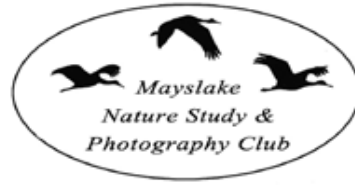


FOCUS



Newsletter of the Mayslake Nature Study and Photography Club
Hosted by the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County
www.naturecameraclub.com

August 1st

Up Coming Programs

August 1 – Sand Dunes by Jack Shouba

August 15 – Non-Competitive Critique Night

September 5 - No Meeting (holiday)

September 19 - Competition

FROM BEACH TO BEECH: the sand dunes of Lake Michigan

by Jack Shouba

The sand dunes of Lake Michigan are among the great natural wonders of the world and are an important recreational, scenic, and scientific resource. It was here that North American ecology got its start, and it is here that an incredible variety of plants and animals make their homes. While most visitors go to the dunes to swim, sun themselves, or play on the beach, they are missing much of what the dunes have to offer. This program demonstrates the beauty and variety found in the dunes, as we look at the process of succession and visit two National Lakeshores, several state parks, and other conservation areas around Lake Michigan.

Jack Shouba, a long-time Mayslake member, is a retired biology and chemistry teacher who has taught classes at the Morton Arboretum for over 20 years. Born in Holland, Michigan, he has had a lifelong interest in the dunes and counts Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore and Muskegon State Park among his favorite places.



Non-Competitive Critique

August 15, 2016

- Are you thinking about doing competition this year but hesitant to submit your first image?
- Would you like to get another opinion about an image that you like?
- Are you curious about how a particular image might do during judging?
- Don't compete, but want to learn more about making a great image?

If the answer to any of these questions is "YES" then here's your chance! We will be having a special meeting on August 15 for a non-competitive critique. It will give members a chance to get an anonymous evaluation of their images outside of the club's regular competition. There is no scoring, no judging, just an informal, but informative critiquing! It is a great learning opportunity because there is time to discuss details and ask questions outside of the time limitations and structure of the regular competition. Our panel of "critiquers" will review images submitted by members and offer their opinions about the technical and creative aspects of the images.

**If you are interested, please submit up to three images by August 8th to:
ronald.szymczak@sbcglobal.net**

Images should be sized according to the competition guidelines on our website, .jpg format with landscape orientation images no bigger than 1024 pixels wide or portrait images no more than 768 pixels tall. Images should generally follow competition content requirements but we're flexible! Just name your images with your last name and an image number (1,2,3). We will try to critique all three of your images, but that depends on how many images we receive. We will make sure that everyone who submits images has a least one image reviewed so number your first choice as 1, second choice as 2 etc. Maker identification will not be displayed during the critique.



CACCA Judge Training

In an attempt to get more uniformity and understanding of judging within the CACCA clubs, CACCA is planning on offering "training" to all members who currently judge, or are interested in helping by becoming a judge on the CACCA Judges list. We will have at **least** two training sessions, one on the "south" side and one on the "north" side. Since the concept of certifying judges is elusive at this point, we will request that you attend so that you can be marked as having shown an interest in improving the judging experience within CACCA. We will have a sign in sheet, and any judge that is on the current CACCA judges list will have an asterisk by the name to indicate that they have attended this class. Attendance is not mandatory, and we will be offering this again in another area soon. Scheduling of other training sessions will depend on attendance and suggestions for improvements.

The first class (to be repeated elsewhere in some form) will be held at the Foresters Camera Club location. (This is the location where CACCA used to meet.) Here are the particulars:

Palos United Methodist Church
12101 S Harlem Ave
Palos Heights, IL 60463

August 13 (Saturday) 10 AM-12

If you have any questions, please contact either Bill Brown (billb.misc@gmail.com) or Bob Benson (benson.bob@comcast.net)

Join the Mayslake Nature Study & Photography Club Yahoo Group and Facebook page so you don't miss out on outing opportunities - like the recent outings to Spears Woods and Wolf Prairie!

Spears Woods by Karin Grunow



Wolf Prairie by Gail Chastain



MNS&PC at 'Discover Mayslake'

On Saturday, July 23, Mayslake hosted their annual 'Discover Mayslake' event. Despite the hot and humid weather, there was an excellent turn out for the show which ran from 10am to 2pm. The event presents attendees with an overview of all of the activities this Forest Preserve property hosts throughout the year.

Our camera club was represented by Bev Olson, Hank Erdmann and Fred Drury. Bev distributed the new club brochure to roughly 40 attendees who stopped by our table which was located just in front of the chapel where we normally meet. Hank and Fred conducted several 'photo walks' which took place primarily in the shade of the trees to the south of the building.

Our plan for next year will include a member photo contest for the best photo made on the Mayslake property any time before next year's event.. The contest will be judged by event attendees.

