



# ◀CHIRPINGS▶

## NATURALISTS' CAMERA CLUB OF TOLEDO

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

July, 2020

**DATE and TIME:** Sunday, July 12, **(MEETING CANCELED DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC)**  
**LOCATION:** N/A.  
**HOST:** N/A.  
**ASSIGNMENT:** N/A.

**PROGRAM:** (COVID-19 Update Concerning the NCCT)

After consulting with members of the leadership committee, NCCT leader Bob Miller has made the difficult decision to cancel our annual picnic, which is held at Secor Metropark in early August of each year. This was not a decision made easily, but taking into account the age range of many of our members it was decided to err on the side of caution and just cancel the 2020 event and return better than ever in 2021. Also, as noted above, there will be no July NCCT meeting due to the Secor Room not being available until official notice from the Metroparks system. In light of the latter, there has been an interesting idea floated about that would have us meet via the online meeting app "Zoom" for the September meeting. Since this idea surfaced only days ago, no real details have been worked out as of yet, but stay tuned for the possibility of this plan coming to fruition. We would also like to hear the opinions of the NCCT membership about this proposal and especially any ideas for a program topic for such a new platform for our group. As a side note, this could let some of our remote members join us for the first time should they care to. This is a work in progress. Let us know your thoughts.

**NEXT MEETING:** **Program:** (Suspended until we have a firm resume date and a program in place.)  
**Date and Time:** N/A.  
**Location:** N/A.  
**Host:** N/A.  
**Assignment:** N/A.

### NEW ON THE NCCT WEBSITE

This month's home page photo was provided by NCCT member Mary Figgins. To visit Mary's album page, simply click on the home page photo. Also new this month are submissions to the Our Best Shots/June album by Charlene Patz, Frank Patz, Don Godfrey and Rich Irvin. Remember, we'd love to see your work on the website, especially on the Our Best Shots page. It can be from any source you care to choose, either new work or archived, 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 wilds of Northwest Ohio and Southern Michigan.

### Updated Metropark Notes and Alerts During COVID-19 Operations

- All 17 Metroparks are currently open for their normal operating hours (7a.m. to dark). Restrooms are now open as well as all playgrounds. Water fountains are still shut off so please bring your own water.

- Please give other park visitors 6-10 feet of social distancing, consider wearing a mask and stay home if you're sick.
- Campgrounds and cabins are now open. The kayak concession at Farnsworth Metropark is open when river conditions allow. The kayak share at Middlegrounds Metropark is also open.
- Parking may be limited and some areas may be closed to alleviate crowding. This is especially true at Wildwood Metropark, so prepare accordingly.
- While in any park – walk, run and bike in single file on the trails to give others room and give warning when passing.
- Reservations for rental facilities are now being accepted with limits on group and total occupancy sizes.
- All programs are canceled until further notice and all special events are canceled through the summer.
- Park Rangers, as law enforcement officers, have authority to enforce social distancing and other rules mandated by Ohio Health Dept. orders. Maintaining a safe distance from others is vital to the health of the community.

## **NCCT Member Wins First Place in Local Photography Contest**

NCCT member Frank Patz has taken 1st place for his photo, “Beauty at Kitty Todd,” in the *Native Plants* category of the Oak Openings Photo Contest, which ended just a few weeks ago. This turned out to be a photo that Frank had taken of a Yellow Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera ciliaris*) at our summer outing at Kitty Todd Preserve in July of 2018. Look for his name in the June edition of the Oak Openings e-newsletter published by the Green Ribbon Initiative. Kudos to Frank for representing our club in good standing as we continue to struggle through this COVID-19 pandemic. It just goes to show that archived material can have great value just as well as new work. It never hurts to drag something out of storage and give it renewed exposure, either in a contest, exhibition, or on our website. Good work should not remain sequestered away forever.

## **Sawyer Quarry Update**

NCCT members Lee and Marge Meserve recently visited Sawyer Quarry in Wood County, the venue of our spring outing in 2019, and wanted to pass along their observations about the current conditions found at that site. Lee says:

“The ‘rustic’ trail that circumnavigates the quarry is now open to the public. One caveat: it IS rustic with gullies, roots, and rocks, so should be entered a bit cautiously. With the heavy rain last year, standing water was at an all time depth, attracting several species of dragonfly. There’s only a small amount (of dragonflies) this year, but it’s still worth a visit. The building at the entrance is being renovated into an interpretive center that should open toward the end of summer.”

Thanks for the update Lee and Marge. This type of info can often be good material for the newsletter and all members are encouraged to send in their reviews of their visits to various parks and nature areas, both near and far, that they find interesting— both for the good *and* bad aspects of their adventures.

	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	

Check out our Web Site: <http://www.naturalistcameraclub.org/>  
 E-mail: <mailto:naturalistcameraclub@gmail.com>  
 National Center for Nature Photography: <http://www.naturephotocenter.com/>  
 Toledo Naturalists' Association: <http://www.toledonaturalist.org/>