



# ◀CHIRPINGS▶

## NATURALISTS' CAMERA CLUB OF TOLEDO

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

December, 2017

**DATE and TIME:** Sunday, December 10, 2:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Secor Room, National Center for Nature Photography at Secor Metropark.  
**HOST:** Bring a snack to share.  
**ASSIGNMENT:** Pictures from the Best Shot contest at Oak Openings or any nature photos.

**PROGRAM:** Regional preservation updates by Ashlee Decker of the Green Ribbon Initiative

Ashlee Decker of the Oak Openings Region ~ Green Ribbon Initiative (GRI), will present a program on the overall current state of affairs of the GRI, which has as its mission, the protection and preservation of the natural resources within the Oak Openings Region. Originally formed in Northwest Ohio in 2000, the GRI has now expanded to include other partners in the Oak Openings region and Southwest Michigan as well. To see a short video on the overview and mission objectives of the GRI, visit the Videos page on the NCCT website.

**NEXT MEETING:** **Program:** Alaska Trip by Don and Lynn Godfrey  
**Date and Time:** Sunday, January 14, 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.

Lynn and Don Godfrey will show pictures from their August 24 – September 2, 2017 trip to Alaska. The presentation will start with their flight from Detroit Metro to Seattle, WA and then on to Fairbanks, Alaska. There will be some pictures of Fairbanks, but most will be of their 5-day experience within Denali National Park, which is located about 120 miles south of Fairbanks in south central Alaska. It is home to the tallest peak in North America, Denali, which is the reinstated original name given to it by the native Athabaskan people of that region until it was renamed Mount McKinley, in honor of the 25th President, for a number of decades.

### NEW ON THE NCCT WEBSITE

This month's homepage photo was provided by NCCT member Lynn Godfrey. Lynn and her husband Don traveled to Alaska this past summer and this is one of the photos she came back with. To see a few of Lynn's other Alaska trip pictures, just click on the homepage photo. Also new this month – you can now access the current month's newsletter by simply clicking on the large Newsletter button located just below the homepage photo. No need to go hunting for it on the Newsletter page in the main menu any longer. Also new – whenever a photographer adds new photos to their photographer's page, the date of that addition will now appear behind their name in the Photo Gallery drop down menu. This should make it easier for returning visitors to keep track of content they haven't yet seen. 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. Also, please check out, vote, and most importantly, participate in, our new Best Shot Contest, which also changes each and every month. See the Best Shot Contest tab on the homepage for details, current contest entries, and past Best Shot Contest winners.

## December Best Shot Target Area

The target area for December's Best Shot Contest will be Side Cut MP in Maumee. With the potential for our first hard freezes and measurable snow falls, the river, hilly wooded areas and old canal locks should provide some interesting photo opportunities for all those who care to venture out as the weather turns colder.

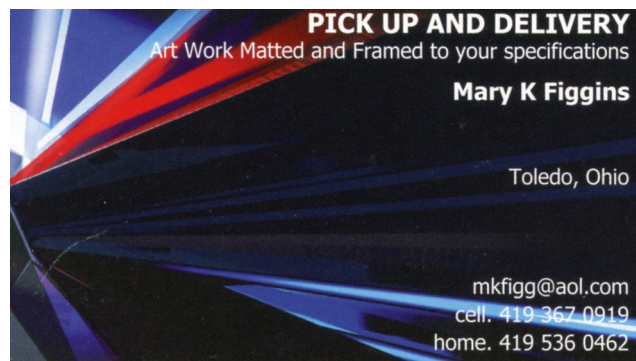
## Mary Figgins Update

We are happy to report that Mary Figgins came through her full hip replacement surgery on November 21<sup>st</sup> with no complications. Mary says that she is doing "very very well," despite being understandably hobbled by the whole experience and is receiving lots of help and support from friends. She wants to send along a big "Hi" to all the members of the NCCT and looks forward to being back to club meetings very soon. We wish her continued speedy recovery and will look forward to her return to the friendly confines of the Secor Room soon.

## Two More Nature Areas Begin Development

Two new nature areas have been announced, are already in the process of development and should be opening soon in the local area. The first, Howard Marsh Metropark, is scheduled to open in the spring of 2018. Located in eastern Lucas County, it will include 1,000 acres of converted agricultural land that will be restored to a natural wetlands habitat. Amenities will include: Two miles of hiking trails, including boardwalks, 6 miles of permanent, deep water channels for fishing, kayaking and canoeing, with the latter being dependent on water levels at any given time of the year. Additionally, this area should provide for reduction of storm water runoff into Lake Erie and aid in attracting migratory birds to this area during that annual springtime event.

The second will be called Manhattan Marsh, which will be a 70-acre park in the Manhattan Blvd – Suder Ave area of North Toledo. It's development will take place over the next two years and will include boardwalked hiking trails and a kayak launch there as well. This will be in keeping with the Metroparks master plan of having a metropark within 5 miles of every resident in Lucas County.



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

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

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