

Moose Podcast #495

Moose Peterson Howdy folks, and welcome the Moose Podcast four hundred and ninety five. The scientific method take two. Yeah, I was, uh, halfway through or more and realized, uh, for some reason it, uh, wasn't recording. Well, as I was told, it's always better the second time. Howdy, folks. How are you all doing? So before I get much further, uh, my apologies in advance if, uh, I pause, make funny noises, um, maybe even slur a bit more than normal. During this podcast, I had a I have a crown that went sideways and eleven o'clock this morning, it's going to be dealt with. But in the meantime, uh, there are certain moments when, um, let's just say it doesn't feel real comfortable to be speaking. So my apologies in advance. At the same time, I'm anxiously watching for the delivery man to come up the road because my seven thousand two hundred f two point. Version two is out for delivery and can't wait. I'm worse than a kid, you know, at Christmas morning. So I'm going to have slurry problems and I'm distracted. So apologise in advance. Spring has sprung here in Montana. We've got leaves popping out. We've got birds nests. Well, they're they're working on nesting sea robins, taking sticks places and chasing the males around each other. And meadowlarks are singing. The pygmy nuthatches are drilling, the flickers are doing their thing. It's, um, it's spring because. Hey, what is it? Uh, couple days. It's April first. Wow. Hey, this episode of the Moose podcast is being recorded again through Adobe podcast and I'm checking and yes, I see it's recording. I never had that happen to me before. Anyway, it does a great job of making it simple for me to record my voice. And of course, they create the transcript and you can find all that on your favorite spots like Spotify, Amazon, YouTube, iTunes, and of course, the blog post on the podcast, which has the, the podcast, the tranp, the transcript links to anything I talk about, like my book recommendations or from the doodad list and all other things. So it's out there however you want to. I appreciate you folks helping spread the word on the podcast, be it verbally or written. It's I, we keep just ticking up and it's just steady. It's not, and I don't need to be. I don't care about being number one. I just want to help you move your photography forward. And I appreciate you. Help me spread the word. Speaking of the doodad list, it's. You can find it on the landing page of the website. Bottom right corner and the doodad list for those who aren't familiar with it is. It's just that it's doodads. It's, um, it could be water bottles or spikes for your shoes or muffs for your hand or gloves, all sorts of different odds and ends that as photographers, we need. But how do you, you know, you can't list everything. So I created that doodad list and it has links takes you to Amazon, which is kind of worldwide. So it's, it's, I figured that'd be the best way to, for people to buy things that they see that they need. And it's just there. So enjoy it. The other interesting thing is, I believe it was on Petapixel. Um, this past week, they had a really interesting interview with one of the lead optical engineers at Nikon Japan. And the topic was simplistic is that, you know, they came out with the Z twenty four to seventy two eight and the Z seven thousand two hundred and eight great lenses. Then within a couple of years, they came out with version two that are definitely sharper, smaller, lighter, faster focusing. And the question is, how'd you do it? Because the lens is really, really already remarkable. How'd you make it more remarkable? Um, it's a great interview. And to summarize it very quickly, and this is not AI, it's smooth summarizing. They managed to figure out how to put less glass in lenses, uh, through optical science and some really smart trees. And so with that less glass, they can make them physically smaller and they're lighter. And believe it or not,

they're sharper, which really kind of contradicts lens design. So if you haven't checked it out, you might, um. Come on UPS get that seven thousand two hundred two here. I can't wait to see it for myself. Pacific Payback. This is a book that, uh, I started it on Wednesday and I finished it yesterday. Sunday is four hundred and thirty six page book. To say it's a page burner is an understatement. Now Pacific Payback I haven't used bookstores, I. And in this particular case, it's at a convention in Montana. Antique Aircraft Association had one of the members book collections. You know, take a book for a buck or take five, take five for four bucks anyway. So I picked up Pacific Payback and, uh, for a buck at that. And what a book. Now, I've read a number of books on the Battle of Midway, so I wasn't really interested in another book on the Battle of Midway. And if you look at, you know, the subtitle is The Carrier Aviators who avenge Pearl Harbor at the Battle of Midway. Uh, it's even got other things on the cover. It talks about the Battle of Midway. It's not the last sixty pages of this book. Do they talk about the Battle of Midway? Um, everything else leads up to the Battle of Midway. And I learned so much that, uh, I really didn't know. Now, Pacific Payback, you could really say is about the big E, you know, the carrier enterprise and the dauntless pilots that were aborted. I mean, just some of the trivia. It's not trivia. Some of the important facts I learned was that on December seventh, when the Japanese were attacking Pearl Harbor, hoping to find our carriers and destroy them, the big E was just offshore and they were doing basic training. They were just one direction from which the Japanese came, so they never saw him. But they were so close that they launched their aircraft in defense of Pearl Harbor, and they lost a bunch of their planes, Both the Enemy and Friendly Fire at Pearl Harbor on December seventh. Um, and the book is full of all this kind of information. It talks about, I mean, Dick Best, who's just a legend in McCloskey and Thach, you know, from Thach Weave with Wildcats. Uh, it's just an amazing book. So Pacific Payback by Steven Elmore. You can find the link there on the blog post for the podcast or also my due date list. Well, I'm not alone. Uh, waiting for the delivery from Bedfords today of the new seven thousand two hundred twenty eight Mark two. Yeah. Bedford's Bedford's dot com. Um, they, they, they couldn't get the lens to me any faster. Even if they had a Star Trek, uh, transporter, they got it to me as soon as Nikon got to them. And I'm grateful. That's the way Bedford's works. They have an amazing service. Great knowledgeable people, killer prices. So whether you go to the store, they have seven. Go to the website, give them a call. They will. They will steer you right. And if it's not what you need, they'll tell you and they'll save you money. And if you give them the old moose somewhere in the conversation, you'll see extra savings after you check out. So check out my friends at Bedford, Bedfordshire dot com. It's, uh, it's where I get my gear and I can't recommend them enough to you. The scientific method. There's a commercial running on TV from Lilly, the drug manufacturer. And the first couple times, you know, I went, I listened to it and I said, wow, why does that sound so familiar? It wasn't till later that I realized that my two mentors, um, one in biology, one in aviation, both not only operated with the scientific method, but worked hard to instill it in my methodology as a photographer. And I was just. Absolutely. Um, I was blown away by that realization after all these decades. Now, the scientific method, it's a it's a structured, interactive process for exploring and answering questions about our natural world. Now, that natural world could be everything from fixing the my crown to, uh, dealing with, uh, uh, splitting atoms to, uh, anything you want to think about. It's, it's a process that is in many ways structured to answer the many unstructured questions that we have about life now. It's got, you know, there's, there's a number of, uh.

Levels or lists or way of accomplishing this. The most common is you start off with observation. Then you question research, hypothesis, testing, conclusion and communication. And these steps lead you through finding what could be either the best answer for you or for the problem. And that's kind of the it all in a nutshell. Now, how does this help your photography? Well, God, in these ways, when you think about it and it can give you direction that. Otherwise you might not have in dealing with whatever you are in photography. Now, observation, I've talked about this a lot. Uh, the classic example I use is the fly fisherman who goes to the edge of the creek or river, doesn't even cast a shadow on the water and just stands and looks, watches away. The water is flowing. The eddies where the fish are pulling, the flies, they are. You know, hopefully consuming. So when you make your first presentation, you catch that big guy. That's the most clear example I can of observation. But observation, you know, when you see things, you watch things, you learn things. It just it naturally starts the process because then comes the next step. You question. Question is can be as simple as how do I photograph it? Or as complicated as how do I tell its story? Because once you start asking that question, you go to the next one, which is researching. You start questioning your research, well, do I need this lens? Do I need this, uh, location? Do I need this accessory? What? You know, you start thinking about the observation you made, the question you had, and you start doing research to help answering the questions because then you come up with the hypothesis, the hypothesis. And believe it or not, the hypothesis. The first time you come up with it, it could be wrong. That's why failure is so important and we learn from it. But the hypothesis might, you know, say, I need to be at this particular spot on the Florida coast at this particular date with this camera and lens to get this photograph I want. And you might do all those things and find out, wow, I was really off. It could be the wrong lens or wrong wrong location, the wrong date. That's part of it. And that leads you to the next part, which is testing all the things you have observed, questioned, researched the hypothesis you come up with. You then test that and that testing, that testing is where failure happens. And that's okay. And, and, uh, the commercial, um, the one thing I like about it, which is, you know, making their point more than the scientific method, but they say test, test, test over and over again. They say test and test. And sometimes that is part of the process because then with that comes the conclusion of the observation. Your question, research hypothesis and your testing, you come up with a conclusion. In other words, you find the success, whether it's limited or it's on a grand scale, you find the success that concludes all that parts of it. And here's the part that really, um, I think was driven home by my mentors big time. And, um, that, um, until I actually thought about this podcast in that commercial, did I actually figure out where it was instilled in me and that communication, that communication is sharing the knowledge you gained in this process. To repeat, the last part of the scientific method is communication, sharing the knowledge you gained and this can be in every form you can think of and some that I bet are still to be invented. It is an important part of the process sharing and that sharing, uh, doesn't have a dollar tag, uh, connected to it in that sharing. You could be making lots of money or making no money or donating. It could be any one of those things. And as a photographer, understand that making money, that's part of the process sharing because you believe in a cause, that's part of the process. Now give me a photograph, a way to somebody because it says it's going to give you exposure, yet never bite on that one. That's that's bogus. But if you believe in a cause and the cause could be anything from the organization is reaching out to you to

something you think is worthy. Well, then that sharing, even if it's for free, is priceless. Never forget that. So it's, it's, it's something I invite you to look into. Think about it. Actually make a list. The scientific method. But you could call it the photographic method because it's what it's, it's it's all about observation, question, research, hypothesis, test, conclusion and communication. You might just find you will improve your photography, taking that scientific method and making it your photographic method. You folks have a absolutely marvelous week. Look forward to talking with you again next week. In the meantime, remember to make every click your story.