



New Place – More Space

www.minnesotanature.org

Thanks to member Wayne Wenzlaff, owner of USMac.net, the MNPC web site has room to grow. USMac.net is strictly business, no consumer accounts, so we're especially grateful that Wayne has allowed minnesotanature.org to reside on one of his Macintosh servers. Wayne also facilitated the registration of the domain name.

The new web address will make it a lot easier to tell your friends where to find us on the Internet.

The big change, though, is the increase from 5 to 100 megabytes of server space. This will greatly expand the opportunity to have instructional pages and to feature the photography of members.

For example, members can submit photo essays on a particular photo technique or photo location. Keep this possibility in mind when you are out shooting. Provide Ron Cleveland with your text and slides for scanning. He will prepare the web pages and upload them to the site.

This is also an excellent opportunity for those of you who like to give slide shows. A web page can be set up to show a preview of your program. Interested people can then contact you directly about arranging for a presentation. People who have given a program at an MNPC meeting could also submit selected slides and text for web pages. In time, we could have a nice library of programs.

Another possibility is a library of stock photos. Most of us are not registered with any stock agency but have a few photos that would be of interest to various local or regional publications. A section of the web site could be devoted to an MNPC member stock list with instructions on how to contact the photographer.

The site could also use some remodeling and reorganizing. Any suggestions in this regard will be welcome.

So, what do you think of all this? Contact Ron Cleveland at a meeting, rcland@minn.net or phone 763-425-6009.

Interclub Competition Proposal

George Jensen of the North Metro Photography Club proposed a new format for Interclub competitions at the August TCACCC meeting. The Council voted to not have any Interclub rule changes until 2003, but that can be changed. The proposal may be amended and still needs to be voted on. Please let Mariann Cyr, our council representative, know if you have any comments on the proposal.

Proposed Interclub Competition format.

Interclub INDIVIDUAL Competition:

The rules would stay the same as the current rules EXCEPT:

The number of entries a person could enter in any category would be two no matter how many clubs that individual may belong to.

Interclub CLUB Competition:

Each person may enter two slides per category for each club he/she belongs to. The rest of the rules would be the same as those for the individual competition. The slides for the club competition would be judged in the same way and at the same time as the individual competition. The top five scores for each club would be totaled to determine the winning club in the club competition. NO individual awards of any kind would be made in the club competition.

Any slide or print entered in the CLUB competition would be eligible to be entered in a future INDIVIDUAL competition. Any slide or print entered in the Interclub INDIVIDUAL competition could be entered in a future Interclub CLUB competition.

To insure clarity, the entry forms for the INDIVIDUAL and CLUB competitions will be clearly marked as CLUB or INDIVIDUAL and will be printed on different colored paper.

Workshops & Seminars

Lake Superior in Autumn September 27-30

The base for this workshop will be the Cascade Lodge, noted for its views of Lake Superior and comfortable rooms. This intensive workshop will focus on techniques to help you master landscape photography—from grand to intimate, composition and design, effective use of color, and natural light exposure. Tuition is \$545.00 and includes lodging and all meals. If space allows, a non-participating spouse lodging and meal package is \$375.00. Contact ColdSnap at 612-822-2059, 800-963-8785

Black Bear, Wolf and Lynx October 12, 13 & 14, 2001

Carlyn Iverson will be the instructor and The Minnesota Wildlife Connection will provide the wildlife models. Participants will have a unique and exciting opportunity to photograph black bear, wolf & lynx. The shores of Bear Island Lake and surrounding Superior National Forest afford incredible opportunities for wildlife photographers. The participant price is \$425.00. This includes shared cabin lodging at Timber Wolf Lodge, wildlife models, photographic instruction throughout the weekend and three daily meals Friday morning through Sunday afternoon (breakfast & lunch on Sunday). Contact Doug or Deb at: Timber Wolf Lodge: 218-827-3512, Toll Free: 800-777-8457

Photographing Wildlife October 27

This is a one day, 9:00AM to 5:00PM seminar with author, photographer and tour leader Weldon Lee of Rocky Mountain Photo Adventures. The location is the auditorium of the Minneapolis College of Art & Design in Minneapolis. Seminar topics include how to locate wildlife, calling predators, wildlife photography techniques, camouflage, stalking, equipment and more. The cost is only \$45.00, \$55.00 at the door. Download the registration form from www.minnesotanature.org or pick one up at the MNPC September meeting. You may also register by RMPA in Colorado at 303-747-2074. The local sponsor for this event is the Minnesota Nature Photography Club.

Iceland

A photographic/gastronomic adventure

An icy west wind sweeps across the glaciers and icecap of East Greenland and races out to sea, crossing the Denmark Strait before slamming into the 800-foot cliffs of Latrabjarg, the westernmost tip of Iceland. Below, the silver-haired whitecaps frolic on a turbulent sea, crashing into the basalt cliffs and rebounding with a frenzied clapotis* effect.

Fat-bodied Atlantic puffins and razorbills, riding the wind, jet in from the sea through an azure blue sky, make a sharp 180 and hang on the wind like a kite before powering down to the ragged pinnacles and grassy cliff tops. The forty-mile wind is nothing new for these birds for they spend nine months on the open sea in much more trying conditions.

We pick our shots carefully, attempting to get an unobtrusive background behind our bird, so that it melds into a wash of color. Of course, the lighting is near perfect. The final goal is to get a perfect exposure. Simple! Spotmeter the whitest part of the white breast that you want to retain detail in and open up 1-1/3 stops – either shutter or f-stop.

Fainting a broken wing, a ringed plover skitters over the wet gravel. I stop. Cautiously she returns to the well-camouflaged nest hidden in the gravel and thrift. Not wanting to spook the bird, I mate a 2X teleconverter to a 400mm lens, attach an

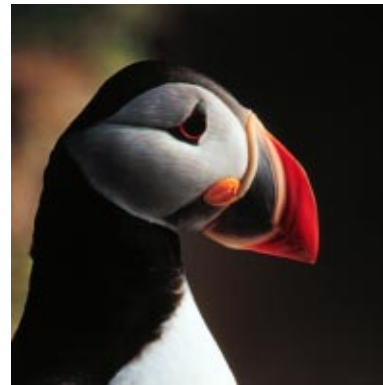


electronic shutter release and spread the tripod legs nearly horizontal. As I lay down on the wet gravel the plover carefully picks her way back to the nest. Long exposures for the now 800mm lens are necessary due to the heavy overcast, drifting fog and 100 speed film. Fitted to a Wimberley Sidekick the camera is weightless as I follow the bird and click off a roll of 36 frames using the electronic shutter release.

Investigating a freshwater stream, a pair of red-necked phalaropes glide in on fixed wings and begin feeding. Their wake reflects bright star-like highlights as they pick insects from the sandy stream. Extending the tripod lower legs enough to keep sand out of the leglocks, I sink into the wet sand and fire off shot after shot as the phalaropes work the

stream. Two rolls of film later they were off in search of new fare.

I retreated back to the “hotel” (a former reformatory) at Breidavik for a good meal and an Icelandic treat. We had been alerted that we might be offered an old Icelandic fare of rotten shark and a chaser known as Black Death. As it was offered to each of us most people politely declined the small chunks of shark which had been buried and rotting for three months. Only three of us were brave or foolish enough to try it. The head-clearing



ing smell of amoniz drifted up from the dish as Bob, holding his nose, popped a piece deep into his mouth and swallowed. We could see it go down. Rich was next to try. As the white blob passed his lips, he jumped from the table and raced for the door while covering his mouth with a handkerchief. And me? I had three pieces. What does that say about my taste for the finer things in life?

*Editor’s note: *Clapotis are confused, choppy seas created by the convergence of two waves coming from opposite directions, one wave from the ocean, one from the point of land where it was reflected.*

www.rickhobbs.com

Rick Hobbs just launched a new web site featuring his photography and other information. Check it out. His new e-mail address is rick@rickhobbs.com

Carroll Winther

1920 – 2001

We note the passing of Carrroll Winther who died July 14 at the VA hospital. He was a long time member of MNPC and known for his beautiful bird photos.

May Awards

Judges:

Rose Duncan and John Pennoyer

10's	
Klein, Dave	Red-Shouldered Hawk
Nelson, Vern	Male American Goldfinch
9's	
Bertas, Mary Kay	Transparent Tulip
Holm, Morrie	House Sparrow
Kandiko, Joe	Mt. Baker
Karai, Vijay	Tree Tulip
Nelson, Vern	Cecropia Moth on Willow Tree
Wraalstad, Duane	Male Wood Duck #9
Wraalstad, Duane	Lower Falls of the Yellowstone

8's

Cardle, Janet	Porcupine
Ellenbecker, Dave	Small Yellow Lady Slippers
Ellenbecker, Dave	Leaves in the Stream
Galambos, Ted	Thermal Spring
Galambos, Ted	Smokies Sunset
Handsaker, Bill	Unknown Utah Flower
Jenkins, John	Red Winged Blackbird
Karai, Vijay	Pasque Flower
Klein, Dave	Laughing Gull
Lillestrand, Dottie	Rosette Spoonbill
Moran, Gerald	Pasque Flower
Moran, Gerald	Red-Tailed Hawk
Scholljegerdes, Flo	Wolf Portrait
Scholljegerdes, Flo	Wood Duck Swimming

A Lifetime of Photography

WOW! Can you believe that summer is almost over with? I can never determine why it is that the three months of summer always fly by so fast and the three months of winter seem to last twice as long. It must have something to do with the positioning of the sun! Certainly hope that all of you have had a great summer and are getting ready for some great fall photography. For me it has been a great summer of photographing – orchids, loons, puffins, black bears, etc.

Over the last three years I have been conducting a workshop at the Vince Schutte Wildlife Sanctuary, photographing black bears and whatever else happens to be around. We have field sessions in the AM and PM with classroom sessions in between. We basically go from sunrise to sunset. This year I had 13 individuals all the way from the East Coast to the West Coast. One of the things the workshops have taught me is that all the participants are at different levels in their photography. The participants have been anywhere from aged 10 to 80+. But no matter what their age or skill level, they all show their love of nature.

This year it was an exceptional workshop. We had some great photography weather and the bears were very photo-



genic, allowing the participants to get all sorts of behavioral shots. Among the participants were a couple of gals that were an inspiration to all of us. I will just say that these great gals are of a different age bracket than most of us. They walked amongst the bears taking their photos just like everyone else. On more than one occasion I heard comments from others on how amazed they were at these two.

What really inspired me was knowing that I have 25 to 30 years of photography ahead of me. These two have been photographing for many years and are still going at it with a great passion. My goal would be to have the same passion for photography 25 to 30 years from now. It also goes to show us that we are never too old to learn. No matter how long we have photographed or what our age bracket is we can always learn something new. Once we think that we know everything about photography, our images will certainly suffer.

Hopefully we all will be able to see some of the images these gals took—for you see most of you will know them. They are sisters who belong to the Nature Photo Club. Their names are Florence and Dottie. It was an honor and an inspiration to have them in my workshop.

Good Shooting!

Schullers Retire to Florida

We are off to sunny Florida, to a house on a canal, where we intend to photograph birds and Terry will be fishing 365 days a year.

Our new address, beginning August 27:
437 Bal Harbor Blvd
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941-637-4705

The rookery in Venice is 30 minutes north of us and Sanibel is less than an hour to the south.

Kathleen

Editor's note: Kathleen and Terry Schuller have contributed much to MNPC over the years. Their fine photography, exceptional volunteer efforts and good company are already missed. Hey Schullers, how about some e-mail with a jpeg or two attached?

The Gear of Nature Photography



New BushHawk

Ocean Instruments has introduced their updated line of BushHawk shoulder mounts. Lighter, more packable and more adjustable than wooden gunstocks, the BushHawk could be very useful for on-the-move photography. Here's the scoop from www.bushhawk.com/

They weigh less than 12 oz. complete and are tough enough to deliver a lifetime of service in the field. The unique patented design adjusts to fit any arm's reach, right or left-

handed or right or left "eyed". Arca-Swiss style and other quick clamps are easily mounted on the new BushHawk. Price for the basic unit is about \$100.

The BH-220 Series is fitted with a unique "Trigger" system that mimics the remote shutter release cords for Nikon, Canon, Minolta and Pentax. Press the BushHawk trigger button part way and your autofocus camera system will focus. Depress the trigger button all the way and your shutter will trip. The BH-210N system operates older Nikon cameras and motor drives using the two wire system prior to the introduction of the N90 series. The BH-200 mount is equipped with a small clamp to hold older style "mechanical" cable releases. A number of accessories and attachments are available.

Contact BushHawk at 800-325-4542. They're at 5312 Banks Street, San Diego, CA 92110

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Meeting on the third Wednesdays, Sept-May
at the Visitor Center of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, 3815 East 80th Street, Bloomington.

FIRST CLASS MAIL

September 19 Program:

Prairie Rainbow

The rainbow of prairie colors is a treat to the eye and a photographer's paradise. Using a single lens and natural light these colors have been captured on film by Dale Bohlke. The colorful wildflowers, butterflies, and insects of Minnesota's prairies will be the topic of the slide presentation at the September meeting.

Tell a Story

Dale Bohlke

Getting parallel in close up photography is difficult due to a limited depth of field; a small aperture is just the start of maximizing the area of sharpness. Having the film plane parallel to the subject is essential when photographing resting butterflies, dragonflies, or any small long subject. It is also important with plant habitat shots to get the surrounding area in sharp focus. How can this be accomplished? Take a step back and look at your camera and the subject. Is the back of the camera parallel to the subject? If not, adjust the camera a small amount to correctly position it. Try to confirm this change with your depth of field preview button. Only a small movement can save a slide from the recycle bin.

Explore Autumn in Alaska

8/23 to 9/3, 2002

Three prime areas will be explored: Kenai Fjords, Valdez and Denali National Park. A 4-page brochure in PDF format with area descriptions, itinerary, and other information is available from www.minnesotanature.org. Just download it and print it out using your Acrobat Reader. Space is still available. Contact Ron Cleveland for further information or for a copy of the brochure if you do not have internet access.



Have you registered?

photographing wildlife
with **weldon lee**
One Day Seminar
Minneapolis, MN
October 27, 2001
9 AM - 6 PM
Cost \$45
(\$35 at the door)
Minneapolis College of Art & Design
2501 Stevens Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Seminar Topics...
• How to Locate Wildlife
• Calling Predators
• Wildlife Photography Techniques
• Camouflage and Stalking Techniques
• Equipment for the Wildlife Photographer
...and Much More!

Name: _____
Mailing Address (Street/P.O. Box): _____
City, State, ZIP: _____ Business Phone: (____) _____
Home Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____
Payment \$ _____
Card # _____ Signature _____
Check enclosed Charge to my: VISA MasterCard
Expiration date: _____
Seminar Location: _____
Reservations are accepted on the order received. Please order with VISA or MasterCard as confirmed immediately.
Latter if confirmation will be mailed upon receipt of payment.

Weldon Lee's Rocky Mountain Photo Adventures
P.O. Box 487 • Minneapolis, MN 55404 • 303.747.9074
www.rockymountainphotoadventures.com • Web Site: www.rockymountainphotoadventures.com

The registration form is available from our web site at www.minnesotanature.org. You may also register by calling 303-747-2074. Registration forms will also be available at the September MNPC meeting on the wall by the name tags.