



## National Wildlife Refuge Calendar 2003 Centennial Edition

The folks in Refuges are getting pretty excited about the Refuge System Centennial coming up in 2003. Check out <http://refuges.fws.gov/centennial>. Part of the celebration will be publication of a special commemorative 2003 National Wildlife Refuge calendar. Here's your chance to gain worldwide recognition (and a few \$\$\$) by having one of your photos appear in this special calendar.

There are many opportunities for photography on Refuge lands and waters and many locations throughout the state and country. When you are traveling, be aware of your proximity to those lands and waters and think about the photo possibilities.

An Internet version of the complete guidelines is at <http://refuges.fws.gov/centennial/guidelines.html>. You can also contact the contest director at the numbers given at the end.

Submittals are being accepted between February 1 and October 1, 2001. (Postmarked no later than Monday, October 1). The image must have been taken at a National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) or a Wetland Management District (WMD). These lands are managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

A National Wildlife Refuge Visitor's Guide, listing all of the refuges offering public access, can be obtained from your local NWR or by calling 1-800 344-WILD.

The image must fit one or more of the following categories:

**Wildlife/Plantlife** - mammals, birds, fish, insects, reptiles, a close-up of a wildflower, a grass, tree, etc.

**Habitat** - a NWR/WMD scene with or without wildlife



**People** - engaged in an activity or included in a scene on a NWR/WMD (volunteers, people hunting, fishing, birdwatching, outdoor classroom etc.)

Here's the fine print:

**Do not submit original transparencies!**

Images accepted in the following formats only:  
High quality duplicate color transparencies (35mm or 70mm)

Digital images on CD-ROMs or zip disks at no more than 72dpi to enable fast viewing on a computer.

**Do not submit via email.**

**Do not send color prints or negatives.**

Limit photo submissions to 20 images or less.

Carefully package all submissions. Place transparencies in individual sleeves and then place all in a pocketed, plastic sheet. Sandwich this sheet between cardboard stiffeners and place in mailing envelope.

Copyright and name must be on each slide and/or digital image.

Each image must have an individual number or letter that corresponds to an itemized list (see below):

1. A separate itemized list indicating each image by individual number or letter with a description including -
2. Name & location of national wildlife refuge where taken
3. Month image taken
4. Description of subject/behavior

Submitters MUST include return packaging and postage, or completed shipping form and envelope from your preferred carrier. If not included, the images will NOT be returned. Three Black Ducks disclaims any liability regarding materials lost, damaged, or destroyed in the U.S. mail, overnight delivery company or by any other means of delivery.

Three Black Ducks does not automatically accept or agree to terms printed on delivery memos and related correspondences. Due to the special "one-time"

## MNPC Needs You

Candidates for club offices are a little sparse again this year. The incumbent treasurer and editor have their re-election efforts in high gear but the rest of the ticket is blank.

This situation affords a unique opportunity for a select few to gain high office without the stress and expense of a long campaign. Candidates/volunteers are needed for president, vice-president and secretary.

Please think about serving.



nature of this project and the corresponding high cost of insurance, the coverage obtained will cover a maximum of \$100.00 per duplicate image lost or damaged. If any original image is sent the maximum coverage is limited to only \$100.00. Therefore only duplicates are being requested for consideration. By submitting images for this project the photographer is accepting this limitation.

Send submittals to

Karen R. Hollingsworth

Three Black Ducks

POB 341

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Pembroke, ME 04666

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Fax: 207 726-9520

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[karen@threeblackducks.com](mailto:karen@threeblackducks.com)

(questions only, do not submit photographs via email)

**Payment for one-time use in Calendar**

\$200.00 per large full-page monthly image

\$100.00 per small image

\$350.00 cover image

**No holding fees paid.** Payment made as calendar goes to print in the spring of 2002.

Images will be reviewed within a short time of receipt and the outtakes returned. A final selection will be made in late 2001 and further outtakes returned. Original transparencies of the selected images will then be requested for printing.



## Aspire to New Heights

As the club year draws to a close it's time to look back and say "Thank you" for some of the good things. Thanks to the officers who gave us another good year. Special thanks to Dale Bohlke for the wonderful inspirational and educational programs he scheduled for us. Also a special thanks to Ron Cleveland for an exciting, first class newsletter and web site which he continues to improve upon each month. They have come a long way in the last two or three years. Thanks also to those folks who made sure that Nature Club was again and still is the BEST group of nature photographers in the area. And, finally, thanks to Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge for providing the wonderful meeting facilities for us. Let's show our appreciation by contributing slides to their want list and working with them to see that they also benefit from our group of outstanding photographers.

With so many good photographers in the club I'd like to see maybe fifteen minutes of each meeting dedicated to sharing ideas and techniques. This could be one or several people sharing and demonstrating a single idea such as camera support systems, i.e., tripods, carbon fiber tripods, pan heads, ball heads, Wimberly Sidekick, Wimberly tripod head, bean bags, window mounts, gunstocks and ... The list goes on and on. There are films, lenses, filters, flashes, blinds and bags. Or, techniques

for shooting birds on the wing, wildflowers, waterfalls and landscapes. For spring flowers, ask Marilyn Gladitsch; for birds, ask Dave Klein; for moody early morning scenes, ask Dale Bohlke; or Doris Larson



about traveling light. And for almost anything – see Alan Schulz.

We all have something to give and something to learn. In the beginning we are like a dry sponge – soaking up information at an amazing rate. As we mature photographically, the learning curve naturally slows and now the smallest bit of information gleaned

may tie many loose ends together.

You say you're disappointed because your slides didn't score a nine or ten in the last salon. But it really shouldn't matter that much as long as we enjoy the photographic moment and shoot to express our innermost feelings. Through the years, nature photography has afforded us many fond memories and a file drawer or two of exquisite and informative slides. Then one day a strange face stares back at us from the mirror. It looks much older, has more wrinkles and thinning gray hair or, worse yet, no hair at all. We ponder many things and are thankful that we can still press the shutter button and capture the spirit and essence of time on film. Yet, looking ahead, we see the day when the Great Spirit will press the button and capture our spirit. Through our photography that spirit can live on if we plan ahead. Don't allow your slides to sit in boxes or plastic pages and collect mildew. Many environmental organizations would treasure them. Locally, you may wish to pass them on to the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, the DNR, Audubon Northwoods or your favorite nature center. More on this later.

This brings us to the end of another club year and my sincere wish for you is good health, and good shooting. May your batteries always be charged and you never run out of film. And remember: there's a lot more to nature photography than photography.

May the Great Spirit will that we all meet again in September.

## April Awards

Judges: Florence Scholljegerdes, Mariann Cyr

	<b>10's</b>		<b>8's</b>		
Gladitsch, Marilyn	Bloodroots #22	Bohlke, Dale	Dogweed	Holmberg, Dawn	Crooked Lake Creek
Hobbs, Rick	The Snarl	Duncan, Jim	Owl on Ground	Jenkins, John	I Love You Mom
McDonough, Jean	Burrowing Owls	Fleury, Cynthia	Day Lily	Jenkins, John	The Cranes Are Flying
	<b>9's</b>	Gladitsch, Marilyn	Marsh Marigold #32	Kandiko, Joe	Pink Petals
Hoppe, Paul	Loon with Young	Hobbs, Kathy	Appalachian Creek	Kandiko, Joe	Yellow Shadow
Nelson, Vern	Brooding the Goslings	Hobbs, Kathy	Owls Innocence	Karai, Vijaya	Tiger Swallowtail
Nystrom, Pauline	Angry Martial Eagle	Hobbs, Rick	Pop Goes the Weasel	Klein, Dave	Canada Goose 08
Wraalstad, Duane	Great Gray	Holm, Morrie	Morning Dove	Lillestrand, Dottie	Wolf #1, 2000
				McDonough, Jean	Heron Set to Flight
				Stern, Sam	Daisy & Spider

## Be a Naturalist

One day last fall while I was just taking a short little hike at a local nature park, I noticed a buck rub on a tree. The size of the aspen told me that it was made by a very large whitetail buck. Shortly after that I heard a lot of commotion by a bunch of crows so, of course, I had to go and investigate.

I arrived upon this crazy scene – the crows were dive-bombing a great horned owl that was about halfway up the tree. The owl sure did not seem to be bothered by all of the commotion. All of a sudden the owl had enough of this craziness and decided to find a quieter spot and flew a couple of hundred yards away to another tree. I had no trouble finding the owl because it was a fruitless effort to hide from the crows; I just followed the noise.

Last summer I did a lot of photography around a nature area just a short distance from my home. During one of my exploration trips, I noticed some old fallen dead elm trees. After some close-up investigation, I moved some dead leaves and bark and there they were – morel mushrooms! However, they were very insect eaten so not very photogenic.

So what does all of this have to do with photography? Well that whitetail buck was never photographed but I had some close encounters with him on several occasions when I did have my camera equipment. Had I not

had the knowledge that large whitetail bucks will rub on large trees, I probably never would have known he was in the area. My great horned owl in the second tree was not more than 10 feet off the ground and in a very photogenic spot. (However my camera was in my vehicle.) The dead and decaying elm clued me in to investigate for morel mushrooms.



All nature photographers should learn to be naturalists. The more knowledge that we have on the subjects that we pursue, the better and easier it is locate them. You certainly would be wasting your time to look for round-lobed hepaticas in the prairie environment for example. But I feel the best benefit of being a naturalist is that it will improve your photography immensely!

When you do find those round-lobed hepaticas, instead of gardening the ground clean, the naturalist in you will want to show some of the oak leaves that originally were

hiding these beautiful flowers.

So do we need to get a degree in environmental studies to be a naturalist? Obviously no, but by observing your surroundings every time you are outside to photograph, or just going for a hike, or reading photography/nature type magazines, or by talking with other photographers/naturalists (especially those who are experts in a particular area), we become naturalists.

We have individuals in our club who are experts in certain areas such as insects, mushrooms, birds, wild flowers, etc. They might be able to even guide you to a location or habitat. When you find an interesting subject that twitches your brain waves, why not purchase a field guide to learn more about the species.

I find that learning much of the information of a species is half the fun of photography. My self-taught method was to

keep not only notes of exposure, but of the habitat, location, time of year, etc. Over time this will be implanted in our brains for future reference. For me this has been an invaluable resource for just locating subjects. If I am ever in a strange hardwood forest and it is from April 15th to May 15th, I am searching for my favorite woodland wildflower, the hepatica.

All of you have a great summer and to be a better photographer, be a naturalist!

Good Shooting

## It's Just What I Need!

Once again my chronic gadgetitis has flared up. The current object of my affliction is the new Palm m500 handheld device. The new handhelds from Palm have two expansion features: a slot for the little (see photo) Secure Digital or Multimedia cards (up to 64MB) and the usual Palm Universal Connector. They let you add storage, applications, content and add-ons like a portable keyboard, wireless modem, GPS device and digital camera, etc. You can connect it to your Mac or PC for exchanging information and downloading applications.



Nature Photo Times

There are over 8,000 applications for Palm handhelds and I'm sure I would use it for the mundane things such as address book, notepad, calculator and calendar. What really interests me, though, are the applications for photographers. *F/Calc* and *focus+* let you do all kinds of photo-math like calculating hyper-focal distance, depth of field, magnification and optimum focus distance. *Album to Go* enables you to share photos (Want color? Get the m505 color model.) *Camera Collector* and *My Photo Gear* give you a database for your photo gear. *Go Pix* and *Photo Notes* give you places to record exposure, film, equipment and location data. Imagine the possibilities with this most essential, highly useful, very cool tool.

# Nature Photo Times

published Sept-May by the

## Minnesota Nature Photography Club

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

The club meets on the third Wednesdays, Sept-May, at the Visitor Center of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, 3815 East 80th Street, Bloomington, MN. It's across from the airport and next to the Hilton Hotel.



May 16 Program

## Wildflowers

Marilyn Gladitsch

### Weldon Lee Wildlife Photography Seminar October 27, 2001

The location for the seminar will be the auditorium of the Minneapolis College of Art & Design, 2501 Stevens Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404. More information will be sent to you directly from Rocky Mountain Photo Adventures. If you are not a member of MNPC and wish to have all the details, please give your name and your mailing and e-mail addresses to Ron Cleveland. This will be an economical as well as an exceptional event, so the tickets may go fast. Any available tickets will be sold at the door.

Gwynn Heitala (952-431-9534) of the Zoo is looking for photographers to record upcoming events and for their stock collection. Do a little photo-journalism at the May 12-13 Mother's Day/Growing Wild-May celebrations and get some butter-



fly shots. May 24 is the Meerkats of the Kalahari VIP event and June 17 is the Father's Day picnic. There will be other events and photo opportunities throughout the summer. Call Gwynn and she'll fill you in on the details.



### Photograph Minnesota Black Bears

John Pennoyer will be teaching a three-day Photo Workshop in August in Orr, MN. You will be able to photograph the black bears at ground level. There is a fee for this workshop, but John volunteers his time. For more info talk to John or e-mail [Impnature@aol.com](mailto:Impnature@aol.com). He will have a few brochures with him at the May meeting.

### Tell a Story

Dale Bohlke

Wildflowers create a lighting challenge. They do not fully open until the light is cold, harsh and overhead. How can you show a flower's beautiful color at this time of day? I use a diffuser. You may ask what brand, what size, where can I get one? I use a custom made, oversized, very cheap (?) diffuser, which I have never forgotten to bring along. Is this too good to be true? I use my shadow.

Just position yourself so the shadow falls on your subject and you will get excellent color on your slides. If you add an 81A filter the cool color of the shadow will be corrected. Watch the background since any bright areas will significantly reduce the impact of your story.

Nature Photo Times (color version) and other information about the club is available at <http://www1.Minn.Net/~rcland/MinnesotaNaturePhoto.htm>