



◀CHIRPINGS▶

NATURALISTS' CAMERA CLUB OF TOLEDO

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

April, 2018

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

PROGRAM: **Local Flora Identification** by various members of the NCCT.

As a follow up to our fauna wintering habits program in March, the members of the NCCT will put their collective minds together in an effort to help identify difficult-to-name flowers and plant species of the region at our April meeting. If you have photographs of local flora you need assistance with in identifying, please bring them to our April meeting and we'll see if we can help you put a name tag on those stumpers. Conversely, if you have good resource material at hand (books, field guides, cell phone apps, etc.) that could help in identifying the lesser-known flowers and plants of the region, please bring them along as well and we'll all play plant detective for a couple of hours on April 8th. Another option is to just bring in some of your best flora photographs and share them with the group and give us a lesson in what we should have known all along.

NEXT MEETING: **Program:** There will be no meeting in May in observance of Mother's Day.
Date and Time: N/A
Location: N/A
Host: N/A
Assignment: Enjoy the day with your mom (if an option). You are her world.

NEW ON THE NCCT WEBSITE

This month's homepage photo was provided by NCCT member, Frank Patz. To see Frank's album page, just click on the homepage photo. Don't forget – 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 any longer. Also, check out newly added Alaska album images by Don Godfrey in his Denali National Park album. 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. Dive on in and enjoy the fun!

Best Shot Target Area for April

The Best Shot target area for April will be the Blue Creek Conservation Area in Whitehouse, OH. As a bonus, we'll re-nominate the Westwinds Metropark, which is near the airport (since it had no entries in the March BSC) and also include the Lou Campbell State Nature Preserve, which is just down the road from Westwinds. As always, check out the Map tab on the Metroparks website if you don't know exactly where these areas are located. You can link to it through our website's Links page.

The Green Ribbon Initiative Announces Digital Photo Contest

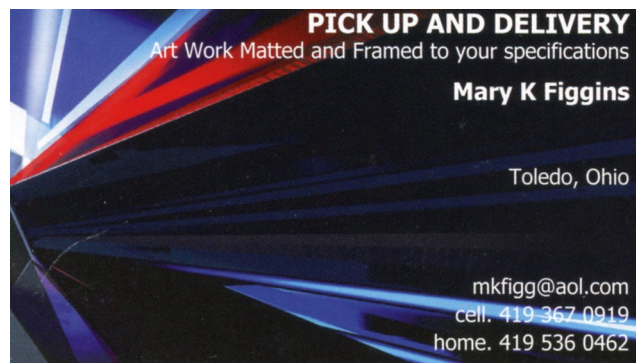
In conjunction with its annual Blue Week celebration, the GRI of the Oak Openings region has announced a digital-only photo contest to run from March, 1st, to April, 22nd, 2018. There will be 4 entry categories: *Oak Openings Native Plants*, *Oak Openings Wildlife*, *The Urban Oaks*, and *All Things Blue*. The contest is open to the public and will require a \$5.00 entry fee for each submission. Winners will be announced and nominal prizes awarded on May, 17th at the NCNP. For more details, link to the GRI website through our website's Links page. Once on the GRI website, click on the Events tab in the menu bar and then on Photo Contest.

UT Scientists to receive \$400K grant for Oak Openings Region Study

A team of ecologists from the University of Toledo is receiving some grant money for a research project in the Oak Openings region. The funding is part of a two-year, \$400,000 state wildlife grant from Ohio and Michigan, as well as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Their study will focus on the productivity and survival of red-headed woodpeckers, eastern box turtles and spotted turtles in the oak savanna and wet prairie habitats of northwest Ohio and southern Michigan. Those two types of habitat have declined greatly over the past century and researchers want to focus on these three types of wildlife because they are considered flagship species for the Oak Openings area. Work is set to begin this spring.

Howard Marsh Metropark to Open Soon

The Toledo Metroparks System has announced that Howard Marsh Metropark is slated to open on April 28th, 2018, just in time for birding week, which is in early May. The park, located on Rt. 2 near the Bono curve area of eastern Lucas County, will feature some 6 miles of hiking trails as well as an extensive kayaking opportunity for those so inclined. Special docks with roller launch pads will be available for kayaking enthusiasts.



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/>