



◀CHIRPINGS▶

NATURALISTS' CAMERA CLUB OF TOLEDO

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

August, 2018

DATE and TIME: **Sunday, August 12, 1:00 p.m.**
LOCATION: Lone Oak shelter area at Secor Metropark.
HOST: Please bring a side dish to share.
ASSIGNMENT: Any PRINTS of nature you wish to share.

PROGRAM: **NCCT Annual Picnic**

Please join us at the Lone Oak shelter area (NOT Walnut Grove shelter area this year) for our annual NCCT picnic. As always, the main essentials will be provided by the club (hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, drinks, paper plates, plastic eating utensils, napkins, charcoal and matches). We just kindly ask that all members bring a side dish of their choosing to round out the menu.

NEXT MEETING: **Program: Fun Facts about Nocturnal Animals** by various members of the NCCT.
Date and Time: Sunday, September 9, 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 or travel photos you would like to share.

After our success with presenting a program on the wintering habits of local fauna back in March of this year, we will seek to recreate that theatrical tour de force with a program about our nocturnal friends and denizens of the forest and other darker, creepier places, as the case may be. Once again, these will be short bios on a wide variety of nocturnal critters presented by willing victims, Oops, I mean members, of the NCCT. So fasten your seat belts, it could get a little crazy up in here.

NEW ON THE NCCT WEBSITE

This month's homepage photo was provided by NCCT member Don Godfrey. To see Don's album page, simply click on his homepage photo. While there, you can see Don's new Norway album, as well as newly added photos to his Denali National Park album. As another relatively new feature, you can now access the current month's newsletter by clicking on the large Newsletter button located just below the homepage photo. Or, to re-read past "Chirpings" newsletters, just click on the Newsletter tab in the menu bar at the top of any website page. 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. We're beginning to wind down the BSC so jump into the fun soon!

Best Shot Target Area for August

The August Best Shot target area will be the most urban and one of the newest park areas in the metroparks system, the Middlegrounds, near downtown Toledo. This 28-acre greenspace offers a 1.5-mile walking/biking

trail along with expressly unique views of the adjacent Anthony Wayne Bridge and downtown Toledo skyline. As an alternative target area, we will offer up Kitty Todd Nature Preserve on Old State Line Road near Swanton, Ohio. Any club member who attended Todd Crail's wildflower presentation on July 22nd will have the opportunity to use any photo taken during that summer outing accepted for the August BSC contest as well.

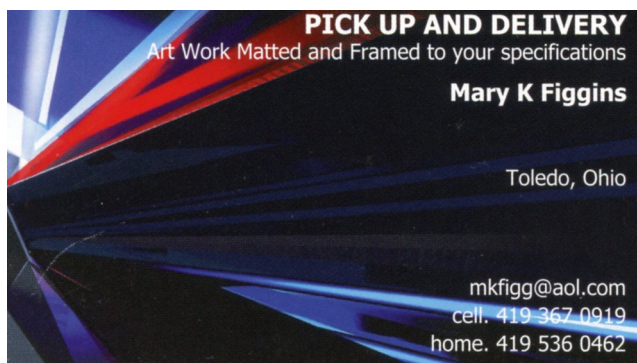
4 Elements for Great Landscape Photography (Part 1)

GOOD LIGHT. Light is by far the most important element of any photograph, but none more so than in landscape photography. A photograph taken at a striking location in harsh, mid-day sunlight can be dull and lacking in depth. A photograph of a commonplace vista, taken at that perfect moment when the light is just right, can transform a mundane "snapshot" into a memorable photograph. In truth, there is no kind of light that is inherently bad. You just have to learn how to work with the lighting conditions that you are presented with.

The "golden hour" of light (60 minutes after sunrise or 60 minutes before sunset) are usually a favorite with most photographers. Another great time period of light not to be over looked is the adjacent "blue hour" (60 minutes BEFORE sunrise or 60 minutes AFTER sunset), which is also known as twilight or dusk. Don't miss out on either of these two types of lighting opportunities to dramatically improve your landscape photography. If you are limited to a situation that has bright, harsh sunlight, then take that opportunity to look for interesting shadow patterns, or even unique close-up subjects in full shade.

The white sky of an overcast day can be another excellent time to photograph close-ups.

And what about those stormy days, when all hope for decent photography seems to be lost? Those can be some of the best times of all, considering the dramatic lighting that usually accompanies stormy or unsettled weather conditions. Never write those times off as a total loss or a time to hunker down.



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

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