



## ◀CHIRPINGS▶

### NATURALISTS' CAMERA CLUB OF TOLEDO

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

October, 2020

**DATE and TIME:** Sunday, October 11, 2020 at 2 PM  
**LOCATION:** A digital device near you.  
**HOST:** Please enjoy a snack from your own cupboard.  
**ASSIGNMENT:** Tell us (and show us?) what you've been up to for the last seven months.

**PROGRAM:** **Nature Photos of Western Colorado (via Zoom)** by Jon Dunn

Our newest "remote" NCCT member, Mr. Jon Dunn, will present a program of his many nature and wildlife photos from around his area in western Colorado. Jon has shown himself to be a very capable and accomplished photographer as seen by his many images on our website since joining our group in January of 2019. Please join us on Zoom, if you can, to find out some behind-the-scene stories and details about Jon's wonderful photographs.

(Note: If you need a primer on Zoom and some of its inner-workings, please see the September newsletter for links on where to get that information.)

**NEXT MEETING:** **Program:** More than likely another Zoom meeting.  
**Date and Time:** November 8, 2020 at 2 PM.  
**Location:** A digital device near you.  
**Host:** N/A.  
**Assignment:** TBD.

### NEW ON THE NCCT WEBSITE

This month's home page photo was provided by NCCT member Mike Bohland. To visit Mike's photographer page, simply click on the home page photo. Also new this month are submissions to the Our Best Shots/September album by Jon Dunn, Mike Bohland, Frank Patz and Rich Irvin. Also see new photos on Tim Godfrey's album page and in both Jon Dunn's wildlife and landscapes albums. We'd love to see your work on our website, especially on the Our Best Shots page, so get your gear out and let's see what you can bring back from the wilds of Northwest Ohio and Southern Michigan. Archived images are always welcomed as well. Happy shooting!

### GRI seeking volunteers to help plant Blazing Stars

If you're into planting and helping to restore the wetlands of the Oak Openings region, the Green Ribbon Initiative would like your help in transplanting potted Blazing Stars in the southeastern Michigan area. On October 10, 2020, you are invited to assist the Interagency Restoration Team (IRT) from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Petersburg State Game Area in Sumpter Township, Michigan. If you're feeling extra generous, you can stay a little longer and they should be finishing up completely around 2:30 p.m. This event is in conjunction with the Michigan United Conservation Clubs and a free lunch will be provided. If you are interested, please email IRT manager, Peter Blank ([peter.blank@tnc.org](mailto:peter.blank@tnc.org)) for details and location directions.

## Wabash Cannonball Trail Extension

The Toledo Metroparks, working with the Northwestern Ohio Rails-to-Trails Association, recently completed a 6-mile extension into Fulton County, Ohio. This newly paved section extends the North Fork of the Wabash Cannonball Trail from Fulton-Lucas County Road 1 (just to the west of the Oak Openings Preserve) to St. Rt. 109 near Delta, Ohio. The Metroparks received funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), which was formed to promote recreational trails and other non-automotive transportation and accessibility infrastructures. TAP funding covered 95 percent of the \$2.2 million dollar project, which was awarded to Expercon Paving of Toledo and was completed late this summer.

“This extension picks up where the paved trail left off, providing additional trail miles for Metroparks walkers, runners and cyclists,” said Joe Fausnaugh, Metroparks chief of operations. “It is our long experience that trails are the number one reason people come to the Metroparks, and our parks have never been busier. Additional trail miles matter to tens of thousands of people in our region who use them for recreation, exercise and to explore nature,” he went on to say.

One of Ohio’s longest rails-to-trails conversions – stretching 66 miles (paved and unpaved) through four counties – the Wabash Cannonball is a former Norfolk Southern Railroad corridor abandoned in 1990 after 100 years of service. Some of the very early RR telegraph poles can still be seen along parts of the trail’s wooded right-of-ways.

This new extension now makes the North Fork a little over 15 miles long, with the entire paved portions of the Wabash Cannonball trail now totaling around 25 miles, which does not include connector links to Side Cut Metropark in Maumee and paved trails into the Oak Openings Preserve Metropark near Mallard Lake.

## Bits ‘n Pieces

- The Cannaley Treehouse Village is now open and taking reservations. Monday and Tuesday nights will be reserved for community outreach, programming, camps and subsidized stays. The treehouse structures will be priced at a rate that maintains accessibility for all. The four private treehouses and three tent/hammock platforms are available to rent for overnight stays. The common treehouse may be reserved for daytime and evening (but not overnight) group gatherings. Call 419-407-9723 for reservations.
- Issue 17, an investment levy for Toledo Metroparks will be on the November ballot. Its passage will help to continue to support and maintain our parks at a level users have come to expect and enjoy. Annual park visits have increased from 3.5M to an estimated 6M in just five short years. Additional funding will be used to revitalize and preserve a 5 mile stretch along the riverfront. The new money levy is a 2 mil levy. The owner of a \$100,000 home will pay an additional \$70 a year. Please remember to register and vote on November 3rd.
- The Ohio DNR will start weekly projections for peak fall colors in Ohio starting this week. It seems we’re running slightly ahead of last year, mostly because of the drought, so check <https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/go-and-do/see-the-sights/fall-color> to stay abreast of the rapidly changing foliage.

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