

# FOCUS



Newsletter of the Mayslake Nature Study and Photography Club  
Hosted by the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County  
Visit our website at [www.naturecameraclub.com](http://www.naturecameraclub.com)

## Highlights

*April 6*  
*Natural Illinois*  
*Bill Glass*

*May 4*  
*Members Night*

2nd Annual Members' Night  
Monday, May 4, 2015  
at Mayslake Peabody Estate  
7:00 pm



## Reminder - The Year in Review

It's time for you to select your favorite images for the "Year in Review" slide show that will be held at our Members' Night on May 4. For this purpose, the year will be May 1, 2014 to April 30, 2015. Every member can submit up to 10 images taken during the year. The images should have a nature theme but "hand of man" is ok. You can even sneak in a few family, vacation, or pet photos - we won't tell! - As long as the majority are nature images. Images should be in .jpg format and to make emailing easier, not more than 1000 pixels on the longest side. File names should be formatted as follows - Your Name and Title if any. If no title just add a number.

Send your images to Fred Drury at [fred@mark-landimaging.com](mailto:fred@mark-landimaging.com). Please make the Email Subject title: "Year in Review". The last date to submit images for the slideshow is April 22. But no need to wait until then!! Send them anytime.

This is a great opportunity to share your images with fellow Club members in the social setting of first Members' Night. We hope to see you ... and your images on May 4!

Mayslake Nature Study & Photography Club  
2nd Annual Members' Night  
Monday, May 4th, 2014  
Mayslake Peabody Estate  
6:30 pm

Featuring  
Members' Favorite Photos  
Image of the Year Competition  
Individual Member Awards for Digital and Print  
Images

Reservations must be received no later than  
**April 17, 2014**

NO money will be taken the evening of the event.

Questions? Contact  
JoAnn Barnes; barnesjl913@gmail.com;  
630-776-8125



Catering by Uncle Bub's  
Award Winning Barbeque

Buffet-style menu will include:  
Hand Pulled Pork  
Herb Roasted Chicken  
Baked Rotini (Vegetarian)  
Creamy Cole Slaw  
Tossed Salad  
Whipped Sweet Potatoes  
Gourmet Sandwich Rolls  
Soft Drinks/Coffee



Dinner cost: \$10.00 for members; \$20.00 for guests. Please send in your reservations as soon as possible.

Member's name \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's name \_\_\_\_\_

Send checks payable to:  
Mayslake Nature Study & Photography Club  
JoAnn Barnes  
120 E George St  
Bensenville, IL 60106

## Board Slate Vacancies

Barbara Dunn

The positions of Treasurer and Outings Chairperson are still vacant on the board slate for the upcoming election. Both of the current people who fill these positions, Karin Grunow and Gail Chastain, have done so for several years, and have given much of their time and energy to Mayslake. Chuck Klingsporn has offered take over the Treasurer's position if someone will step up for the CACCA representative position that he currently holds. This could be a shared position, with several members rotating the duties for CACCA. If the work is divided, the CACCA meetings could be scheduled between members as their schedules allow.

Outings Chairperson is also a position that can be split among members. Several months ago, Gail came up with the idea of an outings "host" for each month, someone to take over one outing, and arrange the meeting place and restaurant. The outings were also scheduled for the first weekend of the month so that people can better plan to attend. The details of the new system are posted on the website. Fran Piepenbrink hosted the February outing to Waterfall Glenn; Gail and Steve Baginski arranged the outing in March to Milwaukee. There is currently no outing scheduled for April.

If there are four members who would like to share the outings position, each person could take a season, and plan three outings for winter, spring, summer, and fall. In this way, the work would be split up, and each person would only have a three month commitment to setting up outings.

At the last Executive Board meeting, the idea of moving the outings to the Yahoo group and leaving them up to individual members was raised. This would be a way to continue outings for those who are interested if we cannot get someone or a group of members to volunteer for the Outings position. Outings could be scheduled whenever someone would want an informal "meet-up" of members. Photos would be posted by individual members on the Yahoo site.

Keeping the Outings position within the club structure has many more advantages. Outings

are not just a way to get out and randomly shoot; they are a great sharing and social vehicle for the club members to enjoy both photography and each other's company. Some outings have been tied to meeting topics. The images are on the website for everyone to enjoy, and have been used as themes for exhibits and slideshows at meetings. When the outings are planned in advance, members can plan their schedules around them. In addition, not all members are Yahoo group members. There is also the risk that when no one is in charge of the overall position, nothing will be planned. Many of the members who complete in CACCA or attend outings are already active in board positions. Please consider stepping up to one of the above positions in a shared capacity to help the club continue to provide the services that you enjoy. See Barbara Dunn or Tom Richardson at a meeting or email [info@mlnpc.com](mailto:info@mlnpc.com)



Trees

BY JOYCE KILMER

I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest  
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in Summer wear  
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,  
But only God can make a tree.

## Centennial Bioblitz and Nature Discovery Day

The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County is celebrating its 100th year in 2015. The primary event in the area of natural resources is the Centennial Bioblitz and its accompanying Nature Fest, on June 26-27. A bioblitz is a 24-hour biological survey of a designated area, with the goal of counting as many species as possible. In this case, the area consists of 4 connected forest preserves: Blackwell, St. James Farm (where the event's headquarters and Nature Fest will be located), Herrick Lake, and Danada. Scientists from Illinois and other states will be coming in to survey the groups of organisms that are their specialty, supplemented by teams of citizen scientists who will help cover the 3000-plus acres of the target area. The Nature Fest is an event in which members of the public can learn about the bioblitz and biodiversity, have some related field experiences of their own, and share in the excitement of discovery.

Each survey team in the field will have an embedded photographer, who may be specializing in recording images that document some of the animals or plants, or may be a member of the survey team taking photographs as a secondary goal. Food and supplies such as sunscreen and insect repellent will be provided to all volunteers. To get more information or to sign up as an embedded photographer, contact Marcy Rogge ([mrogge@dupageforest.org](mailto:mrogge@dupageforest.org)). For information on the citizen science opportunity, please fill out the survey form at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CitizenScientistSurvey>, or contact Carl Strang at [cstrang@dupageforest.com](mailto:cstrang@dupageforest.com), 630-206-9581.

## EXHIBITS

Janice Henry

In last month's Focus I mentioned that I was changing the exhibits a bit less often. The current exhibit "Snow & Ice" has one more month so there is still time to check it out.

The next exhibit in our space "Insects & Flowers" will start May 1st and run until the end of August. If you would like to participate, please email me at [jnhenr@att.net](mailto:jnhenr@att.net) with the following:

- Title(s)
- Size(s)
- For Sale Yes or No\
- Price

Remember "hands of man" does not apply to exhibits; sawtooth hangers do not work well with our hanging system so try to use a frame without sawtooth hangers. The sharp ends of the wires need to be wrapped in tape, blue painters tape works well, and this protects the walls at Mayslake. Lastly, please put a label on the back of your piece(s) with your name and the title.

Drop off for this exhibit is by Monday, April 27th. You can drop off your piece(s) at Mayslake at our regular meeting on April 6th or at the office during regular business hours Monday-Friday 9am-4pm.

I look forward to hearing from you.

## **Mayslake Nature Study and Photography Club**

### **Officers and Chairpersons Election Slate May 2015-May 2016**

#### **Officers**

President - Barbara Dunn  
Vice-President - Tom Richardson  
Secretary - Fran Piepenbrink  
Treasurer - Vacant

#### **Committee Chairpersons**

CACCA - Chuck Klingsporn  
Competition - Sue Gajda  
Conservation - Paul Eberhardt  
Education - Fred Drury  
Equipment - Dave Schooley  
Exhibits - Janice Henry  
Forest Preserve Liaison - Tom Richardson  
Membership - Sandy Karasek  
Outings - Vacant  
Publications - Sheila Newenham  
Social - JoAnn Barnes  
Webmaster - Steve Ornberg

#### **Club Audit**



Thank you to Karin Grunow, Chuck Klingsporn, and Gary Saunders, who audited the club's financial information this past month. A summary of the club's finances for the past two years will be

published in the June Focus.

## **Thank You!**

On behalf of the members of Mayslake, I would like to thank the officers and board committee chairpersons for all of the time and work that they have done for the club. During the past year, we have had many wonderful and inspiring programs, activities, competitions, outings, exhibits, social events, and communications, including the Focus, the website, and the Yahoo group. There are many details and much thought that goes into everything that these members do "behind the scenes" to make things look like they run effortlessly. Thank you to all who have given of their time to keep the club running smoothly.

A special thank you to our outgoing officers and chairpersons: Karin Grunow, Treasurer; Bill Dixon, Membership; Gail Chastain, Outings; Diane Hamernik, Publications; and Steve Baginski, Webmaster.

### **CACCA**

Chuck Klingsporn

Our members again had a lot of great images submitted to CACCA for the March Inter-Club Competition. For some reason, however, this month, the judges only found two of ours worthy of honors recognition, both in Prints. Ron Cullum received a score of 23 and an HM designation for his image titled, 'On Golden Stream'. Tom Richardson also received a score of 23 which resulted in an AW designation for his image titled, 'Ascent with Catch'. Congratulations to Ron and Tom for their recognition and to all of our other members whose great images didn't quite make the cut this month. On to the April and May CACCA competitions with another group of great images from our March 16 Mayslake competition. Good Luck to all!! Some of our members were aware that I was unable to take care of my March CACCA responsibilities. I am very grateful for and appreciative of the way in which Marcia Nye stepped up and did a sterling job. THANKS Marcia!!

## Competition Report

Sue Gajda

The final competition of the Club year was held on March 16.

A total of 23 print images and 42 digital images were submitted for judging. The judges were Fred Drury from Mayslake and outside judges Bruce van Pelt and Don Alton. Thank you to our judges.

Results are as follows:

### Class A Prints

Awards: Got It - Marcia Nye

Honorable Mentions:

Vernal Regeneration - Bill Dixon  
Pyrrhuloxia - Marcia Nye

The average score of all images submitted: 21.88

### Class B Prints

Awards:

My Comb Over - Noriko Buckles  
Mono Lake Tufa Transition - Harry Hitzeman  
Vermillion Lakes Sunrise - Steve Ornberg

Honorable Mentions:

Three's a Crowd - Noriko Buckles  
On Watch - Noriko Buckles

The average score of all images submitted: 20.53

### Class A Digital

Awards:

Bluebells - Sue Gajda  
Sipping My Lunch - Marcia Nye  
Pyramid Lake Sunrise - Steve Ornberg

Honorable Mentions:

Harris Hawk - Marcia Nye  
Springbrook Sunset - Steve Ornberg  
Pair of Kings - Gary Saunders

The average score of all images submitted: 22.66

### Class B Digital

Awards:

Autumn Remnant - Bill Dixon  
Vast Coyote Trail - Sheila Newenham  
Honorable Mentions:

Quiet Pink Morning at  
Zephyr Cove - Harry Hitzeman  
Opening Day - Fran Piepenbrink

The average score off all images submitted: 20.07

### Class C Digital

Awards:

"Dangerous" Ice  
on the Illinois River - Karl Knapp  
Hummingbird with  
Extended Tongue - Ron Szymczak  
Rime - Charlie Zhang

Honorable Mentions:

Temples the Moonlight - Karl Knapp  
Mount Hood Sunrise - Bill Ludemann  
Morning Fog - Charlie Zhang

The average score of all images submitted: 21.2

Congratulations to the members who received awards and honorable mentions. Thank you to all members who submitted images.

We will be concluding our competition year at the annual Members' Night where awards will be presented to members with the highest average scores during the competition year. Also, at the Members' Night, there will be voting for Image of the Year.

See you there.



### **“The Caterpillar”**

Brown and furry  
Caterpillar in a hurry  
Take your walk  
To the shady leaf or stalk.  
May no toad spy you,  
May the little birds pass by you,  
Spin and die,  
To live again a butterfly.

Author: Christina Rossetti - 1830-1894

## **Mayslake Image of the Year!!**

Mayslake has four competitions in each Club year where digital images and prints are scored each time by three judges. The highest scoring images receive Awards or Honorable Mentions.

Here is your chance to be a judge and vote for the Mayslake Nature Study and Photography Club “Image of the Year.”

How will it work?

Be the Judge

A new section on the Mayslake Website will be created with the images that won Awards in Competition for this Club year (September/2014 - March/2015). You will get an email with the link when the website is up. The images will NOT have Maker's Name, or Class, or Score, or Titles, just a NUMBER.

Select your Top 10.

We will give you a few days to review the images, hopefully more than once, and think about your Top 10.

Vote!

You will receive a link to a Survey Monkey voting site. There will be 10 “fill in the blank” questions where you can enter the NUMBER of each of your Top 10. Enter your Top 10 and send the form back!

Come to Members' Night

The top images chosen by the members in the on-line vote will be displayed at the 2nd Annual Members' Night on May 4, 2015. Members who attend Members' Night will then vote on the Image of the Year. The winning image will be announced at the end of the Members' Night.

Don't miss this chance to join in on the fun.



**Triple Header!!**  
**The Domes**  
**St. Josaphat Basilica**  
**Milwaukee Art Museum**  
**Hosted by Gail Chastain and her devoted husband Steve Baginski**

The initial goal was Mitchell Park Conservatory on Saturday March 7th, but this Outing turned into much more.

Part 1 of the Outing, was Mitchell Park Conservatory and the 3 Domes, the Desert, the Tropics, and the Floral Show Dome. The “Domes” are beehive-shaped glass that are 140 feet in diameter, 85 feet high, that allows for 15,000 square feet in each of growing space. Mayslakers were able to stroll through, Africa, Madagascar, South and North America and even rain forests from five different countries. The photographic opportunities were in abundance.

After a morning visit to the Domes, Mayslakers headed nearby to lunch, but the fun did not end here. After a great lunch at the Horny Goat, Mayslakers traveled nearby to photograph The Basilica of St. Josaphat, for Part 2 of the Outing.



Marcia Nye



Steve Baginski



Tom Soltis



Electric Fern  
 Fran Piepenbrink



Cactus and Blue Sky  
 Diane Hamernik



Gail Chastain



Karin Grunow



# *Part 11*

## *The Basilica of St Josaphat*

Basilica status in the Catholic Church is reserved for the largest, most beautiful and most historically important churches with an outreach to the community. St. Josaphat in Milwaukee, built in 1901 earned its basilica status in 1920, and was well worth our visit. The Church turned the lights on for us, and even gave us access to the balcony. We then spent a good two hours roaming and photographing, and could have even used more time. Everywhere you looked, was a wonderful image to be photographed.



Gail Chastain



Right Side View  
Bill Pehrson



Steve Ornberg



JoAnn Barnes



Harry Hitzeman



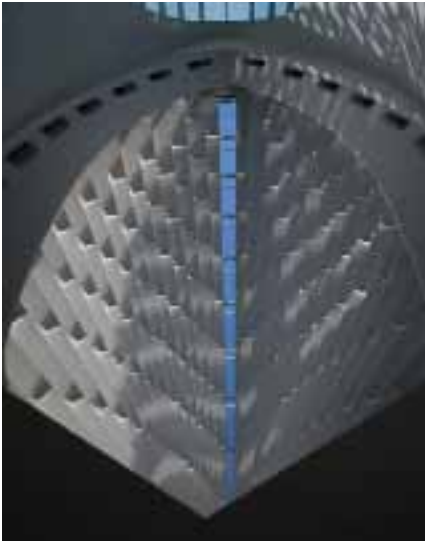
Ron Cullen

# Part III

## The Milwaukee Art Museum

For a few energetic Mayslakers, the fun did not even end here, but continued on with Part 3 of the outing, as suggested by Steve Ornberg. These few headed over to the Milwaukee Museum of Art and the Quadracci Pavilion, for even more photo opportunities. It would seem that Milwaukee has a lot to offer.

Be sure to visit the Mayslake website to see all the wonderful images from Part 1, 2 and 3 of this Outing!!



Janice Henry



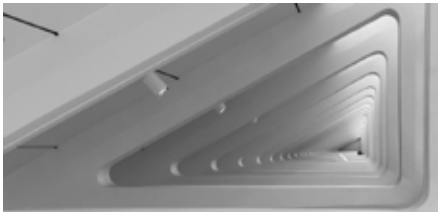
Steve Ornberg



Harry Hitzeman



JoAnn Barnes



Steve Ornberg



Harry Hitzeman