



CLOSE-UP

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MoNEP News

President's Message

2017 was the year of the solar eclipse. From early in the year, beginning with a solar filter-making workshop, to the big event on August 21st, many of our members prepared to experience this rare phenomenon and then put their cameras to work photographing it. The results were clearly visible as they played a starring role in the holiday show. Thanks very much to Steve Sands for all he did to help prepare the members who wanted to photograph the eclipse and to Tim Bade for offering members a private place to view and photograph it.

Early in 2017 we sent out a survey to find out what activities our members wanted us to offer. Thanks to Mark McAmish for initiating this effort. Based on results, we successfully focused on many of the frequently requested items, with the help of many MoNEP members. Thanks to the volunteers who agreed to lead events, including Dug Threewitt for his nighttime photography session, Robert Charity for leading a group in the St. Francois area, and Mark McAmish for the fall field trip to Hawn State Park. We are still referencing the surveys and finding ways to implement requests. We hope to involve more members in 2018 and need your help to keep these events growing.

2017 saw us return to Powder Valley, which provides us with a much more comfortable setting for meetings. It also required us to shift the meetings to a 6:30 start time. Thanks for your patience as we adjust to the change in timing. We have all our 2018 dates listed in this newsletter and are looking forward to other opportunities with Powder Valley.

If you have not renewed your membership, we hope that you take time to renew for 2018 and share in another great year of programs, field trips and friendships. Wishing everyone a healthy and happy new year.

- Scott Avetta

Holiday Show and Party 2017

Thank you to all who helped with the planning and preparations for the 2017 holiday show and party. As always, we are especially grateful to Jerry Miller and Pat Burgess for all the hard work they put into creating a great presentation using images submitted by 40 members, selecting several hundred for the show, arranging them and setting them to music. Thank you to the party organizers including Kathy and Mark Cherry, and Lydia Toth, to those who brought food and to the people who assisted with setup and cleanup. We had a strong turnout and appreciate everyone's participation to make it a most enjoyable evening.

MoNEP Members' Exhibit at Shaw Nature Reserve

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of Missouri State Parks, MoNEP mounted an exhibit called A Walk in the Park. The images represent the scenic beauty and natural encounters our parks and nature areas provide to millions of visitors each year. Originally mounted at Powder Valley Nature Center, part of the exhibit is now on display in the Bascom House at Shaw Nature Reserve. The images that are on display at Shaw consist of those that were taken in Missouri. The exhibit will reside at the Nature Reserve until mid-spring.

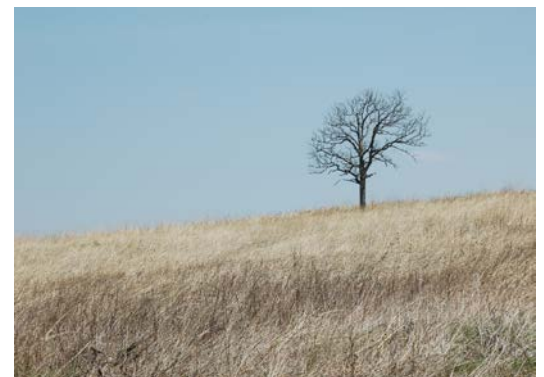


Image by Barbara Addelson

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

Donald Adams, Joe Klipsch, Robert Charity, Roxanna Cummings, Mark Cherry, Bob Schmidt, Norma Mull, Larry Terrell, Larry Morrison, Allen Ahner, Don Morice

Members and Membership

2018 Membership Renewals

MoNEP membership runs from January through December each year, so it is time for all members to renew! Dues are \$30 per person and \$40 for a household of up to four. There are three ways to renew your membership:

1. Membership dues may be submitted in person at the monthly MoNEP meetings along with your completed form. You can pay with cash or by a check made out to MoNEP. If you pay by cash, please be sure to have the exact amount.
2. You can mail your renewal form, along with a check made out to MoNEP, to the MoNEP membership chair, Michelle Jones at 45 Bellerive Acres, St. Louis, Missouri 63121. Please do not mail cash.
3. You can pay online using PayPal by visiting our website at <http://monep.org/membership.html>.

If you have questions about membership, please contact Michelle Jones at 314-496-7616 or by email at michellecjones92@gmail.com.

Member News

Roxanne Cummings had a photograph chosen for the Great Rivers Photography Exhibition. The exhibition will be held at the Army Corps of Engineers National Great Rivers Museum in Alton, Illinois through March 28th.

Scott Avetta will be teaching a variety of photography classes at the Missouri Botanical Garden, Shaw Nature Reserve, and Butterfly House this spring. If you are interested, class listings and registration will be posted on February 1st at <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/learn-discover/adults/classes-tours-workshops.aspxClass>.



Image by Roxanne Cummings

MoNEP Meetings

Meeting Dates, Times and Locations for 2018

MoNEP meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, except for the December meeting. MoNEP meets at Powder Valley Conservation Area Nature Center in Kirkwood. Powder Valley's address is 11715 Cragwold Rd., Kirkwood, MO 63122. The meetings run from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. The dates for meetings in 2018 are:

January 16
April 17
July 17
October 16

February 20
May 15
August 21
November 20

March 20
June 19
September 18
December 18

Show and Share Nature Images

Submissions Due Dates: 1/13 for the January 16th Meeting, 2/17 for the February 20th Meeting

Members are invited to share up to five (5) nature-related images at the upcoming meetings. For those members who would like a little inspiration for Show and Share, we offer a suggested topic each month. These are suggestions only, and you may show any nature related images you would like. January Meeting Theme: *The Big Chill* or Photographer's Choice

To submit for Show and Share:

- Resize 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 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 by midnight, Saturday, January 13th for the January meeting and February 17th for the February meeting.

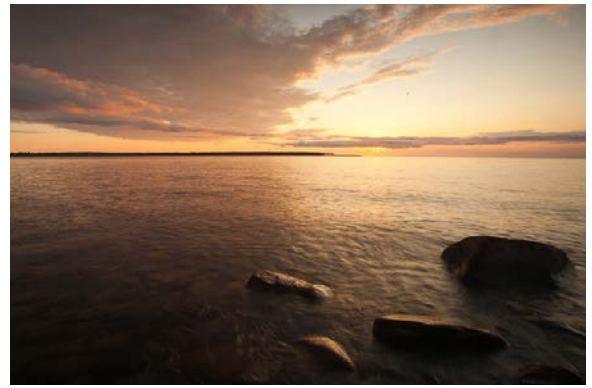


Image by Scott Avetta

Although submissions usually get an email response before the meeting, if you 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 or by phone at 314-517-6395. For further instructions see Uploading Show and Share Images in the tips section at monep.org.

January 16th Meeting – Scott Avetta

MoNEP President, Scott Avetta will be presenting on *Nature's Compositions* at the January meeting. Although the general guidelines of composition are helpful to know, often they do not apply exactly in the chaotic natural world. Scott will cover some things to think about while composing images in the field. Making minor adjustments can make a huge difference in your final image.

February 20th Meeting – Quinn Long

Dr. Quinn Long, the recently appointed Director of Shaw Nature Reserve, will be our guest presenter in February. Dr. Long will discuss natural history and ecology of the North American tallgrass prairie, with an emphasis on both historical processes that shaped these grasslands and contemporary threats to their conservation.

Dr. Long received his Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Missouri-Columbia and his PhD in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Kansas. Prior to assuming the role of Director at the Shaw Nature Reserve this past summer, he served as a conservation biologist at the Missouri Botanical Garden's Center for Conservation and Sustainable Development. Living near the Nature Reserve growing up, he spent much of his youth there, exploring its different habitats. He became interested in restoration ecology at the Nature Reserve as an undergraduate student and was inspired to restore native woodlands, grasslands, and wetlands on his family's property in northwestern Franklin County.

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.

Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, except for December. Meetings start at 6:30 pm. Specific dates and meeting locations are posted in the newsletter and on the website. The bi-monthly newsletter is edited by Barbara Addelson and designed by Dug Threewitt.

Visit our website at www.monep.org