

FOCUS

Newsletter of the Mayslake Nature Study and Photography Club
Hosted by the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County
Visit our website at www.naturecameraclub.com



Highlights

March 4

Ken Thompson
Night Photography

March 18

John "Ole" Oldenburg
Forest Preserve

"Restoring Waterways and Wetlands."

April 1

Competition

April 13

Banquet

April 15

No Meeting

**Welcome
New Members**

Sean Castor
Karl Knapp

Call to Action!

All of us in the Mayslake Nature Study and Photography Club are united by a common interest in nature and in photography. The Club provides an opportunity for us to LEARN more about both and SHARE our knowledge and talents.

It's that time of year ... we're getting ready to determine who will be on the Board and be Chairpersons for the upcoming year. As you all know, the activities that the Club presents - programs at meetings, outings, competitions, special events - are organized by Club members for Club members. If you enjoy taking part in these activities, have you considered being a part of the team that organizes them? The Club website contains descriptions of the various positions. Take a look. The time commitment can vary but none are "full-time" jobs and most involve a committee that can share the workload.

Right now, we are looking to fill some key positions with the Club, including President, Program and Competition Chairpersons. In addition, we can always find opportunities for anyone wishing to be a part of committee. If you are interested or if you know of someone who might be interested, please contact Sue Gajda (segnet@aol.com) or Tom Richardson (rtom.richardson@gmail.com). Remember, a Club like ours relies on its members to volunteer. Please join in.

Night-time Photography From Sunset to Sunrise

Ken Thompson,
The World Within Photography
chmist@ix.netcom.com

Night-time Photography, from Sunset to Sunrise Nature photography at night is uncharted territory for most photographers, but it can be very interesting, with different compositions and moods. In general, exposure times are long, leading to interesting effects. We will look at sunset/sunrise photography, late night photography of landscapes by moonlight, moonbows, compositions with and without the moon in the frame, and other ideas. A couple of Photoshop tricks will also be discussed tricks that make night-time images better.

Ken Thompson teaches macro photography at the Morton Arboretum and at the Great Smoky Mountain Institute in Tennessee. Once a year he teaches a class in night-time photography at the Morton Arboretum. He has been interested in night-time photography for a long time, especially compositions that are lit by the full moon, are of flowing water at twilight or show the stars in

Competition Sheila Newenham

The final competition of the year is April 1st. Digital entries are due by Sunday, March 24th.

Congratulations to Rich Witkiewica (Bloodroot), Stever Ornberg (Horicon song Sparrow Lunch) and Tom Richardson (Sanderling in Surf) for earning Honorable Mentions in the January PSA Interclub Nature Competition.
An impressive Trio!

For more information on Chuck Peterson's report on Fracking follow the link.

<http://3blmedia.com/News/CSR/Nations-Most-Comprehensive-Fracking-Regulations-Introduced-Illinois>

Club Officers

President
Sue Gajda
segnet@aol.com

Vice-President, Nature
Open

Vice-President, Photography
Lou Petkus
loupet@gmail.com

Treasurer
Karin Grunow
karin.grunow@att.net

Secretary
Fran Piepenbrink
frannep@netzero.net

2011-2012 Chairpersons

CACCA Delegate: Chuck Klingsporn
northrockies@aol.com

Competition: Sheila Newenham
drsnewenham@gmail.com

Conservation: Chuck Peterson
charpete@sbcglobal.net

Education: Fred Drury
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Equipment: Dee DeMet/David Schooley
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Exhibits: Janice Henry
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Forest Preserve Liaison/Past President Tom Richardson
rtom.richardson@gmail.com

Membership: Bill Dixon
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Outings: Gail Chastain
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Social: Barbara Dunn
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Webmasters: Suzanne Zumstein
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Steve Baginski
spbaginski@hotmail.com

Send Me a Post Card Chuck Klingsporn

Last year for the first time, we held a Mayslake Post Card competition that fed into the annual CACCA competition the following month. For a first attempt, our club competition was a great success and we want to be even better this year. So, here is the information you need to get your entries in.

1. The Mayslake competition will be at the club meeting on March 18. Each member may submit two 4 x 6 post card entries. Those attending the meeting will vote on their favorites and prizes will be awarded.
2. **All** of the entries, (not only the winning entries) will be entered in the CACCA competition held on April 13. (There is no entry fee)
3. The front of each post card must be in the form of a 4 inch by 6 inch photographic print, either color or monochrome, either horizontal or vertical format and with or without border.
4. While alphanumeric text or symbols in any color or font/type/style is permitted, names or monograms indicating the maker's identity must not appear on the front of the entry.
5. The back of each post card entry must display image title, maker name, email address and/or phone number, and camera club name.
6. While digital modifications are freely allowed, the post card image is to be wholly the work of the maker in concept and execution. (Hand of Man rules do **not** apply)
7. At the CACCA competition, entries will be judged on 'impact, creativity, image quality, and fulfillment of the general characteristics of a good post card as the judges discern'. A Best of Show will be chosen as well as Awards and Honorable Mentions. Winning entries will be retained by CACCA for display at the annual Awards Banquet in August. All other entries will be returned at the next club meeting.

It should be great fun! Get Involved!!

CACCA - The Monthly Update Salon Edition

Chuck Klingsporn

At the February CACCA Meeting, our members again scored well with some outstanding images, both in Digital and Print competitions. **Sue Gajda** received an HM for her print image titled, 'Kookabura'. On the Digital side, **Chuck Peterson** also received an HM for his image titled, 'Coming In For A Landing'. Both **Harry Hitzeman** and **Pei Tang** won AW status for images in Digital competition. Harry's image was titled, 'Hobgoblin's Playground' while the image that won for Pei is titled, 'Desert Serenity'. Those are all great images. CONGRATULATIONS !!

Looking ahead, March is a special month for CACCA with both the regular interclub competitions and the once a year Salon on March 16. We have talked about the Salon at several recent club meetings and I know of several members planning to enter. For those members and anyone still on the fence about whether to participate, here is a quick summary of the details. Registration to compete in any of the digital categories is done online by you the participant directly. (caccaweb.com) The entry fee is \$3 per category, 4 images per category max. The entry fee is submitted in an envelope with your name, club name, amount included and the category or categories entered. The entry fee must be brought to our club meeting on March 4 so it can be submitted to CACCA on the 9th.

For those entering any of the print or slide categories, all of your prints/slides and the same entry fee envelope must also be brought to our March 4 Club Meeting. The same labeling requirement we use for print submission to our club competitions apply, a label with your name, club name, print title and category name on the upper left corner of the back side. Since time is short, if it is helpful to you, contact me by email or phone with questions. (northrockies@aol.com) (708-447-7215)

GOOD LUCK!!

**Mayslake Nature Study & Photography Club
2013 Annual Members' Dinner**

Saturday, April 13, 2013
Holiday Inn, Hotel, & Conference Center
7800 Kingery Highway, Willowbrook
Social Hour: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Dinner: 7:00 p.m.



Our speaker for the evening will be John Van Den Brandt, an accomplished photographer who has more than three decades of professional photography experience and has focused solely on wildlife photography since 1995. John will be presenting a collection of his photos, which span many remote regions in the world.

Dinner cost: \$33.00. Please send in your reservations as soon as possible.

Member's name _____

Member's dinner choice _____ Chicken Marsela _____ Prime Rib of Beef
_____ Vegetarian Pasta Primavera _____ Baked Fillet of Salmon

Guest's name _____

Guest's dinner choice _____ Chicken Marsela _____ Prime Rib of Beef
_____ Vegetarian Pasta Primavera _____ Baked Fillet of Salmon

Send checks payable to: Mayslake Nature Study & Photography Club
Barbara Dunn
1510 Deerpath Lane
LaGrange Park, IL 60526

Reservations must be received no later than April 1, 2013
Questions? Contact
Barbara Dunn at bdunn23@sbcglobal.net (708) 533 4597



John Van De Brandt has had a love affair with photography nearly all his life. He's experienced in the art of wedding, portrait, product and model photography. It wasn't until the last ten years however, that he merged his enthusiasm for photography with his fascination with the natural world.

A long-time "birder", John has seen over 500 species of birds in the lower 48 states. The urge to capture some of those sights formed the basis of his true passion – wildlife photography. Before long, he dropped all other forms of photography to focus solely on wildlife.

In 2007, John founded his wildlife photography company, Wild Wind Images LLC. In addition to selling framed fine art prints, stock photography and speaking, Van Den Brandt's nationally distributed calendars have sold over 70,000 copies.

John credits his knowledge of animal behavior and habitat, along with exceptional patience and a creative eye to produce images that uniquely capture his subjects in their essence. When not exploring the remote reaches of the globe, Van Den Brandt makes his home in northeastern Wisconsin with his wife Jean, his "photo assistant, travel companion and source of all inspiration."

All of the creatures found in John's images are certified to be wild and free. He doesn't use game farm animal models or digital manipulation beyond normal darkroom techniques.

John hopes his work inspires viewers to find and explore their own wild places and to experience first hand the beauty and drama of the natural world.

SAVE THE DATE
> SATURDAY <
APRIL 13TH
----2013----

Leroy Oakes Forest Preserve Trip Report Saturday February 23, 2013

Snow!! One of the best snow falls of this year's season AND blue sky. Mayslakers could have not asked for more. With 439 acres of a tree huggers paradise, prairie and a meandering creek, there was lots to photograph. If nature was not enough, the historic School, Farmhouse, and a couple of beautiful red barns were fun subjects also.

This outing also saw the return of the much anticipated Photo Challenge! For this first, of 2013 challenges, participants were encouraged (and given information) to think about what makes a good Black & White image. Finding a "compelling" subject for B&W conversion was the goal.

After wandering the snow covered trails, we headed to the Colonial for lunch and good conversation. A great way to end a fun outing!! When you get the email saying the "Website has been updated", be sure to visit the Mayslake Website under "TRIP IMAGES" to see the all the images from the participants.



Shadow
Bill Glass



Upstream
Fran Piepenbrink



The Old Homestead
Steve Baginski

Birding Weekend for Mayslakers
Saturday & Sunday February 2&3, 2013
Gail Chastain

It was a weekend of birding opportunities starting with Saturday at Stillman Nature Center.

The Stillman Nature Center is a private, non-profit center for environmental education located on 80 acres of woods, lake and prairie in South Barrington, Illinois. Stillman is also home to a number of Birds of Prey that area unable to be released into the wild. Today was a special photo opportunity, as 7 different raptors were place in areas that made it easy for pictures.

The 2nd photography opportunity was Eagles on the Mississippi.

The numbers of Eagles at Lock and Dam 14 have been sporadic this year, and this day was unfortunately no exception. Although 2 days before we were told was a good day, Sunday was not the best. A few took a break and visited Credit Island which is about ½ hour south of the Dam, to find the birds at the Audubon Bird Feeders. All returned to the Dam in the afternoon and although the numbers of Eagles was still few, we enjoyed the ones we saw.

Be sure to visit the Mayslake Website under “Trip Images” to see the images from this Birding Weekend.



Bald Eagle with Fish
Monica Nye



Steve Baginski



John Fan



JoAnn Barnes



Peregrine Falcon
Marcia Nye



Sandy Karasek



Barn Owl
Gail Chastain