CLOSE UP

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Being Green
by Lori Purk

Summer has set in with its usual severity.

~Samuel Taylor Coleridge
English Poet
1772-1834

PEOPLE & PLACES

MoNEP 2012 Seminar with Rob Sheppard

MoNEP will be hosting a photography seminar on **Saturday, August 4th**, from **9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Our featured speaker will be **Rob Sheppard**, a naturalist, nature photographer and videographer, who says his favorite location is the one he is in at any time. He is an author/photographer, as well as a well-known speaker and workshop leader. He is also a Fellow with the North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA). He was the long-time editor of the prestigious ***Outdoor Photographer*** magazine and helped start ***PCPhoto*** (*Digital Photo*). Currently, he is editor-at-large for *Outdoor Photographer*. He trained both as a photographer and a naturalist specializing in ecology and botany.

Rob has written hundreds of articles about photography and nature as well as books such as the *Magic of Digital Nature Photography* and the *National Geographic Field Guide to Digital Photography*. He has also written books about Photoshop and Lightroom including *Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 2 for Digital Photographers Only* and *Top Tips Simplified: Adobe Photoshop Elements 7*.
During our full-day seminar, Rob plans to discuss the following topics.

- Keeping Up with Digital Photography without Going Crazy
- Techniques to Take Your Nature Photography to a New Level
- Quick and Easy Steps to Mastering Flash
- Down and Dirty Close-up Photography

He will illustrate his points with stories about his experiences in the field and with plenty of images from his collection.

Registration is **$50 for members and $60 for non-members**. Lunch is included in the registration fee. You can sign up by filling out the registration form and writing a check payable to **MoNEP**. You can turn your registration in to **Vicki or Shawn Northrop** at the July meeting. You can also mail your form and payment to **Vicki Northrop, 1111 Wilmington Ave., St. Louis, MO 63111**. We are unable to accept credit cards for this event.

After July 28, please call **314-270-2711** or email **vicki_northrop@yahoo.com** to make a reservation. We may not have a lunch for those who do not pre-register. Some of the proceeds from this seminar will go to fund charitable programs chosen by the MoNEP Board. For a preview of Rob's work, visit his website at **www.robsheppardphoto.com** or his blog at **www.natureandphotography.com**.

Future MoNEP Meeting Changes

As some of you may already know, the Missouri Department of Conservation is facing budget cuts. These cuts are forcing Powder Valley to reduce the hours when the nature center is open. The Powder Valley staff has worked very hard to accommodate all the organizations that will be affected by this change. MoNEP will continue to hold meetings at Powder Valley into the fall with adjusted hours. Plans are being made for those occasions when we may need to meet elsewhere. As in photography, we must adjust to the changing conditions! We will keep you posted as plans evolve.

New Members

Welcome to our newest MoNEP members: **Lalita Creighton, Michael Douglas, Bettye Juergens, Robin Meier, Jennifer Perkins** and **Emilie Pressley**. Thanks for joining us!

Members News

Scott Evers was a **Britannica Award Winner** for his image ***On Golden Pond*** in the **Witness to Nature Photo Contest**, which is co-sponsored by Encyclopaedia Britannica and Ohio Distinctive Publishing. Visit **www.ohio-distinctive.com/britannica/photo_contest/winners/** to view Scott's glowing image.

Bill and Judy Lubben will have images displayed in ***The Gift of Giving Through the Art of Living*** art show at **Crossroads Hospice**, **2380 Schuetz Road**, in St. Louis. The opening of the show is **Friday, July 27th**, from **6:00 to 8:30 p.m.** Refreshments and music will be provided. The show runs from July 27th through early October.

Clark Willett's photography is on display, along with 19 other artists, at a new gallery in St Charles, **Missouri Artists On Main** (MAOM). The gallery is located at **321 South Main**, on the second floor. Their number is **636-724-1260**.

International Photography Hall of Fame Comes to St. Louis

Earlier this year **Scott Avetta** was asked to serve on the **International Photography Hall of Fame** (IPHF) task force advisory committee. Scott relayed that "I was honored, gladly accepted and I have been working with an amazing group of hard working men and women supporting this mission."

The IPHF will be moving to St. Louis in 2013 from Oklahoma City. This will be a great opportunity for St. Louis, particularly for the photography, history and art communities.

In the past we have had to travel great distances to other cities to be able to view some of the finest photographic prints, sometimes trying to view a lifetime of a photographer's work in just a few short hours. We have gone out of our way to see prints from Ansel Adams, Timothy O'Sullivan, Dorothea Lange and so many others. We have studied and marveled at these images and we take them with us every time we go on a photographic outing.

IPHF continued

Soon many of these wonderful images will be as close as Grand Center, along with the tools used to make them. Imagine the privilege of seeing these works of art by traveling just a few miles and being able to view them time and time again for a better understanding of the artist and the craft. Scott reflected on a very powerful experience he had: "I will never forget the first time I saw an Ansel Adams original. I stood in front of his prints, and they appeared to come alive. Details appeared that I had never before noticed. My respect and admiration grew by the second."

Scott also noted that a venture such as the IPHF takes more than a small group of dedicated volunteers. "I ask everyone to take a look at the information on IPHF and consider joining. With the help of many we will have a museum that will allow us to educate ourselves and others, young and old, about the art of photography."

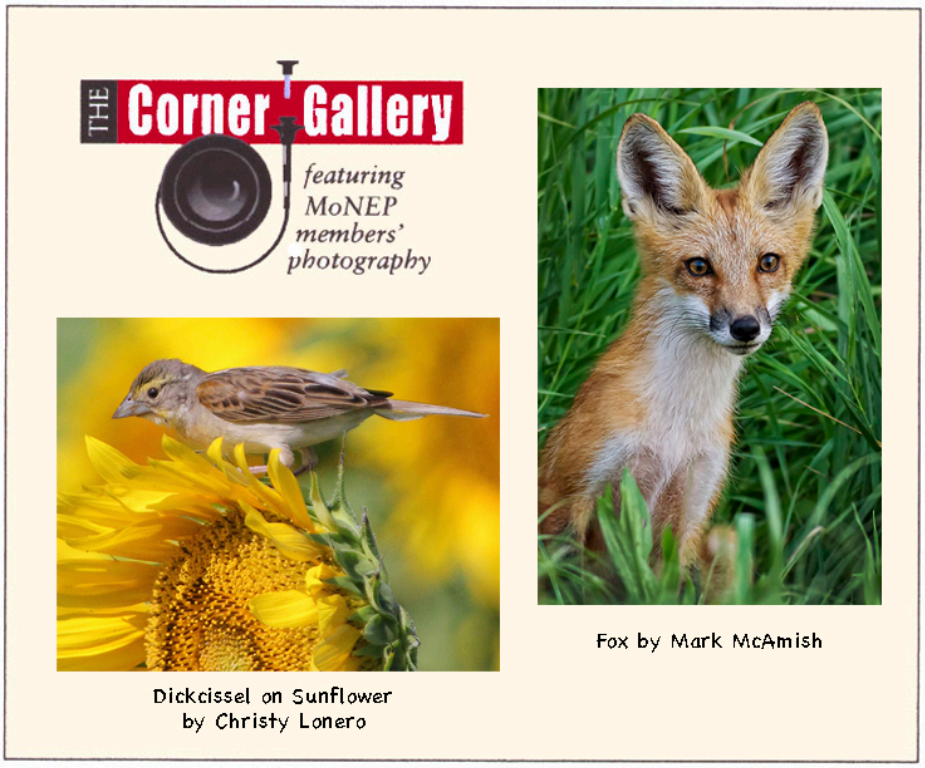
According to the *St. Louis Beacon*, the IPHF will bring 6,000 pieces of photographic equipment and over 30,000 images when they make the move to St. Louis. They will sponsor classes, speakers and special exhibits, among other events. To learn more about the IPHF, visit their web site at **www.iphf.org**.

SNR Youth Photo Contest

The images from Shaw Nature Reserve's ***Take A Shot!*** Youth Photo Contest are always impressive, but this year there were quite a number of pictures that adult photographers would be proud to call their own.

Judges **Scott Avetta, Pat Burgess** and **Barb Addelson** found it challenging to pick the winners. Judging was based upon subject matter, composition, creativity and technical difficulty. They viewed over 80 images from 26 entrants and awarded 14 prizes. There were first, second and third place prizes for the four official categories: flora, wildlife, miniature world and people in nature. The judges also awarded prizes to two images for their unique creativity. Visit **www.mobot.org/snr/PDFs/Take_a_Shot_Winners.pdf** Many of the contest submissions are on display at the Bascom House through August 31st.

by Brendan Potts – Age 12



MEETINGS & programs

Meeting Dates

Tuesday, July 17th– 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Powder Valley
Tuesday, August 21st–6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Powder Valley

Share and Show

Please note that Share and Show is going to be suspended temporarily, as we adjust to changes in meeting locations and meeting times.

July Meeting – Noppadol Paothong

Join us at the **July 17th** meeting for a wonderful evening with the always-delightful **Noppadol Paothong.** Nop is an award winning staff photographer for the Missouri Department of Conservation. He contributes images to MDC's monthly magazine, ***Missouri Conservationist***, as well as many other MDC publications. During his presentation, Nop will showcase his book, ***Save the Last Dance – A Story of North American Grassland Grouse***. He will share stories and images from his 11-year odyssey during which he photographed these highly endangered, extraordinary birds. He has managed to document the captivating mating rituals of the various species of prairie chicken, sage grouse and sharp-tailed grouse, as well as provide a feel for the habitats of each species.

The book will be published in August and is available for pre-order now. You can preorder a limited edition, signed copy online at **www.savethelastdancebook.com**. Preordered books also receive a 15% discount and some of the proceeds from sales will be donated to one of three grassland conservation groups.
Visit **www.nopnatureimages.com** to get a taste for the full range of Nop's work.

August Meeting – Doug Ladd

Doug Ladd, Director of Conservation Science for **The Nature Conservancy in Missouri** will be our speaker at the **August 21st meeting**. He has been involved for more than 25 years with conservation planning, natural-area assessment, management, restoration and research, with particular emphasis on vegetation, ecological restoration and fire ecology. He is author of two plant field guides: ***North Woods Wildflowers*** and ***Tallgrass Prairie Wildflowers***. Note that the August meeting time will be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Powder Valley.

June Speaker Recap

Our thanks to **Margy Terpstra** for her excellent presentation on providing for the needs of native and migrant birds in our backyards. During ***Our Garden is for the Birds!***, Margy talked about the basic needs of both resident and migrating species: cover for nesting or resting, food and water. Margy and her husband, Dan, have set out to provide all of those things for the many birds that pass through our area during migration. It is one of the main reasons they have been able to attract 145 species of birds to their yard, including all 35 of the warbler species that can be seen in the St. Louis area.

The Terpstra's wooded property is located in a larger tract of older native trees. Their oak trees provide plenty of food for insect eating birds, but Margy and Dan have improved their property by removing invasive plants, replanting the grounds with native species and adding water features to the landscape. They have created a re-circulating stream with a bubbler and a water garden. In addition they have diversified their habitat by planting a songbird and butterfly garden and also maintain a swampy thicket. This diversity has drawn in many wonderful birds and very recently, a family of mink. Their grounds have been classified as a **Silver Certified Habitat** by the St. Louis Audubon program, ***Bring Conservation Home***. Margy used both her stunning photographs and short videos of birds visiting the bubbler to show us how their efforts have paid off in attracting a wide range of birds to their yard. As always, our thanks to Margy for a wonderful and inspiring talk.

June Field Trip Recap

The 6:30 a.m. arrival time did not keep a dozen MoNEP members from attending the June 23rd field trip at Shaw Nature Reserve. The heat broke to provide very pleasant temperatures with early broken cloud cover. Even the wind cooperated with very low winds throughout the morning. MoNEP members had plenty of photo opportunities and subjects despite the dry conditions; botanicals, insects, reptiles and birds were just a few of the subjects. SNR always presents a wide variety of subjects for those willing to take a closer look.

July Field Trip

Due to the extreme heat and low rainfall total we are delaying the announcement for the July field trip. We are researching a couple of options and will update everyone via email and at the July 17th meeting.

Doug Tallamy Talk in Jefferson City

Doug Tallamy, author of the very popular book, ***Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens***, will be presenting on that topic at **Lincoln University on August 30th**. Lincoln University Cooperative Extension's Native Plant Program is hosting the event in collaboration with the Missouri Prairie Foundation and Missouri Wildflowers Nursery. The presentation will be held at **9:30 a.m.** at **Scruggs University Center, 819 Chestnut Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101**. Tickets are $10 for the general public and $5 for students with valid IDs. For more information, please contact Dr. Nadia Navarrete-Tindall at 573-681-5392 or by email at Navarrete-TindallN@LincolnU.edu.

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Visit our web-site at www.monep.org			

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