



MHWPC News

June 2013 Volume 37, No.6

www.mhwpc.org

Club Meeting
7 PM Wednesday
June 12, 2013

Guests Welcome!

Annual Membership Dues
Individual \$35
Add Family Member \$10

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Speakers This Month Clair & Bev Postmus

Birds and Plants of the Southern Arizona Desert Floor

Nature photographer, Clarence Postmus, and writer, Bev Postmus, both former educators, have documented birds and plants from several areas of states that include Illinois, Florida and Arizona. Clair's own photographs, collected for this documentation, have been published in a variety of ornithology guidebooks and magazines. Together, the Postmus' have combined their passion and skills to present nature programs that serve to educate. Their invitations to speak at camera clubs, society meetings (including Audubon Society chapters and Photography Society of America) as well as school nature programs, are in natural alignment with their chosen research and educational backgrounds.

The program that Clair and Bev will bring to MHWPC this month concentrates on birds and plants of the southern Arizona desert floor. We will learn about the diversity of species in the Arizona-Sonora Desert ecosystem and how the biseasonal rains nourish the food and habitat available for the enduring migratory and permanent resident birds unique to the area.



© Clair Postmus

The Postmus' moved to southern Arizona in 2005 to experience the desert and familiarize themselves with the subjects that decorate and enliven its landscape. Clair and Bev relocated in 2011 and currently reside in Colorado.

Volunteers are currently needed, MHWPC is sustained by contributing members.

WELCOME! New MHWPC Members

Brent Fosnight — Elbert
Karen Mitchell — Lakewood

Snacks and Beverages

Thanks to the Members Who Contribute!

JUNE
Dale Culuris
Robin Wilson

May Meeting Summary

The meeting opened with announcements wherein a discussion ensued regarding using the MHWPC facebook page to post images for critiques and encourage a forum. A motion was made to pursue this suggestion further and perhaps set up guidelines for proceeding with the idea.

The club's *West By Northwest* exhibit was available to view at The Wildlife Experience.

MHWPC field trip to Staunton State Park for Saturday, June 1st, was announced. This destination was later changed for greater photography opportunities on Mt. Evans.

Fi Rust and Barbara Fleming presented a program inspired by their recent trip to Pico Bonito National Park, in Northern Honduras, where they were guests at the luxury ecolodge, *The Lodge at Pico Bonito*. The trip was awarded to Fi through the 2012 Audubon Magazine Photo Awards competition and she, along with Barbara, have since announced plans to return to lead a tropical wilderness workshop.

The highlight of the program included many images of colorful tropical birds arranged in a slideshow and set to music. Fi and Barbara also gave extensive information about the luxury accommodations that provide access to excellent photo opportunities within steps of the lodge veranda.

Upcoming MHWPC Programs

7:00 to 10:00 PM at TWE

[Details and Map](#)

www.mhwpc.org/info/meetings.php

June 12

Bev and Clair Postmus

Birds and Plants of the Southern Arizona Floor.

This program will feature the plants and birds unique to Arizona's Sonoran Desert. See page one of the newsletter for more details.

July 10

Club Potluck Picnic

Members and visitors welcome! Plan to bring a side dish or dessert, our club will provide meat and beverages. The picnic will be at The Wildlife Experience.

August 14

Roger Clark

Night and Low Light Photography

An informational program and visually enchanting presentation on the methods used for creating extraordinary nightscapes. Included will be photographing the moon, landscapes lit by the moon, starlit landscapes and capturing animals in low light environments.

Annual Membership Dues

\$35 Individual
\$10 Additional Family Member
\$15 Students 21yrs & under

2013 Annual Dues can be paid at the next meeting or sent to our MHWPC Treasurer:

Sam Fletcher
Attn: MHWPC
11831 E. Kokomo
Franktown, CO 80116-8562

New members form can be found on the website:
[membership info & membership form](#)
www.mhwpc.org/info/membership.php

Digital Training Meeting

7:00 to 9:45 PM at TWE

[Details and Map](#)

Open to Paid Members

Meeting located in The Wildlife Experience
Great Hall or Classroom

July 24

Bob Stocker

Learn to Optimize Exposure Using Curves, Levels, Shadows and Highlights.

Digital Training Presentation Volunteer Needed for September.

If you would like to volunteer please contact:
Russ Burden – rburden@ecentral.com

Library News

Library Volunteer Needed

We are still seeking someone to take over the library. It is a great way to meet the club members!!

Betsy and Joe Lamb
Contact: 303-841-2565
jnblamb@comcast.net



Judging Coordinator

Volunteer Needed

The MHWPC volunteer Judging Coordinator is responsible for contacting guest speakers and presenters to find out if they are willing to judge our Club contest on the same evening that they are scheduled to speak, and if needed recruit a qualified club member to judge the competition. [Fred Stearns](#), our current Judging Coordinator, is available to provide more details, including a list of past judges that will be available for the new volunteer. If interested please contact Fred. flstearns@q.com

Local Events and Opportunities

CALL FOR ART

Submission deadline June 28, 2013

“Art Inspired by the Land”

The City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Department will host an art show in late summer at the Boulder Public Library Canyon Gallery. This show will celebrate art created by the community and inspired by The City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks lands.

Display-ready submissions will be considered based on quality, variation of location, and type of media in relation to other selected pieces. Up to three pieces may be submitted for consideration by any age and level (amateur to professional).

Artwork [Submission Form](http://www.bouldercolorado.gov) <http://www.bouldercolorado.gov>
Contact Deb Matlock if you have questions: 303-413-7657 or matlockd@bouldercolorado.gov.

Nature Nights: An Evening with Dusan Smetana
Wednesday, June 26, 2013, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

The Wildlife Experience will be hosting a presentation with wildlife and sporting photographer, Dusan Smetana. TWE is kindly offering museum member’s pricing for this event to the members of the MHWPC.

Pre-registration requested, call 720-488-3344.
Museum members \$5 / Non-members \$8

Visit the [TWE](http://thewildlifeexperience.org/upcoming-exhibits/) website for more information
<http://thewildlifeexperience.org/upcoming-exhibits/>

MHWPC has a Facebook Page!

If you are a Facebook user please consider ‘liking’ our page. The more ‘likes’ the club’s page gets, the better known we become on Facebook! <http://www.facebook.com/MHWPC>

Bragging Rights

Brenda Fletcher

2013 Lone Tree Colorado Photographic Art Show: Brenda Fletcher entries into the **Wild Animals** division placed second for her image *Three Eagles* and she received an Honorable mention for *Coyote Mousing*.



© Brenda Fletcher



© Brenda Fletcher

Gordon and Cathy Illg

Gordon and Cathy had an image, taken near Crested Butte, as a two page spread in the May issue of *Country Extra*. They also gave a presentation at the Florida Birding and Photo Festival in St. Augustine, Florida, in April.



© Gordon and Cathy Illg

Gordon and Cathy Illg

Gordon and Cathy had a photo essay on Baby Animals published in the May issue of *Country Extra*.



© Gordon and Cathy Illg

Travel Stories by MHWPC Members...

Unnatural Selection

By Butch Mazucca

In 1859 Charles Darwin put forth his theory of natural selection – the non-random process by which certain biological traits become either more common or less common in a population. In other words, nature ensures that the biggest, strongest and fastest animals are ‘selected’ for survival and the propagation of the species. Sadly, these same animals are also the primary targets of trophy hunters.

The African bush is unlike any place on earth – it is truly magical. Words cannot convey the physical sensation of having every organ in your body vibrate when a big male lion roars just six meters away. The sound cannot be replicated – only experienced. It’s primal, guttural and terrifying. The bush may be raw and unpredictable, but its authenticity washes over you in ways you couldn’t imagine, making it easy to become addicted to it if you have the time and resources to travel there.

My wife and I have watched a leopard ambush an impala, African wild dogs pull a warthog from its den, cheetahs sprint at 110 kilometres per hour to make a kill, and lions bring down a zebra at a river crossing. We’ve seen an hour-old elephant calf shielded by the herd, ostrich chicks emerging from their shells and white rhinos at a waterhole just metres from where we were dining. And once when we were in a mokoro (a small, canoe-like boat), a hippo gave us a not-so-subtle warning by surfacing mouth agape and tusks bared (Yes, it frightened me).

The lions of the Disney movie *African Cats* have passed within centimetres of our vehicle. They are enormous, and each has a full dark mane. It’s probably not a coincidence that we observed this coalition in Kenya, where hunting is



© Butch Mazucca

illegal. A bull elephant once paid me a visit in my outdoor shower, we’ve had a leopard conceal itself under our open Land Cruiser, and we’ve watched elephants swim using their trunks as snorkels.

In one heart-rending experience that remains with us today, we witnessed two lionesses protect their cubs from a pride of eighteen. Transfixed, we watched the drama unfold as one of the lionesses took on twelve of the rival pride. This was Africa at its most raw. The lionesses successfully defended their offspring, but one of them was fatally mauled in the process. Expect the unexpected in the African bush.

Early one morning we were watching a male leopard resting on a branch of a large fig tree as four bull elephants feasted on the tree’s fruit. The moment was magical. All seemed right

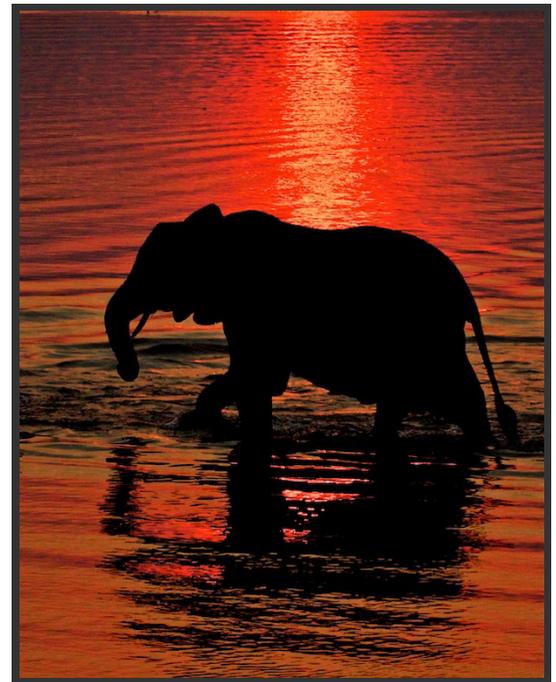
with the world – until the spell was broken by the unmistakable ‘crack’. I looked at our guide and asked a question that I already knew the answer to. “Is that a gunshot?” He pursed his lips, cast his eyes downward, shook his head and said, “Yes.” In an instant I knew that a magnificent creature on the other side of the river lay dead, a trophy hunter’s target.

Africa was once a sea of animals interspersed with islands of people; today it’s a sea

of people with ever-smaller islands of animals. Safari-goers understand the enchantment of watching a herd of elephants cross a river or gambol in a waterhole with their calves. To those who have never been on safari, I suggest you go now if you have the resources, before it’s too late. Friends frequently ask, “What’s your fascination with Africa?” to which my wife and I respond, “You have to experience it.” As someone once said, “If you can travel to just two continents in your lifetime, go to Africa twice.”



© Butch Mazucca



© Butch Mazucca

This article is a shortened version of Butch Mazucca’s article, *Unnatural Selection*. The full article is published in the January 2013 issue of *Africa Geographic*.



Newsletter Articles Written by MHWPC Members: Guidelines

If you are a member and would like to submit an article for the newsletter please adhere to the following criteria and guidelines:

Article Length: Fewer than 600 words, brief articles are preferred for keeping the newsletter concise. 600 words plus images fill approximately one and a half pages.

Images: Up to 5 may accompany an article (final images used will be determined by the editor); photographs should be primarily of wildlife or scenics to keep within the interest of MHWPC. Image resolution must meet requirements for adequate online viewing.

Topics: Subjects that relate to the primary focus of the Club: Photographing wildlife, landscapes, sharing tips, techniques, etc., and continuation of *What MHWPC Membership Means to Me*.

2013 Monthly MHWPC Competition Information

Judging Coordinator **Volunteer Needed**

Note: This job can be easily managed by a member who is not present at all meetings.

The MHWPC Judging Coordinator is needed for contacting guest speakers and presenters to find out if they are willing to judge our Club contest on the same evening that they are scheduled to speak. When speakers are unable to judge the coordinator is needed to recruit a qualified club member to judge the competition. [Fred Stearns](#), our current Judging Coordinator, is available to answer questions and will provide a list of past judges for the new volunteer. If interested please contact Fred flstearns@q.com

Competition Schedule www.mhwpc.org/info/comp_sched.php

| <u>Month</u> | <u>Type</u> | <u>Submissions</u> |
|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| June | Wildlife, Scenic, & Wildlife CC | May 9 through June 8 |
| July | Wildlife, Scenic, & Wildlife IIE | June 13 through July 6 |
| August | Wildlife, Scenic, & Open | July 11 through August 10 |
| September | Wildlife, Scenic, & Wildlife CC | August 15 through September 7 |

Monthly Competition Guidelines www.mhwpc.org/info/competition.php

Monthly competitions are open to all club members and are divided into two levels:

- **Club** for the general membership
- **Masters** for veteran club members whose past history of competition entries has demonstrated their photographic abilities at an extremely high level.

The Wildlife and Scenic categories are part of each competition. The Wildlife CC (Wildlife Captive or Controlled), Wildlife IIE (Wildlife In Its Environment) and Open categories alternate.

Competition Rules www.mhwpc.org/info/competition.php

Images submitted in categories other than Open may be enhanced or changed using any of the tools available in a post processing graphics editing program, except one cannot copy or significantly alter the primary subject or primary parts of the image in any way, nor can one import items from another image. The intent of the original image must be maintained. Images may be color, black-and-white, or toned (i.e., sepia).

There are no post processing restrictions for the Open category. Creativity is encouraged.

Up to three images may be entered by each member, with a maximum of two in any one category.

If in doubt about the suitability of an image for a particular category, bring the image to someone on the competition committee for their recommendation prior to entering it. If approved, it may be entered into a subsequent competition. Contact the competition committee.

Entries must be submitted according to the Digital Image Submission Guidelines.

Entries that do not receive an award (1st, 2nd, 3rd, or HM) may be re-entered in future club competitions.

May Competition Results

Judge: Fi Rust

Club Members: Wildlife

1st Place



Steve Goodman *Smokin' Grass*

2nd Place



Nancy Nelson *Spotted Hyena*

3rd Place



Thomas Redd *Eagle Landing*

Honorable Mention



L.S. Butch Mazzuca *N'gurro & Cub*

Honorable Mention



Bob Stocker *American Avocet*

Honorable Mention



Chauncey Walden *Big Mama*

Honorable Mention



Bob West *Red Fox in Snow*

Club Members: Scenic

1st Place



Roger Kinney *Sunset on the Pond*

2nd Place



Rod Chandler *Poppies and Cactus*

3rd Place



Rod Chandler *Superstitious Sunset*

Honorable Mention



Jack McInay *Mesa Arch at Sunrise*

Honorable Mention



Lois Lake *Starburst Sunset South of Kadoka*

Club Members: Open

1st Place



Roger Kinney *Butterfly Collage*

2nd Place



Steve Goodman *Stick and Friend*

3rd Place



Richard Seeley *Marsh in the Morning*

May competition results continued...

Masters: Wildlife

1st Place



Rita Summers
Zebra Foal with Herd

2nd Place



Chris Loffredo Woody

3rd Place



Charlie Summers Humpback Whale Breaching

Honorable Mention



Sam Fletcher
Cattle Egret Breeding Plumage

Honorable Mention



James Hager Breakfast

Judging Coordinator Volunteer Needed

Note: This job can be easily managed by a member who is not present at all meetings

Masters: Scenic

1st Place



Jan Forseth Lady's Slipper

2nd Place



Cathy Illg Fiery Night

3rd Place



Gordon Illg Destruction and Creation

Masters: Open

1st Place



Rita Summers The Chase Is On

2nd Place



Russ Burden Ibis Ibis Moon

Member Workshops and Tours



Cathy & Gordon Illg's Adventure Photography
www.advenphoto.com
gordon@advenphoto.com
 303-237-7086

2013 Remaining Destinations:

- Iceland, May 23–June 3
- Wildlife Babies (Minnesota), June 18–21
- Alaska Boat Tour (Glacier Bay), July 10–16
- Costa Rica, November 8–17



rburden@ecentral.com
 303 791-9997 Russ Burden Photography
 Russ Burden's Photography Tours
www.russburdenphotography.com
rburden@ecentral.com
 303-791-9997

2013 Remaining Destinations:

- Oregon and Northern California Coast and Coastal Redwoods, May 25–June 3
- Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks in the Spring, June 15–21
- Colorado Wildflowers and Alpine Scenery, July 13–19
- Glacier National Park, July 27–Aug. 2
- Goats and Gods: Mount Evans and the Garden of the Gods, Aug. 24–30
- Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks in the Fall—10 Days! Sept. 24–Oct 3
- Hunts Mesa—Aerial perspective of Monument Valley and Capital Reef National Park, Oct. 15–20
- Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks, Nov. 2–8
- Bosque Del Apache and White Sands National Monument Dec. 7–13

Editor's Note

If you are a MHWPC member and will be leading a workshop or tour please send your announcement or current tour schedule to Tammy Hammond at newsletter@mhwpc.org.



Rita Summers: *Wild Images*
www.wildimages.biz
rita@wildimages.biz
 303-840-3355

Tanzania February 21 – March 8, 2014

Sixteen Day Safari in Tanzania visiting Tarangire, Lake Manyara, Ngorongoro Crater and the Serengeti at the height of the migration. We will be staying in Serena Lodges and camping in private, luxury tents. Three to a van so everyone has a row to themselves. This is a trip planned for photographers.

\$7090 includes all in-country transportation, accommodations, meals, park fees and even tips for driver/guides, camping staff and waiters.

Fi Rust and Barbara Fleming
fi@focus-on-nature.com
bjhfleming@msn.com



Honduras: Pico Bonito National Park February 2014 (dates to be determined)
 6 participants only – 9 nights, 10 days
 \$2,950.00 dbl occupancy

Photographing the flora and fauna of the Honduran rainforest. A workshop for all skill levels. In field assistance on photographic technique with an emphasis on off-camera flash. Staying at the luxury eco-lodge, Pico Bonito Lodge, which *National Geographic Traveler* picked as one of the top 50 eco-lodges of the world. Assisted by professional guides of Pico Bonito Lodge.



James Hager Photography Small Group Photo Safaris
www.JamesHagerPhoto.com
James@JamesHagerPhoto.com

2014 Destinations:

Kenya in October 2014: A 20-day classic African photo safari to three of the best wildlife destinations in East Africa: Samburu National Reserve, Lake Nakuru National Park, and Masai Mara National Reserve.

Gorillas in October 2014: 5 days of visiting mountain gorillas in the best environment for photography — Volcanoes National Park in Rwanda.

Mile High Wildlife Photography Club Volunteer Contact Information

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------|
| President | Bob Stocker bob@stockerphotos.com | 303.759.4056 |
| Vice-President | Chris Frazier colophotofan@live.com | 303.356.2399 |
| Treasurer | Sam Fletcher shjjif@aol.com | 303.688.5107 |
| Newsletter Editor | Tammy Hammond newsletter@mhwpc.org | 303.806.9145 |
| Webmaster | James Hager webmaster@mhwpc.org | 720.219.4248 |
| Projectionist | Chuck Summers cgsommers@gmail.com | 303-619-7245 |
| Programs | Nancy Stocker nancy@stockerphotos.com | 303.759.4056 |
| | Tim Visser tim@timvisserphotography.com | 303.690.7627 |
| Membership | Marge Mieger bioniclady@me.com | 303.696.8021 |
| Competition | Russ Burden rburden@ecentral.com | 303.791.9997 |
| Competition Scoring | Chris Loffredo ChrisLoff@comcast.net | 303.267.3846 |
| Competition Entries/Judging | Fred Sterns flstearns@q.com | 303.400.0385 |
| Field Trips & Mentoring | Bob Cross crossphoto@gmail.com | 303.663.2019 |
| Library | Joe and Betsy Lamb jnblamb@comcast.net | 303.841.2565 |
| Snacks | Mary Paetow empaetow@comcast.net | 303.690.8259 |

BOARD of DIRECTORS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Rita Summers ritasummers@gmail.com | 303.840.3355 |
| Russ Burden rburden@ecentral.com | 303.791.9997 |
| Chuck Winter cwinter@mii-rmcc.com | 303.972.2538 |
| Chris Loffredo ChrisLoff@comcast.net | 303.267.3846 |
| Ron Eberhart ron@roneberhart.com | 720.635.6337 |

Club Meetings

Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the second Wednesday of each month. The meetings end at 10:00 PM, or earlier depending on the agenda.

The location is in the theater of TWE unless otherwise stated.

THE WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE
10035 South Peoria
Parker, CO

Visitors are always welcome and encouraged to attend meetings.

You must be a paid member to submit images in monthly competitions and special MHWPC exhibits.

Digital Training Meetings

MHWPC Digital Training meetings are held from 7:00 – 9:30 PM on the fourth Wednesday of odd numbered months. The meetings are open to paid members only.

The Digital Training meetings are held in the Classroom or Great Hall of TWE, dependent on planned events.

MHWPC Newsletter

Please submit articles, brags, and all relative MHWPC news to newsletter@mhwpc.org.

Next Edition: July 2013
Submission Deadline: June 29

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