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NATURALISTS' CAMERA CLUB OF TOLEDO

OVER FIFTY YEARS
OF MAKING THE PHOTOGRAPHER A BETTER NATURALIST
AND THE NATURALIST A BETTER PHOTOGRAPHER

October, 2017

DATE and TIME: Sunday, October 8, 2:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Secor Room, National Center for Nature Photography at Secor Metropark.
HOST: Bring a snack to share.
ASSIGNMENT: Any nature photos you wish to share.

PROGRAM: “From Camera to Print” Contest by Mary Figgins

Please bring your camera with an SD card and be prepared to go on a short photo safari for your best shot at our October meeting. Mary Figgins has devised a contest where each member will have 15 minutes to go out into the park and grab 3 of their best shots. After returning to the Secor Room, each participant will be able to look at their photos on a larger monitor if they wish, select their best shot, and have it printed as a 4 x 6 print. Following that, Mary will provide materials for, and help with, mounting and matting our works of art to an 8x10 size. The grand finale will be a group judging contest for a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finisher with nominal prizes awarded. So don't forget your camera or you'll be left out of all the fun. (Last minute note: Fall outing coming on Oct. 21st. Stay tuned for details).

NEXT MEETING: **Program:** TBD
Date and Time: Sunday, November 12, 2:00 p.m.
Location: Secor Room, National Center for Nature Photography at Secor Metropark.
Host: Please bring a snack to share.
Assignment: Any photos depicting nature you wish to share.

If you have a program you'd like to present – either yourself or as a host for another presenter – please let Bob Miller know and he will set you up for your program. We are always looking for new presenters in topics such as local flora, area fauna, outdoor adventures (hiking, camping, canoeing, traveling of any kind, etc.), as well as most anything photography related, so please bring your ideas to our attention. They will always be greatly appreciated.

NEW ON THE NCCT WEBSITE

This month's homepage photo comes from the autumn archives folder of NCCT member Bob Ellis, which was taken a few years back in Cuyahoga Valley National Park near Cleveland. To be taken directly to Bob's album page, just click on his homepage photo. Club member Don Godfrey has also added a gallery album to his photographer's page, so check that out as well. There is also a new video about the 2017 forecast for fall colors in Ohio. There is some debate about this (as there usually is), but it appears that this year's colors may be a little earlier than is normally expected. Visit the Videos page to view this Ohio DNR video. Our website <http://www.naturalistcameraclub.weebly.com/> will change each month and all current NCCT members are invited to send in their photos to be included in this renewed online presentation platform for the NCCT. Also, check out the Homepage Hall of Fame (HP HOF) feature in the pages tabs. This is an archive of all past homepage photos that will preserve them for years to come. If you wish to join the homepage photographer rotation, just let our leader Bob Miller know and you will be added to the lineup.

How to Control Depth of Field in your Photography

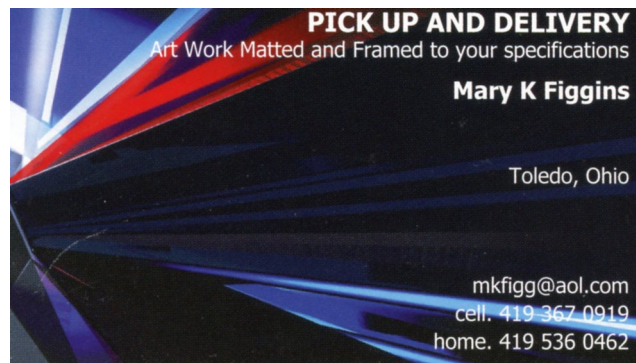
Depth of field (DOF) is a critical element in the creative aspect of photography. It can limit unwanted details that can't be physically set aside in your subject's background, for example. It can also create the emotional response of softness or melancholy or romanticism, among other emotions, when used correctly in your photographs. It can help draw the viewer's attention to a very specific area of your subject that you may want the viewer to see exclusively, maybe for the first time. So, what are the ways of controlling DOF? There are basically 3 factors involved here.

1) Lens aperture. The larger the lens opening (smaller the f-stop number) the less DOF you will have. This has to do with the steeper angle at which the light rays from the subject strike the camera's sensor when the lens opening is large. This makes the *depth of focus* shallower (that usable in-focus area on either side of the sensor) which makes the DOF (that area in front of your camera) appear shallower as well. Using larger f-stop numbers has the reverse effect, increasing DOF. Landscape photographers often stay around f-stops like f/16 or f/22 to get as much foreground and background in sharp focus as possible.

2) Lens selection. Lenses of longer focal length have shallower DOF and, conversely, lenses of shorter focal length have much greater DOF. Extreme wide angle lenses, like those approaching fisheye design, have almost infinite DOF. Lens aperture control (as mentioned in step 1) has less and less effect as telephoto and wide angle lenses reach extreme focal length numbers.

3) The camera's distance from the subject. The nearer the camera's lens is to the subject, the shallower the DOF becomes. Conversely, the farther away the lens is from the subject the greater the DOF becomes. Again, as you approach extremes of closeness or increased distance, the less control of DOF the photographer will have.

In actual practice, DOF is primarily most controllable in situations where you are not working at extremes, be they the extremes of subject distance or lens focal lengths. Always try to make what's in the background one of your last checks before tripping the shutter, and to remember that you have DOF at your disposal to remedy that situation if necessary.



Bob Miller, Leader
Rich Irvin, Editor
Bob Ellis, At Large Representative

Club Officers:
Assistant Leader (Open)
Program Chairman (Open)
Frank Patz, At Large Representative
Charlene Patz, Host Coordinator
Web Sites

Treasurer, Don Godfrey
Rich Irvin, Webmaster
Mary Figgins, At Large Representative

Check out our Web Site: <http://www.naturalistcameraclub.weebly.com/>

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National Center for Nature Photography: <http://www.naturephotocenter.com/>

Toledo Naturalists' Association: <http://www.toledonaturalist.org/>