



◀CHIRPINGS▶

NATURALISTS' CAMERA CLUB OF TOLEDO

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

SEPTEMBER, 2010

DATE and TIME: Sunday, September 12, 2:00 P.M. (Remember we're back in the Secor Room)
LOCATION: Secor Room, National Center for Nature Photography at Secor Metropark
HOST: Charlene and Frank Patz
ASSIGNMENT: Artistic
PROGRAM: **Harold Roe, "Wanderings and Wonderings"**

Harold Roe's unique perspective on wildlife is evident in his naturalistic paintings and program presentations. As a naturalist, outdoorsman and former navy seaman, Harold has developed a keen eye for recreating animals, especially birds, and their habitats on canvas during his extensive travels through wilderness areas in Canada, Alaska, Africa and Australia where he observed many of his most striking subjects.

Harold is the only 4 time winner in the Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp competition (1984, 1987, 1996 and 1998), and has been a finalist many times in the federal duck stamp competition.

Bring your friends and join us in September for this very special presentation. Remember, we'll be back in the Secor Room starting in this month.

Since we have an outside speaker this month, please try to keep your assignment presentations brief.

NEXT MONTH: Sunday, October 10, 2:00 P.M.
Host: Caryle Spence
Assignment: Color Brown or Orange
Program: Caryle Spence, "Nature's Needle Arts"

Coming in November: Bill Blanton and Jim Hagan will present "Prairie Burns." This is one of the techniques the Metroparks use to maintain the Prairies. This will be a Friday Night meeting in conjunction with the opening of the "Celebrating Nature through Photography Contest" all entry and display reception.

Our 2011 Schedule is filling up

Karen Pugh is scheduling some of our area's leading nature photographers for our meetings in 2011 with a focus on "How To." This should be an exceptional year for our club. We still have a few openings to fill in the calendar so if you have an expertise in nature photography that you'd like to share at one of our meetings please let us know. You can talk with us at one of our meetings or e-mail us at: naturalistcameraclub@gmail.com. We are looking for presentations that are new and would be interesting for our members and the public. If you have this expertise and would like to do a "How To" session at one of our meetings let us know.

National Center for Nature Photography Annual Contest

The 2010 Celebrating Nature through Photography Contest is fast approaching and now is the time to start planning. More info is available at www.naturephoto.com. Click on the Annual Contest link in the left column. You can download the brochure and contest details. We are one of the sponsors of this contest and will have a meeting on Friday Night November 5th to coincide with the opening reception.

Naturalists' Camera Club Display

To celebrate the approaching 50th anniversary of the Naturalists' Camera Club, the National Center for Nature Photography is showcasing work by club members. During September and October Bill Blanton's close up mushroom photography will be featured along with work by other members including Larry Low and Jim Hagan. Be sure to check out this display in the Gallery.

Club Leadership

As fall draws near, it's time to consider the future of our club and its leadership. Our leadership positions are: Leader, Assistant Leader, Treasurer, Editor, Program Chairman, Publicity Chairman, Archivist, Webmaster and four At Large representatives. If you're interested in being involved in the leadership of your club, we'll have more info soon.

We also need a volunteer to plan and organize our 50th year activities in 2011. We're planning a picnic in the summer as well as a small display in the Gallery to celebrate our 50 years. We can also have bits of history at meetings as well as publish tidbits in our newsletter.

FILL FLASH by Jim Hagan

I usually use my flash only when the scene is too dark to take a picture such as at night, inside a restaurant, or at a party, etc. The problem with using a flash is that it tends to blow out the foreground with a big burst of light and leaves the background dark and underexposed. However, if you use your flash for outdoor photos you can lighten shadows in the foreground while keeping the background properly exposed.

To use your flash as a fill in you must first determine the "correct" exposure for the scene. Then set the flash so that it bursts only enough light to illuminate the shadows in the foreground. This technique is called "fill flash" because it fills in the details that would otherwise be lost because of the high contrasts in the scene. I suggest reducing the flash output anywhere from 2/3 to 1-1/3 stops. Adjusting the flash exposure is *not* to be confused with adjusting the camera's exposure. Exposure *time* is constant for any given lighting situation and is determined by the amount of light present in the scene. The fill flash is not going to change the overall exposure at all—it's just there to fill in shadows that would otherwise not show up because they are too underexposed.

In summary for basic fill-flash photos, you simply make your exposure as you normally would. Then you turn on your camera's flash and use "fill flash," "forced flash" or a similar setting. The fill flash icon often looks like a lightning bolt. You then set the flash output as I have indicated in the previous paragraph and then take your photo. You will have to read your camera manual for specific instructions on how to use your flash unit for fill flash.

Thank You

As you all know, a computer glitch forced us to relocate for the months of June, July and August. The Leadership says "Thank You" to everyone who helped to minimize this glitch.

Thank You to Karen Pugh for allowing us to use the Gallery during those months and Thanks to **YOU**, all our members and guests, for your patience.

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>