

PRESS RELEASE

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[High-resolution photos available upon request.]

Nature Photography Workshop in March

A nature photography workshop offering from USA Aloft with nature photographer, David Saxe, in March at the Massabesic Audubon Center in Auburn, NH.

Auburn, NH – USA Aloft, LLC is offering David Saxe's successful nature photography sessions to a general audience at **Massabesic Audubon Center** in Auburn, NH, on **Saturday, March 1, 8 and 15 from 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm**. Mixing practical field experience with classroom instruction, this three-part (12 hour total) workshop allows beginner and intermediate photographers to enjoy an outdoor experience while honing their photographic skills. Please note that this series has been expanded by an hour at each meeting to provide for additional fieldwork in the fields and woods around the center. Contact Audubon at 603-668-2045 for costs or to pre-register.

The Workshop Series

Nature photography encompasses a wide range of venues, subjects and purposes. Aimed at beginner and intermediate photographers, this workshop mixes instruction with practical field experience, introducing aspects of nature photography including composition, exposure, focusing, lighting, camera operation and field techniques. Examples of topics covered include: nature photography venues and examples, composition techniques, tools for composition, natural and modified lighting, controlling exposure, focusing methods, depth of field, camera equipment and operation, polarizing filter use, field equipment, practical tips for the field, and projects for the beginner. Throughout, application of these techniques to nature photography is highlighted. Field exercises augment the classroom instruction and permit the students to practice the techniques they have learned. Based on the interests and ability level of the group, an advanced topic may be introduced. Possibilities include post processing and printing, computer controlled camera operation, stereo photography and time-lapse techniques.

Students should bring a camera (digital strongly preferred) and be able to operate it in point and shoot mode. Students should bring enough memory or film and batteries for fieldwork each session, depending on the weather. Students are encouraged to "hand in" (electronically or on prints) a few images of their choice to facilitate review and class discussion of their work. Students should also have access to their own camera manuals.

"This series is a lot of fun. I teach the basics, but the class interaction and discovery experience is just as valuable, I think. For example, after I spoke about the use of fog in images, one student, a little girl very new to photography, decided to fog the lens of her camera by breathing on it. The resulting images had a look of mystery and achieved the desired effect in a way that I certainly had never thought of. Experimentation like that is an integral part of the creative process and I always enjoy watching it develop. Of course, the technical aspects of the workshop also help participants to discover the control they have over their images and can be equally rewarding. Understanding focus and how to adjust what is in focus, for example, can open new possibilities as a student learns to "frame" an image in a third dimension." – David Saxe

About David Saxe and USA Aloft

David Saxe is a systems architect, pilot and photographer with a strong background in scientific programming and systems design. Working for fifteen years at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, NJ, he created software for analysis, reduction and graphical presentation of astrophysics images, including data from Hubble Space Telescope. Mr. Saxe formed USA Aloft, a New Hampshire based software and photography company whose initial project was to document the Lewis and Clark Trail. Working throughout his adult life in a highly technical environment, Mr. Saxe has not forgotten nor neglected the appreciation of the natural world taught by his parents. His father, a zoologist with experience in botany and geology, made every venture from the home into a learning experience about the flora, fauna and environment. His mother, a musician and artist, insured that his scientific view of the world was tempered through the eyes of an artist. Mr. Saxe's primary portfolio, "*Observations of Nature*", explores his resulting vision of nature through color, texture and scale. Sometimes bold and sometimes subtle, these glimpses of nature connect the viewer with the simple elegance of the world around us.

"I try to represent nature as-is. Because my images are meant to accurately reflect the world, I keep the post-processing of images to a minimum. Images have only been cropped and color adjusted to present the subject as I saw it when capturing the image. Accurate depiction of the world should not interfere with a different perspective. I strive to find fresh views and to convey the mood and outlook of that approach to the audience. If, after viewing my images, you gain one new way of looking at some aspect of nature, then I have achieved my purpose. Of course, I also hope you simply enjoy the images." - David Saxe

For further information about David Saxe and USA Aloft, LLC, visit www.usaaloft.com.

Nature Photography Workshop

Saturday, March 1, 8 and 15 from 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Massabesic Audubon Center

26 Audubon Way, Auburn, NH

Tel: (603) 668-2045

Web: www.nhaudubon.org/sanctuaries/massabesic.htm

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