



CLOSE-UP

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MONEP News

2024 Holiday Show Submissions

Every year we hold a Holiday Show on the second Tuesday in December in place of our monthly meeting. This year, it will be on December 10th at Powder Valley. The highlight of the evening is a program of members' images, selected and put to music by Jerry Miller. We will share more details about the event in the months to come.

We encourage current members to submit 20 of their best nature images, some of which will be included in the show. They do not have to be from the current year, but please try not to include images you have submitted for past Holiday Shows. Image submissions for the 2024 MONEP Holiday Show are due by the September 17th meeting if you are submitting in person, or by September 30th for email submissions. In addition to your twenty nature shots, we would love to have images of our members in action. Submissions can be turned in at the back table at the July, August, and September meetings. You may also submit your images by sending them to share@monep.org by the September 30th deadline. To submit your work, please follow the guidelines for submissions below.

How to Submit Images:

- Bring your images on a disk or flash drive to the July, August, or September meeting.
- Send a .zip file to the club's email address, share@monep.org.
- Mail your images on a disk or flash drive to Jerry Miller, 22 Scarlet Court, St. Charles, MO 63304
- For those of you with a Dropbox account - send an email to share@monep.org to ask for a link to upload your photos into a folder on Dropbox.

If you have problems uploading your images in any of the ways above, feel free to contact Jerry Miller at 314-517-6395 for help. Please do not submit images to Jerry's personal email address.

Format:

All submissions should be digital. Place up to 20 images on a CD-ROM, thumb drive, or in a .zip file in a folder with your name as part of the folder's title (e.g., SmithJohn-2024-Holiday Show).

File Names:

Each individual photo file should also have your name included as part of its title. Use your last name, then first name, the year, and HolidayShow as well as the subject or title. For example: SmithJane-2024-HolidayShow-Heron. In addition, do not leave any spaces within the file name. You can use the dash to delineate breaks. Please keep in mind that we need to have your full name and not just initials somewhere on the submission so we can use the proper spelling of your name and give you credit for your images at the end of the show. Note that no text or watermarks should appear on any images.

Image size:

Resize your images, as you would for Show and Share. 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 4 MB.

Things to bear in mind as you select images to submit:

- We would like a variety of your strongest nature subjects.
- The more images we get, the greater our flexibility in choosing subjects for the show.
- Remember to include images from all seasons.
- You may include images old or new, just not ones you have submitted for the Holiday Show before.
- We cannot use all the images provided, but our goal is to include images from everyone who submits photographs.
- In addition to your 20 images, please submit photos of yourself or other MONEP members in the act of photographing nature. There is no limit to the number of people images that can be submitted.

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

Beverly Miller, Lori Purk, Barbara Addelson, Lydia Toth, Kent Gastreich, Bob Bullock, Scott Evers, Richard Spener, Mark McAmish, Art Lewis, Jerry Miller

Member News

Member News

Darlene Spell was among the artists selected for *Artisans in The LOOP* for their inaugural juried exhibition in May. Her two pieces: *What's That?!* and *Cowboy Roundup* were exhibited among the other juried artists.

New Members

Welcome to our newest member, Valerie Stine! We are happy to have you join in MONEP. To stay connected with us in between newsletters and emails, visit our web page at <https://monep.org>.

MONEP Meetings

Meeting Dates and Times

Tuesday, July 16th from 6:45 to 8:30 pm at Powder Valley Nature Center

Tuesday, August 20th from 6:45 to 8:30 pm at Powder Valley Nature Center

MONEP meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, except for the December Holiday Show. MONEP meets at Powder Valley 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.

July 16th Meeting – Steve Sands

Steve Sands, our guy of the sky, will be back with us to present *Let's Talk Aurorae!* at the July meeting. We have been experiencing a very active solar maximum and with it has come a light show in latitudes never before experienced. The sun goes through a 22-year cycle from solar minimum to solar maximum and back to solar minimum again. It is currently peaking at one of the most active maximums ever seen before. This presentation will discuss solar dynamics and why aurorae occur, tools available for predicting them, and how to photograph them. Steve hopes to make this a very "colorful" presentation!



Steve has been an amateur astronomy enthusiast, *Image by: Steve Sands* telescope builder/restorer and teacher for over 40 years.

He has been an adjunct faculty member at St. Louis University and Washington University teaching astronomy, telescopes, and optics to non-science majors. He has written articles for *Astronomy Technology Today*, *Sky & Telescope* and *Amateur Astronomy* magazines. Steve is a past president of the St. Louis Astronomical Society (SLAS) and has held literally hundreds of public telescope-viewing sessions, promoting observational astronomy. Aside from viewing solar system and deep sky objects, he is a very active solar astronomer and enjoys safely sharing views of our nearest star, the Sun.

August 20th Meeting – Noppadol Paothong

We welcome back Noppadol Paothong for our August program, *Focus on Birds*. He will share how new technology can make photography much more fun. Birds provide a readily available source of nature photos. Using the proper techniques may turn an interesting photo into a picture you'll want to frame as a keepsake. Noppadol will be sharing some of his techniques that have helped him over the years, as well as how he has embraced new mirrorless cameras.



Image by: Noppadol Paothong

Noppadol is an award-winning nature/conservation photographer and a staff photographer with the Missouri Department of Conservation. He is also an Associate Fellow of the International League of Conservation Photographers, (iLCP), an elite group comprised of the world's top wildlife, nature, and culture photographers around the globe. He specializes in rare and endangered species with special focus on grassland grouse and has published two large format award-winning books, *Sage Grouse, Icon of the West* and *Save the Last Dance*. He has received numerous national and international honors for his work including "Best of the Best" Picture of the Year, and Missouri Photojournalist of the Year. He was a judge for the National Audubon Photo Contest in 2023 and 2024.

He continues to share his work and passion through many public speaking engagements across the country raising public awareness on conservation issues. In addition to over 200 cover images and numerous articles in the *Missouri Conservationist* and *Xplor* magazines where he has worked since 2006, his compelling images appear regularly in many national premier publications, including *Smithsonian*, *Sierra Club*, *Audubon*, *National Wildlife*, *Ranger Rick*, *Nature Conservancy*, and many others

Show & Share

Members are invited to share up to five (5) nature-related images during the July and August meetings. Images do not have to be recent and you do not have to talk about your images, if you would prefer not to.

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-2024-07-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, July 13th for the July meeting, and Saturday, August 17th for the August meeting.

Past Meeting Recordings

If you missed any of the 2024 meetings, you can view them on the MONEP YouTube Channel by following the links below. These recordings are for our use only and are not available without a link to each recording. We have made the commitment to our presenters that these would be available to MONEP members only. Please do not share the links with anyone outside of MONEP.

[May meeting - Bill Rowe on Confusing Spring and Summer birds](#)

[April meeting - Brady Kesner on the Art of Landscape Photography](#)

June Field Trip Recap

On June 8th, we were allowed all day access to Prairie Garden Trust, two hours west of St. Louis in New Bloomfield, Missouri. It rained in the early morning, so people wandered in based on the weather conditions and their drives. Although it was warm and very humid, we saw and photographed an array of native flowers in bloom, dragonflies, turtles, and an amazing variety of habitats. Thanks to Mark McAmish for making the necessary arrangements, and for scoping out the property in advance of the workshop. It was well worth the trip, and will be a good place to visit between May and October.

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