



CLOSE-UP

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MONEP News

President's Message

Another successful year for MONEP has passed and a new one begins. 2023 began with two wonderful Zoom presentations from Greg Basco (Costa Rica) and Tiffany Reed Briley (Charleston, SC), followed by a strong series of programming including How to Photograph the April 2024 Eclipse. 2023 also saw the return of the Wine and Cheese Evening Shoot at Shaw Nature Reserve and ended with the memorable Holiday Show with great food and conversation. Thanks to Jerry Miller for all his efforts and for all the submissions from our members. We must also thank all our volunteers and our board members for their efforts during that event and throughout the year.

In 2024, we will continue having Zoom presentations for the first two meetings of the year. I am excited to announce that the January Zoom presenter will be Freeman Patterson (New Brunswick, Canada). I was lucky enough to attend an extended workshop with Freeman a number of years ago. It was a week that has influenced me ever since and he is a photographer who definitely answers the question "Is photography art?" His ability to teach and critique is a can't miss.

Following in February, we are privileged to have a Zoom presentation from the director of the Aldo Leopold Foundation (Wisconsin). I have visited their site near Baraboo, Wisconsin and learned more about the famous author and his book, *A Sand County Almanac*. The Foundation's core values include caring about people, about land, and strengthening the relationship between them.

We would like to try some new things in 2024. First, we want to schedule a few lunch gatherings in addition to our regular activities. This can give us more time to socialize and would engage some of our members who cannot make it to regular meetings. Second, I would like us to do a better job of staying in touch with some of our members who may not be able to attend meetings anymore. Let us know if you would be interested in writing an occasional card to stay in touch with some of our members. Receiving a card can brighten anyone's day. Related to that, if anyone has some photo notecards to donate for that purpose, please contact us.

It was so good to see so many members renew their memberships in 2023 but, just as importantly, we have been joined by many new members. We welcome you and hope you are enjoying the club. For our established members, remember to reach out to our newer photographers. We want everyone to feel welcome and to participate. For everyone, I hope you take time to renew and join us in 2024. Again, thank you for being part of MONEP and we hope to see you in 2024. Enjoy and share nature; you can't go wrong.

-Scott Avetta

Member News

New Members

Welcome to our newest members, Bonnie Freeland, and Julia Price. We are so glad you joined us!

Member News

Patty Berry was awarded 1st place in the national 2023 Wild Ones Annual Photo contest - Wild Pollinators Category for her image of a bi-colored striped sweat bee on a flower.

An image of an elephant from the St. Louis Zoo's Wildlights event, taken by Jim Campbell, was featured on December 1st on KSDK News at 4:00.

Jeff Hirsch and Anne Kelsey won first place and an honorable mention, respectively, in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch Travel Photo Contest.

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

Sherry Teefey, Gisela Baner, Jane Griesenauer, Dick Roman, Kathy Cherry, Anne Kelsey, John McAlister, Carol Nourse, Rancy Hastings, Patty Berry, Robert Schmidt, Rich Merz

2024 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:

1. You can mail your renewal form, along with a check made out to MONEP, to the Kathy Cherry at 6056 Gettysburg Estates Dr., Saint Louis, Missouri 63129. Please do not mail cash.
2. You can pay anytime using PayPal by visiting our [website](#).
3. Membership dues can be submitted 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.

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

MONEP Meetings

2024 Meeting Dates

Most regular meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month. The dates for 2024 are: January 16 and February 20 via Zoom. Links to the Zoom meetings will be sent out by email to members ahead of time. The March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15, and November 19 meetings are scheduled to be held at Powder Valley Nature Center. Note that the Holiday Show is on the 2nd Tuesday of December, which is December 10, 2024, and will also be held at Powder Valley.

January 16th Meeting – Freeman Patterson (Zoom Meeting)

Join us on Tuesday, January 16th at 6:45 p.m. for An Evening with Renowned Photographer, Freeman Patterson via Zoom.

Topic: *ART and CRAFT: an illustrated discussion of how craft serves art, an examination of the symbols in our art, and the vital importance of shooting for oneself*

Freeman Patterson of Shamper's Bluff, New Brunswick, Canada, has had a career in photography and visual design that spans more than 60 years. He has taught several annual workshops in Canada since 1973, in South Africa from 1982 until 2019, frequently in New Zealand between 1992 and 2016, and from time to time in England, France, Israel, Australia,



Image by: Freeman Patterson

and the United States. Freeman has authored 15 books, five of them on photography and visual design; his most recent, *Embracing Creation*, was published in conjunction with the opening of his large retrospective exhibition at New Brunswick's Beaverbrook Art Gallery in September 2013. Freeman is an elected member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Art and a recipient of the Photographic Society of America's highest award, the *Progress Medal*. He was appointed to the Order of Canada in 1985 and the Order of New Brunswick in 2013.

This meeting is co-sponsored by MONEP, St. Louis Camera Club, and TexNEP. We will send out the Zoom link to the meeting closer to the 16th. NOTE: We will not have Show & Share in January.

February 21st Meeting – Aldo Leopold Foundation (Zoom Meeting)

While Aldo Leopold's impact on the conservation movement is broad and deep, he is mostly known as the author of the now classic *A Sand County Almanac*. Celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2024, *A Sand County Almanac* has been translated into sixteen languages and serves as one of the foundational texts for anyone that cares about people and places. But becoming a classic doesn't happen overnight, it requires great writing, and often a few twists of fate. Join us as Buddy Huffaker, the Executive Director of the Aldo Leopold Foundation presents *Aldo Leopold, the Land Ethic, and A Sand County Almanac: The makings of a movement*. Buddy will provide a quick biographical sketch of Aldo Leopold (but [watch *GreenFire* the Emmy winning documentary for a full biographical profile of Leopold for free](#)) and then focus on the people and events that have kept *A Sand County Almanac* and the call for a land ethic as relevant as ever.



Image: Aldo Leopold Foundation

Buddy Huffaker has served as Executive Director since 1999. During his tenure, the foundation has grown the Leopold Community by protecting the Leopold Shack & Farm (the inspiration and setting for much of the classic *A Sand County Almanac*) as a National Historic Landmark, constructing the LEED Platinum Aldo Leopold Legacy Center out of trees planted by the Leopold family, producing the Emmy Award winning documentary *GreenFire*, and supporting ten different foreign translations of *A Sand County Almanac*. The foundation continues the Leopold family's commitment to stewardship through the restoration and management of the 4,400-acre Leopold-Pines Conservation Area and by using this experience to inform and inspire other landowners to adopt and implement their own land ethic. Buddy's leadership in the conservation movement includes service on state and federal advisory committees and participation in three White House Conferences on conservation and environmental education.

Show & Share

Members are invited to share up to five (5) nature-related images during the February meeting. NOTE: There will not be Show & Share in January. Images do not have to be recent and you do not have to talk about your images.

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-2024-02-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, February 17th 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. 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