



# CLOSE-UP

Published Bi-Monthly by Missouri Nature and Environmental Photographers  
Volume 25, Number 1  
January - February 2020



# MoNEP News

## President's New Year Message

I don't know what is more of a surprise: seeing the calendar hit 2020 or knowing that MoNEP is turning 25. Back in 1995, Ruth Hoyt, MoNEP's founder and first president, worked with board members Gary Budke, Patrick Jones, and Ruth Killian to frame the group's mission statement, based on the one for the North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA).

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.

I am proud to say that many of the original members continue to belong to MoNEP. Having new people join us is equally important by providing new ideas and fresh perspectives. The direction of MoNEP was established at the start with its monthly meetings, Show and Share, and field trips. In the early years, we held our first small workshop with Pat O'Hara. Later we added seminars with renowned nature photographers like Nancy Rotenberg, Art Wolfe, and Rick Sammon. In 2019, we hosted another successful seminar/workshop combination with Jennifer King.

We have reached 25 years because of all the hard work of many volunteers, including the board members and committee chairs. We have a number of ideas for celebrating our 25th year, but we will need continued volunteer support to grow. This is a wonderful way to get to know your fellow nature photographers and share your ideas, so please consider becoming more active behind the scenes. If you haven't yet renewed your membership, please do and join us for our 25th anniversary celebrations.

Wishing you all the best in the New Year! - Scott Avetta

## 2020 Membership Renewals

MoNEP membership runs from January through December each year. Dues are \$30 per person and \$40 for a household of up to four. There are three ways to renew your membership:

1. Membership dues may be submitted in person at the January and February 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.
2. You can mail your renewal form, along with a check made out to MoNEP, to the MoNEP membership chair, Michelle Jones at 8105 Valcour Avenue, #202, Affton, MO 63123. Please do not mail cash.
3. You can pay anytime using PayPal by visiting our website at <http://monep.org/membership.html>

If you have questions about membership, please contact Michelle Jones at 314-496-7616 or by email at [michellecjones92@gmail.com](mailto:michellecjones92@gmail.com).

## MoNEP Holiday Show

Thank you once again to all who helped with the MoNEP holiday party. We appreciate the hard work of members who volunteered their time before and during the event. As always, we want to give special recognition to Jerry Miller and Pat Burgess for creating the superb program of member's images. They did an excellent job, but it would not have been possible without the many submissions of phenomenal images by our members. Thanks to everyone who helped with setup and cleanup and replenishing the food tables during the evening. Thanks also to those who generously shared items for the appetizer and dessert tables.

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

John McAlister, Mark Cherry, Carol Nourse, Vearl Brown, Kevin Kelly, Kathy Cherry, Norma Mull, Joe Kopp, RJ Wilner, Jane Griesenauer, RJ Wilner

## Member News

### New Members

We welcome these recent new MoNEP Members: Kathy Melton and Don Stuewe. Thanks for joining us!

### Member News

Richard Spener received an Honorable Mention for his picture of an otter in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch annual photo contest.



*Image by: Richard Spener*

## MoNEP Meetings

### Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

*Date: Tuesday, January 21st from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Powder Valley Nature Center*

*Tuesday, February 18th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Powder Valley Nature Center*

MoNEP meetings are held at Powder Valley Conservation Area Nature Center in Kirkwood. Powder Valley's address is 11715 Cragwold Rd., Kirkwood, MO 63122. The meeting time runs from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

### Show and Share Nature Images

Members are invited to share up to five (5) nature-related images at the upcoming meetings. Submissions are due by midnight on the Saturday prior to each month's meeting. See the dates below.

To submit 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 according to the directions at [monep.org](http://monep.org) under tips.
- Save your images as .jpg files.
- Compress your five resized images into a zip file.
- Attach the zip file to an email addressed to [share@monep.org](mailto:share@monep.org) by Saturday, January 18th for the January meeting and Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> for the February meeting.

### January 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting - Mark McAmish

MoNEP member, Mark McAmish, will be presenting at the January meeting on "Wilderness and Travel Safety - Incidents, Planning and First Aid." Mark's primary focus will be on day hikes and he will also include concerns for travel to different regions of the United States and for travel abroad. He will identify proper planning, potential risk, and corrective actions. A former member of the Illinois State Police Department, Mark has had training as an EMT and has had to deal with countless numbers of medical emergencies.

Mark had an interest in photography in high school. He contributed to the yearbook and school newspaper. He was reluctant and slow to switch from film to digital. Mark's interest in medicine goes back to scouting and junior high. During his senior year he had a co-op at the hospital and considered a nursing career. He was certified nationally as an emergency medical technician. Medical training continued when he was in the military and then the Illinois State Police. Mark responded to countless numbers of emergencies involving medical issues. He still enjoys reading, watching videos, and attending seminars on both photography and emergency medicine.

## February 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Jane Palmer

Jane Palmer of Y-kiki Divers is looking forward to sharing her love of the ocean and underwater photography at the February MoNEP meeting. After spending the first 50 years of her life terrified of water, Jane challenged herself to put her fears aside and learned to scuba dive. It wasn't easy, but once she overcame her anxiety, she fell in love with the ocean. It seemed only natural to take a camera on a dive, and after her first real underwater photo, she was hooked. Jane will provide us with a unique look at life in the ocean and will talk about what is involved in taking our precious cameras into the water. She will discuss the challenges of underwater photography and why it is so rewarding. Her presentation style is more storytelling than lecture so plan to join us as Jane shares her diving adventures and her underwater photographs with us. She will also bring and talk about the camera set up she takes into the water.

Jane is an award-winning landscape and underwater photographer. She started her photography adventure in high school and picked it back up again when her daughter left for college. A lifelong love of nature and animals led her to spend more time outdoors with her camera and she soon developed a passion for nature photography. After learning to dive, it seemed only natural to take a camera underwater! Jane now travels the world capturing the magic of the underwater world with her camera. Jane's work can be seen on her website [janepalmerphotography.com](http://janepalmerphotography.com). In addition, Jane is a contributing author on Visual Wilderness, writing articles that are seen by thousands of photographers.



*Images by: Jane Palmer*

## MoNEP Board Members and Volunteer Committee Chairs

The MoNEP Board meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month to review and plan activities and make sure the organization is running smoothly and on track. Should you have any input you would like the committee to consider, please don't hesitate to contact any of the board members and committee chairs listed below. We would appreciate your suggestions and participation.

President/Programs:	Scott Avetta	<a href="mailto:scottavetta@hotmail.com">scottavetta@hotmail.com</a>
Vice-President/Community Outreach:	Don Morice	<a href="mailto:donkm63@gmail.com">donkm63@gmail.com</a>
Secretary/Treasurer:	Linda Moder	<a href="mailto:linda_monep@hotmail">linda_monep@hotmail</a>
Recording Secretary:	Kathy Cherry	<a href="mailto:fishnclick@sbcglobal.net">fishnclick@sbcglobal.net</a>
Membership:	Michelle Jones	<a href="mailto:michellecjones92@gmail.com">michellecjones92@gmail.com</a>
Newsletter:	Barbara Addelson	<a href="mailto:baddelson@sbcglobal.net">baddelson@sbcglobal.net</a>
Programs:	Ken Biddle	<a href="mailto:kdbiddle@swbell.net">kdbiddle@swbell.net</a>
Exhibits:	Lori Purk	<a href="mailto:purkyl8r@aol.com">purkyl8r@aol.com</a>
Digital Committee:	Jerry Miller	<a href="mailto:sirlukeman@yahoo.com">sirlukeman@yahoo.com</a>
	Pat Burgess	<a href="mailto:wpb691@gmail.com">wpb691@gmail.com</a>

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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](http://www.monep.org)