



◀CHIRPINGS▶

NATURALISTS' CAMERA CLUB OF TOLEDO

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

September, 2018

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 photos of nature you wish to share.

PROGRAM: **Fun Facts about Nocturnal Animals** by various members of the NCCT.

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 members of the NCCT who weren't quick enough to think of a good excuse to get out of it, so come and join us as we plummet into the dark side.

NEXT MEETING: **Program: Native Ohio Bees** by Suzanne Nelson and Dean Babcock
Date and Time: Sunday, October 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 nature or travel photos you would like to share.

Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists, Suzanne Nelson and Dean Babcock, will present a program on bees that are common to northwest Ohio and southeastern Michigan. Learn how to recognize the bees native to the Ohio Valley region, why we should be concerned about their numbers and how your yard can help provide them with food.

NEW ON THE NCCT WEBSITE

This month's homepage photo was provided by NCCT member Tim Godfrey. To see Tim's album page, simply click on his homepage photo. Also check out new photos in Don Godfrey's Norway album, as well as newly added photos to his Denali National Park album. Don't forget, 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 September

Ready for a late summer/early autumn drive? We've saved our most "out there" metroparks for our last Best Shot Contest. The September Best Shot target areas will be Pearson MP on Lallendorf Road in Oregon, OH, with Howard Marsh MP as the alternate site. The former is one of the most established metroparks in the area,

having been dedicated in 1934, while the latter is the newest metropark in the Toledo-area metropark system and is still under development. Either way, both are fairly expansive and offer a wide and diverse topography for photographic opportunities of many kinds. This will also allow you to stretch your legs a bit after the rather confined area of the Middlegrounds Metropark.

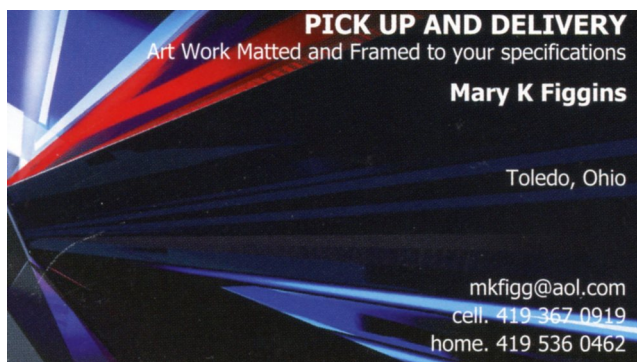
4 Elements for Great Landscape Photography (Part 2)

A MAIN SUBJECT. The second essential ingredient is to make sure you have a main subject and that it is the focal point of your photo. This may sound rather obvious but it is all too often overlooked.

It's highly likely you have seen some generic landscapes in the past that lack a main subject. My guess is you didn't linger on those images too long because there was no central "hook" to hold your interest. The photo probably contained some basic natural elements (land, water, trees, etc.), but none of these were prominent enough to assume the starring role. It is important to decide beforehand what the main subject is and how you can interpret it via photographic means (distance from subject, lens choice, angle of view, filtering, post processing, etc.), to make it more compelling.

When walking up to a scene that has caught your eye, ask yourself, "what element about this scene was the first thing that grabbed my attention?" Then go about trying to accent that element as much as you can to make it the jewel of the image.

This is not to say that you cannot have more than one point of interest, if all of these supplemental puzzle pieces work well together to create a harmonious whole. The flip side of that coin is, if you have too many points of interest in your scene, none of them will be the main attention grabber and your image will become too distracting and confusing to be interesting.



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

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