



## ◀CHIRPINGS▶

### NATURALISTS' CAMERA CLUB OF TOLEDO

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

October, 2018

**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 photos of nature you wish to share.

**PROGRAM:** **Native Ohio Bees** by Suzanne Nelson and Dean Babcock

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.

**NEXT MEETING:** **Program: TBD**  
**Date and Time:** Sunday, November 11, 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.

We are currently looking for program material or a presenter to fill this space for November. If you have any ideas for a program subject, or know someone who could present a 90-minute program involving photography, nature, or traveling for us, please let Bob Miller know and we will get this on the schedule.

### NEW ON THE NCCT WEBSITE

This month's homepage photo was provided by NCCT member Nancy Miller. This is Nancy's first step into the NCCT homepage spotlight and has done a very admirable job with this image from Acadia National Park in Maine. Also check out new photos in Don Godfrey's Norway album on his photographer's page and don't forget to read the current month's newsletter by clicking on the large Newsletter button located just below the homepage photo. You can also review past "Chirpings" newsletters by clicking 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 on our renewed online presence. Also, please check out the final results of our year-long Best Shot Contest. Our necessary collection of 12 calendar photos is now complete. Just click on the Best Shot Contest tab at the top of any website page.

### NCCT 2018 FALL OUTING

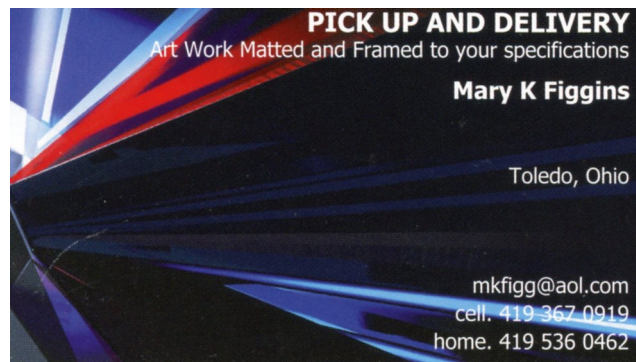
Our 2018 fall outing will be held at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge on Sunday, October 21st, beginning at 9 a.m. Since ONWR lacks traditional picnic areas, we invite members to bring their own lunch and drinks. Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge is located on Rt. 2 in Jerusalem Twp, just east of the Bono Curve area.

## NCCT WEBSITE TRAINING TO TAKE PLACE IN OCTOBER

As promised when the new website was launched in June of 2017, all dues-paying members will be able to add their own photos to the website beginning in late October, if they wish to do so. Training is set for Sunday, October 28th in the conference room at the Holland branch of the Toledo-Lucas County Library. The program will start at 1 p.m. and should last about 2 hours, or until everyone is comfortable with their level of expertise. Members are encouraged to bring their laptops with pre-loaded photos on them for practice, or if they are desktop-only users, just bring a notebook to take notes. A cheat-sheet handout will be available for all trainees to make the process more manageable once they are back home and on their own. If you can not make this meeting, we will try to repeat the program at some future date. For any members who do not want to add their own photos, they can still be emailed to [r\\_irvin\(at\)hotmail.com](mailto:r_irvin(at)hotmail.com) as usual.

### 4 Elements for Great Landscape Photography (Part 3)

**A CLEAN BACKGROUND.** Just as important as the main subject is what is behind it. Clutter and distracting elements can ruin an otherwise good image. This is where perspective can come to the rescue. The photographer must find an angle to shoot from that will eliminate, or at least minimize, distracting elements found in the background. That can mean getting to a higher level and shooting down on a subject to provide a background that is filled with even texture, like maybe grass or water ripples, for example, or to eliminate a horizon that may included unwanted buildings or telephone poles, etc. Conversely, he can shoot from a lower angle to provide a background that is filled with mostly sky. If those two options aren't available, he could try to do a 360° walk around, if the subject is non-animate, and watch the changing background as he moves to possibly find a simpler background. This will also change the angle of lighting, however, and may not work with "skittish" subjects like insects or wildlife. Even with the latter, just moving a few degrees left or right can often slightly improve a background's appearance. If the distracting elements are just a few "unfortunately" placed items in the scene and the photographer is proficient at using post processing software, he can use that approach to remove these items. Many of these editing programs are free, or can be used on a free-trial basis.



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Rich Irvin, Editor  
Bob Ellis, At Large Representative

Club Officers:  
Assistant Leader (Open)  
Program Chairman (Open)  
Frank Patz, At Large Representative  
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National Center for Nature Photography: <http://www.naturephotocenter.com/>

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