



◀CHIRPINGS▶

NATURALISTS' CAMERA CLUB OF TOLEDO

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

January, 2020

- DATE and TIME:** Sunday, January 12, 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:** **Cell Phone Photography** by Bob Miller.

For those inclined to, or just curious about, taking photos with their cell phones, this meeting will be tailor-made for you. NCCT leader Bob Miller will do his best to sub for the last minute cancellation of the scheduled speaker on this subject. The quality available from cell phone cameras has grown exponentially over the last several years, with great advancements in optics, image file size (and thus quality), noise reduction, and many other features you might not expect to find on such a small format camera, not to mention video and virtual 3-D effect advancements that are almost mind blowing. So grab your phone and come join us if you can.

- NEXT MEETING:** **Program:** Winter Photography by members of the NCCT.
Date and Time: Sunday, February 9 at 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 would like to share.

NEW ON THE NCCT WEBSITE

This month's homepage photo was provided by NCCT member Charlene Patz. As the first winner in the Our Best Shots calendar contest back in October of 2017, she was selected to lead us into the new "roaring twenties" decade we are entering today. To visit Charlene's album page, simply click on the homepage photo. Also new this month are new submissions in the Our Best Shots/December album by Frank Patz, Charlene Patz, Don Godfrey, Jon Dunn and Rich Irvin. Also, check out new photos in Jon Dunn's Wildlife album. Remember, we'd love to see your work on the website, especially on the Our Best Shots page. It can be in any form you care to choose, either new work or old, it really doesn't matter. This is your nature photography showcase to use however you see fit, so get your gear out and let's see what you can bring back from the wild.

Newest Metropark Construction Is Under Way

Construction began this week on Toledo's newest jewel in her crown of metroparks, the Glass City Metropark, located on the east side of the Maumee River, just north of Main Street. Phase One will be an eight million dollar development of 30 acres of the 70-acre site, with funding for this phase provided through federal grants and a \$750,000.00 donation from the U.S. National Park Service. Amenities will include: a sledding hill, a boardwalk over the water with seating, a 3500 sq. ft. pavilion with restrooms, a concession window and the capacity to seat 150 people. Also, there will be a bike / pedestrian bridge constructed over Main Street that will

connect with International Park, also on the east side of the river. Phase 1 is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2020. Phase 2, the development of the remaining 40 acres on the site, is still in the early-planning stage and additional funding is being sought as of this writing.

Maumee Valley Adventurers Announces Its 2020 Travel Circle Programs

Once again, the Maumee Valley Adventurers will present a 13-week "Travel Circle" series beginning Saturday, January 4th, 2020, and continuing on each Saturday through March 28th. As in years past, the venues for the presentations will alternate between the Ward Pavilion at Wildwood Metropark on Central Ave, and the Oak Openings Lodge, located at the main entrance to Oak Openings at Oak Openings Pkwy and Wilkins Rd. Programs will begin at 2:15 PM, with a pre-program walk at 1 PM at each site. The programs for January include:

- "3-2-1 Launch! To Florida" by Scott Grenerth (1/4/20 at Ward)
- "Loving Bali and Little Taiwan" by Judy Pfaffenberger (1/11/20 at the Lodge)
- "So Much to See, So Little Time: From the Midwest to the Mountains" by Sherry Stanfa-Stanley (1/18/20 at Ward)
- "Our Scotland Odyssey" by Steve Lauer (1/25/20 at the Lodge)

For the full list of the Travel Circle presentations for 2020, visit <https://metroparkstoledo.com/> and look for the Travel Circle blog link.

7 Ways to Immediately Improve Your Photography (Part 6)

Leading Lines

The sixth step to improving your outdoor photography is to learn to use leading lines effectively. Leading lines are a compositional element used to direct, or at least, hopefully, influence the viewer's eye movement around your image. The usual goal is to have the viewer's gaze flow gracefully through the photograph and end up landing on your central subject matter, although, that is not *always* a requirement, depending on the photo's content and intended purpose. With that proposed goal established, it should be apparent that leading lines are almost always most influential in the foreground and in the corners. If your viewer's gaze should happen to start there, you want to quickly establish a road map for where you really want them to go. If your leading lines start too far in the distance, you may have already lost them and it could also be a good indicator that maybe you should consider cropping your image to bring those lines closer to the front of the composition. Also, be aware that leading lines are generally more easily established in portrait (vertical) mode photographs because of the added image height (and thus foreground area) that is afforded by that format. Regardless, always be diligent to include them in your landscape-mode photos as well, when the subject is appropriate. Leading lines always make an image more powerful, whichever format mode they are used in.

Club Officers:		
Bob Miller, Leader	Assistant Leader (Open)	Don Godfrey, Treasurer
Rich Irvin, Editor	Program Chairman (Open)	Rich Irvin, Webmaster
Bob Ellis, At Large Representative	Frank Patz, At Large Representative	Mary Figgins, At Large Representative
Mike Bohland, At Large Representative	Charlene Patz, Host Coordinator	

Web Sites

Check out our Web Site: <http://www.naturalistcameraclub.weebly.com/>

E-mail: <mailto:naturalistcameraclub@gmail.com>

Webmaster: <mailto:reya46@netzero.net>

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

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