

Moose Podcast #430

Moose Peterson Howdy. Howdy and welcome to Moos podcast number 430. Look at the bright side. Well, here it is, Monday, December 30th. Another year is in the books. New Year's a couple of days away. Wow. I tell you, this year just absolutely flew by. I want to thank all you folks for making it a very special year here for the Moose podcast. I appreciate all you subscribers, all the all the fan notes, all the support, all the questions and all the stimulation and inspiration that it helps put on this podcast every week. I mean, this is number 430, and so there's a lot of podcasts, and I thank you guys for all of it. It's it amazes me this whole New Year process, because in actuality, it's what? It's just tomorrow. I mean, this next year is the new year. And I have to sit there, remember, now that it's going to be 20, 25 and not 2024. They used to be such a thing back in the days when you wrote checks. I don't do that much anymore. But where I caught myself, you know, writing proposals and stuff and having to put the 25 in, there's a 24 So anyway. It's going to be a great one. I know it. We're going to make it such. I'm still using the Adobe Podcast Beta and I've been waiting, but a couple of weeks ago the podcast was actually recorded just off the microphone off the MacBook Pro. It wasn't in the studio and no one noticed the difference in. The recording. That's the next generation. Air is being used to filter my voice, do all the cleanup work which used to be such a task. I literally remember the first podcast. It was. It was like hand-to-hand combat recording. Cleaning up. Changing the file format. Converting it to MP three. The whole process now. I don't do any of those things. And I'm not sure that not having to push my head beyond the content, but the actual mechanical side, not having to do that good thing. But I do like the ease of it. So Adobe Adobe Podcast Beta I it works. It works really well. Something else that works incredibly well is Bedford's Bedford's Rt.com. You know they are. Hey, I'm a camera addict. I admit it. My name is Moose, and Bedford's is the source for that. That real big need. Another box just arrived today from them. It's. They are. They are the voodoo masters of this photography stuff. They've got all the gear. They got the answers. They got the great pricing. They even had the moose discount. After you check out, you're going to save 5% on that deal. It's it's absolutely. They are the best. So if you haven't checked them out, you deserve to spend the new year at the very least checking them out on the web. They've got all those stores, the new one in Kansas City that you can do in person. They have great people and they're there to help us further our passion in this new year. So make sure you check out Bedford's Bedford sitcom and thank them for sponsoring the Moose podcast. I want to I read books, a lot of books. And I was I was I was behind I only did ten books in 2024, which is I feel like I was slacking. But some of them are, you know, four or 500 pages. So I'm consoling myself that that's why I didn't read as many books as normal. I did read in finish Rick McIntyre's latest book, Thinking Like a Wolf. And I want to recommend to you his it's not a series per say, but thinking like a wolf is the number four. And in this line of books, he's written about his experiences with the wolves in Yellowstone. Now, Rick wasn't just a casual observer. He was there for on the ground day one, working for the Park Service as an interpreter. But biological skills are off the chart. He he brings to light what it is to be a wolf. And in some way de romance advises the hundreds, even in a word, I don't know. I just made up a new word for the new year. Yay! Anyway, the what it is to be a wolf. It is. It is. It is. You know, you have to read the books. Dollar is to it. But it's it's they're not a they are not a murdering machine. They are of fine tune. Part of their their web.

But their society. Their social makeup is absolutely. Unbelievable. And the lack of knowledge that we have of wolves, even at this point, is absolutely amazing. And the total lack when they reintroduced from Yellowstone, it will stagger imagination. Now, in these books, I guarantee you need to have a box of Kleenex with you. There are times where you will absolutely just be in tears and there are other times will you be off your couch cheering? There will be times where your future is going to hit the ground and you're going to say. How do they do that? These are incredible animals that that wow. You just if you understand a little bit of our wild heritage, the part you should understand is is is wolves. They are they are just a fascinating, amazing machine of. Just amazing. Now. I would recommend that if you've not read any of the books that you start with. What is the third book in the line? The Redemption of All 302 and then start one two and go to four. Why do I recommend that? There is there is some things that you need to understand, I think, before you delve into the actual original introduction. And part of that is understanding why this is an important piece of the puzzle of our world heritage. And the redemption of all 302 boys is a great book. It's a great read. So that's Rick McIntyre. And check out the redemption of all 302. It's a marvelous, marvelous set of reads. Look at the bright side. However, a number of folks in the last couple of weeks are kind of I don't want to say dreading, but they weren't really they weren't optimistically looking forward to the new year or next week, as I think about it, because they were looking at what they they felt they did accomplish in 2024 for their photography. And I can understand that all too well. There's there are a number of of. Yeah. At least projects, if not actual images that I was really hoping to obtain and do myself enjoying the 24. That didn't happen, but I can't remember a year behind the camera work that did. That feeling didn't have happened to creep into my head. Even though I know it's just next week and it was just last week, that stuff still creeps into our heads. So rather than looking at the the. Sadness or the regret or the shame or, you know, the confliction of of what was not. I would encourage you to look at the bright side, which is something that I tend to do a lot, because there's already enough negatives that piling on myself, some more of my own doing doesn't really, you know, keep the ball turning. So one of these people, you know, kind of put my foot to the grill and said, well, how do you do it? And this is what I do. And it's it's it's you got to think of it strictly that way. And I go and look at my five favorite images. Not the best. And right right off the bat, there's the biggest challenge. Right, is to look at your five favorites. Photographers love to look at images and they they they kid out the magnifying glass and they get out their histograms and all these things that are really just Not meaningful when it comes to looking at images that you want to say are your favorites. For myself, my favorites are almost always treasured memories. One of them is of Sharon and myself from this last year. Another is of a great gray owl, a bird that it's it's a long, long story of the first one I saw and in Yellowstone back in the early nineties and then trying to to see and photograph them in Yosemite and then going up into Oregon. And, you know, I call it a gray goes for for a really good reason. They don't they do live in my backyard now, and I haven't had any luck finding them here either in Montana, even though I know they're nesting, I'm looking in the direction. I know there's there's a nest 13 miles away, but I haven't they'll get to that spot. So my one of my favorite images from this year is a shot from of Minnesota of a great, great owl. That not a great shot. I've seen a hell of a lot better from folks like you, but it's it's it's it's the the memory of the pursuit and the joy of seeing them in the viewfinder and going click. So favorite images. Favorite images. Why would my finding

five images help me with? Moving forward from one year to the next. How could it help you? Well, just just as I was now trying to recall to you, just the all the pretenses behind that one photograph, those kind of things come back in your memory. Favorite photographs can be a spontaneous spontaneity kind of moment. You go click and that is really valid and very important. It could also be like the great gray, some long challenge that you have put yourself, you know, at task to go and take and perhaps not exactly accomplished, but you've you've made progress. And in this creative world of photography progress. I'm boy it doesn't get its due. It is. You know, progress is such an important part of the photographic equation. Yeah, there's the creative part, right. Which is, you know, inside we nurture it. We we we sometimes curse it. We definitely chase it. Then there's the technical side. If speeds of stop, shutter speeds, lenses, bodies, you know, but then there's also getting out and combining those two when you're out shooting or indoors, if you do macro or, you know, portrait arrows, other things, you don't have to be outside to do photography, right? All of those things. You know the story better than anybody else to do all that. What, into that photograph? Right. I mean, we look at photographs as the outside and boy, too often you go look at the highlights or look at the noise. Oh, man, that stuff's irrelevant. Your five favorite images. Have no technical strings attached. They should just be passionate romantic strings, ones that you can say to yourself, I overcome this, that or the other, no matter how trivial it might be. You did overcome those little things. And you have this photograph. In your files on your wall there represents that triumph. The triumph doesn't have to be monumental. The smallest little triumph is a triumph. And if you find your five images and that will probably take you a little time to narrow down to five. And that's a good thing, right? That's a really good thing. That process will, I guarantee you, give you enough? To move forward to tomorrow, next year and keep that ball going. Do I have any New Year's resolutions? I had a couple for 2024 felt. I did pretty well. I did a few more YouTubes and I have a couple in me that I got to get done. Hopefully one more before the new year will get posted. And yes, I spent a little more time sharing other people's work on social media, so I did pretty well there. I was good with that. Did I? Photographically, I did not get out and do two things here in my own Bitterroot Valley that I wanted to do. So I'm hopefully in 2025 going to get out there and get more work done with the moose and the great grays that are here. Definitely. But do I have any really monumental. New Year's resolutions. Actually, I haven't put much thought into it. The one thing I did think of was that all that time I spent on social looking at other people's work that I could, you know, enjoy and promote. I don't know if that was beneficial to me because I don't know about you, but social stuff, man. There isn't any. It's hard to find threads or or conversations that are really inspirational. They're more on the other side. So I have to look at that a lot more. And maybe that's probably going to be my New Year's resolution, is how? I could be more social without being on social. I think that's I think that. I just think I just talked myself into a New Year's resolution, maybe doing some. Yeah, I think that's going to add to it. How can I be more social about being on social? I like that. So there you go. Look at the bright side. You folks have a marvelous week, a marvelous new year. I look forward to seeing you next year. And remember whatever you do. Make every click. Your story.