

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

May 5

Conservation and Cultural Connections in the
FPD of DuPage County:
Past Present and Future
Dave Guritz and Chris Gingrich

May 19

Impact of Power Generation on Wildlife
Dave Schooley

Image of the Year!



Feed Me!©
Gail Chastain

Membership Renewal Time! Bill Dixon

Yes, it's spring and time to renew your club membership. Membership year is May 1, 2014 through April 30, 2015. Renew today so you don't miss any issues of our newsletter or news of our upcoming events.

Please fill out the renewal form that is included in this month's Focus and give it to me at the next meeting or you can mail it to me at Bill Dixon, 422 Keepataw Dr., Lemont, IL 60439.

Please note, if you do not plan on renewing, please send me an email at bmaxdixon@sbcglobal.net and I will remove your name from the roster.

Board Revises Meeting Schedule

For many years MNSPC has held meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month, with the exception of holidays. An article in last month's Focus mentioned a potential change in the meeting schedule for the upcoming Club year. As explained in the article, two factors contributed to the need for change. **First**, the difficulty of recruiting officers and committee chairs and members to run the Club activities has increased. **Second**, fees for speakers have increased.

In considering options, the Board has decided to reduce the program schedule for this coming year. The Club will now meet on the first Monday of each month, except when that conflicts with a holiday. Four times a year, a second monthly meeting will be held for competitions. This will typically be September, November, January and March.

This revised schedule will begin in June. The dates for meetings this year will be:

May 5
May 19
June 2
July 7
August 4
September 15 (competition)
October 6
November 3
November 17 (competition)
December 1
January 5
January 19 (competition)
February 2
March 2
March 16 (competition)
April 6

We understand this is a significant change. But it will even out the workload for those who are developing the club programs and it will provide more funding for speakers without increasing dues. We are committed to continue to provide quality programs throughout the year. And, we'll continue to look for assistance from our members in identifying or developing programs that may be of interest to Club members. Please contact Tom Richardson (rtom.richardson@gmail.com) with your ideas. We look for your support and participation as we embark on a new Club year.

EXHIBITS Janice Henry

By the time you get to the meeting on May 5th the next exhibit in our space will be on display. The theme for this exhibit is "Favorite Images from Mayslake Outings".

There is a variety of images from many of the places where the club outings have taken place. So check out the images by your fellow Mayslakers. This exhibit will be on display until July 30th.

May Programs

Conservation and Cultural Connections Past, Present, and Future

The centennial of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County will be celebrated in 2015. This milestone anniversary represents an important time for reflecting on our past and contemplating our future. The establishment of the Forest Preserve District is rooted in the emergence of a national conservation movement. Through the lens of historic perspective, forest preserves can be viewed individually and collectively as case studies for examining the changing influences of our collective political and cultural values and practices. Landscape projects completed in the past or planned for in the near future record how these values and practices have changed over time

In his Sand County Almanac, Aldo Leopold shares his belief that “a conservationist is one who is humbly aware that with each stroke [of the axe] he is writing his signature on the face of the land.” Today and within the foreseeable future, the Forest Preserve District is one of only a small handful of agencies charged with restoring the face of the land to an original state, while simultaneously engaging the populace to instill a land ethic essential for sustaining the conservation movement. This presentation will focus on the forest preserve district as a case study to examine the changing focuses of the conservation movement over our 100 year history, our future challenges, and current initiatives underway to engage and connect the citizens of DuPage County to the mission and programs of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County.

Impact of Power Generation on Wildlife Dave Schooley

Most of the presentation will be about wind generation and how it impacts birds and bats. This issue comes up periodically, so the presentation will be geared to why wind turbines are designed the way they are and put where they are, and how those



decisions can impact wildlife. I've been involved with wind energy in varying degrees for 20+ years, and I think you will find this presentation interesting. I'll have some pictures, because this is a photo club after all. As time permits, I'll talk a bit about how we keep animals out of the power lines and substation equipment, which is important for you as the electricity consumer, and for the animals that would otherwise get a shock. I even have an entertaining video of a rather determined raccoon trying to get somewhere he shouldn't.



Members' Night

Close to 50 members attended Members' Night on April 21 at Mayslake. The evening was presented as a celebration of nature and photography. For this closing event of the Club year, we tried a new format which focused on our members and their photography. The Club is privileged to have so many gifted and dedicated photographers.

Several members submitted their favorite images from the last year for a special slideshow which ran throughout the evening. Thank you to the following members who submitted some great images and to Gail Chastain for organizing the slideshow.

Steve Baginski, Diane Hamernik, Steve Ornberg, Noriko Buckles, Janice Henry, Lloyd Osborn, Gail Chastain, Cora Jacobs, Bill Pehrson, Bill Dixon, Mary Mehl, Fran Piepenbrink, Barbara Dunn, Marcia Nye, Tom Richardson, Sue Gajda, Beth Olin, Pei Tang, Karin Grunow

Dinner was catered by Uncle Bub's with desserts provided by Club members Gail Chastain, Barbara Dunn, Sue Gajda, Karin Grunow and Fran Piepenbrink. During dinner, members were able to view and then vote on their choice for the Image of the Year from the 8 finalists selected by members voting on the internet.

Following dinner, the awards were presented for the 2013/2014 competition year. Awards were presented to:

Digital

Class A	Class B
Pei Tang	David Kohlbush
Rich Witkiewicz	Greg Hull
Marcia Nye	Bill Dixon

Class C
Cora Jacobs
Diane Hamernik

PRINTS

Class A	Class B
Marcia Nye	Gail Chastain
David Schooley	Janice Henry
Bill Dixon	Steven Mayer

Congratulations to the annual award winners and to all the winners of awards and honorable mentions throughout the year. Participating in Competition can be a rewarding experience!

The final event of the evening was the announcement of the Image of the Year.

Congratulations to:

Gail Chastain
for her
Image of the Year

"Feed Me"

Congratulations as well to the other Club members who had images in the final 8:

Bill Dixon
Marcia Nye
Steve Ornberg
Fran Piepenbrink

All eight of the images can be seen on the Mayslake website under Events. Thanks to Steve Baginski for shepherding our first Image of Year vote.

Finally, thank you to Barbara Dunn for organizing this year's Members Night.

Now on to the 2014/2015 photography season.

CACCA – What’s Happening ??

Chuck Klingsporn

The year is winding down at CACCA, only one more regular monthly competition, on May 10. The end of the CACCA year, however, doesn't mean that there is no news to report. First and foremost, we again have some impressive results to report from the April competitions. Out of our allotted 8 entries, we had five winners, 2 HM and 3 AW. Receiving an HM and a score of 23 was David Kolbush for his image titled, 'Ring Neck Duck'. Barb Dunn received a score of 24 and an HM for her image titled, 'GreenGlow'. Receiving AW status with scores of 24 were Bill Pehrson for his image titled, 'Spread Eagle', Fran Piepinbrink for, 'A Noble Profile' and Cora Jacobs for, 'Perrys Giant Sunburst Sacred Lotus'. It is also worth noting that the April Digital competition was especially close with lots of great images. Rich Witkiewicz received a score of 24 for 'American Kestrel' and didn't even get an HM. Tough competition indeed.

At the May CACCA meeting on Saturday the 10th there will be a program in the morning before the monthly competitions. It is titled, 'Optimizing Images for Competition and Display'. The presenters are two very successful CACCA photographers, Bob Benson and Rich Fisher. The program will start about 11:15 and is open to any member of any CACCA club. I'll be there; join me if you want to hear about how to improve your images. Of course, there is no cost.

Finally, the annual year-end CACCA Banquet will be held at noon, the William Tell Restaurant on Joliet Road in Countryside. The cost is \$20; lots of awards and a chance to mingle with other photographers. Let me know if you are interested as reservations are due on May 10.

A note from the Past President...

At the annual Member's Night, the following member were elected as Officers and members of the Board of Directors for 2014/2015.

Officers

President	Barbara Dunn
Vice-President/Programs	Tom Richardson
Vice-President/Programs	Vacant
Secretary	Fran Piepenbrink
Treasurer	Karin Grunow

Chairpersons/Board Members

CACCA	Chuck Klingsporn
Communication	Diane Hamernik
Competition	Sue Gajda
Conservation	Vacant
Equipment	David Schooley
Exhibits	Janice Henry
Forest Preserve Liaison	Tom Richardson
Membership	Bill Dixon
Outings	Gail Chastain
Past President	Sue Gajda
Social	Vacant
Webmaster	Steve Baginski

As outgoing President, I'd like to thank all the members for your support and participation in the Club. The Club is only as good its members. We have a great group of talented photographers and nature enthusiasts.

I'd also like to offer special thanks to those members who have served and those who continue to serve on the Board with a special thank you to Barbara Dunn for taking on the role of President. It is because of members who offer their time and talents to Club administration that we are able to offer a variety of opportunities for everyone who enjoys nature photography.

I urge all of the Club members to think about offering your services to support some aspect of the Club's activities. There are lots of ways to help with a variety of time commitments. You can talk to any of the Board members to find out what you can do to help.

Tekakwitha Outing April 27, 2014

It was a wonderful day for a walk in the woods at Tekakwitha in St. Charles where Mayslake Members met to enjoy Spring!! Some people drove through rain to get there, but the Preserve was high and dry!

Atala Toy was our Host for this visit to Tekakwitha's 65 acres along the Fox River. As a favorite place of her's, Atala was happy to show us all the great spots. And with a network of trails that travels through oak-maple, and floodplain forest along the river, there was lots to photograph.



Steve Baginski

Although the day came with a chilly wind, we were well protected under the trees. The trees were a special focus of this outing, but along with them, the Dutchman's Breeches, May Apples, Trilliums and more covering the forest floor, made for a wonderful morning of photography.

We had two Photo Challenges for this outing. Atala's first Challenge was to take advantage of the Fox River for an opportunity to take the best "Water Image". The second Challenge was a favorite of her own to do, "Find the Face in the Tree." Both helped to make the day fun!!

Afterwards we all headed to the Colonial Café to enjoy each other's company.



Joanne Barnes



Barbara Work



Mayapple
Sue Gajda