



CLOSE-UP

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MONEP News

New Members

We are happy to welcome these new members to MONEP: Ron O'Reilly, Jane Palmer, and Sherry Teefey. Thank you for joining us. Please let us know if you have any questions about the group, programs, or procedures. Also, visit our web page at <https://monep.org> and, if you are on Facebook, you may ask to join our private MONEP Facebook group, where we share images, information, and resources.

Member News

We want to say a big thank you to Mary Ann Ford for taking on the major tasks of buying materials, sewing, and installing replacement curtains for the photo blind at Shaw Nature Reserve. The photo blind, which was funded by MONEP and NANPA and built by SNR staff, is located in the wetlands area. The original curtains had been bleached by the sun. Mary Ann researched what material would hold up best given their exposure to the elements. If you have not yet visited the blind, it's well worth a hike out to the wetlands to see it and to look for birds and wildlife in the area. Thank you so very much for volunteering for this task, Mary Ann!



MONEP Meetings

Meeting Dates and Times

Tuesday, July 20th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Powder Valley Nature Center
Tuesday, August 17th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Powder Valley Nature Center

July 20th Meeting – 2020 Holiday Show at Powder Valley!

We are pleased to announce that the upcoming July 20th meeting will be held in-person at the Powder Valley Nature Center. Sign-in for the meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and we will start the program at 6:45. This first in-person meeting in over a year will feature the 2020 Holiday Show and provides everyone a chance to get together.

There will be a few changes at the meeting.

- Powder Valley strongly recommends that all visitors wear a mask to meetings held there.
- We will provide hand sanitizer and extra masks should you forget to bring one.
- We ask that attendees maintain proper social distancing for those people who are unvaccinated or vulnerable. Please space yourselves apart in the auditorium, which has 250 seats.
- In anticipation of gathering again during COVID, MONEP conferred with a lawyer from the Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts (VLAA) for advice on procedures and protocols once we were able to meet in person again. They recommended and created a Liability and Assumption of Risk waiver for MONEP, which members and visitors must read. A copy will be sent out in advance to members to read before the meeting and copies will be available at the meeting.
- To protect MONEP from liability at this meeting and future events, each and every person attending the meeting will need to have read the Liability and Assumption of Risk waiver, and must indicate that they have read and agree to the terms of the waiver on a sign-in sheet at the table as you enter the auditorium.

If you are unwilling to sign the waiver agreement, you will not be able to attend the meeting.

We look forward to seeing everyone! It will be so nice to be back together after so long.

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

Toni Armstrong, Robert Charity, Marilyn Etheridge, Larry Morrison, Brenda Fesser, Allen Ahner, Jane Griesenauer, Richard Spener, Mark Cherry, Barb Addelson

August 17th Meeting – All About Eagles with Aileen Abbott

Join us at the August 17th meeting for All About Eagles, with Aileen Abbott from the World Bird Sanctuary (WBS). Aileen will bring along a few different education ambassador eagles. She will talk about eagles in general and will tell the story of each individual ambassador. She will also talk about the World Bird Sanctuary and its mission. There will be a question and answer session. Perhaps best of all, MONEP members will have the opportunity to photograph the eagles, which will be on the glove of the WBS naturalist so we can get within a couple feet of them for our pictures!

Aileen Abbott is the Director of Education at World Bird Sanctuary. She has been in this position for almost a year, but has been a volunteer at WBS for several years. Aileen has been in Environmental Education for over 25 years and has worked in several states. She is passionate about teaching people of all ages about nature and the flora and fauna. She is a great presenter and her program on wolves was wildly popular.

Recent Meeting Recordings

If you missed any recent meetings, or wish to watch them again, you can view them on the MONEP YouTube Channel. 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. You can copy and paste the links below into your Internet browser to view the videos.

June – Mary Ann and Joe McDonald on [Marcro Photography](#)

May – Alyce Bender on [Impressionistic Photography](#)

Show & Share

Members are invited to share up to five (5) nature-related images at the upcoming meetings. Images do not have to be recent and you do not have to talk about your images. If you would like to have your images shown anonymously, or not be called on to talk about them, let Jerry Miller know in the email you use to submit your images. Submissions are due by July 17th for the July 20th meeting and August 14th for the August 17th meeting.

Please follow the submission guidelines below and pay particular attention to how you name your files. **We want to have each image named with your last name, then first name, the year and month of your submission and the subject. This convention is extremely helpful as we gather images for Show and Share, the Holiday Show, newsletter, website, or our Facebook accounts.

Show and Share will come after the presentation during our meetings. Submissions are due by midnight on the Saturday prior to each month's meeting. See the dates below.

Members are invited to share up to five (5) nature-related images at the upcoming meetings. To submit for Show and Share:

- Resize your images so vertical images are a maximum of 1,800 pixels high and horizontal images are 1,800 pixels wide. (Visit <https://www.adobe.com/photoshop/online/resize-image.html> to resize your image online for free.)
- 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-2021-07-Subject for submission for the July 2021 Show and Share. For the subject, please use a term or title describing each image, e.g. SmithJane-2021-07-Heron. In addition, do not leave any spaces within the file name. You can use the dash to delineate breaks.
- 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 to an email addressed to share@monep.org by midnight Saturday, July 17th for the July meeting and Saturday, August 14th for the August meeting.

Self-guided Field Trip for July and August - Sunflowers

As in past years, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) has planted fields of sunflowers at Columbia Bottom Conservation Area. Because they have been so popular with photographers, they have planted more fields in sunflowers this year than before. The fields are adjacent to the road so photographers have easy access. MDC has also staggered the planting of the fields, so that there should be some field in bloom from early in July through the middle of August, if the weather cooperates.

Columbia Bottom Conservation Area is managed to create a mosaic of bottomland habitats that includes shallow wetlands, bottomland hardwood forest, prairie, and cropland. It is located at 801 Strodtman Road. To get there, take the Riverview Drive exit from I-270 and travel north approximately three miles. The area is open every day from a half hour before sunrise until a half hour past sunset.

Those members who are in, or close to, St. Charles County might also want to see the sunflower plantings at Weldon Spring Conservation Area. MDC has planted sunflowers along the road to the Missouri River boat ramp in that area. These flowers should bloom around mid-to-late July, depending on growing conditions. Visit <https://mdc.mo.gov> for details. Thanks to Mark McAmish for this information.



Member sunflower images courtesy of Mark McAmish, Kent Gastreich and Dug Threewitt

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