

CLOSE-UP

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ART LEWIS



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2024 HOLIDAY SHOW

Thanks to all who joined us at the 2024 Holiday Show and Party. We especially want to thank all those who shared their images for the holiday show, and, especially, Jerry Miller for creating another great holiday show. This was his 20th show. Many thanks also to all the volunteers who helped with set-up, greeting guests, staffing the food tables, and with clean-up.

2025 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

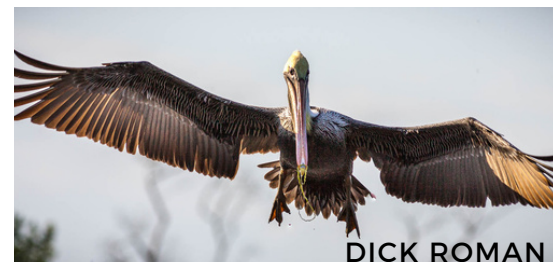
MONEP membership runs from January through December each year, so it is time for all members to renew! Dues are \$30 per person and \$40 for a household of up to four. Please read the form carefully and be sure to initial only one of the two permission options on the back side of the form.

There are three ways to renew your membership:

- You can print a 2025 membership form from our website, monep.org, and can mail your renewal form, along with a check made out to MONEP, to Kathy Cherry at 6056 Gettysburg Estates Dr., Saint Louis, Missouri 63129. Please do not mail cash.
- You can pay anytime via PayPal by visiting our website at <https://monep.org/membership/>. You must also submit a completed membership form and send it to Kathy, either by email at fishnclick@sbcglobal.net, or to her address above.
- Membership dues may be submitted in person at the March 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.

ANY QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about membership, please contact Kathy Cherry at 314-605-4279 or by email at fishnclick@sbcglobal.net.



DICK ROMAN



ROBERT CHARITY



CRAIG ALEXANDER



CRAIG ALEXANDER

MEMBER NEWS

MONEP members, Robert Charity and Craig Alexander each had images featured in the December issue of Missouri Conservationist, in the article *Stopping Time*. Robert’s image of a rue anemone, along with Craig’s capture of a ruby-crowned kinglet and frog are above.

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NEWSLETTER

We wanted to send a special note of gratitude to Dug Threewitt who, in 2016, took on the task of redesigning the MONEP newsletter, *Close-Up*. Dug has a background in graphic design, and stepped up when we wanted a change in style, hoping to feature more member images. The first issue he produced was the March-April issue of 2016. Now after eight years, he is stepping away from his role with the newsletter due to other commitments. Thank you Dug, for your wonderful designs and the glorious covers you produced over the past eight years. We are most grateful for your work.



DUG THREEWITT

Kate Sprague will be taking over the newsletter design and formatting starting with this issue. Many thanks to Kate for taking on this role, and for her many efforts in support of MONEP communications, including the newsletter, website, and MONEP Facebook group.

MEETING DATES FOR 2025

Meetings are generally held via Zoom in the winter and at Powder Valley Nature Center the rest of the year. The dates for 2025 are: January 21 (Zoom), February 18 (Zoom), March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, October 21, November 18, and December 9, the second Tuesday of the month for the Holiday Show

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MEETING INFORMATION

MONEP meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, except for the December Holiday Show. MONEP meets at Powder Valley Conservation Area Nature Center in Kirkwood, except when we have a Zoom meeting. Powder Valley’s address is 11715 Cragwold Rd., Kirkwood, MO 63122. The meetings run from 6:45 - 8:30 p.m.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

**Tuesday, January 21st Meeting – Charles Needle
via Zoom, at 6:45 p.m.**

Topic: Creative Macro Photography

NOTE: We will send the Zoom link out in a separate reminder email prior to the meeting.

Join us on Tuesday, January 21st at 6:45 p.m. for a presentation with Charles Needle via Zoom. Learn how to create unusual and striking close-up images both in the field and in your own backyard and/or home studio.

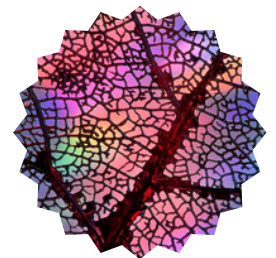


Award-winning fine art photographer and workshop leader, Charles Needle, will guide us through all the necessary steps to take your macro photography to the next level. This session covers more advanced topics, such as selective-focus macro, “shooting through” with a telephoto lens, close-up lenses/diopters, artistic macro with Lensbaby and Kaleidoscopic lenses, Soft-Glow Montage macro, and wide-angle macro. Charles will also discuss specific methods for shooting water droplets, reflections on iridescent glass, mylar, and everyday household objects.



Charles Needle is also an author, speaker, and workshop leader with a unique eye for design and artistic interpretation. His popular Art of Nature creative macro workshops have attracted students nationwide.

In 2024, Charles made the shortlist for the Close-up Photographer of the Year international contest. In 2018 and 2021, he earned honorable mentions in the Macro and Visual FX categories of the prestigious Annual International Mobile Photography Awards Contest. Charles was also a semi-finalist in the 2014 Nature’s Best Photography Windland Smith Rice International Awards photo contest. Charles is a North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA) Showcase Award winner for 18 years in a row, and placed in the Top Ten and Top 26 image categories three of those years.



A popular conference and camera club speaker for more than two decades, Charles has authored three cutting-edge instructional books: *Tiny Worlds: Creative Macro Photography Skills* (Amherst Media, January 2015), *Impressionistic Photography: A Field Guide to Using Your Camera as a Paintbrush* (March 2014), and *Creative Macro Photography: Professional Tips & Techniques* (2011).

Charles’ photographs have been selected for publication in *Nature’s Best*, *Outdoor Photographer* magazine, *Nature Photographer* magazine, *Inner Reflections* Engagement Calendar, *The Chicago Tribune*, *SELF* Magazine and are in private and public collections nationwide and abroad.

To learn more about Charles' work, including his workshop and private lesson offerings, visit www.charlesneedlephoto.com.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

***Tuesday, February 18th Meeting – Jennifer King
via Zoom at 6:45 p.m.***

Topic: Finding Photographic Inspiration

NOTE: We will send the Zoom link out in a separate reminder email prior to the meeting.

Jennifer King is an internationally acclaimed landscape and fine art photographer with a passion for teaching and inspiring photographers around the world. She draws on her fine art and design background to bring a fresh perspective to nature photography.

During our meeting, Jennifer will take a look at the many different ways that photographers can find inspiration to keep the creative juices flowing, and continue on a path to becoming better photographers.



Jennifer:

- Was honored to be named as the first woman Ambassador, and the first woman Master Photographer, by industry leaders in the field of nature photography.
- Has an esteemed reputation for combining award winning photography with dedication to advancing the role of women in photography and art.
- Is a Moab Master Photographer, recognized as 1 of 15 *Amazing Women to Follow* (by 500px), and is one of the premiere black and white photographers in the country.

You can find Jennifer's photography, video tutorials and interviews in *Outdoor Photographer Magazine*, *Shutter Magazine*, *Camera in the Wild*, *Photography Talk*, *Smoky Mountains Journal of Photography*, *Our State Magazine*, *VIA Magazine* and more! Jennifer speaks at many yearly photographic summits such as NANPA, MPA, GNPA, MAPV, NVPS, CNPA, and FCCC.

Visit <https://www.jenniferkingphoto.com/photocafe> for more information about Jennifer.





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SHOW & SHARE

Members are invited to share up to five (5) nature-related images during the January and February meetings.

- Images do not have to be recent.
- Images are due by midnight the Saturday before the meeting.

Please follow the submission and file naming guidelines below to submit images 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 using your last name then first name and the year and month of submission as well as the subject. For example, SmithJane-2025-01-Subject. No spaces please! If you would like your images shown in a particular order, please number them 1-5 after the subject.
- Save your images as .jpg files. Your saved images should be less than 4 MB in size.
- Compress your five resized images into a zip file. (If you don't know how to do this step, just send them as they are)
- Attach the zip file or images to an email addressed to share@monep.org by midnight Saturday, January 18th for the January meeting, or Saturday, February 15th for the February meeting.



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. Specific dates, times and meeting locations are posted in the newsletter and on the MONEP website. The bi-monthly newsletter is edited by Barbara Addelson and designed by Kate Sprague.