



CLOSE-UP

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MoNEP News

President's Message

Thank you for contributing to another strong year for MoNEP in 2018. In late 2018 we established a marketing/branding committee and they are moving along to freshen up MoNEP, improve our social media presence and help in a variety of ways.

For 2019 we already have a number of special events in the works. We have been invited to have a booth at the *Winter in the Woods Festival* at Rockwood Reservation on February 2nd. We are working with Powder Valley on a public event in April and another photographic exhibit. We will host our biennial MoNEP seminar on September 14th-15th, featuring photographer Jennifer King for a daylong seminar, hands-on workshop and the opportunity for portfolio reviews. We will provide more information soon.

All these things take time and volunteers. We thank all those who have helped the organization for so many years. We would love to have fresh faces to help facilitate these activities and we invite more members to become involved. Please talk to any board member if you are willing to help. We wish all our members the very best in the New Year. Peace on Earth.

- Scott Avetta

2019 Membership Renewals

MoNEP membership runs from January through December each year, so it is time for all members to renew if you haven't done so already. 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 January meeting 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 #D 1606 Forest Springs Lane, Ballwin, MO 63021. Please do not mail cash.
3. You can pay anytime 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.

Holiday Show

Thank you to all members who volunteered to help with the 2018 Holiday Party. We appreciate the food provided by members, assistance with set-up and clean up, and, of course, the wonderful work of Jerry Miller and Pat Burgess in putting together another phenomenal presentation of members' images. Thanks for a marvelous celebration of the year in nature photography.



Image by Jerry Miller

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

Mark Cherry, Joe Klipsch, Mark Cherry, Jane Griesenauer, Christy Lonero, Richard Spener, Robert Charity, Norma Mull, Larry Morrison, Allen Ahner, Jerry Miller

Membership News

New Members

We welcome these new members, who have joined MoNEP within the past few months: *Jack Curran*, *Richard Elikor* and *Elizabeth Springfield*. We are happy to have you among us. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have questions about events, submitting images for Show and Share, or other MoNEP information.

Member News

Roxanna Cummings received 1st place in the category People Enjoying Missouri's Natural Resources, and 2nd place in the category Unique Places in the 2018 Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Photo Contest. To view the contest results, see the article in the winter edition of Missouri Resources Magazine beginning on page 12 or visit <https://dnr.mo.gov/magazine/index.html>. A slideshow of the winning photos is also posted on the Missouri Department of Natural Resources website.

Richard Spener had three images in the top ten of the Missouri DNR photo contest. In addition, the National Sierra Club will be using an image of Richard's in the January-February print issue of their Sierra magazine.

Kate Sprague had two award winning images in the 1st Annual Powder Valley Photo Contest. She received 1st place in the Fall category and 1st place in the Wildlife category.

MoNEP Meetings

Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

Dates: Tuesday, January 15th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Tuesday, February 19th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

MoNEP meetings are held at Powder Valley Conservation Area Nature Center in Kirkwood. Powder Valley's address is 11715 Cragwold Rd., Kirkwood, MO 63122. The meeting time runs from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Show and Share Nature Images

Submissions Due: January 12th for the January 15th Meeting / February 16th for February 19th 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. January Theme: Winter Wonderland / February Theme: Nature in Black and White.

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 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 12th for the January meeting and February 16th for the February meeting.

2019 Meeting Dates

January 15, February 19, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 10 (Holiday Show)

January 15th Meeting – Lydia Toth

MoNEP Member, *Lydia Toth* will delve into the history and science of maple sugaring during her presentation, *How Sweet It Is: The Story of Maple Syrup*. She will describe the process of making maple syrup and other maple sugar products on both large and backyard scales. She will also share her observations of the effect of climate change on maple syrup production here in Missouri, having tapped trees for over thirty years at Shaw Nature Reserve.



Image by Roxana Cummings

Lydia received her Bachelor's Degree in Wildlife Management from the University of Florida and a Masters in Outdoor and Environmental Education from the University of Northern Colorado. Lydia worked for five years as a teacher at the residential Outdoor Education Center of the Houston School District on Lake Livingston, in the East Texas Piney Woods. In 1987, she was hired by the Missouri Botanical Garden as the Coordinator of Education at Shaw Arboretum. Lydia was largely responsible for the growth of programming for children and adults at what eventually became Shaw Nature Reserve. She worked closely with local professional photographers including Scott Avetta to develop *The Shaw Photography Series*, which offers monthly photography programs, hands-on classes, and brings in such big names as Jim Brandenburg, Sam Abell and other nationally renowned photographers for public lectures and multiday workshops. Lydia worked at the Reserve for thirty-one years, finishing her tenure as the Senior Manager of Education. She retired in February 2018. In addition to being a devoted fan of SNR, she is an avid naturalist and native plant gardener and enjoys opportunities to travel here and abroad.

February 19th Meeting – Jack Curran

Jack Curran, a recent new MoNEP member, will illustrate his techniques and approach to black and white landscape photography during his presentation *The Landscape: Seeing in Black and White*. Throughout the evening Jack will highlight the art of seeing in black and white and the importance of composition, looking for the flow, luminosity, and transition of light. He will share a brief demonstration on converting a RAW file in Adobe Lightroom to a working black and white file.



Image by Geoff PeConga

Jack says that there was a natural collision of circumstances between his nearly lifelong love of nature, and that of photography. His wondrous journey into nature began when he attended an Outward Bound month-long wilderness course at age 16. At 18, he picked up his first camera, developed his first B&W print in the darkroom and quickly put his two passions together. In recent years Jack's photography has been exhibited in Paris, Athens, Berlin, Moscow, Malaga, Spain and in the U.S. Most recently, Jack was ranked the #2 Black and White photographer in the world by *One Eyeland*, which included all genres of B&W. In 2018, Jack had a monograph book of his work published by *LensWork* magazine, representing eleven – six image portfolios, following the theme of Seeing in Sixes. Jack has been internationally awarded, having won Gold or 1st place in IPA, PX3, ND Awards, Moscow International Foto Awards, Tokyo International Foto Awards, International Gala/Pollux Awards, Black and White Spider Awards, and *Black and White Photography Magazine's* Portfolio Awards. Jack has a new video tutorial series *Mastery of Light* available on his website, as well as a new YouTube channel where he makes short form videos of his process available for free. He continues to look through the lens with an eye toward discovery, and that is what he hopes to share with us in February. For Jack, it's all about the "Lure of Light".

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