



Pursuing the Jeweled Shooting Star

- Tom Samuelson



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Finding the Jeweled Shooting Star was not as difficult as I had originally thought, but it did take some fortitude. Especially in the hiking and climbing required to obtain any photographic images.

After researching their locations, I narrowed my search to an SNA in the southeastern part of the state that was a reasonable drive from home. Having never been to this particular site, it took some time to acclimate myself and locate their proper environment. Surprisingly, it wasn't long before I encountered a single plant on a large rock cliff. The only way I found this specimen was by first noticing a Declining Trillium and then making a decision to investigate its photo opportunities.

This single Shooting Star was clinging to the cliff face below the Trillium. It was in full bloom and yet it did not jump out and say, "Here I am." It took me a moment to recognize my finding. Growing on a cliff face of over fifteen feet, the feasibility of obtaining a good image was next to impossible. Perplexing to say the least. Sitting there with

my feet dangling over the cliff and contemplating my next move, an old axiom came to mind. "If there is one, there have to be more."

Doing a quick survey of the terrain convinced me that the only available option was to play mountain goat and climb down the cliff. I obviously did not play the part very well, because my feet went out from under me and I tumbled down the hill. Once I stopped my rapid descent and was able to slowly pull myself to a standing position, I began looking around in embarrassment to see if anyone was watching. Yeah, like right. Who is going to be out here? I laughed to myself at the thought. Next, I checked my equipment and found everything to be in good shape. I muttered a big sigh of relief.

The next few steps confirmed the axiom's truth. On a smaller outcropping were many beautiful specimens. At first, I sat in amazement not knowing what to do. There were white ones, lavender ones, and dark purple ones, all in different stages of bloom. Could I get them all? No, that was not feasible. It no longer mattered that I had taken the hard way down the cliff. Those bumps and bruises were long forgotten.

Then the questions began. Which is the best subject and from what angle should it be photographed? What will give me the best background? How much additional space should be included? What will give me the best composition? It took me awhile to compose myself and to begin the rational thought process.

In searching for answers to those questions, I walked along the cliff face several times. One grouping consistently caught my eye. It was a single plant with six dark purple blooms growing amongst a small fern. After capturing some images, I tried other speci-

mens, but I always found myself coming back to this group. After shooting a few rolls, I noticed a single Morel growing nearby. It too was captured on film.

With that task completed, I was contemplating on whether to continue my hike. I was looking out over the river bluffs and reflecting on what a wonderful way to spend the day; dirty, tired and chock full of new experiences. I probably didn't get the "best" image I could have, but the pursuit of the Jeweled Shooting Star has given me some pleasant memories. Besides, isn't that a big part of why we do this?

October Awards

Judges: Jean McDonough & Duane Wraalstad

	10
Mariann Cyr	Puffin
John D. La Mere	Marmots at Glacier
Vern Nelson	Question Mark
	9
Marsha Kessler	Black & Yellow
Pauline Nystrom	Light Spot
Tom Samuelson	Female Bluebird
	8
Dale Bohlke	Cottonwood
	Prairie
Marilyn Gladitsch	Wood Pattern
Jeff Hahn	Chafer on Leaf
Paul Hoppe	Three of a Kind
Joe Kandiko	Grand Canyon
Vijay Karai	Untitled
	(Dickcissel on
	Vines)
Vijay Karai	Fern Leaves
Charles Kessler	Geese
Marsha Kessler	Frosted
John D. La Mere	Jensen Lake Turtle
Dottie Lillestrand	Jack-in-the-Pulpit
	#1-2002
Jean McIntosh	Graceful Grasses
Vern Nelson	Tiger Swallow-Tail
	on Sedum Leaves
Tom Samuelson	Evening Monarch

Why is it that a photographer will keep going back for the same subject time and time again? Wouldn't you think that once we have photographed a particular subject 3 or 4 times that we would move on? How many of us go to the same wood lot every year to photograph the same group of woodland flowers? If you stop and think about the subjects that you like to photograph I am sure that you have made numerous trips to the same area, and you probably have many like images already in your stock file.

A friend of mine who is a dedicated fisherman made a comment when he heard that I was going out to photograph some wildflowers. He said "I don't know why you photograph them so much, once you have seen one flower you have seen them all". Of course my response was, "Once you catch one fish you have caught them all".

Every time I strap on my photo pack and hit the trail looking for a particular subject, my mind is visualizing how I would like to photograph this subject. I am always looking for the perfect composition, perfect light, perfect environment, the absolute perfect subject and all of



those other ingredients that make for award winning photographs. More times than not, you won't find "perfect" in the natural world. However, visualizing it is the mindset that will allow us to make perfect photographs under situations that are not so perfect. Is the light too harsh on those Hepaticas? Well let's just use a diffuser and even the light out. Or maybe you would like a little more light on those flowers. I'll just reach in my photo pack and use my gold reflector to give them a nice warm feeling.

Visualizing will also help us to be creative in our photography. I have been on a 5-6 year quest to photograph Western Prairie Fringed Orchids. After finding them and looking at their habitat, I have visualized this particular field of Orchids at sunrise/sunset. Using my wide-angle lens with one orchid plant up close and the setting/rising sun giving

the entire field or orchids a nice warm glow. I have yet to capture that image, but not because I haven't tried. Last summer my wife and I stayed at a B&B for 5 days in an area



close to these orchids. My goal was to capture that image, but all of the floods from last summer took their toll and not one plant came up last summer!

I have many images of male Bighorn Rams in my stock file. However the image that I have visualized for many years is two mature Rams in full rut banging heads together. I may never get that image, but I still give myself every opportunity possible.

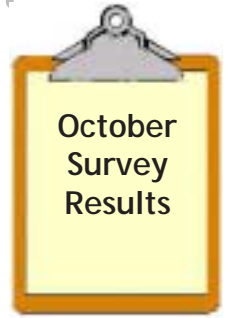
That is by going to the area during the peak of the rut, which is at the end of November, and bearing the elements to give me the opportunity to capture this event.

As a photographer "visualizes" an image, he must do everything possible to make this vision a reality. It is important to know every little detail about your subject like what is the best time of day to photograph this subject, what is the best location, what film will best capture this image, and what lens should be used. The more prepared we are mentally, the better our chances are to see our dreams come true.

Of course, that is why we photograph subjects time and time again. Once we have visualized an image and captured it on film, our minds will visualize another whole sequence of images to try and capture. That is the fun of photography. Our creative minds will never allow us to be satisfied!

Good Shooting

Last month's survey questions asked...



- What camera system do you use?
- Should digital photography be included in the club?

Here are the results from the 32 members who responded:

Camera System	Responses
Canon	11
Leica	1
Minolta	1
Nikon	17
Olympus	1
Pentax	3

* One member listed multiple systems

Should digital photography be included in the club?

Yes	No	Maybe	No Response
20	9	2	1

This question generated some concerns even among those members who responded in favor of making digital photography a part of the club. Some voiced concerns about the manipulation of the images while others felt that digital should be accepted, but only if it is in a category by itself. Still others felt that perhaps one or two meetings per year could be dedicated to digital competition, leaving the other meetings open for traditional film. Some members expressed a desire to learn about digital photography, but are not committed to adopting it.

Local Exhibits

- **Cynthia Fleury** is currently exhibiting her work at Ramsey Center for the Arts, the pARTS Gallery and at the Mill House Gallery in Chaska. Her exhibits at the Ramsey Center for the Arts and the Mill House Gallery will be ongoing and include nature photographs. Her exhibit at the pARTS Gallery began on November 2nd and will continue through December 1st.
- **John Ringquist** will exhibit his photography at the Minnesota Arboretum in Chanhassen, MN from January 11 - March 8, 2003.

Slide of the Year Candidates

The following slides represent the field from which slides of the year in the categories of botany, zoology and general will be chosen. If your slides are listed and you wish to compete in the year-end salon, please bring them to the November 20th meeting. In addition to the slides listed here, acceptances from the November meeting will also be eligible for slide of the year. The judge for this year's competition is David C. McClure, staff photographer for August Home Publishing.

<u>Photographer - Slide Title</u>	<u>Salon Month</u>	<u>Photographer - Slide Title</u>	<u>Salon Month</u>
Anderle, Steve - High Falls	Jan-02	Hahn, Jeff - Yellowjacket Nest	Sep-02
Anderle, Steve - Cascade River	Feb-02	Hahn, Jeff - Weevil on Oak	Sep-02
Anderle, Steve - Devils Tower	Feb-02	Hahn, Jeff - Chafer on Leaf	Oct-02
Beers, Thelma - Badger Digging Hole	Sep-02	Handsaker, Bill - White Water Lily	May-02
Beers, Thelma - Papa Fox Getting Acquainted	Sep-02	Handsaker, Bill - Sandhill Crane	May-02
Bertas, Mary Kay - Antelope Canyon	Jan-02	Harlow, Jerry - MI Lake Superior Sunset	Jan-02
Bohlke, Dale - Oak Savanna Sunset	Jan-02	Hobbs, Kathy - The Anhinga Speaks	Feb-02
Bohlke, Dale - Tamarack Dawn	Jan-02	Hobbs, Kathy - Nesting Great Blue Heron	Feb-02
Bohlke, Dale - Cottonwood Prairie	Oct-02	Hobbs, Kathy - Young Tiger Among Blades of Grass	Mar-02
Chapman, Kevin - Alaskan Grebe	Mar-02	Hobbs, Kathy - Watchful Cougar Mom	Mar-02
Chapman, Kevin - Katmai Bear	Mar-02	Hobbs, Kathy - Long-Eared Owl in Pines	Apr-02
Cleveland, Ron - Alaska Range Talkeetna, AK	Jan-02	Hobbs, Kathy - Trumpeter Swans Gathering	Apr-02
Cyr, Mariann - Nootka Lupine #1027	Jan-02	Hobbs, Kathy - Wading Wood Stork	Sep-02
Cyr, Mariann - Rabbit Brush & Bluff	Jan-02	Hobbs, Rick - Pelican Landing	Mar-02
Cyr, Mariann - Bighorn Sheep Ram	Feb-02	Holm, Morrie - House Sparrow	Apr-02
Cyr, Mariann - Paintbrush and Tall White Rein-Orchids (#488)	Feb-02	Holm, Morrie - Common Blue Violet	May-02
Cyr, Mariann - Lupine Close-Up	Mar-02	Hoppe, Paul - Pasqueflower	May-02
Cyr, Mariann - Waterfall, Talknafjordur	Apr-02	Hoppe, Paul - Common Loon	May-02
Cyr, Mariann - Fulmar Pair, Latrabjarg	Apr-02	Hoppe, Paul - Three of a Kind	Oct-02
Cyr, Mariann - Shooting Star	May-02	Jenkins, John D. - Color of Autumn	Jan-02
Cyr, Mariann - Ptarmigan	Sep-02	Jenkins, John D. - Great Horned Owl and Snowflakes	Feb-02
Cyr, Mariann - Snow on Oak Leaves	Sep-02	Jenkins, John D. - Goshawk Up Close	Feb-02
Cyr, Mariann - Puffin	Oct-02	Jenkins, John D. - Red-Tailed Hawk	Mar-02
Duncan, Jim - Southwest Scenic #3	Jan-02	Jenkins, John D. - Young Cattle Egrets	Apr-02
Duncan, Jim - Bull Elk #3	Feb-02	Jenkins, John D. - Black Crowned Night Heron	Apr-02
Duncan, Rose - Tree Fern Fiddlehead	Feb-02	Jenkins, John D. - Courtship Display	Sep-02
Ellenbecker, Dave - Showy Ladyslipper Group #6	Jan-02	Jenkins, John D. - Stream in the Rockies	Sep-02
Ellenbecker, Dave - Touch-Me-Not	Feb-02	Jones, Cathy - Great White Heron Drinking	Mar-02
Ellenbecker, Dave - Mushrooms and Sumac	Feb-02	Jones, Cathy - Lake Morton Goose	Apr-02
Ellenbecker, Dave - British Soldier	Mar-02	Jones, Cathy - Mute Swan	Apr-02
Ellenbecker, Dave - Prairie Smoke #7	Apr-02	Jones, Cathy - Sandhill Crane Preening	May-02
Ellenbecker, Dave - Wild Ginger	May-02	Kandiko, Joe - Sunset Pelican	Apr-02
Ellenbecker, Dave - Trillium & Fern	Sep-02	Kandiko, Joe - Roadside Glory	Sep-02
Ellenbecker, Dave - Small White Lady Slipper #8	Sep-02	Kandiko, Joe - Grand Canyon	Oct-02
Fleury, Cynthia - Pink Lupines	Jan-02	Karai, Vijay - Pasque Duo 2001	Feb-02
Fleury, Cynthia - Mushrooms	Jan-02	Karai, Vijay - Big Tusker Kilimanjaro	Apr-02
Fleury, Cynthia - Winter Sunrise North Shore	Mar-02	Karai, Vijay - Sand and Weeds	Apr-02
Fleury, Cynthia - Mediterranean Sunset	May-02	Karai, Vijay - Admiral on Cone	May-02
Fleury, Cynthia - Big Horn Mountains	May-02	Karai, Vijay - Hummingbird	Sep-02
Galambos, Ted - Butterfly on Flower	Jan-02	Karai, Vijay - Untitled (Dickcissel on Vines)	Oct-02
Galambos, Ted - Goose on Lake Harriet	Jan-02	Karai, Vijay - Fern Leaves	Oct-02
Galambos, Ted - Wolf Creek Falls	Mar-02	Kessler, Charles - Geese	Oct-02
Galambos, Ted - Lake Ohai, NZ	May-02	Kessler, Marsha - Black & Yellow	Oct-02
Galambos, Ted - Untitled (Winter Scene)	Sep-02	Kessler, Marsha - Frosted	Oct-02
Gladitsch, Marilyn - Snapping Turtle Digging Nest	Jan-02	La Mere, John D. - Mountain Goat Kid	Jan-02
Gladitsch, Marilyn - Amanita Trio	Mar-02	La Mere, John D. - Elk Calf, Colorado	Feb-02
Gladitsch, Marilyn - Ice Droplet	Apr-02	La Mere, John D. - Sandhill Crane	Mar-02
Gladitsch, Marilyn - Wild Mushroom Caps	Apr-02	La Mere, John D. - Mallard Pair	Apr-02
Gladitsch, Marilyn - Mushroom Cluster #35	Sep-02	La Mere, John D. - Crex Meadows Sunrise	Apr-02
Gladitsch, Marilyn - Wood Pattern	Oct-02	La Mere, John D. - Monarch & Blazing Star	May-02
Goossens-Bryan, Betty - House Finch #1	Jan-02	La Mere, John D. - St. Mary Lake, Glacier NP	May-02
Goossens-Bryan, Betty - Fern #1	Sep-02	La Mere, John D. - Tree Frog Hangout	Sep-02
Hahn, Jeff - Fly	Jan-02	La Mere, John D. - Marmots at Glacier	Oct-02
		La Mere, John D. - Jensen Lake Turtle	Oct-02

Slide of the Year Candidates (cont'd)

<i>Photographer - Slide Title</i>	<i>Salon Month</i>
Lillestrand, Dottie - Jack-in-the-Pulpit #1-2002	Oct-02
McDonough, Jean - Egret with Stick	Jan-02
McDonough, Jean - White Sands #1	Jan-02
McDonough, Jean - Squirrel	Feb-02
McDonough, Jean - Cheetah Yawning	Mar-02
McDonough, Jean - Polar Bear in Churchill	Mar-02
McDonough, Jean - Elk in Snow #2	Apr-02
McDonough, Jean - Three Cheetahs	Sep-02
McIntosh, Jean - Graceful Grasses	Oct-02
Moen, Aaron - Snowy Egret	Sep-02
Moran, Gerald - Great Horned Owl	Sep-02
Moran, Joyce - Barred Owl Portrait	Sep-02
Moran, Joyce - Eagle in Lake	Sep-02
Neavin, Terry - Prairie Smoke	Jan-02
Neavin, Terry - Jumbo Rocks in Joshua Tree	Jan-02
Neavin, Terry - Milkweed Pod in Bloom	Mar-02
Nelson, Vern - Mourning Cloak Basking on Rock	Jan-02
Nelson, Vern - 10 Point White-Tailed Buck	Jan-02
Nelson, Vern - White-Tail Bucks Sparring	Feb-02
Nelson, Vern - Goatweed Basking on Rock	Mar-02
Nelson, Vern - Female Hairy Woodpecker	Apr-02
Nelson, Vern - Male Great Spangled Fritillary	Apr-02
Nelson, Vern - Female Malachite	Sep-02
Nelson, Vern - Question Mark	Oct-02
Nelson, Vern - Tiger Swallow-Tail on Sedum Leaves	Oct-02
Nystrom, Pauline - Mountain Goat Portrait	Feb-02
Nystrom, Pauline - Ready to Pounce	Feb-02
Nystrom, Pauline - Cathedral Rocks	Mar-02
Nystrom, Pauline - Light Spot	Oct-02
Prokosch, Mike - Striated Caracara	Feb-02
Prokosch, Mike - Dark Faced Ground-Tyrant	Feb-02
Samuelson, Tom - Fall on Oberg Mountain	Jan-02
Samuelson, Tom - The Three Stools	Jan-02
Samuelson, Tom - Drake Mallard	Mar-02
Samuelson, Tom - Fiddleheads	Mar-02
Samuelson, Tom - Drake Mallard #3	Apr-02
Samuelson, Tom - Hepatica #1	May-02
Samuelson, Tom - Meadowhawk	Sep-02
Samuelson, Tom - Baby Blue	Sep-02
Samuelson, Tom - Evening Monarch	Oct-02
Samuelson, Tom - Female Bluebird	Oct-02
Scholljegerdes, Florence - Bellwort #3	Jan-02
Scholljegerdes, Florence - Wild Rose in Rain	Jan-02
Scholljegerdes, Florence - Cougar by the River	Mar-02
Scholljegerdes, Florence - Black Bear No. 2	Apr-02
Wilbrecht, Jon - Geranium	Feb-02

November Program



The November program will be a presentation of slides from the Photographic Society of America. Taken from their permanent nature collection, these slides represent photographers who have achieved a high level of distinction in the Nature Photography group within PSA.

Upcoming Photo Tours & Seminars

John Gregor (Coldsnap Photography) -
www.coldsnap.com

February 20-23, 2003

Winter Photography on the North Shore

March 29, 2003 (Madison WI, Marriott Hotel)
The Art of Seeing Photographically

April 26, 2003 (Bloomington MN, Bloomington REI)
The Art of Seeing Photographically

May 8-11, 2003

Spring Wildflowers of the Big Woods

May 29-June 1, 2003

B&W Printmaking

June 19-22, 2003

Wild Orchids

Rick Hobbs - www.rickhobbs.com

Dec. 6-14, 2002

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge & White Sands National Monument

Jan. 21-24, 2003

Trumpeter Swans on the Mississippi - MN

Feb. 12-18, 2003

Yellowstone in Winter

March 5-8, 2003

Winter Wildlife Workshop - Wildlife Models

George Lepp - www.leppphoto.com

May 3-4, 2003

(sponsored by Rick Hobbs)
Minneapolis Convention Center - Optimizing the Possibilities and The Digital Desktop Darkroom

Arthur Morris - www.birdsasart.com

November 18-20, 24-26, 2002

November 30-December 2, 2002

February 25-27, 2003

Bosque Del Apache, NWR, New Mexico

December 27-29, 2002

March 7-9 (or -11), 2003

Southwest Florida (including Ding Darling NWR, Sanibel Island, the Venice rookery and more)

January 8-12, 2003

San Diego, California (including LaJolla Cliffs, Coronado and more)

John Shaw - www.johnshawphoto.com

May 31-June 6, 2003

California Redwoods & Oregon Coast

June 28-July 12, 2003

Svalbard/Spitsbergen

Cold silvery moonlight filtered down through the mid October foliage. The spruce campfire popped again, sending sparks flying in all directions as if trying to ward off the unseasonable arctic temperature. The sky had finally cleared after five days of rain, snow and high winds, and now we sit around the campfire spinning tales of past photo adventures. Northern Lights, ionized atoms of oxygen and nitrogen above the high latitudes, dance excitedly in the northern sky - although somewhat diminished by the waxing moon.

The temperature was dropping fast - already 18 degrees. Our world was quiet, except for the crackling fire and the sound of our voices, which seemed out of place in this wilderness setting. Quiet to a point that you could hear an aspen leaf tumble through the branches and softly land on a bed of pine duff and leaves. And then - somewhere to the southwest came the howl of a lone wolf, the voice of the wilderness. Instantly visions of a lone Lobo filled my head. Deep yellow eyes and a wet black nose pointed at the moon. Warm breath condensing into a frozen fog as the long plaintive call breaks the silence of the island. Without a pause comes a chilling reply from the northeast. Moonlight dances on the waters of Washington Creek as a beaver swims by. Flames flicker from a dying fire and three friends experience what may be a once in a lifetime experience. The

calling lasted only a few minutes. The flames died into a bed of coals leaving us cold on the outside, but full of warm memories on the inside. Hardly a word was spoken as the fire was wetted out and we crawled into snug down sleeping bags to savor the memories.

Morning came abruptly. I bolted out of a warm sleeping bag to the bank of Washington Creek in time to see a heavily antlered moose leave the creek, water streaming off his massive brown body, and disappear into the woods. No chance for a photo, but the memories are great. At 12 degrees Fahrenheit there is a half

inch of ice in the coffee pot so I quickly fire-up the one burner stove for the coffee and set about rekindling the campfire for warmth and the smell of wood smoke on a frigid morning. Before long the smell of bacon hangs heavy in the air and drifts into the woods. Chickadees flit about as if alarmed, red squirrels chatter excitedly among the old man's beard draping the fir trees. Out of the shadows strolls a red fox - as casually as my dog might. The likelihood of a free breakfast has lured him in as it had obviously done many times before.

Forget the bacon, where's the camera? Foxy sniffed around the fire and the entire campsite, drifting near and far - picking up unseen tidbits of his liking. Of course I sat idly by watching his antics - through a 300mm lens. Each interesting pose was answered with a burst of three or four frames of Fuji slide film. This scenario repeated itself many times until the smell of well-charred bacon demanded to be removed from the fire.

With that, the fox vanished into the forest - seemingly shaking his head and wondering about photographers. Breakfast was a small price to pay for two rolls of hopefully good fox images.

Bob and Ted had never seen a fox this tame and had also gotten some great shots. Now, after breakfast we focused our attention on chickadees, red squirrels, old man's beard and "candles" in the fir trees. An hour later, Charlie, the park ranger, came by to inform us that our pick-up boat that had been delayed by five days of heavy seas would be picking us up in two hours.

Reflecting back on Isle Royale, it is one of our smallest and least visited National Parks. A true wilderness park, it has no roads and offers few visitor accommodations except for Rock Harbor Lodge on the southeast coast. Forty-six miles long

and nine miles wide, it is actually part of Michigan even though it is only seventeen miles from the Minnesota/Canada border and more than fifty miles from

Michigan's upper peninsula. Wildlife reigns supreme here and man is only a visitor. Several inland lakes offer ideal habitat for moose and waterfowl and their predators. Wolves and fox co-exist, as

do eagles and osprey. The vegetation is more boreal than northern great lakes and many of the neotropical birds that nest in the Arrowhead and Thunder Bay country can also be found on the island.

Wonderful photo opportunities abound whether you are backpacking, camping or staying in the comfort of Rock Harbor Lodge. Miles and miles of good hiking trails with scenic vistas are available. I've hiked and photographed the length of the island three times - always in September-October when you may not see another person all week. For the adventurous, contact: Isle Royale National Park 87 North Ripley Street, Houghton, MI 49931 for more information.

A Message from the President...

I hope that some of you were able to find some Fall color to shoot somewhere! November is the last chance for the end of the year slide competition, so bring your best shots to the November salon.



Please consider volunteering to be a judge for next year's salons. The salon seems to be the focal point of the meetings and I think we can all learn - whether from judges' comments or actually being the judge. This is our club and we welcome input from everyone. Please contact Mike Hagerty if you can help out.

The 2002-2003 Membership Roster is being compiled and we need your updated information. Please bring your registration card and dues to the November meeting so you can be included in the directory.

-Joe



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Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month,
Sept-May at the Visitor Center of the Minnesota Valley
National Wildlife Refuge, 3815 East 80th Street,
Bloomington, MN

MINNESOTA BOTANY
INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHY

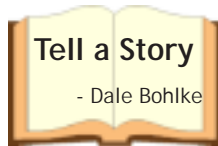
Don't forget to enter your slides for the Minnesota Botany International Exhibition. The exhibition is limited to botany slides only - including flowering plants, non-flowering plants (fungi, lichens, mosses, ferns, gymnosperms, etc), habitats and fossil life.

FIRST CLASS MAIL



In this issue...

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Know Your Audience

"The judges hated my picture. If

they only knew what it took to get it!"
What makes a good photograph? Your family may be more interested in the exquisite clouds at sunset over the Badlands. A birder would swoon over a grainy, blurred photo of a barely visible ivory billed woodpecker. You may see the memory of the day in the slide. Each is an example of a good photograph.

What is a good salon slide? Beyond the PSA definition of a nature slide (which is found in the club handbook) judges look for impact, that which separates a slide from the rest of the tray. An exact definition of impact can be very elusive and variable depending on the judges. A good photo has an impact on the intended audience. A great photograph has universal impact and evokes an emotion or memory with each viewing. Don't be discouraged if your slide flops in the salon. Your slide may have another, perhaps more treasured, audience.

Minnesota Nature Photography Field Trips



Reicks Lake Field Trip

Tundra swans feed on this lake en route to the East coast for the winter. Despite major habitat degradation, hundreds of swans still visit the lake. On this date in 2000 there were several hundred birds, 35 degrees and snow while 2001 had 100-200 birds, 70 degrees and sunshine. The birds are active throughout the day but only occasionally close enough to photograph. Expect lots of fresh air and a few bursts of photography. At least a 400 mm lens is needed. Know how to use your camera's manual controls for best exposures. A 500 mm Canon lens will be available for use.

I recommend lodging the night before in Lake City, Wabasha, or Alma or early departure Sunday. Reicks Lake is about 3 hours from our monthly meeting location. Lunch in Alma or bring your own. Dress warmly to stand outside all day. Contact Dale Bohlke at (952) 445-6125 or dbohlke@mn.rr.com if you have any questions.

Date: Sunday, November 17

Time: 8 - 4 PM, sunrise and sunset optional

Location: Reicks Lake is located just north of Alma, WI. Meet at the deck and we will walk a short distance to photography sites.