

Field Notes
“Give Something Back”
By John Pennoyer

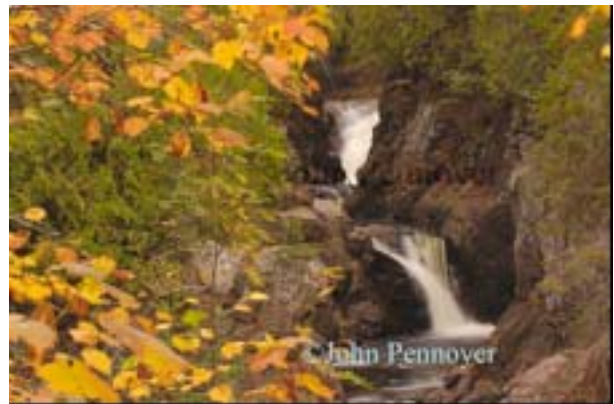
It always amazes me that we live in such a great state that allows us so much “nature” to enjoy. For me it makes no difference if you are a nature photographer, bird watcher, hunter, fisherman, hiker, canoeist or any others that get us outside to enjoy this great state. For me I participate in all of the above; of course some more than others. My fishing skill has a lot to be desired, but don’t tell my grandsons that.

Nature Photography has allowed me to be self-educated on subjects that several years ago I knew nothing about. I often wonder how many wild flowers, fungi etc. I trampled on during my expeditions in the outdoors. When I took up photography many years ago I learned about Round-lobed Hepatica, Inky cap mushrooms, cinnamon ferns etc. It is like anything else that we do in life. We always want to be the best that we can be. For me it was not just taking great photographs, but learning more about the subjects that I photograph. I did this by using field guide books and talking to those that know, such as naturalist, other photographers, etc. Over the years not only will we have some great images but we also gain tremendous knowledge on subjects that many know nothing about. So what do we do with all of those images and that knowledge that we have accumulated over the years. I can say this with one word; **“SHARE”!**

Many of you are like me and make a little income from your photography, but I also will say that I give back much more than I ever take in if you put my volunteer time into a dollar figure. Photography is an expensive hobby when you do it on the scale that I do, so a little income allows me to keep “shooting”. Volunteering and sharing my knowledge is one of the great joys nature photography has provided me. So here are some of the ways that you can also share your photography and knowledge. Are there local nature preserves, state parks, community parks that you frequent? I bet if they have a visitor center they would like to have some high quality prints of subjects that were taken on their grounds! Have you thought about putting on a program for our club or maybe some other club? Maybe that local nature park would like some help on a program where others can also learn about nature. Ron Cleveland and I both volunteer at Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge in Zimmerman. I know Dale Bohlke does a lot of volunteer work for Crex Meadows in Wisconsin. Ron Winch also does a lot of volunteering at various parks. By the way just because you volunteer your photography skills, don’t think that allows you to get into restricted areas, usually it does not unless they have a special project and allow you into those areas. Elm Creek Park Reserve has an amateur nature photography judging every year and I have been a judge for that on numerous occasions. Last year I held a special evening

after the judging for those that wanted to hear my comments on their images. The naturalist at Elm Creek was not sure how many would come. Let me tell you I was going full bore for 3 hours. People want to learn not only about photography but nature in general.

I know many of you also contribute your time for various volunteer projects as it relates to nature and photography. But how do you know when you have achieved some status as being knowledgeable on photography and nature. I guess one of the best clues is when friends, relatives, and other club members begin asking you all sorts of questions on those subjects. They are looking at you as being someone knowledgeable in those areas. Maybe it is now time to begin to “give something back”. And always remember there is no such thing as an expert. If someone reaches an expert status, their learning will stop!
 Good Shooting



“Cascade Falls”



“Oberg Mountain”

Minnesota Nature Photography Club

Board Minutes

8/27/07

Members Present: John Pennoyer, Linda Nygren, Mariann Cyr, Jim Duncan, Ron Cleveland, Rod Blessner, Larry Duke, Don Nadreau

Programs: Rod Blessner managed to get all of the programs filled for 07-08 with the exception of February. John Pennoyer recommended that possibly get 2-3 members to put on "mini" programs of about 15 minutes each. Topics could be photo tips, where to go, and some unique experience a club member may want to share. John volunteered to put on one of the "mini" programs.

Program Schedule

Sept: Restoration of the Trumpeter Swans---
Carroll Henderson

October: Badlands---Rikk Flore

November: Minnesota Botany Showing---
Mariann Cyr

December: End of year Judging and Christmas
party

January: North Star International: Mike Prokosch
February: Open

March: Botany Techniques---Mariann Cyr

April: Photographing Wild Horses---Dominique
Braud

May: Alaskan Brown Bears---Ron Winch

Judges: End of Year Judges, Some suggestions for Linda Nygren to contact, Bob Firth, Dominique Braud, Stan Teklia. Also need monthly judges through at least November and Mariann Cyr volunteered to judge for September.

Meeting Place: We will meet at REI for 07-08 and see how it works for the club. We will discuss this at our December meeting and try to have a place for 08-09 set by February 08. We will start our club meetings at 6:30 PM instead of 6:45 PM. With social between 6:15 and 6:30PM

Liability Insurance: Jim Duncan will check prices for insurance from 2-3 different companies and e-mail board members and than we will decide on if this is a necessary expense for the club.

Ombudsman: Larry Duke said that he would be willing to take over the role of Club Ombudsman a position that was held by John Pennoyer. Everyone agreed that Larry will be the new club Ombudsman.

Other Business: Treasure Report: John Pennoyer forgot to put in the agenda for Treasurer's report but Jim Duncan did not and he gave the treasurer's report. (See attached hard copy in official minutes). The balance in our club treasury is \$4932.19.

Refreshments: John Pennoyer will bring refreshments to the September meeting and try to get a volunteer to serve being in charge of refreshments.

John will also check with Bill Handsaker to see if he is willing to again be in charge of a new club directory.

Field Trips: John will make a sign up sheet for those members that might be willing to take some a time and conduct a field trip for a particular month.

Next Board Meeting: will be on Monday night December 10th
@ 6:00 PM

MNPC May 2007 Salon

Judges: Cynthia Fluery & Marilyn Gladitsch

Score of 8

Aronson, Jim
Baker, Eric
Bertas, Mary Kay
Bertas, Mary Kay
Cyr, Mariann
Galambos, Ted
Galambos, Ted
Graves, Rick
Holt, Kristin
Lillestrand, Dottie
Lillestrand, Dottie
McDonough, Jean
Morgan, Jeff
Nadreau, Don
Nelson, Vern
Nordquist, Todd
Pennoyer, John
Polley, Lil
Schulz, Alan
Zosel, David

Pasque Flower
Great Horned Owl #1
Moon Over Rock Dog
Morning Light
Violet
Winter Oaks
Sky Waves
Rocky Mountains
Rooster Pheasant (W)
Sticky Geranium
Purple Hepatica
Foggy Morn with Two Cranes (W)
Goldeneye (W)
Pasque Flower
Black-capped Chickadee
Lake Superior
Brown Bear at Sunset (W)
Wolf Howl
Austrian Creek
Landing Swan (W)

Score of 9

Aronson, Jim
Baker, Eric
Bergman, Lyle
Blesener, Rod
Ellenbecker, Dave
Goossens-Bryan, Betty
Graves, Rick
McDonough, Jean
Miller, Joe
Morgan, Jeff
Nordquist, Todd
Zosel, David

Sandhills in Flight (W)
Blue Heron at Beach #2
Forever
Trillium flexipes
October Oak Leaves
Greater Prairie Chicken (W)
Columbine
Cougar in Badlands
Pasque962
British Robin (W)
Sharptail Grouse (W)
Doe in Ferns (W)

Score of 10

Sanderson, Virginia
Wilson, Tom

Piping Plover (W)
Mallard Hen (W)

From the President

Here it is June 4th and I am sitting in the Wood River Motel in Grantsburg, WI. For the last two days I have been canoeing the back waters and driving the back roads looking for subjects to photograph. It hasn't been great but than again for us old retired guys I like to say that it is better than working! I have been busy editing some images while I wait for the late afternoon and evening light for a little more photography. My goal tonight would be to have the wind quiet down to give me some calmer water so I can use my canoe for some waterfowl especially a pair of Loons.

I thought that I would take my "quiet time" and talk a little bit about our camera club for 07 and 08. By now I think everyone knows that we will no longer be able to use the Visitor Center at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Due to budget cuts they will not allow any organization to use their facility after hours. It has been a fantastic place for our meetings for the last few years. We certainly appreciate the refuge staff for allowing us to conduct our meetings at the Visitor Center. But our new meeting place will now be at **REI Bloomington**, located on the corner of 494 and Lyndale Avenue. I used their facility for the Judging workshop a couple of years ago and I also held one of my workshops in the same room that we will be using. They will be great to work with, however we must be **out by 9:00 PM**, so for that reason we will now be starting at 6:30 PM, this should allow us time for a short business meeting, program and judging and start packing things by 8:50 PM. We also will continue looking for another place to conduct our meetings that might be more conducive to our time schedule. If you know of a centrally located spot let someone on the Board of Directors know.

I am really not sure how I got to be President of this camera club, all I had to do was to tell Mariann "**No**"!! But I have been a member of this club for over 24 years and always have been an active member. Whatever success that I have accomplished as a nature photographer I attribute to this club. Probably like many of you, in my early years I was about as green as they get when it came to photography. Most of my knowledge came from various members of this club, whether it was listening to the judging, shooting in the field or just discussions with members during break. So maybe it was my time to step up to the plate and try to continue the great work that Mariann contributed for the last two years as our president.

The program for our first meeting in September will be "The Restoration of the Trumpeter Swans" by Carroll Henderson. Carroll is the supervisor of the non-game wildlife division of the Department of Natural Resources. I thought that this would be a great program because so many of us go to Monticello in winter to photograph this magnificent bird.

Here at Crex Meadows there has to be at least 3 pairs of Trumpeters on nests. Carroll also leads birding workshops, has published books and is currently updating his book "Woodworking for birds." He is also an accomplished photographer. Feel free to ask Carroll with any questions regarding the operation of the non-game division of the DNR, or any questions in general.

See you at REI Bloomington on September 19th.
6:30PM

John Pennoyer

07-08 Board of Directors

1. Mariann Cyr	Past President
2. John Pennoyer	President
3. Rod Blessner	Vice-President
4. Linda Nygren	Secretary
5. Jim Duncan	Treasurer
6. Don Nadreau	Editor

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Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month, September through May

6:00 PM - Set-up and Social Time
6:30 PM - Announcements and Business
6:45 PM - Program
7:45 PM - Night Salon (Competition and Judge's Comments).

Meetings are held at:

REI
750 West American Blvd
Bloomington, MN 55420

September 19, 2007 Meeting

September Program: The Restoration of the Trumpeter Swan by Carroll Henderson

Most of us have gone to the Mississippi River near Monticello during the winter months, there are about 700-1200 Trumpeters that winter in this area. Many of us have gotten some very memorial images of these magnificent birds. But not to many years ago you would have been very hard pressed to find a trumpeter. Carroll Henderson is the Non-game supervisor for the Department of Natural Resources of Minnesota. He will present a program on how the revival of the trumpeters began and all of the hard work the DNR and other agencies did to allow us to enjoy and photograph these beautiful birds.

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Refreshment coordinator: Would someone be willing to help coordinate refreshments for our monthly meetings? If you are interested let John Pennoyer know.

Field Trips: If you would be interested in leading one or two field trips sometime in the future, I will have a sign up sheet and just pick a month and type of trip or location. We have not had field trips for the last couple of years and I would like to get this started again.

The field trip leader would not be expected to do any type of instruction, but like all photographers try to pick the optimum time of year, day etc to photograph this location or subject.