

Moose Podcast #419

Moose Peterson Howdy. How did folks and welcome the Moose podcast number 419 takeaways from the week. Trish. You guys are doing well. Saddened by some of you have. Really take taken gotten the wind knocked out of your sails with those last two hurricanes? I am. My heart goes out to you. It had a number of people, good friends with water and homes and damage. And, boy, I tell you, it's. My heart goes out to you than we could do. I hope you reach out. You just know that you're in our thoughts and prayers home. Had a chance to talk with a number of you folks this past week. So got some great e-mails. Yes. You keep sending those questions. I know that some of those questions you sent me quite a while ago and I just got to answering them. So my apologies. So I did hear and I got the message. I will do my best to keep getting that stuff out there as quickly and as current as I can. But the bottom line is, I love hearing from you folks. And remember, you can go to Spotify and you can comment. We can have conversations over there. And it's a way of following up also on the question to e-mail, just to make sure I got them and I know that they are important to you. So go to Spotify, click on comments. Let's have a conversation. Still using Adobe Podcast Beta. They have upped the game so they make the MP three in a PDF right from the software now, which is really nice. I'm up to 1600 minutes on the on the beta, so I still use it. People ask. It works really well. You can find the transcript Spotify, Amazon and of course on the blog post for the podcast. They're on the website. He made good friends with Bedford's camera. Bedford's WSJ.com. If you didn't hear the exciting news, they opened up a whole new store at Overland Park, Kansas, basically Kansas City. They got some great new store deals and they've got the inventory, the prices that poor staff, boy, they are really cranking out the hours to get up to speed and helping you guys with all that new stuff they have there. So make sure you check out the new store. Also check out photo con is what, two weeks away? It's going to be a great multiday event with classes and presentations and manufactures and and deals. And no matter if you go to Fort O'Connor or the the new Overland Park Store or the other of the seven stores, I get to see that magic word, Moose, and you're going to see some serious change put back in your pocket when you're all done. So Bedford's ICOM, thank you for sponsoring the Moose podcast and all they do for us photographers. Well, before I forget. Someday I'll learn how to read my own handwriting. They've got the Z nine trade up program going on at Bedford's right now. You might want to check that out on the website. Be a great time to step up into my favorite camera body, the old Z niner. He has surgery, so it's bad for Bedford scum. I am back from. My annual week at just the most amazing, magical place that nobody really knows about except for a bunch of scouts. That is Philmont Scout Ranch, just outside of Cimarron, New Mexico. It's literally, literally on the Santa Fe Trail. And this this place is unbelievably just spectacular. And the photographic opportunities. Ah. Just they seem almost endless. And every time we go every year. We have a marvelous time. We come away. Some really great images, new friendships and. The participants come away with a whole lot of new learning and thinking about photography. So I wanted to give you some of the takeaways from the week. Some kind of interesting things that perhaps might just help you move your photography forward. Had a couple of folks come with brand new camera bodies, and that can always be a challenge. You know, we all we all have to deal with that when it's a new body, the the newness and where are buttons were things where they do what settings. It's a challenge.

Well, this one. Very sweet person got a camera body for their birthday was a a present. And I got to tell you, I admired them the entire time because it was new and that wasn't going to stop them. Now, a couple of things that takeaways. One. They just kept shooting. They knew that some things weren't going to work because they didn't understand. For example, they started off and they were shooting JPEGs the very first morning. And they don't even know what a jpeg versus a raw you know they didn't they didn't know that yet. There they were. They've been taking pictures, but they just made the big leap. Didn't ruffle feathers at all. Oh, okay. And they just kept I just loved their attitude because it just kept on going forward. What they decided to do was they were going to take on something kind of new each day, some new feature. And explore it, learn it while they were giddy instruction from me and going in different places. And then they just knocked out of the park. They just they just kept shooting and shooting and they had all these smiles. Whether it was trying to figure out. And they had. And that's kind of the nature of philmont they had these other folks who are if they had the answer, they were more than happy to share it. And for example, when we went to go photograph the wranglers and the horses, they figured out how to on their camera use to get the autofocus they wanted. Another time they needed help and they were challenging themselves with white balance. Asked, You know, where do I find that? Got the answer. I mean, I was that just they did it the whole time with a smile and they got some great shots and it's just like, wow. So that new body blues is not necessarily, you know, you don't have to have it. You might just take their lead and just try and master or I should say master, just explore and learn one new facet of the camera body every time you go out shooting. I that was that was just brilliant. Another the thing that came up. And you got to realize that with me there that when I see things that sometimes I'm going to pick on them because it's just like this. It's like this big red thing being waved at a ball, you know, and going for perfection. Going for perfection and looking at the smallest detail while missing some of the most important details in the process of chasing. What they think is that perfection? First you got to understand that these, from my point of view, that perfection is boring. It is boring. Okay. The world's not perfect. And photographs. Yeah. Perfection. I just don't see how that. How that ties in with memories, because photography is all about capturing memories. Did not these. It was more than one that was really, really focused in on literally and figuratively on perfection. And bless their souls. They stuck to their guns, no matter what ribbing or challenges I might have thrown their way. And you can only imagine the the sometimes the unkindness of my. My job is to make them think. But at the end. And this was impressed me the most is by at the end of those five days, they did start to by no means lower their standards. But they didn't seem to find perfection as worthy as they did the first day. They kind of. Not that they ever used histograms or anything like that, but that's the only kind of parable I can kind of draw against. All sudden, they were kind of like instead of using levels, they were using curves instead of using a jackhammer. They're using very soft brushstrokes. They, they, they. And you could see the gears turning. You could see a little bit of difference behind the camera. And they had smiles the whole time, but at the end, they seemed to be a little more jocular. And I just I just thought that was really cool, that, you know, if you just take a step back a little bit, you might find that perfection. Well. It's not what it's cracked up to be. Now, another thing that came from the week and this is what always really wow, I really sweat this out before before I get there and a little little back story here. So I kind of we got together on Sunday night and I talk for about 90 minutes and I kind of

give some basic goals for us as a group for the week. So we kind of have a direction ahead. And as I've been talking this year, a lot about basics. That was kind of what I was going to go through and what we did go through for the week. And I like to just kind of start off a little bit simple. And then kind of like the terms pile on each day on what we. Try to grab handle of the day before well by day five. That's a lot of new stuff and techniques and software and a lot of thoughts. So the piling on of techniques. That can be a real daunting task. And as I reminded them multiple times and I just want to make sure you understand this, there are times where you will hear something new. But for myself or your reader, you go to a class. And you can go, no way. I don't get it. And I understand it. You know, and you could feel confused or frustrated or sometimes anger, disappointment, all those things as you are. With the very best intentions, trying to learn something new, but it just not clicking. Either you don't get it or you can't see how to apply it. Or those combined or other things. Here's the deal. And this is what I try to, you know, encourage everybody to understand. When you, you know, learning new techniques, you've got to take a deep breath. You've got to realize that today it might not click, maybe not tomorrow, maybe not next week. But I know for a fact at some point you're going to be going down that road. And also in the Belgian go off, you're going to go, oh, that's it. It's important to give yourself that break in that time to understand that, you know, when techniques get piled on, like you say, for example, you just attended the Photoshop world a couple of weeks ago. There's a lot there. There is a lot there. Even with the knowledge and I was talking to one person this past week that that video is going to come out and you can replay it. You've got to remember which class had the technique that you want to go back and replay. So. Just give yourself the time and take the deep breath. It all will come when it's supposed to come. It really will. So just take that deep breath. The other take away from the week that. Well. They might not have seen her, felt it, but they did describe it in words and definitely in their photographs. And that's the challenge of a new location. But here's the deal. All these guys have been to Philmont way more than I have, and they've been with it much more intimately as they they all the different tracks that they can go in the backcountry and in hike. And these guys, they just hike the hike to hike the hike. But the one thing that they've never done and and we go to this one location the first day, the first morning, it's just a spectacular place. And this year it was over the top. I mean, it was just it literally and figuratively took your breath away because you are just a tad over 10,000 feet when you step out of the Suburban. Yeah, we did the walk up there. We drove up to ball the town, but God gorgeous. And I like to get the folks up to well, I got them up early every day. You know, this is a 4:45 a.m. morning this one and get them up there when there is still not a single hint of the sun yet there's just the heavens above you. And typically all these adults are up there with scouts as they are doing their trek. And kids, as we all know, aren't exactly the most stealthy, quiet group. And these guys got out of the vehicle. And they all instantly notice the quiet. And they kind of start reveling in the quiet. They were just in love with the quiet. And even though they had all these past memories of these spots, we went and there's so many gorgeous ones. It was the challenge of the new location, even though these guys have been there for years and years and years and years because this was the first time that they'd been there. On their own. They hadn't got a troop of Boy Scouts and other adults with them. It was just them and their cameras and. The capturing of memories, both past and present. And it was it was I got to tell you, I just I stood and watched these guys many, many times. I don't think they knew I

was watching them as they were exploring things kind of like kids in a candy store they never been to before because what were they are seeing all these new aspects to some place they had been to many times before. And and then they saw that. And you could see that you could see it in their face, the light face with light up. And they us said that they and then the camera would be busy and they would be send the tripod and try and get this shot or laying on the ground to get that shot or bending over to get this shot or oh, my gosh, they these adults turned into kids. They turned into just exactly what they were not missing that loud, you know, youthful excitement. They replaced it with their own. It was really cool. So the moral of the story is, even if you've been to some place 100 times before you go there again with new eyes and it's all brand new. Well, those are just some of the takeaways from five really. Great days with some great people there and film on Scott Branch at the lower end of the Rockies. Wow. Gorgeous place. Gorgeous place. We'll be back again next year. Maybe you can come join us and experience for yourself. The meantime, get out there. Shoot falls on the way out. Colors. Kind of a lot of it's on the ground, not on the trees anymore. But just remember to make every click. Your story.