



◀CHIRPINGS▶ NATURALISTS' CAMERA CLUB OF TOLEDO

Our Mission:
**TO MAKE THE PHOTOGRAPHER A BETTER NATURALIST
AND THE NATURALIST A BETTER PHOTOGRAPHER**

DECEMBER, 2010

DATE and TIME: **Sunday, December 12, 2:00 P.M.**
LOCATION: Secor Room, National Center for Nature Photography at Secor Metropark
HOST: Bring Holiday goodies
ASSIGNMENT: Prose, Poetry, Song or Letter G
PROGRAM: **Bring your photo gizmos**
If you have gizmos or unique equipment you use, bring it in to show the group.
*We will have a Leadership meeting at 1:00 P.M. (just before the regular meeting)

Fifty years ago, our club was founded because folks wanted to learn about nature photography. The December meeting gives you a chance to share your images and offer some instructional advice to the rest of us. We have no formal presentation so the assignment is the meeting. In addition to the assignments, we all have some secret gizmo or contraption that helps us take our photos. Please bring these gizmos to show the group.

When you present in front of the group, please remember our goal is to learn from each other. Let's be disciplined and do our best to follow our founders' goal of sharing our knowledge and learning.

NEXT MONTH: ***Sunday***, January 9, 2:00 P.M.
Host: Open
Assignment: Winter
Program: Eric Durban, "Photographing Native Orchids of the Oak Openings Region"
*We will have a Leadership Meeting at 1:00 P.M. (just before the regular meeting)

Dues are Due This Month

As you know, our memberships run for the calendar year and are dues are payable the first of the year. To renew your membership, please bring your dues to our December meeting, or mail them to Roger Sutherland, 5488 Warren Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48105-9425. Please make the check payable to Roger Sutherland and note NCCT in the memo line. Single memberships are \$10.00 and family memberships are \$15.00.

Club Leadership Meeting

We will have a Leadership Planning meeting prior to our December 12th meeting at 1:00 in the Secor Room. If you're one of the Leadership Group, please try to attend. Members are also welcome to attend and share your ideas. Remember, this is your club and your input is welcome at our leadership meetings. Our club will only be as good and as successful as we make it.

2011 Schedule

In 2011, we're asking our presenters to include the "story" of the photos and the how and why of particular shots. Here's our schedule for the first quarter of 2011:

January 9, 2011	Eric Durban Host Assignment	Photographing Native Orchids of the Oak Openings Region Open Winter
February 13, 2011	Art Weber Host Assignment	Photographing Your Travels Melanie & Clay Gyde Your Best Travel Photos
March 13, 2011	Bob Jacksey Host Assignment	Photographing Nature in Our Metroparks Violet Blanton Your Best Metroparks Photos

Celebrating our 50th Anniversary in 2011

Fifty years ago, a few members of the Toledo Naturalists' Association began meeting to learn about nature photography. They met in homes until the group became too large and they moved to Secor Metropark. In those early days, the advanced photographers had demonstrations on field trips and helped the others with their photography.

In celebration of our 50 years, we have several events planned. The National Center for Nature Photography will have an ongoing display of our member's nature photos to celebrate this 50th anniversary. We are also planning a club picnic at Secor Metropark for our August meeting.

Congratulations to Our Members

Seven of our members received awards for photos they entered in the NCNP's "Celebrating Nature through Photography Contest." Our members received a total of twelve awards. Congratulations to each of you.

Ted Bowman
Fred Drotar
Clay Gyde
Jim Hagan

Larry Low
Jim Meister
Frank Patz

THOUGHTS ON WINTER PHOTOGRAPHY by Jim Hagan

Nature has much to offer photographers, yes, even in winter. You just have to look a little harder. Some thoughts on winter photography:

- Your camera meter will try to make your photos mid tone or gray. If you want to capture the brilliant white of a snow scene, you will have to increase your exposure by one or two stops.
- Warm clothing is a must!
- Cold has a very negative effect on batteries. Always carry a spare set and keep them warm.
- Coming in from the cold. If your camera has been exposed to the cold for a long time (probably several hours) and you bring it into a warm house you can have a problem with moisture condensing on the internal parts of your camera. You can avoid such problems by placing your camera in an airtight plastic bag before you bring it inside. I have never done this and have never had a problem probably because I am never out in the cold for very long.
- Shoot at dawn or dusk. If you shoot at midday, your photos will usually be too harsh with no shadows. You will find better natural light late in the afternoon or early in the morning.
- Opt for your camera's highest image quality setting.
- Night photography. Mount your camera on a tripod and use a self timer or cable release to capture subdued landscapes, lights of the city, or streaks of cars' taillights.
- A touch of color. Snow is pretty but can be boring. Add interest to your photos by including a colorful object or two in you composition.
- Moonlight on snow. Moonlit landscapes can be very interesting but are more so when they are on snow. The white snow reflects the dim moonlight giving you a bluish landscape containing far more detail than you'd get without the snow
- Look down. Don't just look over the landscape. Look down. Maybe you will see an interesting ice pattern.

Best Christmas Wishes to our members and friends.

Web Sites

Check out our Web Site: www.naturalistcameraclub.com

E-mail: naturalistcameraclub@gmail.com

National Center for Nature Photography: <http://www.naturephotocenter.com>

Toledo Naturalists' Association: <http://www.toledonaturalist.com>