

Nature Photo Times Member: Photographic Society of America & Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs

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Vol. 55, No. 5 - Jan 2011

Founded 1956

Minnesota Nature End of the Year Results:



1st Place General - Lake Superior Sunrise John Pennoyer



2nd Place General - Horseshoe Bend Ron Cleveland



1st Place Zoology - Robin John Anderson



2nd Place Zoology - Grooming Spoonbill Don Specht



1st Place Botany - Bluebells in Habitat John Pennoyer



2nd Place Botany - Wild Geranium Carole Mannheim



Image of the Year - Hepaticas Four Marilyn Gladitsch



Wildlife Image of the Year - Chickadee John LaMere

General Category:

1St Place: 2582, Lake Superior Sunrise by John

Pennoyer

2nd Place: 2103, Horseshoe Bend by Ron

Cleveland

Honorable Mentions:

1170, View from Virgin River Bridge Zion NP by Karl

Fiegenschuh

1510, Winter Sunset by Don Nadreau

1552, Pine Creek by Jay Olson-Goude

2119, South Georgia by Mariann Cyr

2230, Sunlit Tree by Rick Graves

Zoology Category:

1St Place: 2010, Robin By John Anderson

2nd Place: 1749, Grooming Spoonbill by Don Specht

Honorable Mentions:

1033, Loon Dancing by Eric Baker

1119, Red-tail Nest by Mariann Cyr

1400, Little Chipper by John LaMere

1429, Hippos Fighting by Jean McDonough

1582, Awakening Owl by John Pennoyer

1583, Meadowlark by Dave Perez

1660, Lizard Gaze by Steve Ryhn

1702, Albatross and Fog by Alan Schulz

1870, Blue Damselfly by Larry Weinman

1881, Down The Hatch by Roger Williams

2010, Pileated by John Anderson

2400, Common Redpoll by John LaMere

2010, Monochrome Crow by John Anderson

2582, Napping Goslings by John Pennoyer

2749, Egret Display by John Specht

2850, Ermine by Dave Vichich

2850, Two of a Kind by Dave Vichich

2870, Orbweaver Spider in Web by Larry Weinman

Botany Category:

1st Place: 2582, Bluebells in habitat by John

Pennoyer

2nd Place: 1427, Wild Geranium by Carole

Mannheim

Honorable Mentions:

1103 McCarthy Beach Color by Ron Cleveland

1230, Snow Day by Rick Graves

Bloodroot Trio by T. Samuelson

Image of the Year:

Hepaticas Four by Marilyn Gladitsch

Wildlife Image of the Year:

2400, Chickadee by John LaMere

Feathers – and what they do.

By Ron Winch

The beautiful red-crested pileated seemed to walk up the vertical old cottonwood tree as effortlessly as I could walk on level ground. I had observed this action with many woodpeckers, nuthatches and creepers for years, but never questioned how many functions feathers served the birds – besides the obvious.

This pileated was making good use of his stiff tail feathers as a brace as it climbed. Birds that climb vertical surfaces have strengthened tail feathers with the tips of the shaft projecting as bare spines.

Let's look at the types of feathers we might find on our feathered friends. First and most basic are the contour feathers that cover the body and give shape and color. Photographers and birders are particularly interested in color. What photographer would pass up the opportunity to photograph the exquisitely colored male wood duck only to record the female? And so it is with most photographers and some birders. Also, the colorful plumage assigned to male birds is a great attribute for attracting a mate during the breeding season. The less colorful females drab plumage offers protective coloration during the nesting season.

Flying birds, and not all birds are capable of flight, are equipped with wing and tail feathers. The truly amazing dive of a peregrine falcon documented at 242 miles per hour by a falconer-sky diver makes this falcon the fastest bird in the world. Ask any hunter about the erratic flight of a woodcock or pheasant and you'll realize how their flight feathers are adapted to their environment. Now consider the albatross of the southern oceans. Their ten-foot wings are well adapted to soaring. They often ride air currents created by wave action and have been documented to be on the wing for 24 hours or more – even sleeping while in flight.

With winter coming in the northern latitudes, down feathers, under the contour feathers, are the prime insulation for the birds that do not migrate. Down is the number one insulation for outdoor enthusiasts from mountain climbers to folks like you and me at 45 degrees north latitude. The best down in the world comes from eider ducks, raised in Iceland and northern Europe for their down.

Feathers, of course, are used to regulate body temperature, shielding body parts from the elements. Waterfowl use their feathers to help them float, or by compressing feathers and expelling air to regulate diving. On South Georgia and Antarctica you can watch penguins tobogganing on or sliding on their bellies across snow and ice much faster than they can walk. Have you ever examined the snowy footprint of a ruffed grouse or ptarmigan and were surprised to see how feathered the foot was, almost like snowshoes? Consider the facial discs feathers of some owls that function much like parabolic reflector – helping the owl locate sound and possible lunch.

At one time, the breeding plumes of some species of birds were very popular as décor on ladies' hats. Thankfully, those days are in the distant past.

And I used to think it was just a bird.

Photography Destinations February 2011

It was very interesting but at the December meeting both Ron Cleveland and I were asked by visitors and new members, questions regarding photography locations. With the normal response was being "I don't know where to find photogenic locations". So Ron and I had two different ideas one he is putting together a location guide book with help from Dale Bohlke and others. I decided to put in the newsletter every month on some possible locations I might be visiting during the coming month. So this month will be for February. But my best advice to

anyone is to: Explore!! Explore!! Explore!! Minnesota and Western Wisconsin!

Sax-Zim Bog: I visit this bog every winter probably 2 or 3 times, this is an excellent area for wintering Northern Owl, especially Northern Hawk Owls and Great Gray Owls. But as I am writing this on January 1st only one or two owls are being reported. To check reports go to the MOU web site. (www.moumn.org) and look under the "Hotline Reports" tab. But there are also feeding stations that have been set up for backyard type birds. Many of the birds are species that are difficult to find and photograph such as Boreal Chickadee, Gray Jay, Pine Grosbeak, etc. The most popular feeding stations are on Admiral Road. To get to this bog take Highway 33 through Cloquet - then left on CR 7 and this will take you right to the bog. Or go from highway 33 to 53 and at Cotton, MN take a left on CR 52 and this will also get you there. Drive slowly, because the birds can be all along these roads also. Northern Hawk Owls like to perch on the very tippy top of trees or power poles. Lenses from the 80-400mm, 100-400mm along with big glass from 500MM up all work good. This is also a good place to get out the snowshoes and do some landscape photography especially sunrise or sunsets.

Trumpeter Swans: I know I have 1000's of images of this magnificent bird, but I always make several trips every winter, probably because I only live about 20 minutes from here. There is no better place than Monticello on the Mississippi River to photograph not only the Trumpeters, but waterfowl in general. Some of my best flying images of ducks are taken here. No reason to visit the Monticello web site because they are here, but the web site is www.monticellochamber.com/swans. My preference is "cold" (0F to -15F) clear skies and calm winds, mist will be coming off the warmer river creating some unique photo opportunities. For flight shooting I prefer later in the day from maybe 2:00PM to sunset. Generally lenses 80-400mm, 70-200mm with 1.4X, along with the big glass.

Shakopee Veterans Park: This is another great place for wintering waterfowl, although Mallards and geese are the common species, other ducks will be around, my best images of Hooded Mergansers have been taken here. Veterans Park is on 169 just a short distance east from Perkins. I many times will bring some whole kernel corn with me, everyone seems to do that and to my knowledge no official has ever said anything. I go there mainly to shoot ducks in flight and for take-offs and landings. Pay attention to behavior such as head bobbing, lots of quacking and that is the sign that some are going to take flight. Big glass is not necessary here, just the hand held 80-400mm, 100-400mm or 70-200mm with 1.4 converters or any type lenses in that range will also work. Again for me the colder the better!

Full Moon: I love to photograph the winter full moon which occurs on February 18th at 6:42PM (Twin City time) not sure where I will be but if you have never photographed the full moon at Split Rock Lighthouse this is the area I recommend. The moon will come right over or very close to the lighthouse. To photograph the full moon the evening before and the evening of the full moon is best. It is generally close to sunset and this gives you some additional light to work with. I guarantee I will be somewhere after the full moon, just not sure where. Remember to arrive at your destination early and watch your histogram for correct exposure.

Winter Landscapes: Anywhere in Minnesota or Western Wisconsin.

Good Shooting John Pennoyer

Note: The guide John mentioned above is nearly complete, and 'complete' is the word that best describes it! The guide will be emailed to all paid members, so if you want your copy of this very useful tool, get your dues in to Don Nadreau! - Ed.

Upcoming Meeting Programs:

February: Gary Alan Nelson

March: Mariann Cyr

April: Ron Winch

May: John Pennoyer

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Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month, September through May

6:00 PM - Set-up and Social Time

6:30 PM - Announcements and Business

6:45 PM - Program

7:45 PM - Nature Salon (Competition and

Judge's Comments).

Meetings are held at:

REI

750 West American Blvd Bloomington, MN 55420

January Meeting Wednesday January 19, 2011

Our January presentation will be

Northstar International award winning images will be presented by club member Mike Prokosch

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Nature Photo Times

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Vol. 55, No. 6 - Feb 2011

Photographing Birds in Southwest Florida By Dave Zosel

All of us look on with envy when a magnificent nature image is projected on the screen. Perhaps it's a penguin photographed on South Georgia Island or possibly a scenic in the grand west of our own country. "If I could only go there. I know I could get some great images!" But alas, the almighty buck is too slow in coming and too soon gone.

There is hope if you pay attention to details and timing. My purpose is to get you to a premier bird photography site, at a time when the crowds are absent, and the prices are more bearable. If you vacation with your family, this area will keep everyone happy.

Southwest Florida offers a unique opportunity for those of us who are bird fanatics and at the right season the price can be right. If you're able to spend some time there, chances are you won't be disappointed.

My wife and I recently returned from five days at Fort Myers Beach. It was not our first trip to the area so we were able to make the most of the time and had wonderful opportunities to photograph a large number of coastal birds. To make this article simple without droning on about possibilities, I will tell you the how, why, where, and when of our trip and hope that it will be helpful to you in scheduling a future photographic get-away.

We booked the trip with "cheaptickets.com". We have used this service in the past and find them thorough, efficient and very competitive. A key thing to remember when choosing southwest Florida as a destination is to schedule your trip before the fourth week of January. Actually between, January 1st and 24th, you'll find to be the best time for good rates, warming weather, and active birds. After the third week in January, the crowds come in, the rates skyrocket and the birds become even more active.

We were able to book the Sun Country flight, rental car and hotel as a package deal at a pretty reasonable rate. We flew out of Humphrey Terminal in Minneapolis and into RSW in Fort Myers, finding both airports totally hassle free. When driving to Fort Myers Beach from RSW you can come in from the north or south. To keep your driving free of traffic jams definitely head south on I-75, take the Bonita Beaches Exit and after a 40-minute drive, without any turns, you'll end up on Estero Boulevard and at the hotel. Early in the day you do not want to be entering Fort Myers Beach from the north and late in the day you will not want to be leaving that way.

Our choice was to stay at the Holiday Inn and Hotel on the beach at Fort Myers Beach. We could walk out of our very clean room and be on the huge white sand beach photographing along the popular Estero ponds within minutes. High tides recharge these pools with small fish, crustaceans, mollusks and microorganisms that are a great drawing card for the rich variety of bird life along the gulf coast.

The hotel has Pincher's Tiki Bar and Grill (indoor and out), with great food, and often live entertainment in the evenings. There are also many wonderful eating venues within walking distance of the hotel. We found the hotel personnel very friendly and the employees helpful.

When photographing the Estero ponds, you will want to work with the sun at your back, which means in the morning from east to west, and later in the day from west to east. A zoom lens is best here, as you will find birds at various distances from up close to well out into the ponds. I found my Sigma 50-500 mounted on a Canon 30D to be a great combination. I used this combination on a tripod early in the day and for sake of convenience, worked mostly with a 200mm handheld during the day.

You will also be in close driving distance of some great opportunities. Sanibel Island, Venice Rookeries, Cape Coral (burrowing owls), Corkscrew Swamp, Alligator Farm and Lover's Key State Park are all areas you will want to research so you can plan your time to best advantage.

Be sure to spend at least a full day on Sanibel Island. The island is a short 30-minute drive from the hotel. You will pay a \$6 toll fee as you cross the causeway to the island. The wildlife drive at Ding Darling Refuge opens at 7:30am. Here you will need to purchase a \$5 per car pass - good for the entire day. This is a "don't miss" opportunity. Do your research and you'll be sure to fill up fill up your SD card.

After a morning of great shooting, we left the refuge and had lunch a short distance up the road on Captiva Island. We spent the afternoon at Bowman Beach. Here the surf is beautiful and rolling. You'll find no shortage of willets, sanderlings, turnstones, terns, gulls, pelicans and herons casually minding their own business among a plethora of sunbathers and beachcombers.

Later in the afternoon follow Periwinkle east and it will take you to the Fishing Pier and Lighthouse. This is another favorite hangout for a variety of birds and bird photographers. Here a short zoom lens will be perfect for head and flight shots of close birds.

By 4pm you will want to get back to the refuge for the evening shoot. The wildlife drive will stay open until shortly after sundown. This is a great time for flight shots of birds entering the "Tower Pool" for roosting. It is also a great opportunity for some magnificent sunset scenics, and bird silhouette shots.

In conclusion southwest Florida is a great place for a break from snow and winter winds and a wonderful place to satisfy that itch for some great bird photography. In the weeks ahead, as time permits, I will be posting short posts with images of the various birds of coastal Florida. Check it out at dzoselphotog.blogspot.com







Photography Destinations March 2011

If there is ever a least favorite month for photography, at least for me, it is without a doubt the month of March. It is a time of the year that Mother Nature never knows whether to make winter linger on for awhile with more snow and cold or let spring come in a little early with higher than normal temperatures. It could a great time for winter landscapes but also a very ugly time if the weather is warm and the fresh white snow is now dirty and ugly. So my agenda for March photography must be very flexible! Here are some photography tips for March.

Wildlife

Trumpeter Swans: Most swans will be in the process of leaving for their home territories, it may be OK for the first week or so, but commonly they will leave during the day and scout out their "home" lake and maybe just stand around on the ice and may come back to the Mississippi at night. I usually never waste my time this late in the season. **Bald Eagles:** Late February and early March can be one of the best times especially if we have a cold snap. The eagles are in the process of migrating back to their home territories and will congregate in almost any open water. Colvill Park in Red Wing is a good spot to check out especially after a cold snap. Two years ago Diamond Lake in Dayton was fantastic for about two weeks; the eagles were feeding on winterkill fish.

Migrating Ducks: Many duck species will migrate very early and this is one of the best times to photograph them. Any open water will have ducks. My favorite is still Veteran Park in Shakopee, but just check out any open water and you may find a hard to get species. With ice still in the larger body of water and small pockets begin to open waterfowl will congregate and make it easier for the photographer.

Landscapes

Landscapes in March you will certainly need to be flexible, if after a fresh snowfall landscapes will be almost anywhere you will want to go. However if it is warm and the snow starts melting, I look for areas of small streams and flowing water. It can always be a fantastic opportunity, especially after a fresh snowfall and open water with ice on the edges. Big Woods State Park at Hidden Falls can be such a location. Some of the water and small lakes at Carlos Avery Wildlife Refuge and Crex Meadows Wildlife Refuge are possibilities. The full moon is March 19th at 7:52PM (Twin City time) and I consider this the last chance to get an image of the winter full moon. Also remember I always consider the night before and the night of the full moon to be both just as good for photography. Even though the night before is not the official full moon, a person would never be able to tell by the image. Very early March can be a great time for images on the North Shore. If the wind is right there's a possible chance of ice and ice ridges, plus possibilities of the waterfalls beginning to thaw and flow.

Botanical

About the only botanical photography that I begin to do is for Skunk Cabbage: they are one of the first plants to emerge through ice and snow. A couple of locations to check out: Nine Mile Creek in Bloomington. This is just off of 106^{th} Avenue. Park in the parking lot and take the steep stairs across the creek and turn to your right and the wet areas on your left you will find them. I also like to go to Banning State Park, which has the highest amount of plants of this species that I know of. However this will probably be later in the month. Be sure to wear waterproof foot wear, it will be wet and mushy and of course you will be low to the ground so wear appropriate clothing - you will get wet! Spend some time looking around, Skunk Cabbage may not look very photogenic, but I guarantee with the right plant/s you can capture a great image.

I probably take my least number of images during the Month of March, but I still get out and look for subjects. What I look for in early March will more than likely be a whole lot different in late March, we have all heard the expression: March comes in like a Lion and leaves like a Lamb!!

When you are out shooting remember to Explore! Explore! Explore!

Good Shooting John Pennover

Photo Hike led by Don Tredinnick

Wildlife and Sunrise Photo Hike

Date: Saturday, February 19 Time: 6:30 - 8:00 a.m. Place: Old Cedar Ave

Description:

Join us for some early morning photography, as we explore the Long Meadow Lake unit of the Refuge. We will begin with a sunrise shoot, followed by looking for signs of wildlife. We will meet in the parking lot, and then make our way to the boardwalk. Sunrise is scheduled for 7:08 AM and should be coming up from across the lake.

What to bring: Warm clothing,

A camera that either has a sunrise setting or one that has manual settings

Minnesota Nature Photography Club

January Salon Scores Judge: Michael Prokosch

Photographer	Title	Score
John Anderson	Autumn Barred	8
Nancy Cox	Siesta (w)	8
Nancy Cox	Sunrise	8
Joe Fierst	Twin Calyspsos	8
Bill Handsaker	Vermillion Cliffs	8
John LaMere	Crayfish (w)	8
John LaMere	Crex Sharptail (w)	8
Mary Lundeberg	Herons Kissing (w)	8
Scott Landseidel	Cardinal (w)	8
Carol Mannheim	Red Tail (w)	8
John Pennoyer	Backlit Sunflower	8
John Pennoyer	Sunrise on the Prairie	8
	Bleu Herons Tender	
Don Specht	Moment (w)	8
Don Specht	Osprey with Dinner (w)	8
Larry Weinman	Four Down (w)	8
Roger Williams	Trumpeter (w)	8
Roger Williams	Pretty Dancer (w)	8
Betty Goossens-Bryan	Feeding Young	9
Rick Graves	Canyon Morning	9
Dave Klein	Great Egret Portrait (w)	9
Keith Nason	Who's There (w)	9
Dennis Newton	Moose River	9
Lil Polley	Wildflowers in Fog	9
Lil Polley	Milkweed	9
Alan Schulz	Gentoo and Chicks	9
John Anderson	In the Rut	10
Mariann Cyr	White Tern (w)	10
Joe Fierst	Morning Dewdrops	10
Dave Klein	Dowitcher Reflection (w)	10
Jean McDonough	Baby Cougar Snarling	10
Jean McDonough	Red Fox by Den	10
Alan Schulz	Loon Sunrise (w)	10

New Salon submission guidelines:

Only paid members may submit images for the monthly salons. After the end of this year, slides will no longer be accepted for the monthly salons.

http://www.minnesotanature.org/Pages/salondigital.html

Requirements for Preparing and Submitting Digital Images

E-Mail your one or two images to salon@minnesotanature.org before 6:00 PM the Sunday before the meeting - the earlier the better to allow for the proper archiving and presentation of your image.

*Digital images need to be in the following format to be accepted:

Computer adjustments to any image must comply with <u>PSA rules</u> for "Digital Images"

☑JPEG file format (.jpg)

Image size; minimum 1024 pixels, maximum 1280 pixels along the longest dimension.

Use the sRGB color space since that is how they will be displayed. If you are not familiar with the concept of color space, don't worry about it.

File name for each image should be your personal 4-digit identification number* followed by a 12-letter image title. Add a (W) when the image complies with the PSA definition of authentic wildlife. For example:

1903 Dawn Swans (W).jpg - First image for member 903 **2903 MarshMargld.jpg** - Second image for member 903

Please type your two filenames, each on a new line, in the body of your email. Attach - do not embed - the images to a regular email message and email to salon@minnesotanature.org. The subject line should contain something like "Images for October salon".

If you do not receive a confirmation email then please bring your images on a CD-ROM or USB memory key to the meeting.

Submissions which do not comply with the above requirements hinder file management and could be rejected or delayed entry to a salon until requirements are met.

*If you would like to be assigned a four-digit identification number, do not understand these requirements or require help to comply with them, please email your name and phone number to salon@minnesotanature.org and someone will contact you.

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6:00 PM - Set-up and Social Time 6:30 PM - Announcements and Business 6:45 PM - Program 7:45 PM - Nature Salon (Competition and Judge's Comments).

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750 West American Blvd Bloomington, MN 55420

February Meeting Wednesday February 16, 2011

Our February program features Minnesota native Gary Alan Nelson. Gary has spent the last twenty years exploring and photographing the wild places and vanishing rural landscapes of North America.

Hi award-winning imagery has been published in hundreds of magazines, calendars, books and other publications. Gary's topic will be: "Twenty years in the life of a landscape photographer." He will show images of North America, talk on how they were captured, and describe the life of a landscape photographer while on the road. Check out his website at: www.garyalannelson.com

Saving trees for us to photograph.

The May issue of the Nature Photo Times will be the last issue to printed and mailed. Beginning in September, the newsletter will be available in pdf format only from the Minnesota Nature Photography Club website. Those who do not have access to a computer can drop in at their local public library and read it online there.

MNPC's Entry for the Interclub Club Competition

The Camera Council Interclub competition has both individual and club sections. Individuals may enter images in 5 categories: Monochrome Print, Color Print, Nature Digital, Realistic Digital and Contemporary Digital.

The club portion of the competition is a single open (any topic) category. Clubs submit 20 digital images. A designated person from the club gathers and submits the entry. Clubs with over 25 members may only submit one image from any club member. You must be a club member to participate.

Please bring a couple of your images that you want considered for the MNPC club entry to the February 16th meeting. Bring them on a CD or e-mail them to Mike Prokosch (mjprokosch1@comcast.net) before February 16th. We are looking for a balance of subjects so this would be a good time to include a non-nature image. Entries must be JPEG file format and the image size should not exceed 1024 pixels along the longest dimension. The entry deadline is February 20th.

Complete information and entry forms are on the Camera Council website:

http://cameracouncil.org/competitions/index.html

Twin Cities Camera Club Council Spring Break

Mark your calendars – Saturday, March 26 2011 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Dakota County Technical College Main Campus 1300 145th Street East (County Road 42) Rosemount, MN 55068

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Vol. 55, No. 7 - Mar 2011

THE VIEW FROM HERE by Lawrence C. Duke "Photography Spoken Here"

Bosque Del Apache

"I saw them first many Novembers ago and heard their triumphant trumpet calls, a hundred or more sandhill cranes riding south on a thermal above the Rio Grande Valley, and that day their effortless flight and their brassy music got into my soul."

Charles Kuralt



My wife and I have been to the "Bosque" more than once, but it never lessens the thrill of being there. We drove into the refuge about 6:45 just as the sun was starting to go behind the western ridge of the Chupadera Mountains. The parking lot of the second pool was empty and there were no birds in sight. It felt a little like a washout but being a die-hard, I set up the tripod with a 600mm and started listening for some kind of sound. There had to be birds here. At the entrance the posting showed 6,000 cranes and 31,000 Light geese, or snow goose if you are from Minnesota, and lots of ducks and 9 eagles .

Then I heard the tin horn sound, way the heck off in the east. You can always hear them before you can see them. But I was in hurry to get a shot before the light was gone. Still nothing in sight and it was getting cold with the sun going down. It wasn't Minnesota cold but once the sun goes down the Bosque is just as cold as any winter day. The cranes and geese come into these pools for the night to roost.

As the sounds got louder, the hope got stronger and the light got poorer. Crank up the ISO and hope some more.



Then the first of the birds guided in for the night. No light, shoot anyhow, that's why you came. Had the whole pool to myself with no other photographers in sight, but it felt really strange. I had been here with so many photographers it was hard to find a spot for a tripod.



The next morning, it's a new story.

So I slept in a little – sorry! I just barely got a spot to park the car let alone a tripod. The cranes must of been tired too, because they were just starting to move with the sun warming them up. They leave out in two's and three's, or a dozen, no big flush - at least not this morning. There was plenty of time to try different angles and lens swaps for new images. Oh, how the file count grows.



The Bosque del Apache means "woods of the Apache," who camped on the riverside many years ago.

Today, Bosque del Apache is one of the most spectacular refuges in North America. Every fall tens of thousands of migratory birds make the refuge their winter home. Besides the cranes and geese, we saw Red-winged Blackbirds by the tree full, Northern Pintails - one of my favorite ducks, an American Kestrel feeding on a King snake. It was just so nice being there.

Don't believe me, well, ask Arthur Morris "Bird Photographer" or whatever he calls himself. His workshops include the ""Bosque". One year I brought a group from Phoenix to the refuge for a weekend of photography and the motel clerk thought I was Morris, who really was going to be there the next week. For less than 15 minutes we were treated pretty good.



And this is why I've made the trips to the "Bosque" and this is why I'll be back again. For information on line try; $\underline{www.fws.gov/southwest/}$

Photography Destinations April

Finally after the long winter, spring has arrived. As much as I do enjoy winter photography, spring photography is always a special time. The white, gray and brown landscape begins to change to a landscape of many colors. It is again a time when what you photograph in early April will be entirely different in late April. As the sun gets higher in the sky the earth begins to get warmer and warmer and all sorts of various botanical subjects begin to take hold throughout April. As usual I can never know for sure where I will be in any given time because the bloom dates will vary depending on the weather pattern, snow depth and temperatures of the spring season, but here are some of my thoughts on what I will be doing:

Wildlife

This is a month that I really to spend most of my time after botanical subjects but in early to middle of April I do like to try to get images of migrating waterfowl. The best time is when the ice is just beginning to "ice out". The ice begins to leave the shoreline and the early migrants will be easy to photograph right next to the shore. I know I will venture for a night or two to Crex Meadows WMA and also maybe Whitewater WMA. A person can just do a little "drive-by" shooting from your vehicle. But I always set up a blind away from the road and spend several hours waiting for waterfowl to come swimming or flying by. I do however spend considerable amount of time after Wild Turkey, I like to use my photo blind, decoys and use my turkey calls and try to lure in that elusive Gobbler as he listens to me sounding like a willing and able hen. However there are so many turkeys now, just walk around almost any park in the metro area and you will find them, it is not necessary to sound like a "hot hen!"

Botanical Subjects

For me Wildflowers is where it is at this time of the year. Spring ephemerals are one of the best ways to get rid of the winter doldrums. For me it starts with prairie Pasque Flowers generally sometime around the 10^{th} . These flowers are very abundant on certain prairies - just use the new guide Ron put together to help you locate them. I like to shoot this prairie flower at low light so sunrise/sunset is the best time. Backlighting really make the hairs on the stems stand out. When the sun is higher in the sky it will help bring out the blue/purple color of this beautiful flower. Later in the month woodland flowers will begin to emerge. Hepaticas, Bloodroot, Dutchman Breeches, and many other woodland flowers. Almost any hardwoods will have these flowers. Some of my favorite locations - Big Woods State Park, O'brien State Park, Kathio State Park and many other state parks. There are also lots of local parks and simple woodlots that will hold many various species of spring ephemerals. My advice as usual is to explore and explore some more. Diffusers and reflectors are usually standard equipment for good flower photography if it is a sunny day, along with "minor" gardening. Always hope for no or very little wind.

Good Shooting, John Pennoyer

Photo Hike led by Don Tredinnick

Rising Waters Photo Shoot

Date: March 26

Place: Bloomington Ferry Unit **Time:** 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Description:

Early spring is great time to experience the power of the Minnesota River as it swells with snow melt. We will be talking about some techniques for photographing flowing water. Our hike will take us down by the old Bloomington Ferry Bridge. Depending upon conditions we may shoot from the bridge, or from upstream along the Bloomington Ferry Trail.

What to bring:

Clothing:

The trail is very likely going to be muddy and wet, so please wear the appropriate footwear.

Tripod and neutral density filters for long exposure shots

Almost any camera will work for most of the shots we will be taking. If you want to experiment with long exposure, then a DSLR is needed.

Minnesota Nature Photography Club

February Salon Scores Judge: Mariann Cyr

Photographer	Title	Score
John Anderson	Moose Drool	8
Karl Fiegenschuh	Raccoon Twins	8
Rick Graves	Canyon Light	8
John LaMere	Wild Geraniums (w)	8
John Pennoyer	Boundry Waters Twilight	8
Lil Polley	Pancake Ice	8
Don Specht	Solitary Moment	8
Joe Fierst	Afternoon Visit	8
Jay Olson-Goude	Lupine	8
Alan Schulz	Sunrise Gentoos (w)	8
Don Specht	Smiling Sea Lion (w)	8
Larry Weinman	Frosty Flight (w)	8
Roger Williams	In-Synch	8
Mary Lundeberg	Swan Preening (w)	8
Gene Lange	Kenya Sunset	8
Dennis Newton	Swamp	8
Dave Klein	Arctic Tern (w)	9
Dave Vichich	Swan (w)	9
Roger Williams	Red Breasted Nuthatch (w)	9
Keith Nason	Swimming Deer (w)	9
Keith Nason	Who's There (w)	9
Gene Lange	Cheetah	9
John Anderson	Doe in Thicket	9
Eric Baker	Barred Owl	9
Ron Cleveland	Sunset Point	9
Dave Klein	Brown Pelican in Flight	9
Carole Mannheim	Upper Falls	9
Alan Schulz	Emperor with 2 Chicks (w)	10
Dennis Newton	Wilderness Bay	10
Varl Fingansahuk	Colorado Wildflower Rainbow	10
Karl Fiegenschuh	Foggy Mississippi	10
John Pennoyer	roggy wiississippi	10
1	1	1

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http://www.minnesotanature.org/Pages/salondigital.html

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REI

750 West American Blvd Bloomington, MN 55420

March Meeting Wednesday March 16, 2011

"The Gooney Birds of Midway Atoll: Images from a Small Refuge in the Pacific" – Presenter Mariann Cyr

Minnesota Nature Photography Club member Mariann Cyr traveled to Midway Atoll in early 2010, one of the most remote coral atolls on earth, to experience and photograph the world's largest population of Laysan Albatrosses or "gooney birds." In addition to the Laysan Albatrosses, her program will depict some of the other wildlife calling Midway home, including Hawaiian monk seals, green sea turtles, and Laysan ducks. Mariann routinely judges area club competitions and gives programs. She also has served as a judge for a number of Photographic Society of America (PSA) international competitions and is listed in the PSA "Who's Who" list for nature images. She has had images published in the Minnesota Weatherguide calendars and the Minnesota Monthly Magazine.

Saving trees for us to photograph.

The May issue of the Nature Photo Times will be the last issue to printed and mailed. Beginning in September, the newsletter will be available in pdf format only from the Minnesota Nature Photography Club website. Those who do not have access to a computer can drop in at their local public library and read it online there.

Twin Cities Camera Club Council Spring Break

Mark your calendars – Saturday, March 26 2011 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Dakota County Technical College Main Campus 1300 145th Street East (County Road 42) Rosemount, MN 55068

Camera Council Judging School

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FIRST CLASS MAIL







Member: Photographic Society of America & Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs

Vol. 55, No. 8 - Apr 2011

THE VIEW FROM HERE by Lawrence C. Duke "Photography Spoken Here"

What's It All About?

In 1959 the only classes in photography to be had were night school classes at the U of M. The only real daytime classes were in the School of Journalism. Those were only open to students of photo-journalism.

The night school instructors were Allen Downs and Jerome, "Jerry" Leibling.

It was kinda like a class in photo-appreciation of the art, not a big technical class.

It was a small class, maybe all of twelve people. Back at that time the SLR was few and far between for most students. There was a Air Force Colonel with a Nikon F and a 50 mm f 1.8 that everyone kept an eye on even the instructors. The rest of us were using 135mm rangefinder types or the twin lens reflex 120, for black and white film. My camera was an Agfa rangefinder and I shared an Ansco twin lens, from 1948, that I was able to end up owning much later.

The class work was an assigment to shoot a roll and come to class and process it. The darkroom or loading room was like a home closet, and two to three students at a time. With your film on a Nikkor reel and in the can you went out to the sink for processing and drying. You then took your film to the contact printer, a box with a lid and glass top and all kinds of light bulbs and switches in it. You would place your film on the glass and place the photo paper on top and shut the lid and hit the switches, guess or by gosh, and you would make a contact sheet on WWII air force 10x10 surplus paper. From that you and one of the instructors would pick what you thought was your best frame for a print. There were four 4x5 enlargers. one on each of the walls with the processing trays in the sink in the middle of the room. Three people sharing one station, it took forever to get a print made.

The class was four hours a night twice a week. On the second night the class would present their black and white 10x10 prints, cropped or full frame for a class critique of your work led by Allen and Jerry. Anyone could say something if they wanted about the

images for the night. It was kind of fun to defend your work with the help of Allen or Jerry. They also helped cut you up if your work was poor. This went on for 8 weeks and you saw a lot of different

student works in that time. Plus the work of some of the times' greatest photographers: Alfred Eisenstaedt, Edward Weston, Gordon Parks, Ansel Adams, Eve Arnold, Minor White, Weegee - Arthur Fellig, Margaret Bourke White, Berenice Abbott, Richard Avedon, William Wegman. If you're into photography you should know some of these names because their work is part of photo history.

In our class critique a young lady started to really show some very nice images and after many weeks everyone was agreeing that she had the best set of prints in the class. Her prints had that snap to them and were always sharp and clean.

On the last night of class we all brought in our cameras and I don't even know why, but we had a show-and-tell. When it came to the young lady, she opened a black Klart bag and brought out her camera, she had "Aced" the class with a Kodak Brownie Hawkeve

And just last week I bought the same camera from 1959 for \$14 dollars.

Always wanted one and now 52 years later, I've got it.



Quote: "If a photographer cares about the people before the lens and is compassionate, much is given. It is the photographer, not the camera, that is the instrument." Eve AronId

Election of Officers for 2011-2012

At the April meeting, the nominating committee will present the following slate of nominees

President: Roger Williams

Vice President: Betty Goossens-Bryan Treasurer: Don Nadreau (incumbent) Secretary: Linda Nygren (incumbent)

Newsletter Editor: Jay Olson-Goude (incumbent)

Voting for officers will occur at the May club meeting. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor at the May meeting prior to the vote with the consent of the person being nominated.

Jean McDonough will also be continuing on the executive board as our "Past President". Outgoing VP Lil Polley and outgoing Past President John Pennoyer will be leaving the board, and are thanked for their years of service.

In addition we would like to thank the following persons for their service to the club, continuing into the coming club year:

Webmaster: Rick Fenstermaker Digital Projectionist: Don Tredinnick Camera Council Delegate: Mariann Cyr Imaging Advisor: Michael Prokosch Nametag Coordinator: Pam Carroll

Refreshment Coordinator: Mariann Cyr (previously done

by Lil Polley)

E-Notes: Ron Cleveland

Yahoo Group Moderator: Linda Nygren

Minnesota Nature Photography Club

March Salon Scores
Judge: John Pennover

Photographer	Title	Score
John Anderson	Resilience (w)	8
John Anderson	Badlands Porcupine (w)	8
Ron Cleveland	Grinnell Point	8
Dave Ellenbecker	Wood Anemones	8
Karl Fiegenschuh	Baby Coyote	8
Rick Graves	Bellowing Elk (w)	8
Dave Klein	Sea Palms Coastal Oregon	8
Scott Landseidel	Big Blue (w)	8
Scott Landseidel	Take Flight (w)	8
Carol Madison	Rocks and Sand	8
Carole Mannheim	Pelican (w)	8
Dennis Newton	Lake One	8

Dave Vichich	Tree	8
Roger Williams	Little Blue (w)	8
Roger Williams	Reddish Egret (w)	8
Karl Fiegenschuh	Swan Preening (w)	9
Joe Fierst	Gooseberry Waterfall	9
John LaMere	Beachcomber (w)	9
John LaMere	Cape Coral Owl	9
Gene Lange	Cheetah	9
Jean McDonough	Three Elephant Family (w)	9
Dennis Newton	Grassy Lake	9
Don Specht	Jeramiah (w)	9
David Zosel	Preening Pelican (w)	9
Ron Cleveland	Fremont Phacella	10
Jean McDonough	Leopard in Tree (w)	10
	Elephant Seal Pups on	10
Alan Schulz	Beach (w)	10
Alan Schulz	Flicker and Young (w)	10
Don Specht	Gluten Free Lunch (w)	10
Dave Vichich	Eagle	10
Barbara Wilson	Ghost Trees	10
David Zosel	Snowy Egret (w)	10

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7:45 PM - Nature Salon (Competition and Judge's Comments).

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REI

750 West American Blvd Bloomington, MN 55420

April Meeting Wednesday April 20, 2011

Our April presentation will be "Northern Exposures – Exploring Minnesota's Northern Forests" by Ron Winch.

Ron, a regular contributor to the MNPC Nature Photo Times and prolific student of nature, will be back to engage us in another informative program.

Saving trees for us to photograph.

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...........

Founded 1956

Member: Photographic Society of America & Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs

Vol. 55, No. 9 - May 2011

NADA ZIP SQUAT

That's what I received for content this month.

I hate to get all 'Public Radio' on you, but this newsletter depends on contributions from its readers. If salon scores and official club announcements are all that everyone is interested, that's what I'll publish. However, I really think most members are interested in more than just scores and announcements. I for one really enjoy reading the items that are regularly contributed by a just a few members. I don't care how long one's been doing photography – there's always something new to learn from others. Let's make the Nature Photo Times a vehicle for that learning from lots of different members, experienced and inexperienced alike.

Send your content to me at jolson-goude@msn.com. Ideally, it would be nice to get things three weeks prior to the monthly meeting, but I'll take stuff at any time – a backlog of content is a good thing! Thanks,

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Minnesota Nature Photography Club

April Salon Scores Judge: Alan Schulz

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John Anderson	Spring Loon (w)	8
Jeff Bucklew	Woodduck	8
Ron Cleveland	White Hepatica	8
Mariann Cyr	River Rocks	8
Karl Fiegenschuh	Moose Head-on (w)	8
Joe Fierst	Mule Deer in Velvet (w)	8
Jean McDonough	Wildebeest Migration	8
Jean McDonough	Bee Eater Facing Us (w)	8
Darcy Sime	Osprey Meal (w)	8
Don Specht	Moorhen With Chick	8
Don Tredinnick	Feeding Time	8
Larry Weinman	Hen Mallard Fly Over	8

Roger Williams	Night Heron	8
Roger Williams	My Fish	8
Gary Colvard	Golden Pond	9
Mariann Cyr	Second Beach	9
Mary Lundeberg	Pelican Dance(w)	9
John Pennoyer	Snow Storm Gobbler	9
Darcy Sime	Red Fox (w)	9
Don Specht	Tri-color Heron with Shrimp (w)	9
Don Tredinnick	Gull Looking Out To Sea	9
Jeff Bucklew	Trumpeter Swan (w)	10
John LaMere	Ruffed Grouse (w)	10
John Pennoyer	Stoney Point Sunset	10
David Zosel	Snowy Egret (w)	10

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> May Meeting Wednesday May 18, 2011

Our May presentation will be "Lost in the Fog," presented by John Pennoyer

Don't put your camera away when the fog rolls in!

John will discuss exposure, protecting equipment, predicting fog, and how to make the best of your "foggy" situations.

John's website: http://www.impressionsofnature.net

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FIRST CLASS MAIL







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Member: Photographic Society of America & Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs

Vol. 56, No. 1 - Sept 2011

From the President:

As I sit in my air-conditioned office escaping the torrid heat and humidity outside, I long for the coolness and beauty of the coming fall...and, of course, an exciting new season for the Minnesota Nature Photography Club. We've lined up some great speakers to educate and entertain you. And, we all look forward to seeing the salon images from your summer's travels.

To all past members, I encourage you to renew your membership in the Club. The strength and viability of any organization is in its membership and you have made it successful. And, to those who are not members, I welcome and encourage you to join the Club and fully participate in, and benefit from, the speakers, salons and other advantages of membership. As a special incentive, the past board determined that dues should be decreased. Yes, that's right! Decreased! For many years, the dues structure has been \$20 for individual members and \$28 for families. Now, the annual individual membership rate is \$15, and the family rate \$20. The membership year runs from September to September with no partial-year discount. So, the value of early membership this year is even greater than in the past. Revised membership forms will soon be posted on the website for convenience.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer. I look forward to seeing you all on September 21st.

Roger Williams, President

Competition Schedule Change

..........

For the past few years, the Board has discussed making a change in our annual schedule to synchronize the club fiscal year and officer terms with the salon and end-of year competition schedule.

We have decided to make the following change: We will keep officer term year and dues year as they are, and move the image-of-the-year judging to May. The salon competition is not included under the club Constitution and Bylaws, so this change will not require any change to either of those as changes to the fiscal year and/or officer terms would. Members' dues must be paid by the November meeting to keep one's membership in good standing and to be eligible for the monthly salon. We will continue to hold our holiday party in December, and we will supplement that with a short presentation. There will not be a salon for the month of December.

This year's end-of-year competition period will be a bit longer than previous years', but images that were accepted when the maker was a member in good standing will be continue to be eligible for year-end awards, just as before. In the future the dues year and image-of-the-year cycle will be the same, which should be less confusing.



THE VIEW FROM HERE

by Lawrence C. Duke

"Photography Spoken Here".

"Kodachrome" Past History

(As recorded by Paul Simon)

PAUL SIMON

"Kodachrome, they give us those nice bright colors

They give us the greens of summers

Makes you think all the world's a sunny day, oh yeah

I got a Nikon camera, I love to take photographs

So mama don't take my Kodachrome away. Mama don't take my Kodachrome away

Mama don't take my Kodachrome away"

etc,etc, ect. it's just one of the many songs about photography

Well that's not the whole tune, you want the whole thing go on line, the whole world is out there.

And film lovers are crying.

Kodak announced it was discontinuing the iconic film in 2009, after competition from digital cameras caused a large sales decline.

Kodachrome is difficult to process, requiring expert handlers, and Dwayne's Photo in Kansas was the sole remaining developer.

The last film to be developed was shot by the owner, Dwayne Steinle.

Created in 1935, it was the first commercial film to successfully shoot in color. And during WWII it was the only color available for US troops. They got it late in the war, Art Hager of the Minneapolis Star and the United States Marine Corps used to talk about not knowing what his shots looked like till he got to his main base.

Kodachrome was also used for motion pictures.

And film lovers are crying.

Dwayne's Photo had been inundated with requests for developing, many from photographers who had been hoarding the coveted film for years.

One customer picked up 1,580 rolls of film used solely to shoot railroad engines. The nearly 50,000 slides cost \$15,798 (£10,200) to develop.

Kodak gave the final roll it produced to Steve McCurry.

With just 36 frames to use, he travelled to India to photograph a tribe on the verge of extinction. Mr. McCurry also shot images of New York, Kansas and actor Robert DeNiro in a journey filmed as a documentary by National Geographic.

He hand-delivered the last roll to Dwayne's Photo earlier this year.

He wasn't going to take any chances," he told the New York Times.

So, wipe your tears cause it's all over now.

"Mama don't take my Kodachrome, don't leave your boy so far from home

Mama don't take my Kodachrome away.

Mama don't take my Kodachrome, hmmm

Mama don't take my Kodachrome away

Okay."

Minnesota Nature Photography Club

May Salon Scores Judge: John Penoyer & Larry Duke

John AndersonVentre Roux (w)8Ron ClevelandHepatica8Karl FiegenschuhSnowy Egret & Tree8Karl FiegenschuhPtarmigan (w)8Ted GalambosZion Falls8Ted GalambosBig Chief8Rick GravesColumbine8Bill HaskampMitten Morn8Bill HaskampCanyon Snow8John LaMereSnow Geese (w)8Scott LandseidelCattails (w)8Gene LangeRed Wing Blackbird8Dennis Newtonthe Wind8Lil PolleySunrise Badlands8Dave SimeLaSal Sunset8Darcy SimeMountain Goat (w)8Don TredinnickLunch (w)8Don TredinnickWe Have a Problem Here8Dave VichichNesting (w)8Larry WeinmanSandhill Crane #6 (w)8Roger WilliamsRed Fox Kit (w)9Rick GravesHearts9Jean McDonoughThree Pasque Flowers9Jean McDonoughBanded Mongoose (w)9Larry WeinmanBarded Mongoose (w)9John AndersonSpring Snow10Dave KleinAnna's Hummingbird10John LaMereGrouse (w)10Mary LundebergCrane Leading Chick (w)10Don SpechtAnna's Hummingbird (w)10Don SpechtAnna's Hummingbird (w)10	Photographer	Title	Score
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Roger Williams Baltimore Oriole 10		• ` '	

Salon submission guidelines:

Deadline for submitting images and other instructions:

http://www.minnesotanature.org/Pages/salondigital.html

Requirements for Preparing and Submitting Digital Images

E-Mail your one or two images to salon@minnesotanature.org before 6:00 PM the Sunday before the meeting - the earlier the better to allow for the proper archiving and presentation of your image.

- *Digital images need to be in the following format to be accepted:
- Computer adjustments to any image must comply with <u>PSA rules</u> for "Digital Images"
- ☑JPEG file format (.jpg)
- Image size; minimum 1024 pixels, maximum 1280 pixels along the longest dimension.
- Use the sRGB color space since that is how they will be displayed. If you are not familiar with the concept of color space, don't worry about it.
- File name for each image should be your personal 4-digit identification number* followed by a 12-letter image title. Add a (W) when the image complies with the PSA definition of authentic wildlife. For example:

1903 Dawn Swans (W).jpg - First image for member 903 **2903 MarshMargld.jpg** - Second image for member 903

- Please type your two filenames, each on a new line, in the body of your email. Attach do not embed the images to a regular email message and email to salon@minnesotanature.org. The subject line should contain something like "Images for October salon".
- If you do not receive a confirmation email then please bring your images on a CD-ROM or USB memory key to the meeting.

Submissions which do not comply with the above requirements hinder file management and could be rejected or delayed entry to a salon until requirements are met.

*If you would like to be assigned a four-digit identification number, do not understand these requirements or require help to comply with them, please email your name and phone number to salon@minnesotanature.org and someone will contact you.

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stereogal@gmail.com

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month, September through May

6:00 PM - Set-up and Social Time

6:30 PM - Announcements and Business

6:45 PM - Program

7:45 PM - Nature Salon (Competition and

Judge's Comments).

Meetings are held at:

REI

750 West American Blvd Bloomington, MN 55420

September Meeting Wednesday September 21, 2011

Our Sept program will be presented by Dale Bohlke.

"Wildflower Explorations" A photographic journey exploring the range of color and design in Minnesota wildflowers.

Dale has been an active photographer for the last 15 years. Over that time, his interests have included photography of wildflowers, Minnesota's virgin prairie landscapes, and birds of the upper Midwest. Dale gives several educational programs throughout the year to photo clubs, community education programs, the TCACCC Spring Break, as well as organizing and presenting the annual Crex Meadows photo weekend. The Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Upper Sioux Agency State Park, Minnesota DNR, and WisconsinDNR have used donated work. His work is routinely published in the Minnesota Weather

Guide, church bulletins, and his fine art nature prints have received awards at juried regional art shows.

Although Dale's primary residence is New Ulm, MN over the last years over 100 days have been spent photographing the plants and recording video of wildlife at Crex Meadows Wildlife Area, Grantsburg, WI and surrounding areas.

MINNESOTA NATURE - A PHOTOGRAPHER'S GUIDE TO GREAT LOCATIONS.

Last year this terrific work was distributed to all members of the Club. The idea was that it could be a 'living document' with additional suggestions from Club members. Please take a minute and think about some of your favorite locations that could be added to the Guide.

The newsletter needs your help!

Without content contributions from club members, the newsletter starts looking pretty thin. As much as we all appreciate the contributions of "The Usual Suspects," there are another 100+ of you out there that I'm sure have some great ideas, too. Stories, tutorials, anecdotes, photographer jokes – anything – please, just send it in. Let's all help make this newsletter a useful and enjoyable tool!

Thanks,

Jay



Founded 1956

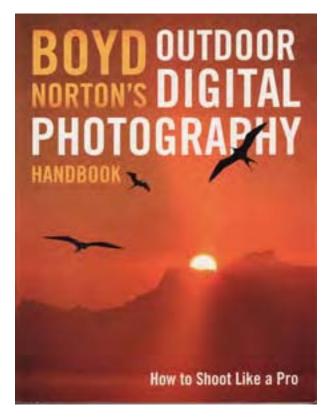
Member: Photographic Society of America & Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs

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Vol. 56, No. 2 - October 2011

Book Review by Jay Olson-Goude

Boyd Norton's Outdoor Digital Photography Handbook - How To Shoot Like A Pro



I received a copy of this book from the publisher. They suggested that it might be of interest to the members of our club, and I strongly agree.

The book is well written and nicely illustrated, and those illustrations are used effectively to demonstrate the ideas presented in the text.

The book is divided into twelve chapters. The first chapter, 'Digital Basics' will be invaluable to someone finally making the transition from film to digital. To those new to digital imaging, it will go a long way towards answering the questions they may have.

The next two chapters, 'It's All About Light' and 'Dynamics of Pictures' are useful for photographers of all levels. They go into great detail regarding light and composition. I found these two chapters very valuable, and find myself referring back to them from time to time.

Chapter Four, In-The-Field Workflow contains some great tips for photographers working in the field and also discusses image stitching and focus stacking.

Lenses are discussed in Chapter Five, 'Creative Use Of Lenses.' Most photographers are pretty familiar with the use of different focal length lenses, but this chapter may give you some ideas on how to use lenses in ways you may not have considered.

Chapter Six, 'Expanding Your Creativity' explores some alternative techniques that can be used to add to your photographs. Some may get more out of this chapter, but I didn't particularly care for the techniques presented and the resulting images.

If you're planning a photography trip, Chapter Seven, 'Into The Boondocks' will be extremely valuable. It gives great suggestions on what to take, how to pack, how to plan, and other great ideas. This is another chapter I'll be referring to when planning my next trip.

Chapter Eight, 'Landscape And Scenic Photography' goes into great depth on how to create great landscape photos and discusses things such as lens choice, exposure, composition and HDR photography.

The next two chapters, 'After The Shoot' and 'Helpful Tricks And Tips' offer an in-depth look at raw file processing and digital manipulation of images using Photoshop Camera Raw and other applications. I'm pretty sure every photographer will learn something from these chapters.

Chapter Eleven, 'Dealing With Mixed Media' discusses options available for a hybrid workflow using both film and digital. This could be helpful for those of us who have been photography for some time and have a large body of work on negatives and slides.

Chapter Twelve, 'The Final Image' shows the photographer how to transform that digital image into a fantastic printed image, or how to create an engaging slideshow of digital images.

Boyd Norton's Outdoor Digital Photography Handbook is available at your local bookseller or online at Amazon.com

http://www.amazon.com/Nortons-Outdoor-Digital-Photography-Handbook/dp/0760332983

Minnesota Nature Photography Club

September Salon Scores

Judge: Dale Bohlke

Photographer	Title	Score
Eric Baker	Loon with Fish (w)	8
Ron Cleveland	Rising Sun Canyon	8
Darcy Sime	Sipping Nectar (w)	8
Dave Ellenbecker	Daddy Longlegs	8
Bill Haskamp	Big Horn Snack (w)	8
Scott Landsiedel	Egret Up High	8
Dave Zosel	Arigope and Prey (w)	8
Roger Williams	Hooded Merganser (w)	8
Jean McDonough	Baby Red Fox by Den	8
Ron Lagerquist	Mt. McKinley	8
Darcy Sime	Mother's Love (w)	9
Ron Cleveland	Sunrise Cranes (w)	9
Dave Klein	Vesper Sparrow	9
Karl Fiegenschuh	Kodiak and Fish 1 (w)	9
Jeff Bucklew	Loon Baby (w)	10
Ted Galambos	Wind Cave	10
Betty Gossens-Bryan	WD Family (w)	10
Gary Colvard	Blue Herons (w)	10
	Three Foxes – two sleeping	4.0
Alan Schulz	(w)	10
Mike Holtz	Egret Fishing (w)	10
Jean McDonough	Waterfall in National Park	10
Mariann Cyr	Confrontation (w) Two Albatross along Coast	10
Alan Schulz	(w)	10
Don Specht	Purple Gallinule (w)	10
Jeff Bucklew	Green Heron (w)	10
Gene Lange	Eviction Escort (w)	10

Salon submission guidelines:

Deadline for submitting images and other instructions:

http://www.minnesotanature.org/Pages/salondigital.html

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E-Mail your one or two images to salon@minnesotanature.org before 6:00 PM the Sunday before the meeting - the earlier the better to allow for the proper archiving and presentation of your image.

*Digital images need to be in the following format to be accepted:

Computer adjustments to any image must comply with PSA rules for "Digital Images"

JPEG file format (.jpg)

Image size; minimum 1024 pixels, maximum 1280 pixels along the longest dimension.

Use the sRGB color space since that is how they will be displayed. If you are not familiar with the concept of color space, don't worry about it.

File name for each image should be your personal 4-digit identification number* followed by a 12-letter image title. Add a (W) when the image complies with the PSA definition of authentic wildlife. For example:

1903 Dawn Swans (W).jpg - First image for member 903 **2903 MarshMargld.jpg** - Second image for member 903

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Editor: Jay Olson-Goude, 763-772-6485, jolson-goude@msn.com 1154 Lois Court Shoreview MN 55126

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bdbryanmb@aol.com

Treasurer: Don Nadreau 763-377-4589

don.nadreau@gmail.com

Secretary: Linda Nygren 651-778-0340

stereogal@gmail.com

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6:00 PM - Set-up and Social Time

6:30 PM - Announcements and Business

6:45 PM - Program

7:45 PM - Nature Salon (Competition and

Judge's Comments).

Meetings are held at:

REI

750 West American Blvd Bloomington, MN 55420

October Meeting Wednesday October 19, 2011

Our October program will be presented by Jeanne Prok from the Fresh Water Society. Jeanne will be discussing the Weatherguide calendars.

Our October Salon judge will be Joe Kandiko

MINNESOTA NATURE - A PHOTOGRAPHER'S GUIDE TO GREAT LOCATIONS.

Last year this terrific work was distributed to all members of the Club. The idea was that it could be a 'living document' with additional suggestions from Club members. Please take a minute and think about some of your favorite locations that could be added to the Guide.

The newsletter needs your help!

Without content contributions from club members, the newsletter starts looking pretty thin. As much as we all appreciate the contributions of "The Usual Suspects," there are another 100+ of you out there that I'm sure have some great ideas, too. Stories, tutorials, anecdotes, photographer jokes — anything — please, just send it in. Let's all help make this newsletter a useful and enjoyable tool!

Thanks,

Jay

Eounded 1956



Nature Photo Times

Member: Photographic Society of America & Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs

Vol. 56, No. 3 - November 2011

New Lytro Camera – a Fun Toy

By Ron Cleveland

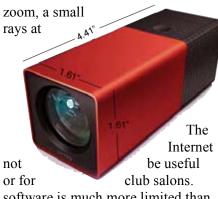
Lytro made me an offer to pre-order one of their new light field cameras to be delivered in early 2012 but I think I'll pass for now. If you haven't seen it, you can play with the unique images on their site at http://www.lytro.com.

You shoot first and focus later. "Living Images" they call them. The camera has an 8X optical

touch screen and a constant f2 aperture, captures light different angles and has a new file format that allows viewers to click on the area of the image that they want in focus. It appears that images can be saved as JPEGs using their proprietary software. A full size image appears to be about

..........

1200 x 1200 pixels.



software is much more limited than Lightroom, etc. for image File size is comparable to RAW

are available: Red (\$499, 750

Graphite and Electric Blue (\$399,350

Lytro will be a fun toy for photo sharing but would for making large prints The current Lytro Photoshop or enhancement work. files. Three models pictures, 16GB), pictures.

Spring Break 2012

The 2012 TCACCC Spring Break will be held at Chippewa Middle School in North Oaks. The event will be two days (either day can be purchased separately) and will be held on March 24 & 25. The Saturday program includes several speakers in an all-day seminar. The speakers include John Gregor (Coldsnap Photography), Lewis Kemper (sponsored by Canon), Mike Moates (sponsored by Tamron), and our keynote speaker Rod Planck (Rod Planck Photography). The Sunday program will be an afternoon-long Nature Photography Workshop presented by Rod Planck.

Prices will be set soon and information will be passed along as soon as it is available. Volunteers for the planning and event committee are still needed, contact Mike Prokosch if you are interested.

Nature Photography Seminar

REI Bloomington February 25, 2012

The morning session "Basic Digital Photography" will run from 9:00 a.m. to noon. This portion of the program will be presented by Dale Bohlke

The afternoon Session "Vision in Nature Photography" will run from 1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and will feature presentations by Mariann Cyr, Mike Prokosh, John Pennoyer, Dale Bohlke and Ron Cleveland.

This seminar will be very similar to the Weekend program that was presented at Crex Meadows last August.

Registration form below; additional details to follow.



Minnesota Nature Photography Club

Nature Photography Seminar - Saturday Feb. 25, 2012

MNPC Member		
(Please Print) Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	_ Zip:
Home phone: ()	Work phone: ()	
E-mail address:		
Please check one or both of the below	courses.	
1. Basic Digital Photography - \$20		
9 AM - 12(noon)		
2. Vision in Nature Photography - \$40 _		
1:30 PM - 6:30 PM		
Total Amount enclosed =		

Please return completed form with your check payable to "MNPC" to

Don Nadreau 124 Ardmore Dr. Golden Valley MN 55422

Minnesota Nature Photography Club

October Salon Scores Judge: Joe Kandiko

Photographer	Title	Score
Darcy Sime	Moonlit Arch	8
Milo Meland	Lunch	8
Kerry Gardener	Chipmunk (w)	8
Eric Baker	Osprey with Fish	8
Karl Fiegenschuh	Too Close for Comfort (w)	8
Jerry Hogeboom	Egret with Minnow (w)	8
Jay Olson-Goude	Fiddlehead	8
Dave Perez	Victoria Glacier	8
Larry Weinman	Flying Egret (w)	8
Roger Williams	Croaker (w)	8
David Zosel	Great Blue (w)	8
John Anderson	Blue on White (w)	8
Kerry Gardener	Hummingbird (w)	8
Eric Baker	White Pelican	8
Ron Cleveland	Oxnard Sunset	8
Dave Ellenbecker	Lupine Group	8
Rick Graves	Miners Falls	8
Dave Klein	Wood Duck (w)	8
Jean McDonough	Grizzly in the Woods	8
David Zosel	East Kingbird (w)	8
Gene Lange	Merganser (w)	8
Bill Haskamp	Maroon Bells	9
Dave Ellenbecker	Bleeding Hearts	9
Rick Graves	Singing (w)	9
Dave Klein	American Goldfinch (w)	9
I.a. MaDanasah	Woodchuck and Two	0
Jean McDonough	Babies (w)	9
Gene Lange Carol Madison	Barn Swallow (w) Lake Superior Shore	9
		9
Don Specht	Struttin' Egret (w)	9
Kathy Bishop	Sunrise	10
John Anderson	Grizzly Up Close (w)	10
John Pennoyer	Rutting Bull (w)	10
	Black-crowned Night	
Don Specht	Herons (w)	10
Karl Fiegenschuh	Kodiak Bear Fight 1 (w)	10
John Pennoyer	Foggy Buck (w)	10
Roger Williams	Shamrock Orbweaver (w)	10

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7:45 PM - Nature Salon (Competition and Judge's Comments).

Meetings are held at:

REI 750 West American Blvd Bloomington, MN 55420

December Meeting Wednesday December 21, 2011

There will be no Salon for December. After the presentation, we will have our annual holiday party. Everyone should bring a dish to share.

December presentation:

"What's new with the DNR Scientific and Natural Area Program"

Peggy Booth, Supervisor of the MnDNR Scientific and Natural Area Program, will give an overview of the program which includes both state designated Scientific and Natural Areas (SNAs) as well as a native prairie stewardship activities. Following that, she will highlight with maps and images many of the newest SNAs in the state. She will close with information on a new strategic planning process and a citizen engagement initiative which includes looking for volunteers interested in being SNA site stewards, seeking partners to host events at SNAs, and suggestions on SNA website improvements and potential social media presence.

PEGGY BOOTH

Scientific & Natural Areas Program – Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Rd, Box 25 / St. Paul, MN 55155 / 651-259-5088

email: peggy.booth@state.mn.us

Peggy Booth has over 30 years of professional experience in community planning, landscape architecture, urban forestry, and natural resource management. She has both a Bachelor and Master's degree in landscape architecture and is recognized as a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Early in her career, as a planner-urban designer with the City of Minneapolis, she was the chief designer of the 1978 *Minneapolis Boulevard Reforestation Plan* (done in response to too many ash being planted in some neighborhoods – but alas there are still too many).

In 1982, she joined the faculty of the University of Minnesota, Department of Landscape Architecture, where for 10 years she taught and was director of the Center for Community Studies that facilitated participatory student work with urban and rural communities. While still at the University, Peggy led a planting for energy conservation research project which was part of the state's first \$1.25 million legislative appropriation creating the Minnesota ReLeaf grant program.

Then, in 1995, she became Minnesota's State Urban & Community Forestry Program Coordinator at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Since 1998, Peggy has held managerial or supervisory positions at the DNR – first within the Division of Forestry, then as the Community Assistance Manager heading interdisciplinary work in the DNR's Central Region, and since 2006 as the SNA Program Supervisor now within the Division of Ecological and Water Resources.

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Last year this terrific work was distributed to all members of the Club. The idea was that it could be a 'living document' with additional suggestions from Club members. Please take a minute and think about some of your favorite locations that could be added to the Guide.

Judging Class

The club is in serious need of additional judges. To alleviate the shortage of judges, we are going to hold a judging class this spring. The class will be held on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:30 pm at REI Bloomington. Dates for the class will be February 29, March 7 and 28. If a fourth session is needed, it would be held on April 4th. Class size will be 6-8 persons and we will need at least 6 people to sign up to hold the class. John Pennoyer and Mariann Cyr will lead the class. There are two requirements for attendees:

- 1. Attendees must attend all sessions.
- 2. Attendees must be willing to judge at our monthly Salons. New judges will be paired with experienced judges for their first few Salons.

MN Nature Photography Club Photo Exhibit

There will be an exhibit for our members at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge visitor center. The dates of the exhibition will be February 1st through March 31st, 2013. Volunteers will be needed to help hang and take down the show. Additional details to follow.

The newsletter needs your help!

Without content contributions from club members, the newsletter starts looking pretty thin. As much as we all appreciate the contributions of "The Usual Suspects," there are another 100+ of you out there that I'm sure have some great ideas, too. Stories, tutorials, anecdotes, photographer jokes – anything – please, just send it in. Let's all help make this newsletter a useful and enjoyable tool!

Thanks,

Jay

Oooo – like this:

There was this photographer in one of the most remote parts of the African continent on an assignment. He came across a primitive village where the residents were living in thatched huts and wearing colorful primitive garments. He approached a man who appeared to be the chief who was wearing a large headdress made of woven hemp and colorful feathers.

The photographer, not knowing how to speak to him, pointed to his camera then to the chief. The chief nodded. As the photographer was taking a meter reading the chief said "today use f/16 at 1/125 for ISO 100 film".

Founded 1956



Nature Photo Times

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Member: Photographic Society of America & Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs

Vol. 56, No. 4 - December 2011

Owling Time Again

By J. Arthur Anderson

If you live in a neighborhood with Great Horned Owls, you know that they are beginning to their territorial hooting for the season. With all the noise, you might not be getting enough sleep. They are letting all competitors know that this area has been claimed. The Great Horned Owl's reproductive cycle is about to begin.

Throughout December and the first half of January, it is not uncommon to find the male and female Great



Horned Owls sitting together in the same tree. They often call to each other as part of the mating process.

Now that the leaves are off the trees and you have the white winter sky to accentuate their silhouettes, they are easier to find. Look where each large limb connects to the main trunk, typically about 25 or 30 ft. high, on the south facing side of the tree. This isn't the only place you will find owls sitting, but it is a good start. Also look for white streaks, which are owl droppings, on the branches and trunk or below the tree on the ground. If bark is missing off the limb, that is a good sign. The owl claws tear up the bark pretty well. If owls frequent this place you might even see fresh scratches on the limb

As it gets closer to the time that the female is going to lay her eggs, she will begin sitting near the nest. Nests should be located at least about 25 ft high in an older large tree. The nests I have found have mostly been on the edge of a wooded area between 0 to 60 feet in from the tree line. I believe they prefer to take advantage of whatever sun they can get, so I work the south edge of the tree line. Owls do not build nests. Look for something that a squirrel or hawk might have built, usually at the base to the middle of the canopy, not at the top of the tree.

Once the female lays her eggs, she is there for the long h aul and is almost totally reliant upon her mate to feed her. If you have found the nest, the male is also often easily located because he usually stands guard within line of sight of the nest, approximately a 100 feet away or less. If you are trying to locate the nest, walk into the forest in late January through April. If an owl flushes, see which way it flies. It is likely that he is drawing you away





from the nest. Chances are, if you go the opposite direction you will find the nest. During this time, the adult owls will often call to each other at dusk, which is another way to locate the nest.

The incubation period ranges from 30 to 37 days, averaging 33 days. Often you will not see the owlets until about two weeks before they are ready to fledge. Fledging is difficult to predict in Minnesota because the winters vary significantly. I have photographs of fledgling owls taken in the last part of March. Last year the owls fledged late, during the first half of May. My best indictor so far has been the budding of the trees. The owls always seem to be fledging just as the trees are beginning to leaf out.

Actually, the best way to find an owl is to find someone who has found an owl. The second best way is to let the crows show you where the owls are. Go into the woods and listen for the crows, it's almost a sure thing. Happy owling!!

WHEN WHAT YOU SEE IS NOT WHAT YOU GET

By David Ellenbecker

Whenever I set out to photograph nature, I have high hopes of discovering beautiful and interesting subjects. Sometimes I have been lucky, but sometimes the pictures I don't get can be more memorable than those I do.

Close to 40 years ago I was canoeing in Canada's Quetico Provincial Park. We were camped on a remote lake. It was in late May, shortly after ice-out. My young son and I were sitting on shore, when we noticed a moose swimming our way from the shore across the bay. I did not want this guy strolling about our campsite tangling with tent ropes and clothes lines, so I said to Dan, "Let's head him off." We launched our canoe and paddled toward the moose. As we approached, we saw it was a bull, his budding antlers in velvet.

Moose are at home in the water, and can swim very rapidly. He left a wake like a motor boat. We paddled briskly to keep up, and when he neared shore, a couple of hundred yards from our camp, I laid down my paddle, and reached for my camera. I had packed my new SLR, a Miranda Sensorex, my pride and joy, and, as it turned out, one of the worst SLRs ever marketed, as I was to learn in the next few years.

The bull clambered out of the lake and staggered into the darkened shelter of the pines. As he climbed out, sheets of water cascaded from his body, and his legs trembled from exertion.

Now, friends, let me tell you that the early SLRs were a bit different than the digital wonders we now enjoy. After each shot, the film had to be ratcheted ahead. There were no automatic features. It was necessary to set shutter speed, and/or, aperture settings, match needles in the viewfinder, and maintain focus as the subject moved. I had pre set the film speed, for the Kodachrome, (a miserly 25).

These things were bothersome, but not a problem when shooting, say, a Pink Lady's Slipper, but for a moving object, such as I faced from a rocking canoe, it posed quite a problem, even if I had

remembered to match the needles, which, alas,in the excitement, I had not.

When I viewed my slides a couple of weeks later, (I hope you haven't forgotten this feature), I was disappointed in the quality of the moose shots. One could tell, with a bit of imagination, that it was a moose, and, certainly, that he was moving, but that was about all.

But, you know, it has become one of my favorite slide sequences. It evokes a picture of this heroic animal, his vigor, (and mine), and of the great times I've had. And, oddly it is the only shooting session of many, in the 30, or so, canoe trips to the wilderness that I remember vividly. I can think of several other occasions where the camera work didn't pan out, but the beauty of those occasions also lives on

I guess, for me, it's the exposure to nature, and not so much the exposure to film, (or pixels), that really counts.

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Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Home phone: ()	Work phone: ()	
E-mail address:		
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1:30 PM - 6:30 PM		
Total Amount enclosed =		

Please return completed form with your check <u>payable to "MNPC"</u> to

Don Nadreau 124 Ardmore Dr. Golden Valley MN 55422

Minnesota Nature Photography Club

November Salon Scores

Judge: Rikk Flohr

Photographer	Title	Score
Bill Haskamp	Canyon Raven (w)	8
Jhn Anderson	Badlands Staredown (w)	8
Debbie Kippen	Tulip Center	8
Karl Fiegenschuh	Baby Skunk 2	8
Charles Habermann	Say Ah (w)	8
Betty Gossens-Bryan	Budding Anemone	8
Linda Nygren	Tracks	8
Larry Weinman	Gotcha (w)	8
Gene Lange	Canada Geese (w)	8
John Anderson	Rutting Buck (w)	8
Mary Mullett	Beauty	8
Kerry Gardener	Hummingbird (w)	8
Ron Cleveland	Pigeon River Falls	8
Debbie Kippen	Prairie Smoke	8
Mariann Cyr	Upper Gooseberry Falls	8
Dave Ellenbecker	Maple Forest	8
Joel Fierst	Sunrise Waterfall	8
Ted Galambos	Crane Quints	8
Rick Graves	New Ferns	8
Charles Habermann	Prairie Dog (w)	8
Dave Klein	Bring It On (w)	8
Carole Mannheim	Water Stalker (w)	8
Jean McDonough	Mink Showing Teeth	8
Linda Nygren	Wintershadows	8
John Pennoyer	Showys in Tamaracks	8
Dave Perez	Hot Spring	8
Larry Weinmann	Heron On Stump	8
Roger Williams	Drying Out (w)	8
Nancy Cox	Sunset Grass	8
Scott Landseidel	Victorias's Secret	8
Gene Lange	Sandhill Cranes (w)	8

Ron Cleveland	Thor's Hammer	9
Mariann Cyr	Least Sandpiper (w)	9
Dave Ellenbecker	Small Yellow Ladies Slipper	9
Joe Fierst	Pika Squawking (w)	9
Jerry Hogeboom	Courtship (w)	9
Dave Klein	Columbine and Bee (w)	9
John LaMere	Autumn Reflections	9
Jean McDonough	Limestone Water Pools	9
NJohn Pennoyer	Burntside Sunset	9
Don Specht	Walking Willet (w)	9
Roger Williams	Sandhills (w)	9
David Zosel	Yelthro Song (w)	9
Karl Fiegenschuh	Kodiak Bears Wrestling 1	9
Jerry Hogeboom	Calling Mate (w)	9
John LaMere	Crex Cranes (w)	9
Don Specht	Snow Monkeys	9
David Zosel	Together (w)	9
Gary Colvard	Coneflowers	9
Jeff Bucklew	Loonar Landing (w)	9
Dennis Newton	Headwater of the Missisippi	9
Dave Perez	Bighorn Sheep	10
Jeff Bucklew	Peekaboo Loon (w)	10
Dennis Newton	Sun Glow on Badlands	10

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File name for each image should be your personal 4-digit identification number* followed by a 12-letter image title. Add a (W) when the image complies with the PSA definition of authentic wildlife. For example:

1903 Dawn Swans (W).jpg - First image for member 903 **2903 MarshMargld.jpg** - Second image for member 903

Please type your two filenames, each on a new line, in the body of your email. Attach - do not embed - the images to a regular email message and email to salon@minnesotanature.org. The subject line should contain something like "Images for October salon".

Submissions which do not comply with the above requirements hinder file management and could be rejected or delayed entry to a salon until requirements are met.

*If you would like to be assigned a four-digit identification number, do not understand these requirements or require help to comply with them, please email your name and phone number to salon@minnesotanature.org and someone will contact you.

Nature Photo Times

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Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month, September through May

6:00 PM - Set-up and Social Time

6:30 PM - Announcements and Business

6:45 PM - Program

7:45 PM - Nature Salon (Competition and Judge's Comments).

Meetings are held at:

REI 750 West American Blvd Bloomington, MN 55420

December Meeting Wednesday December 21, 2011

There will be no Salon for December. After the presentation, we will have our annual holiday party. Everyone should bring a dish to share.

December presentation:

"What's new with the DNR Scientific and Natural Area Program"

Peggy Booth, Supervisor of the MnDNR Scientific and Natural Area Program, will give an overview of the program which includes both state designated Scientific and Natural Areas (SNAs) as well as a native prairie stewardship activities. Following that, she will highlight with maps and images many of the newest SNAs in the state. She will close with information on a new strategic planning process and a citizen engagement initiative which includes looking for volunteers interested in being SNA site stewards, seeking partners to host events at SNAs, and suggestions on SNA website improvements and potential social media presence.

PEGGY BOOTH

Scientific & Natural Areas Program – Minnesota Department of Natural Resources 500 Lafayette Rd, Box 25 / St. Paul, MN 55155 / 651-259-5088

email: peggy.booth@state.mn.us

Peggy Booth has over 30 years of professional experience in community planning, landscape architecture, urban forestry, and natural resource management. She has both a Bachelor and Master's degree in landscape architecture and is recognized as a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Early in her career, as a planner-urban designer with the City of Minneapolis, she was the chief designer of the 1978 *Minneapolis Boulevard Reforestation Plan* (done in response to too many ash being planted in some neighborhoods – but alas there are still too many).

In 1982, she joined the faculty of the University of Minnesota, Department of Landscape Architecture, where for 10 years she taught and was director of the Center for Community Studies that facilitated participatory student work with urban and rural communities. While still at the University, Peggy led a planting for energy conservation research project which was part of the state's first \$1.25 million legislative appropriation creating the Minnesota ReLeaf grant program.

Then, in 1995, she became Minnesota's State Urban & Community Forestry Program Coordinator at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Since 1998, Peggy has held managerial or supervisory positions at the DNR – first within the Division of Forestry, then as the Community Assistance Manager heading interdisciplinary work in the DNR's Central Region, and since 2006 as the SNA Program Supervisor now within the Division of Ecological and Water Resources.

Judging Class

The club is in serious need of additional judges. To alleviate the shortage of judges, we are going to hold a judging class this spring. The class will be held on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:30 pm at REI Bloomington. Dates for the class will be February 29, March 7 and 28. If a fourth session is needed, it would be held on April 4th. Class size will be 6-8 persons and we will need at least 6 people to sign up to hold the class. John Pennoyer and Mariann Cyr will lead the class. There are two requirements for attendees:

- 1. Attendees must attend all sessions.
- 2. Attendees must be willing to judge at our monthly Salons. New judges will be paired with experienced judges for their first few Salons.

MN Nature Photography Club Photo Exhibit

There will be an exhibit for our members at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge visitor center. The dates of the exhibition will be February 1st through March 31st, 2013. Volunteers will be needed to help hang and take down the show. Additional details to follow.

Spring Break 2012

The 2012 TCACCC Spring Break will be held at Chippewa Middle School in North Oaks. The event will be two days (either day can be purchased separately) and will be held on March 24 & 25. The Saturday program includes several speakers in an all-day seminar. The speakers include John Gregor (Coldsnap Photography), Lewis Kemper (sponsored by Canon), Mike Moates (sponsored by Tamron), and our keynote speaker Rod Planck (Rod Planck Photography). The Sunday program will be an afternoon-long Nature Photography Workshop presented by Rod Planck.

Prices will be set soon and information will be passed along as soon as it is available. Volunteers for the planning and event committee are still needed, contact Mike Prokosch if you are interested.

The newsletter needs your help!

Without content contributions from club members, the newsletter starts looking pretty thin. As much as we all appreciate the contributions of "The Usual Suspects," there are another 100+ of you out there that I'm sure have some great ideas, too. Stories, tutorials, anecdotes, photographer jokes – anything – please, just send it in. Let's all help make this newsletter a useful and enjoyable tool!

Thanks,

Jay