

CLOSE-UP

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MONEP News

President's Message

As we begin 2023, I want to thank everyone for their continued support. 2022 brought some wonderful programs, as well as the return of field trips, a great hallway exhibit of members' images, and our first joint program with Powder Valley. That program, open to the public, featured Noppadol Paothong and had 230 attendees. We held our second successful food drive for those in need and finished the year with the return of our annual party with refreshments and time to socialize. The highlight of that evening was another excellent Holiday Show, produced by Jerry Miller and featuring members' images.



Image by: Patrick Jones

During the last several years the importance of the outdoors and nature has become evident. But what has also become evident is the importance of the social interaction. Just like in photography, it is often the little things that often brighten our day. During the Holiday Show, the reactions to the images and quotes were meaningful and memorable.

We are planning to continue on last year's successful model. We will host two Zoom meetings in January and February to avoid potential weather issues. This also allows us to bring in speakers from outside our area, who we could not bring to St. Louis for in person meetings. In March, we will return to our normal Tuesday meetings at Powder Valley.

Thank you all for being part of MONEP and sticking with us in these unusual times. A special thanks to all the board members and volunteers who have helped keep us moving forward.

Please take time to renew your membership for 2023. I look forward to another great year with new experiences. Have a happy and safe new year.

-Scott Avetta

2023 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 at <https://monep.org/membership/>.
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.

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

Barbara Addelson, Judy Colombini, Carol Nourse, Al Ahner, Larry Morrison, Jane Griesenauer, Joe Klipsch, John McAlister, Jane Griesenauer, Anne Kelsey, Jerry Miller

Member News

New Members

We welcome Diana Zelle and Ray DeRousse to MONEP as our newest members!

Member News

Robert Charity has an exhibit of his work during January and most of February at the Ethical Society at 9001 Clayton Rd, 63117. The building is open to the public on Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. You may be able to view it during the week by calling Jane Schaefer at 314-580-3972 to get access from Monday to Friday. Please join Robert for a reception at the Ethical Society on Sunday, January 15th from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Drinks and snacks will be provided

Meetings

January 17th Meeting – Greg Basco on Photographing Biodiversity

Join us via Zoom on Tuesday, January 17th at 7:00 p.m. for the return of Greg Basco as he talks about Photography and Biodiversity. Latin America is a region that is incredibly rich in biodiversity. That means lots of different species of plants and animals but also a great variety of habitats, from steamy rainforests to snowy mountains to the world's driest desert. To photograph all of these things, a photographer needs a range of gear but more importantly, a breadth of photographic approaches, techniques, and skills. In this talk, professional nature photographer Greg Basco tells you how he has been able to use a variety of gear and techniques to tell a story of biodiversity in his backyard region of Latin



Image by: Greg Basco

America. But you don't have to travel to exotic destinations to produce a great portfolio. By employing negative space, light and shadow, and telling a story through your photos, you too can produce a great nature photography portfolio in your own backyard!

Gregory Basco is a professional nature photographer based in Costa Rica. After completing graduate degrees in political science and tropical ecology (his doctoral dissertation focused on the politics of ecotourism in Costa Rica), Greg worked in conservation before turning to photography full-time in 2006. His images have been awarded in the *Veolia Wildlife Photographer of the Year* and *Nature's Best Windland Smith Rice* competitions and have appeared in numerous magazines and books around the world. His latest major printed project was the publication of the large format book *National Parks of Costa Rica* in conjunction with Zona Tropical and Cornell University Press.

His popular e-books include *The Guide to Tropical Nature Photography*, *Lightroom for the Nature Photographer*, and the new comprehensive e-book *Flash for the Nature Photographer*. Greg is also co-owner of Foto Verde Tours, Costa Rica's first travel company specializing in photographic tourism. Foto Verde Tours runs workshops throughout Latin America, including Costa Rica, Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Colombia, and coming soon, Panama and Argentina.

For more information about Greg, his photography and his workshops visit his websites at www.deepgreenphotography.com and www.fotoverdetours.com. You can also follow Greg on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#)

February 21st Meeting - Tiffany Reed Briley

More information to come...Please visit her website at TiffanyBriley.com

Show & Share

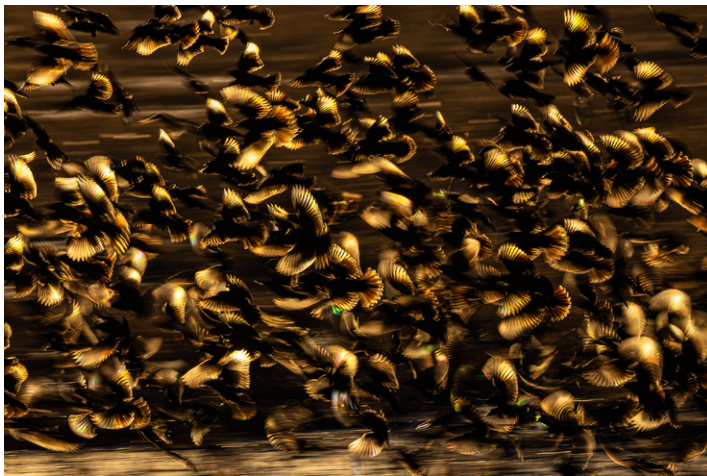
Members are invited to share up to five (5) nature-related images during the January and February meetings. Images do not have to be recent and you do not have to talk about your images.

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-2023-01-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 14th for the January meeting.

2023 Meeting Dates

Most regular meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month. The dates for 2023 are: January 17 and February 21 via Zoom. Links to the Zoom meetings will be sent out by email to members ahead of time. The March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17, and November 21 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 12, 2023, and will also be held at Powder Valley.



Images by: Greg Basco

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