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by Lori Meier

Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.

~ Albert Camus
Author, Journalist, Philosopher
1913- 1960

PEOPLE & PLACES

Holiday Show

The 2012 MoNEP Holiday Show and party will be on **Tuesday, December 11th**, starting at **6:00 p.m.** at **The Ethical Society in Clayton**.

This will be our first party at the Ethical Society and we are looking forward to a great evening. **Margy and Dan Terpstra** are coordinating the logistics for the gathering. We will be providing finger foods, wine, beer and soft drinks this year. If you are willing to bring an appetizer or dessert, please make sure that anything you bring is easily served and can be eaten without cutlery. For planning purposes, we ask that those who are bringing food email Margy to let her know what you are bringing.

Volunteers needed:
Margy and Dan would like to have 3 volunteers to help with set-up, starting at 5:30 p.m., and another 10 to help with clean up after the event. If you are able to volunteer for one of these tasks, please contact Dan or Margy by email at hummerhaven@sbcglobal.net or by phone at **314-606-6957**.

Holiday Show Presentation:
Jerry Miller and **Pat Burgess** are already busy planning and preparing the annual holiday slide show. Please note that the submission deadline has passed and they are unable to accept any additional images. **The show will begin around 7:45 p.m. in the auditorium.** Please remember that food and drinks are not allowed in the auditorium.

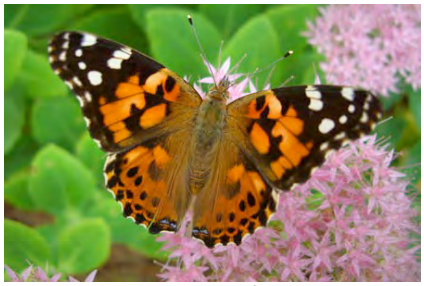
We hope you will join us in celebrating the holidays and another great year with your MoNEP friends.

MoNEP 2013 Exhibits

MoNEP has been invited to show our work in two back-to-back exhibits next summer and fall.

The first exhibit will be at the **Runge Conservation Nature Center in Jefferson City in July and August**. We will be showing members' work related to all things natural found in Missouri.

Then, **Shaw Nature Reserve** has invited us to submit an exhibit for the Bascom House in **September and October**. We will be showing work related to the Missouri Botanical Garden's theme for the entire year, which is ***Food***. This theme can be interpreted many ways. For example, images of insects feeding on plants, mammals eating plants or birds eating insects. We suggest you think about it as who eats what, or who eats whom in nature. Since this is a more narrow theme than we are used to, we wanted you to be aware of what we will be looking for so you can start shooting now. It would be great if some of the work in the first show could be used for the second exhibit, so please keep this in the back of your mind while you are out photographing in the coming months. More information, including submission details and dates will be covered in future newsletters.



Loena Gerdes

Members News

Don Morice's image of a bison feeding in winter, ***Tatonka in Snowstorm***, is on display as part of the **North American Indian Photography Exhibition** at **Cahokia Mounds**. This image was a 2nd place winner in the color category in their 2011 photography contest. The exhibit is up from October 6th through December 16th at Cahokia Mounds in Collinsville, Illinois. For details visit **www.cahokiamounds.org** or call **618-346-5160.**

MoNEP member **Lori Purk** will be graduating from the **Missouri Master Naturalist** program this month.

The Missouri Master Naturalist program is a community-based, adult natural resource education and volunteer program. **University of Missouri Extension and the Missouri Department of Conservation** jointly sponsor the program. The 12-week Level 1 training consists of a combination of classroom and field instruction for a total of 15 sessions and is held throughout the St. Louis region.

Lori will also be required to complete 40 hours of natural resource-based volunteer service and an additional eight hours of advanced education to continue her certification. She will be joining one of the three local Master Naturalist Chapters. For more information on the program visit **http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/**.

The **National Wildlife Federation** is going to publish two of **Richard Spener's** images on their web site.

MDC 2013 Calendar

The Missouri Department of Conservation's ***2013 Natural Events Calendar*** will be on sale soon at the Powder Valley Visitor Center. It should be available after October 18th. You can also purchase it from the MDC website at **www.mdcnatureshop.com** and at Shaw Nature Reserve. The calendar is great for keeping up to date on the timing of seasonal changes, including what is in bloom, bird nesting dates and a wealth of other natural phenomena. There are also great photos, including those of past MoNEP speaker **Danny Brown**. This is a great holiday gift for the naturalist or photographer on your shopping list, and it only costs $7.

September Speaker Recap

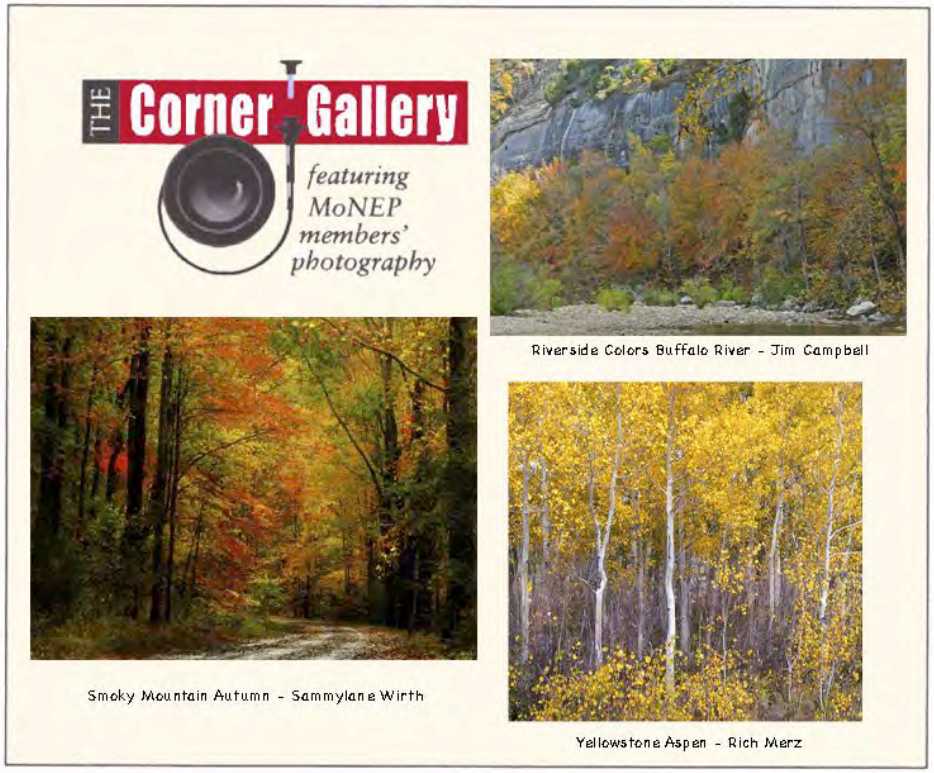
Dan Zarlenga gave a stellar presentation at the September MoNEP meeting. His talk, ***Nightscape Photography - Adventures After The Sun Goes Down***, was full of tips and techniques for expanding our photography to a time when other photographers are putting away their equipment for the day. Dan made the point that familiar locations take on a whole different persona after dark. Dan, who is a Media Specialist with the Missouri Department of Conservation, became interested in astronomy as a boy. When he took up photography a few years ago, it wasn't long before he combined the two.

Dan defined nightscape photography as "creating night images that have significant elements both on the ground and in the sky." He included moonlit landscapes in his description. The difference between nightscape photography and astrophotography is that the latter focuses on close-ups of celestial objects and generally doesn't include foreground elements.

The equipment Dan recommended includes a DSLR with a high ISO capability and minimal noise. Full frame sensors provide better results than cropped sensors. For lenses, he suggests using a wide-angle lens of 28mm or less for full frame cameras, or 18mm for cropped sensors. Faster lenses are better for this type of photography, and he suggests using a 2.8 or faster lens. A tripod is an absolute must because this kind of photography involves long exposures. Dan also recommended using a camera timer remote control for both star trails and long moonlit shots. He also relies heavily on some optional equipment including flashlights, or speed lights to light the foreground of the scene. The other required element is to have a very dark sky with little or no light pollution from surrounding areas. Dan also stressed waiting until one hour after sunset to start his nighttime photography because there is still a great deal of residual light in the sky after the sun goes down.

Dan divided nightscape photography into four different types. These include star fields and constellations, the Milky Way, moonlit landscapes and star trails. Each type requires its own special set up and exposures. For Dan's recommendations, visit the photo tips page on **www.monep.org**, where you can review his PowerPoint presentation and read Jerry Miller's extensive outline notes.

Our thanks to Dan for a fascinating presentation and inspiration to get out there and shoot the night skies.



MEETINGS & programs

Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

Tuesday, October 16th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 20th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

NOTE: The October meeting will be held at the **St. Louis County Library Headquarters at 1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.** The library headquarters are located just south of the intersection of Lindbergh Boulevard and Clayton Road, across from Plaza Frontenac. The meeting rooms are on the north side of the building. There is a separate entrance on the north side so you do not have to walk through the main library.

October Meeting Speaker – Dennis McCarthy

Dennis McCarthy will be the presenter at our **October 16th** meeting. His talk, ***Integrating Weather and Nature Photography Safely***, will focus on incorporating weather into nature photography while staying safe. Dennis has been a meteorologist for more than 40 years. He started as a Weather Officer in the Air Force then moved to the National Weather Service. His career took him all over the U.S., but one of his most interesting assignments was Meteorologist in Charge of the forecast office in Norman, Oklahoma, the prototype office for the Weather Service modernization in the 1990s. His last position, before retiring five years ago, was Director of Climate, Water, and Weather Services. Currently, he is teaching an introductory meteorology class at Lindenwood University.

Dennis has always been an avid photographer. He has been a member of MoNEP and the St. Louis Camera Club since returning to the St. Louis area four years ago. His primary interests are nature and photojournalism. He is also a member of the National Press Photographers Association. His photos have been published in ***Weatherwise*** magazine and one was used on the cover of the ***National Weather Digest***. Others have appeared in numerous local news and sports publications.

Thunderstorm – Dennis McCarthy

November Meeting Speaker – Alex Wild

Alex Wild, a biologist and superb close-up photographer, will present on macro-photography at the November meeting. Alex studies the evolutionary history of a variety of groups of insects. Visit **www.alexanderwild.com** for a preview of his work.

Noppadol Paothong Presentation

Noppadol Paothong, Missouri Department of Conservation nature photographer, will present a program at **Powder Valley on October 19th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** Billed as ***An Evening with Noppadol Paothong***, Nop will discuss the techniques he uses to capture his winning images. He will also share entertaining stories about some of his experiences out in the great outdoors. Nop's photos will also be on exhibit in the nature center hallway and his book will be for sale in the gift shop. Reservations for the program are required. To reserve seats, call **314-301-1500**.

NANPA Summit

The **2013 North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA) Summit** will be held in **Jacksonville, Florida from February 28th through March 3rd**. It promises to be a very interesting summit with a number of new features. There will be 18 different programs over the course of the three days, and several general sessions. One highlight will be an evening featuring the images of **Robert Glenn Ketchum** accompanied by a live performance by the **Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra**. The keynote speaker will be **Clyde Butcher,** one of the premier black and white nature photographers. Clyde specializes in photographing in Florida, especially the Everglades. Other featured speakers include **George Lepp**, **Rob Sheppard**, **Tony Sweet**, **Greg Downing**, **Lewis Kemper**, **Mike Moats** and **Guy Tal**, among others.

This year NANPA is offering a discount for early registration. **If you register before October 31, 2012 you will receive a $150 discount**. For more information, visit the NANPA website at **www.nanpa.org**.

Fall Color

For the latest update on where the color is in Missouri, check out **http://mdc.mo.gov/node/4548**. This page on the Missouri Department of Conservation's web site indicates that mid-October is usually the peak of fall color in Missouri, although it varies from region to region. The web site provides detailed reports, which are updated weekly on the color of the different regions through mid-November. They specify what trees, shrubs and vines are vibrant and which hues are dominant in the landscape at the time of the update. For a wonderful brochure on why leaves change color and routes to travel for typically colorful areas in Missouri see MDC's website: **http://mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/resources/2010/05/fallcolors2011.pdf**

Dick Roman

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MISSION STATEMENT

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.

MoNEP meetings are held once a month at the Powder Valley Conservation Area Nature Center on 11715 Cragwold Road, near the intersection of I-44 and I-270 in southwestern St. Louis County. Monthly meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, January through November. Meetings take place in the Nature Center auditorium. Specific dates are posted in the newsletter.

MoNEP is an officially registered service mark. Use of the logo without MoNEP board approval is prohibited.

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Missouri Nature
& Environmental Photographers

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VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.monep.org