



CLOSE-UP

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MoNEP News

Holiday Show Submissions

This year, MoNEP's annual Holiday Show and party will be held on **December 11th** at Powder Valley. The main event is a program of members' images put to music by Jerry Miller and Pat Burgess. We encourage current members to submit twenty of their best nature images, some of which will be included in the show. Image submissions for the 2018 MoNEP Holiday Show are due by the September 18th meeting if you are submitting in person, or by **September 30th** for email submissions. In addition to your twenty nature shots, we would like to have images of other members in action. Submissions can be turned in to Michelle Jones or Barb Addelson at the back table at the September meetings. You may also submit your images by sending them to share@monep.org by the September 30th deadline. Below are the guidelines for submission.

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 2018 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.

Here 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, 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 Seeks Field Trip Leaders

MoNEP does not have a dedicated Field Trip Leader so we are seeking volunteers who would be willing to take the lead on a half-day or daylong field trip. All you would have to do is provide a description of the spot and directions, as well as start and end times to the newsletter editor and be there to help orient the group to the site. If you have a favorite spot in Missouri or Illinois that you would be willing to share with others, please contact Kathy Cherry at fishnclick@sbcglobal.net. We will work with you to schedule and organize the trip.



Image by Linda Moder

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

Dug Threewitt, Kate Sprague, Robert Charity, Scott Evers, Kathy Cherry, Vearl Brown, Roxanna Cummings, Don Morice, Jerry Miller, Jane Griesenauer, Don Morice

MoNEP Meetings and Field Trips

Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

Dates: Tuesday, September 18th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Tuesday, October 16th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

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.

Show and Share Nature Images

Submissions Due Dates: 9/15 for the September Meeting, 10/13 for the October 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. September: *Curves* and October: *Fall Color*

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, September 15th for the September meeting and October 13th for the October meeting.

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.

September 18th Meeting – Cellphone Photography

Jeff Hirsch will return to MoNEP to present a program on *Cellphone Photography* at the September meeting. He will share some of his many tips for creating quality images using your phone's camera. Jeff is a photographer and photo-educator with over 25 years of experience in the field of digital imaging and graphic design. An expert in "geek-to-English" translation and an Adobe Certified Expert in Lightroom and Photoshop, he teaches photography and photo workflow to individuals and groups. Jeff is a frequent presenter at local and regional camera clubs where he speaks on a wide variety of photographic subjects including street and travel photography, color management, workflow and organization, and more. Along with his wife Donna, Jeff leads photo travel workshops in beautiful locations at home and abroad including exotic destinations like Iceland, Cuba, Italy, New Zealand, Cambodia, and Thailand. Information about Jeff's classes and workshops can be found at: www.jeffhirsch.com



Image courtesy Jeff Hirsch

October 16th Meeting – St. Charles County Parks

Nancy Gomer, the marketing coordinator/public information officer, and Gail Schatzler, park horticulture supervisor of the St. Charles County Parks will be joining us in October to discuss the variety of parks, amenities, programs, and opportunities in the vast St. Charles County Parks system.

Currently, there are 13 parks run by St. Charles County that cover over 2,800 acres. These parks provide opportunities for birding including sightings of bald eagles, wildflower and prairie areas for photography and good locations for astronomy. The St. Charles County Parks received an award from the Missouri Prairie Foundation in 2017 for the work they have done with native prairies. Another site, Veterans Tribute Park, will open later this year.

Field Trip Recaps

Butterfly Gardens - Scott Avetta led two field trips recently: one in July to the butterfly garden in front of the Butterfly House in Faust Park and another, on the first day of September, to the home butterfly garden of Tom Terrific. Both of these excursions drew about 14 MoNEP members, who shared excellent photographic opportunities presented by contained landscapes designed to attract pollinators. The visit to the Butterfly House, under clear skies and a light breeze, provided lots of dragonflies in addition to other insects. The various beds at Tom Terrific's in Crestwood attracted a range of butterflies and other pollinators. There were numerous Monarchs flitting about, laying eggs on milkweeds and the slender mountain mint hosted four or five common buckeye butterflies at a time. Many skippers were visiting a variety of plants and there was evidence of black swallowtail caterpillars feeding on parsley, bronze fennel and golden Alexander, their main host plants.

Sunflowers at Columbia Bottoms - On a beautiful morning, a group of early risers met at Columbia Bottoms the morning of August 11 to photograph sunflowers. Since the staff at Columbia Bottoms staggers the planting, there were two fields of the golden beauties to photograph. The morning gave us cooler temps, no wind, a little ground fog and a rising sun that lit up the fields. Everyone had a good time photographing the towering giants. Thanks to Mark McAmish for scouting the area and arranging the field trip.



Image by Dug Threewitt

Night Shoot - Tim Bade and Dug Threewitt organized a shoot to capture the night skies. It had been scheduled for the spring, but had been postponed several times due to poor weather. The shoot finally happened on a clear night in July. Ten people attended and photographed the Milky Way and the moon. A few people stayed later and shot star trails. Although the moon was bright, making it hard to get a great image of the Milky Way, everyone had a fun time.

Other Events of Interest

Kate Sprague shared the following information that might be of interest to our members: Wildlife photographer Steve Winter will be presenting at McKendree University on October 17th at 7:30 pm. He is best known for his work on conserving and photographing the big cats. Tickets are \$20/person, \$18/senior. For more information visit www.mckendree.edu/the_hett/nat-geo-live.php.

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