

North American Nature Photography Association Regional Meeting

MEETING AGENDA

**The Adirondacks
Inlet, New York
September 18 – 21, 2008**

**The Woods Inn
P.O. Box 678
Inlet, NY 13360
315-357-5300
www.thewoodsinn.com**

Thursday, September 18, 2008

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm **Registration**

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm **Introductions, Instructions, Adirondack Primer**

John Radigan, Director, Adirondack Photography Institute

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm **Dinner** (available through separate meal plan)

8:00 pm – 9:00 pm **Adirondack Waters – Spirit of the Mountains**

Mark Bowie

This the complementary program to Mark's new coffee table book, *Adirondack Waters – Spirit of the Mountains*. This digital multimedia presentation is a visual and sensory spectacle, featuring the myriad of waters found in the Adirondack Park --- its beautiful lakes and ponds, rivers and streams, brooks and creeks, wetlands and waterfalls. The images are showcased with Mark's sensitive writings, quotes from Adirondack literature, and set to music. It's an inspired tribute to the incomparable gift of waters that gives the Adirondack Park its unique look and feel. This program will give the participants a good idea of what they can expect to see and photograph during the weekend.

Friday, September 19, 2008

5:00 am – 6:00 am **Continental Breakfast**
(provided for Woods Inn guests and through separate meal plan)

6:00 am – 10:00 am **Field Trips**

1. Raquette River / Buttermilk Falls (John Radigan)

This is one of the most diverse shooting locations in the central Adirondacks. It is a great place to photograph reflections, several types of moving water, boulders, downed trees and rock formations.

2. Eighth Lake (Mark Bowie)

These beautiful sand beaches offer fabulous views of Eighth Lake, the last in the string of the famous Fulton Chain of Lakes. It's a two mile-long body of water, which when quiet, reflects the rolling mountains and mixed hardwoods and evergreens of the surrounding Moose River Plains Wild Forest with crisp precision. The beach in the lake's mid-section winds around a point, offering both sunrise and evening views. The beach at the east end showcases stunning sunsets reflected in the still waters.

3. Moose River Roadside Views / Advanced Bird Photography (Eric Dresser)

We will visit several roadside views of the Moose River from Old Forge southward to McKeever. These views offer a great diversity of settings. Around Old Forge the river has channels snaking through tall marsh grasses; in McKeever the river has riffles and pools lined with granite boulders. We will also stop for photos of an old one room schoolhouse.

Before returning for brunch; Eric will give his first of two demonstrations of an exciting new technique for capturing images of birds.

4. Moose River Recreation Area (Carl Heilman)

This area has some of the most accessible wild ponds and rivers in the Adirondacks. The gravel road system and short trails lead to the wild headwaters of the South Branch of the Moose River and numerous ponds and small mountains. We'll choose shooting locations according to the moods of mist, fog, clouds, and sun, shooting at a couple of different locations during the morning. One of the shoots might include a hike of 1 to 3 miles over fairly level terrain.

10:00 am– 11:30 am **Breakfast/Lunch** (available through separate meal plan)

11:30 am – 1:00 pm **Critique of Images**

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm **The Adirondacks: Call of the Wild**

Eric Dresser

This digital slide show features the wildlife of the Adirondacks. Internationally published photographer Eric Dresser will discuss the techniques used to capture his wildlife images, techniques that can be used anywhere. With over 30 years of experience, Eric has developed many strategies for getting close to wildlife. All questions will be welcomed.

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm **Break**

3:30 pm– 7:30 pm **Field Trips**

1. Moose River, South Branch (John Radigan)

Approximately thirty minutes from our hotel, the stretch of river between McKeever and Boonville offer an incredible variety of unique large rock formations and spectacular reflections.

2. Brown's Tract Inlet (Mark Bowie)

Brown's Tract Inlet is a narrow, five mile-long channel that meanders through marshlands between Brown's Tract Pond and Raquette Lake. From the bridge leading to the quaint hamlet of Raquette Lake, photographers get a panoramic view of the channel winding through the marsh. Beavers often dam the channel and their lodges can be seen at the edges of the waterway. White water lilies abound, deer browse the vegetation, and ducks cruise the channel. This always magical setting, is enhanced when the sun sets behind the rolling Adirondacks with forests that reach to the shore. To the east lies island-studded Raquette Lake, one of the most beautiful in the Central Lake Region.

3. Advanced Bird Photo Techniques (Eric Dresser)

This is the second of two demonstrations of an exciting new technique that Eric uses to capture close-up images of nearly any species of bird. We will be stopping at several trail head parking areas. Not much hiking involved.

4. Bald Mountain / Moss Lake (Carl Heilman)

The rocky summit of Bald Mountain offers a fabulous view of the Fulton Chain of Lakes from First Lake and the Old Forge area to the town of Inlet and Fourth Lake. It's a two mile round trip hike to the tower at the summit with an elevation gain of about 400 feet. The trail is mostly a gradual ascent with a few steep rocky sections. There are also wonderful views from ledges along the way. Late afternoon and evening light can really set off the rolling landscape beyond the lakes. There may be some early fall foliage along the way as well.

Depending on weather conditions we might opt to hike the trail around Moss Lake. This is a beautiful wild lake with a small island and a 2.5 mile trail that circles the lake. The numerous shoreline photography opportunities include wildlife, close-ups, and landscapes. The trail passes through a forest of pines, hemlocks, spruces and hardwoods. There may be real nice fall color in the wetlands along the outlet.

8:30 pm

Dinner (available through separate meal plan)

Saturday, September 20, 2008

5:00 am– 6:00 am **Continental Breakfast**
(provided for Woods Inn guests and through separate meal plan)

6:00 am – 10:00 am **Field Trips**

1. Seventh Lake Road (John Radigan)

This road straddles the shoreline of both the Sixth and Seventh Lakes of the Fulton Chain. There is a spectacular sunrise view from a low bridge that separates the lakes. Loons travel under this bridge every morning in the fall and there's a great spot for photographing the spider webs attached to the bridge railing.

2. South Inlet of Raquette Lake (Mark Bowie)

The South Inlet of Raquette Lake is one of the most beautiful and tranquil stretches of flatwater in the Adirondack Park. Forming a boundary between the Blue Ridge Wilderness and the Moose River Plains Wild Forest, it flows for two sinuous miles into the south end of Raquette Lake. Its length it is lined with tamarack bogs. Stunted spruce and tamaracks glow in the morning sun, and spectacular fall foliage is reflected in the still water. Photographers get a fabulous view of the channel winding in the distance from a bridge and pull-out on Route 28. Short paths lead to bogs, where pitcher plants, sundew, cotton grass, and other plants native to the northern boreal bog may be photographed.

3. Moss Lake (Eric Dresser)

Located northeast of the hamlet of Eagle Bay, Moss Lake is a beautiful little lake encircled by a 3 mile trail. It is home to a small island with tall pines and an Osprey nest. On its north side a maple covered hill slopes to the shore. Early morning mist gives mystical feel.

4. Sagamore Cascades on South Inlet (Carl Heilman)

This is a 3 mile round trip hike along the outlet of Sagamore Lake, the site of one of the historic Great Camps in the region. The trail follows a stream through a primeval Adirondack forest, finally reaching the gentle cascades that empty into Raquette Lake's South Inlet. If time allows, we might visit Great Camp Sagamore as well. If sunrise light is special we photograph along the shore of Raquette Lake before photographing the cascades.

10:00 am – 11:30 am **Breakfast/Lunch** (available through separate meal plan)

11:30 am – 1:00 pm **Critique of Images**

1:00 pm – 1:15 pm **Break**

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm **Wild Visions**

Carl Heilman

'Wild Visions' is an evocative visual journey that speaks of our relationship with wilderness and our spiritual connection with the Earth.

2:15 pm – 3:30 pm **Break**

3:30 pm – 7:30 pm **Field Trips**

1. The Woods Inn / Town of Inlet (John Radigan)

The sunset view of Fourth Lake from the event hotel is one of the best in the area. The hotel itself offers an abundance of photo opportunities that include wildflower planters, old barns, and a variety of antique implements strewn about the property. There are also other good evening light opportunities within a few minute's walk in the town of Inlet, along Fourth Lake.

2. Eighth Lake (Mark Bowie)

These beautiful sand beaches offer fabulous views of Eighth Lake, the last in the string of the famous Fulton Chain of Lakes. It's a two mile-long body of water, which when quiet, reflects the rolling mountains and mixed hardwoods and evergreens of the surrounding Moose River Plains Wild Forest with crisp precision. The beach in the lake's mid-section winds around a point, offering both sunrise and evening views. The beach at the east end showcases stunning sunsets reflected in the still waters.

3. Moose River / Middle Branch (Eric Dresser)

A half mile hike leads to the Adirondack Railway which we will follow a short distance to a beautiful section of Moose River. Calm water reflections above and turbulent waters below offer a myriad of opportunities. Granite boulders and colorful maples line both sides of the river.

4. Lake Durant (Carl Heilman)

There are numerous angles to shoot around Lake Durant with no hiking necessary. Often there are herons in the shallows near the main road, and otter have been seen on the lake too. Various points that offer views in different directions so we will head to whichever spot seems to be best for the light. The view from the state campground on the south side looks across to Blue Mountain towering over 2200 feet above the lake. There is also a short hike to the low foot bridge that crosses nearby Rock Pond where there may be some nice early fall colors in the wetlands.

8:30 pm

Dinner (provided)

Sunday, September 21, 2008

5:00 am – 6:00 am **Continental Breakfast**
(provided for Woods Inn guests and through separate meal plan)

6:00 am – 10:00 am **Field Trips**

1. Raquette River / Buttermilk Falls (John Radigan)

One of the most diverse shooting locations in the central Adirondacks. A great place to photograph reflections, several types of moving water, boulders, downed trees and rock formations.

2. Golden Beach State Campground (Mark Bowie)

Several tree-lined bays and points of Raquette Lake may be photographed from waterfront campsites of the Golden Beach State Campground along Route 28. Photographers can walk a short distance to the shore to photograph a variety of shoreline features and plant life, and wade the shallows for unique perspectives of the shore. The surrounding forest is a colorful mix of evergreens and autumn hardwoods, immaculately reflected in quiet bays. Majestic white pines tower over the peninsulas, creating graphic silhouettes against big skies

3. Advanced Bird Photo Techniques (Eric Dresser)

Moss Lake will be revisited for early morning landscapes. Later in the morning Eric will demonstrate his exciting new technique for capturing images of birds.

4. Bald Mountain / Moss Lake (Carl Heilman)

We'll run this trip again so hopefully at least one of the trips will offer spectacular light. If we're lucky, the top of Bald Mountain will give us a sunrise above a sea of fog below. The rocky summit of Bald Mountain offers a fabulous view of the Fulton Chain of Lakes, from First Lake and the Old Forge area to the town of Inlet and Fourth Lake. On a clear day it is possible to see some of the High Peaks beyond the summit of Blue Mountain. It's a one mile hike to the summit with an elevation gain of about 400 feet. There are also a couple of wonderful views from ledges along the way to the summit.

Depending on weather conditions we might opt to do the trail around Moss Lake. This is a beautiful wild lake with an island and a trail that circles the lake. The numerous shoreline photography opportunities include wildlife, close-ups, and landscapes. The 2.5 mile trail passes through a forest of pines, hemlocks, spruces and hardwoods. There may be nice fall color in the wetlands at the outlet.

10:00 am **Meeting Ends**