turned in to Barb Addelson at the September meeting. You may also submit your images via the MoNEP website by sending them to [share@monep.org](mailto:share@monep.org) by the September 30th deadline.

### Format:

All submissions should be digital. Place up to 20 images on a CD-ROM or thumb drive in a folder with your name as part of the folder's title (e.g. JSmith 2016 Holiday Show). Each individual photo file should also have your name included as part of its title (e.g. JaneSmith-GBHeron). However, no text should appear on any images.

### Image size:

Resize your images so vertical images are 1,800 pixels high and horizontal images are 1,800 pixels wide. The resolution can be between 96 and 300 dpi (dots per inch). The overall size of each image should be less than 2.5 MB. For further information about resizing your images in Photoshop or Lightroom, please see the instructions at [www.monep.org/tips.html](http://www.monep.org/tips.html).

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

1. We would like a variety of your strongest nature subjects.
2. The more images we get from each member, the greater our flexibility in choosing the right subjects for the show.
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 images from everyone who submits photographs.
6. In addition to your 20 images, please submit photos of yourself or other MoNEP members in the act of photographing nature!

## MoNEP Exhibit Moves to Shaw Nature Reserve

The MoNEP Exhibit, *Ebb and Flow* was a big hit at Powder Valley Nature Center. Catherine McGrane, the Assistant Nature Center Manager of Powder Valley wrote to **Lori Purk**, the exhibit coordinator, and said: "Thank you for exhibiting MoNEP's photography. It is a lovely exhibit and we received many compliments." Now, sixteen of the pieces from *Ebb and Flow* will be on display at the Bascom House at Shaw Nature Reserve through the end of the year. Due to the limited display space there, we are only able to exhibit images that are focused on Missouri subject matter. If you have not seen the exhibit yet, it will be worth a ride to the Nature Reserve to view the images and the Bascom House is adjacent to the always lovely to photograph Whitmire Wildflower Garden. Lori will contact all of the participants to let them know whether their work will be moving to Shaw or not. She will return the other 14 pieces to their owners at the September meeting. Thanks to all who participated and made this such a great exhibit!



Image by Jim Campbell

Cover Images (from left to right and top to bottom):

Dug Threewitt, Pat Burgess, Ted Moreno, Rich Merz, Dan Terpstra, Jerry Miller, Butch Lama, Bill Lubben, Ken Biddle, Mark Cherry, Lori Purk, Richard Spener

## MoNEP Fall Photo Trip – Cache River Natural Area - October 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Scott Evers** will be leading a MoNEP overnight photo trip to the **Cache River State Natural Area** in Southern Illinois on the weekend of October 21st-22nd. It is about a 2-1/2 hour drive from St. Louis.

The Cache River Natural Area is known for its extensive wetlands, specifically its majestic cypress swamps. Some of the giant bald cypress trees are thought to be a thousand years old. This pristine area of nearly 15,000 acres is particularly important to migrating waterfowl and shorebirds and is designated as a Wetland of International Importance.

Scott has reserved a block of 12 rooms at the Super 8 Motel at 2055 E. 5th Street, Metropolis, Illinois. They are reserved under his name and will be held until the first week of October. You can reserve one or both nights, and the group rate is \$61.99 per night. Contact the hotel and transfer a room to your name and credit card.

Metropolis is 14-15 miles south of the Cache River Area. It is located 167 miles or so from St. Louis via I-64 east to I-57 south to I-24 south to Metropolis. For a slightly longer, but more scenic route, you can come travel down I-55 and cut over. There are also many other great photo opportunities all around the area besides the Cache River. A great resource for this area can be found at this website [www.southernmostillinois.com](http://www.southernmostillinois.com). If you have any questions or you make a reservation, please contact Scott at [scottevers7@yahoo.com](mailto:scottevers7@yahoo.com) or by phone at 618-781-3125.

## Members and Membership

### Member News

**Al Ahner** has again been juried into the Francis Park *Art in the Park* event being held Sunday, September 25th. There was a lengthy delay getting the acceptances out because they had so many entries from photographers. Al is excited to be among those accepted! For information about the event, visit [www.artintheparkstl.com](http://www.artintheparkstl.com).

**Toni Armstrong** and **Richard Spener** will be presenting *The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Our Last True Wilderness* featuring their images of the refuge. Their presentation will be held September 13th at 7:00 pm as part of the film series of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Help at **335 S. Kirkwood Road**. This is an expanded version of the 15-minute presentation Richard did for MoNEP recently. Additionally, Richard sold his image of the Eleven Point River that was on display as part of the MoNEP exhibit at Powder Valley.



*Image by Al Ahner*

## MoNEP Meetings

### Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

*Dates: Tuesday, September 20th from 7:00 to 9:00 pm - in the Hanke Meeting Room this month only*

*Tuesday, October 18th from 7:00 to 9:00 pm*

Meetings are held at The Ethical Society at 9001 Clayton Avenue, St. Louis, 63117. Parking and the evening entry to The Ethical Society are at the rear of the building. Follow the driveway down the hill, along the side of the building to the large parking lot at the back. Enter through the door on the right side of the lower level.

### Show and Share Nature Images

*Submissions Due: 9/17 for September Meeting and 10/15 for October Meeting*

Members are invited to share up to five (5) nature-related images at the upcoming meetings. They do not have to be recent images. Please follow the instructions on Uploading Show and Share Images in the tips section at [monep.org](http://monep.org).

To submit for Show and Share:

- Resize your images so vertical images are 1,800 pixels high and horizontal images are 1,800 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 five resized images into a zip file.
- Attach the zip file to an email addressed to [share@monep.org](mailto:share@monep.org) by midnight, Saturday, July 16th.

Although submissions usually get an email response before the meeting, if you have do not get a notice and want to confirm that your submission has been received, please contact Jerry Miller by email at [sirlukeman@yahoo.com](mailto:sirlukeman@yahoo.com) or by phone at 314-517-6395.

## September 20th Meeting – Dennis McCarthy

**Dennis McCarthy** will return to MoNEP to present *Making the Weather Work for Your Photography*. He will explain how to take advantage of available weather information to plan and conduct your photo shoots for optimal results and safety and how to incorporate interesting weather features in your photographs.

Dennis has been a meteorologist for 45 years. He started as a Weather Officer in the Air Force in 1970 and moved to the National Weather Service in 1974. His career took him all over the U.S., but one of his most interesting assignments was Meteorologist in Charge of the forecast office in Norman, Oklahoma, the prototype office for the Weather Service modernization in the 1990s. Before retiring in 2007, Dennis was Director of Climate, Water, and Weather Services for the National Weather Service. Dennis and his wife Maggie, an accomplished watercolor artist, live in St. Charles. They have four children and seven granddaughters.

Dennis has always been an avid photographer. His primary interests are environment and photojournalism. His photos have been published in *Weatherwise* magazine. One appeared on the cover of the *National Weather Digest*. Others have been used in numerous local news and sports publications. To see his images go to [www.sundog.smugmug.com](http://www.sundog.smugmug.com).



Image by Mark McAmish

## October 17th Meeting – Scott Evers

MoNEP member, **Scott Evers**, will be presenting at the October meeting on a topic to be determined. Scott is a professional freelance photographer. As a freelance photographer Scott has done commercial photography work for interior designers, architects, contractors, and artists. His nature-oriented prints grace the main lobby of *Anderson Hospital* in Maryville, Illinois, and the *Ronald McDonald Houses* at *Cardinal Glennon Childrens Hospital*, and *St. Johns Mercy Hospital* in St. Louis. His work has appeared in newspapers, magazines, and various periodicals. Scott has won honorable mention awards from photography contests for the *National Parks Foundation*, *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, and *The Nature Conservancy*. His passion for photography, travel, and the preservation and restoration of our natural environment keep him constantly on the go.



Image by Scott Evers

## July Meeting Recap:

**Dan Zarlenga** gave a presentation on *Nightscape Photography* at the July meeting. Dan defined nightscape photography as creating night images that have significant elements of both the ground and the sky. The difference between nightscape photography and astrophotography is that the latter focuses on close-ups of celestial objects and generally doesn't include foreground elements.

The equipment Dan recommended includes a DSLR and a tripod. He suggests using a wide-angle lens of 16-35 mm for full frame cameras, or 10-32 mm for cropped sensors. Faster lenses are better for this type of photography and he suggests using a 2.8 or faster lens. Dan also recommended using a camera timer remote control for both star trails and long moonlit shots. He relies on optional equipment including flashlights, to light the foreground of the scene. The other required element is to have a very dark sky with little or no light pollution from surrounding areas. Dan also stressed waiting until one hour after sunset to start his nighttime photography because there is still a great deal of residual light in the sky after the sun goes down.



Image by Ted Moreno

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Dan divided nightscape photography into four different types. Each type requires its own special set up and exposures, summarized below:

- Star Fields and Constellations: 20-30 second exposures, high ISO and a very fast lens
- Milky Way images: Very dark sky; fast lens; not too long an exposure; best done in the summer in the Midwest.
- Moonlight Landscapes: an extension of landscape photography; ISO 6400 to 8000, often composite of base layers for the sky and the foreground elements.
- Star Trails: Can use one single long exposure of one hour, or stack multiple shorter exposures taken every minute over the course of an hour. The direction toward which you shoot determines whether trails form circles (north), arcs (east or west) or a fairly straight line (south).

Our thanks to Dan for a fascinating presentation and inspiration to get out there and shoot the night skies.

## August Meeting Recap:

**Margy Terpstra** presented *Why Our Yards are So Important to the Full Life-cycle Conservation of Our Native Birds* at the August meeting. She began her talk by providing some perspective on land use in the continental United States. Since the first European settlements were created nearly 400 years ago, we have greatly impacted the native habitats. Only 3-5% of the land in the lower 48 states has remained undisturbed. This has had a vast impact upon our native flora and fauna. Based on the State of North America's Birds 2016 report, created to mark the 100th anniversary of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, over one-third of all North American bird species are in need of urgent conservation action. That means that 432 species are on the watch list.

Missouri has 434 species, many of which pass through the state during migration. 170 species nest within our state. Some of our nesting birds migrate in the fall, some traveling short distances, such as the robin, and others move farther south. Some of the migrants that pass through during migration travel remarkable distances. The tiny blackpoll warbler, which we see in the springtime on its way north, migrates to its winter home in Venezuela on a 11,000 mile journey, 81 hour journey.



*Images by Margy Terpstra*

All birds, whether migrants, winter or summer residents or those that occur in Missouri year round require the same things: a safe place to rest, food, and fresh water. This is how we can help them in our own yards:

- Eradicate non-native invasive species, which do not encourage insect diversity.
- Convert areas within your yard to woodland and other diverse native habitats. Provide layers, as some bird species are ground feeders, others feed in understory shrubs and trees, and still others glean insects from the trunks of trees or feed amid the canopy.
- Plant natives, which provide food for native insects. Caterpillars are the primary food for many species of baby birds and are more plentiful on native flora.
- Don't keep your garden too tidy. Let some of the plants go to seed, such as blazing star, coneflowers and goldenrod, which provide food for birds during the winter.
- Add moving water to your landscape. It attracts more birds, which need it to drink and bathe.

Margy provided a wealth of ideas and resources to help us as we strive to help our native birds. To learn more, visit the August 18th entry of Margy's blog at <http://hummerhavenunltd.com/blog>. Thank you, Margy for all you do for wildlife, and for sharing so much valuable conservation information with all of us.

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|---|--|---|---|
| <p>President<br/>Program Co-Chair<br/>Scott Avetta<br/>1465 Noche Lane<br/>Fenton, MO 63026<br/>314-800-6375<br/>scottavetta@hotmail.com</p> <p>Vice President<br/>Don Morice<br/>63 Bellerive Acres<br/>St. Louis, MO 63121<br/>314-956-0554<br/>donkm63@gmail.com</p> <p>Treasurer/Secretary<br/>Linda Moder<br/>5341 A Sutherland Avenue<br/>St. Louis, MO 63109<br/>314-351-6015<br/>Linda_monep@hotmail.com</p> <p>Recording Secretary<br/>Kathy Cherry<br/>6056 Gettysburg Estates<br/>Drive<br/>St. Louis, MO 63129<br/>314-605-4279 fishnlick@sbcglobal.net</p> | <p>Program Co-Chair<br/>Ken Biddle<br/>62 Chesterfield Lakes Road<br/>Chesterfield, MO 63005<br/>636-532-5669<br/>kdbiddle@swbell.net</p> <p>Webmaster<br/>Pat Burgess<br/>866 Burgundy Lane<br/>Manchester, MO 63011<br/>314-308-5718<br/>wpb691@gmail.com</p> <p>Digital Committee Chair<br/>Jerry Miller<br/>22 Scarlet Court<br/>St. Charles, MO 63304<br/>314-517-6395<br/>sirlukeman@yahoo.com</p> | <p>Newsletter Editor<br/>Barbara Addelson<br/>314-962-8972<br/>baddelson@sbcglobal.net</p> <p>Newsletter Designer<br/>Dug Threewitt<br/>dugthreewitt@yahoo.com</p> <p>Membership Chair<br/>Michelle Jones<br/>michelle@mmjones.us<br/>45 Bellerive Acres<br/>St. Louis, Missouri 63121<br/>314-496-7616</p> <p>Community Outreach Co-Chair<br/>Lori Purk<br/>314-869-7427<br/>PURKYL8R@AOL.COM</p> <p>Audit Committee Chair<br/>Larry Terrell<br/>636-244-1205<br/>lterrell@hotmail.com</p> <p>Field Trip Chair<br/>Randy Hunter<br/>314-329-6887</p> | <p>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.</p> <p>Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, except for December. Meetings start at 7:00 pm. Specific dates and meeting locations are posted in the newsletter and on the website.</p> <p>MoNEP is an officially registered service mark. Use of the logo without MoNEP board approval is prohibited.</p> |

visit our website at [www.monep.org](http://www.monep.org)

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45 Bellerive Acres  
St. Louis, MO 63121

