

# 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)

**May 3**

More Than Dumb Luck:  
The Elements of a Creative Routine  
Presented by Chris Aquino

**May 17**

DuPage Rivers  
Presented by Stephen McCracken

**More than Dumb Luck:  
“The Elements of a Creative Routine”**

Presented by Chris Aquino

Chris Aquino holds a Master’s Degree in English from NIU and has been teaching English at Wheaton Warrenville South High School for 18 years. In addition to this, he is an instructor at the Morton Arboretum’s nature photography program where he teaches courses on photographic composition and designing photography books. His writing and photographs have appeared in “Nature Photographer” magazine and other images have been used by the Illinois chapter of the Nature Conservancy. He routinely assists with workshops as a part of Lake Effect Photographic Adventures. His special photographic interest is finding ways to use simple images to portray a much more complex story.

**“DuPage Rivers”**

Presented by Stephen McCracken

Stephen McCracken is program manager for the DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup (DRSCW). A graduate of Queens University Belfast (Geosciences) and the University of London, he holds Masters Degrees in both environmental science and environmental economics specializing in water resources and range land management. He has fifteen years experience in environmental project management gained working in North America, Europe, and Africa. He has worked on water resources development and conservation projects, managed numerous wetland and river restoration projects and worked on wildlife management. He currently lives in Willow Springs Illinois with his wife and two children.

Stephen is an avid outdoors enthusiast, enjoying running, bird watching, scuba, climbing and triathlon.



2010 DuPage Salt Creek Workgroup

## CACCA NEWS

Jean Atkins

Lots of honors to mention this month with at least one in every competition described! And there were so many good images from our club's last digital competition that Fred and I decided to submit each selected image to either CACCA or PSA but not both. That allowed us to choose 14 different images.

### 2010 GLENNIE NATURE SALON

Our club decided to enter the Glennie competition again this year, which was held by the Merrimack Valley Camera Club, North Andover, MA on March 27. This digital-only showcase event is conducted as an interclub activity, and awards for individual images are presented as well. Each club was allowed to submit 10 images that conform to the PSA Nature definition and guidelines for the manipulation of Nature images. 1100 images from clubs around the world were entered, including 7 countries and 19 U.S. states.

We submitted images by John Fan, Tom Richardson, Pat McPherrren, Bill Dixon, Lou Petkus, Sue Gajda, Sheila Newenham, Dennis Walz, Ray Kammer, and Ruth Smith. Merit Awards in the "Other Birds" category were received by John Fan for his "Run!" and Ray Kammer for his "Rufous Hummingbird". In addition, Merit Awards in the "Butterflies and Moths" category were received by Ruth Smith for her "Cecropia Moth" and by Tom Richardson for his "Trillium and Butterfly". Our club tied for 25th place out of 111 clubs.

Go to [www.mvcameraclub.org](http://www.mvcameraclub.org) and click on the "30th Annual George W. Glennie Nature Salon" image to view the results and winning images

### MARCH PSA COMPETITION

In the March PSA digital competition we entered images by Harry Hitzeman, Ray Kammer, Karin Grunow, Dennis Walz, John Fan and Gary Saunders. Honorable Mentions were received by Ray for his "Rufous Hummingbird" and John for his "Run".

## APRIL CACCA COMPETITIONS

Images provided by Pat McPherrren, John Fan, Lou Petkus, and Bob LaBarre represented our club in the Interclub Small Color Print competition. Lou received an Honorable Mention for his "Keeping a Level Head".

Images by John Fan, Karin Grunow, Tom Richardson, and Dennis Walz were entered in the interclub digital competition. John received an Award and Best of Show for his "Eagle's Nest". Congratulations, John!

Lloyd and Mary McCarthy participated in the "Things That Fly" special category slide competition, where Lloyd received an Honorable Mention for his "Liftoff".

Sue Gajda, Lou Petkus, and Janice Henry participated in the 4x6 print (postcard) competition where Lou received an Award for his "Smoky Mountains National Park".

## MAY COMPETITIONS

May is the last month of CACCA competitions for the 2009-2010 year. Interclub competitions are the only competitions held. In each division, first the competitions for the month of May are held. Then the best of year image is selected from images that received an award or a score of at least 24 during the monthly interclub competitions.

## CACCA AWARDS BANQUET

The annual CACCA banquet will be held Saturday, August 21st, 11:00 A.M., at Niko's Restaurant, 7600 S. Harlem, Bridgeview, IL. There will be a sit-down luncheon at 12:00 and various awards will be presented, including individual awards from the CACCA Salon and Best of Year competitions. Tickets are \$22.00 per person and can be paid for with a check payable to CACCA. All monies are due to the CACCA Treasurer at the CACCA meeting on May 8th, so I will need to know whether you are going and have your check at the May 3 club meeting.

## NEXT YEAR'S SPECIAL CATEGORY SLIDE COMPETITION

Next year, makers will be able to enter 4 slides each month in the Special Category slide competition instead of just 2 as in past years: As in the past, images entered in the Special Competition may NOT have been entered in ANY previous CACCA competition including interclub, individual, Salon or another Special Category. And the Special Subject must be the dominant part of the image. The following are next year's categories:

- October                   Reflections
- November               New or Old
- December               Faces – non studio
- January                  Color White
- February                 Hanging – out, up, down, on
- March                    Arches and/or Angles
- April                     Hand of Man in Nature

### EXHIBITS

Janice Henry

I mentioned it briefly at a previous meeting we will be having a Group Show at Mayslake from July 12 to September 16 this year. There is no specific theme for the show, although Mayslake would like us to include a few photographs that were taken at Mayslake. If the image that you are submitting was taken at Mayslake there is a space provided on the entry form to note that. The show will have a reception that will be held on Monday, July 19th during our normal meeting.

More information will be sent in an email shortly including an entry form. At present we are limiting the entries to two pieces per member. If space is available a third piece could be included in the show. Space is provided on the entry form if you would like to enter more than two. You will be contacted if space is available and you can bring the third piece on July 10th. There are a few dates to keep in mind:

- June 18th is the due date for entry forms to be sent to my attention. The entry forms can be faxed to me at (630) 307-7691
- June 21st is the first drop off date which is our normal meeting date.
- July 10th from 9:00-10:30 AM is the final drop off date as well as the hanging date of the show
- July 19th is the reception

I will be sending a flyer out to the membership for you to invite your friends and families to the show and the reception. It will be in a PDF format so it can be opened by anyone receiving the file.

So start thinking about what images you would like to have in the show.

### APRIL WILDFLOWER OUTING MOTHER NATURE'S GIFT

Nine members, Sue, Rose, Janice, Pei, Karin, Harry, Tom, Chuck and Jon gathered on a Sweet Saturday morning with sunshine and Warm temps to enjoy the springtime bloom.

The Bloodroot, the focus of our efforts, unfortunately was about gone. Our efforts were not in vain though as many other flowers were in full bloom all challenging our macro photography skills. Much good conversation and many good laughs were had by all. This was an excellent turn out and is greatly appreciated by Tom and I, making our outing efforts worth while. Thanks to Pei Tang for her beautiful Spring Beauty shot included here. Pei is a prospective new member and it was a pleasure having here visit our group. Thanks Pei! Keep an eye on the website for more outings to come. Remember - No pain, no gain. Thanks to all who joined in.



Jon and Tom

Photo by Pei Tang©

## APRIL OUTING



Bloodroot and Maple by Susan Gajda©



Photo by Chuck Klingsporn©



©False Anemone by Janice Henry



White Trout Lily  
by Harry Hitzeman©

## SPRING TIME AT VOLO BOG SATURDAY MORNING MAY 22ND

Join us for an early morning shoot at Volo Bog near Ingleside. This natural wonder should be alive with new spring growth, much of which is only found in this natural wonder. The club was there last fall and found this site to be vary interesting. There is a boardwalk which takes you through the bog for a close-up look at the plants that inhabit this area. There is also a great visitors center that answers the question - 'what actually is a bog'. Visit their website here, <http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/Landmgt/PARKS/R2/VOLOBOG.HTM> As usual, to join in, let me know to be included in the information list which will be sent out about a week before the event. If you have questions feel free to contact at [jonsnyder@comcast.net](mailto:jonsnyder@comcast.net) or call 630-665-2068. This will be a great way to spend a morning away from 'WORK'.

Jon Snyder



Photo by Jon Snyder©

**RICHARD DAY'S  
DAYBREAK SANCTUARY  
ALMA, ILLINOIS  
SATURDAY AUGUST 7TH**

We will once again travel to Richard Day's home and explore photographing his extensive gardens full of Butterflies and Dragonflies. This promises to be a great event. Most members attending will want to go down Friday for the Saturday morning start which will be an all day event, then return home as they wish. There is a \$50 fee for the shoot paid at the start Saturday. Also, there is a limit of 15 members for this event so to be included, as always, contact me at [jonsnyder@comcast.net](mailto:jonsnyder@comcast.net) or call 630-665-2068 to be included on the list. Visit Richard's website here <http://www.daybreakimagery.com/> Closer to the event more info will be sent regarding lodging (each attendee will arrange his own), directions, meeting place and time etc. Any questions feel free to contact me.

Jon Snyder

**Club Officers**

President: Sue Gajda  
Vice-President, Nature: Pat McPherran  
VP, Photography: Lou Petkus  
Treasurer: Gary Saunders  
Secretary: Fran Piepenbrink

**2010-2011 Chairpersons**

CACCA Delegate: Lou Petkus  
Competition: Sheila Newenham  
Competition Assistant: Marie Ward  
Competition Assistant: Rose Janulis  
Conservation: Dan Hollister  
Display: Janice Henry  
Equipment: Demetrios DeMet  
Forest Preserve Liaison: Tom Richardson  
Membership: Bill Dixon  
Membership Assistant: Jack Brennan  
Outings: Jon Snyder  
Publications: Diane Hamernik  
Social: Dan Hollister  
Webmaster: Don Carter



Butterfly Lunch by Tom Richardson©



Dragonfly by Tom Richardson©

# Membership Information Reminder!

## 2010-2011 Membership Renewal

Club year runs from May 1, 2010 to April 30, 2011

Choose your membership from the following

Individual Membership \$30.00

Family Membership

\$30.00 for the first member at address and

\$15.00 for each additional member at the same address

Corresponding Member \$15.00

Former regular members who wish to remain in contact with the Club.

(Their privileges are described in the Directory under Membership.)

Please make checks payable to:

### The Mayslake Nature Study and Photography Club

and MAIL or HAND to Bill Dixon by June 1, 2010

Bill Dixon  
422 Keepataw Drive  
Lemont, IL 60439

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_