

Moose Podcast #517

Moose Peterson Howdy, folks, and welcome to Moose podcast number five hundred and seventeen. Peace of mind. How you folks doing? Now, I've talked to a number of folks across the country, and it seems like here in the Bitterroot, we're a little bit of an anomaly right now because it's definitely got the hints of fall here. I mean, it was forty degrees this morning and we had a couple days ago, the first big waves of migrant birds coming in. We had a big flock, uh, compared to the last twelve months of evening grosbeaks, for example, sandhill cranes been flying overhead. Uh, the seed feeders are being vacuum cleaned. The bucks are doing what bucks do in the fall with the dose, you know what I mean? You know, so, uh, and we actually see our first little bit of a couple leaves turning to fall color. Yeah. Nip is in the air here and kind of enjoy it after the heat, so I hope the cool finds you shortly, and that you can take advantage of all the splendor that fall brings. I don't know if you noticed they put out this last week the fall foliage predictor map doohickey thing. And, uh, us and the Rockies are not supposed to have much of a fall color compared to like the northeast supposed to have a good one. And so was a lot of the northwest parts of Washington, Oregon. Make your plans. Check the map. Time to go out and enjoy Mother Nature. By the way, I had a look at my notes, had a person thank me for putting up the doodad list on the website. You can find it at the very bottom right corner. Um. Anyway, he said he'd been looking for some things, and then he thought he'd go check. And behold, there was my recommendation for a very esoteric little thing. So hey, it's there. I've kind of spent the money, done the testing, and you can check it out right there on Moose's doodad list. This episode of The Moose podcast is being recorded with Adobe Podcast Beta still only in Chrome. When it comes to the actual studio part that I use for recording, I'm after all these years, you'd think we'd move out of beta, but. So it means I have to record it using Chrome, which is not my default browser. But no matter, it does a great job recording the voice and creating the PDF transcript that you'll find there on the blog post for the podcast, as well as your favorite spots. iTunes, Amazon, YouTube, Spotify and YouTube. And Spotify does have the ability to leave comments. Have a conversation. But, um, you guys have been a little bit quiet of late. I understand why in the summer school, kids, all that kind of stuff. But you got questions. AM I going to be assistance? I'm here to help any way I can in my limited, limited capacity of my knowledge bank. So thanks for dropping by and listening. Got some stuff coming up here. We've got, um, what is just three weeks away? Two weeks away, two weeks away. Now, uh, Mike's focus point photo and video expo in Denver. I'll be there speaking, talking, doing a photo walk and hopefully getting to see and meeting and talking to some of you folks. I really love to see you come by And then Photoshop World will be, uh, in about a month now. And I have a couple classes there as well. Now the classes keep in mind there's, there's simply sharing with you what I have learned, uh, and continue to learn as I'm out with my camera. It is a continual learning process. So hey, come on by. And if you got a question again, I'm there to help any way I can to help move your photography forward. So thanks so much. Also want to thank my good friends at Bedford Bedfords dot com. I was on the website just before recording, checking out. They got two used bodies that, uh, I'm sitting here pondering about getting, uh, they've got such great deals on their used gear. Uh, and I'm not going to say what they are because by the time you hear this in a few hours, uh, I might not have pushed the button yet. And I don't want you to beat me to it. Yeah, I'm kind of competitive

in that way, but man, they've got such great inventory and prices. New and used and hey, photo con. Um, OKC, Oklahoma City is coming up, um, the twenty ninth, thirty first to October. They even have besides everything else, they've got a hot rod car show going in conjunction with it. How cool is that? What a photo opportunity. I mean you can go in. You could probably I don't know this for a fact, but probably if you saw Lindsay you went to to try out, I bet you talked to him. You could, you know, leave your credit card and driver's license and take that lens and go out and shoot some cars and, and do right then field test to see if that's the right lens and or body for you. That's what this photo con does. You'll see all sorts of manufacture people. You see my good friends from Benro, Nikon, all those folks. There it is. Um, it is just an inkling of what Bedfords does for the photographic community. And remember, they're going to have show specials and then you check out and you say Moose's name, you're going to see extra after you check out and pay the bill. So Bedfords give them a call, go to their website, go to one of their seven stores, just go and have fun and nothing else. Thank you, Bedford for sponsoring Moose Podcast. A couple of you reached out this past week and had seen my, um, tweet. Yeah, I'm still a fashion don't do the X stuff about Samsung and, uh, one of their SSD drives. I have eight terabyte SSD and reached out and asked me what was happening because the drive crapped out. And I've had a couple of of their drives now crapped out. SSDs. They just don't seem to want to travel. What I do is I have them in little housings and I take them with me on the road. So I have my library of finished images. So when I'm on the road and a client reaches out, which often happens, I can instantly provide them service and deliver them the images. But in this case, um, this is kind of like the last straw with them. You know, I've gone around and around and, uh, um, I just can't it's driving, it's driving me nuts because in so many ways for me to function as a photographer, I've got to have peace of mind. That peace of mind, you know, I've, I've probably talked about it in aspects before, like when I want to and when I need to, for example, uh, come up with the body of an article or flush out the outline my mind of a presentation like I'm going to be making at, uh, Focus Point Expo here or Photoshop World. I find that when my mind is clear and I have that peace of mind, I function better. And that's especially when I'm at the camera. And some things, uh, as my good friend Chris would say, uh, come hard as you, we mature in life and realizing that, uh, peace of mind is probably why I have this such an air of confidence when I'm out shooting. It's because some questions which are really just like valid, critical, uh, urgent questions, simple things like lens to select or where to stand. Any other those elements of the photographic creating process. If you don't have peace of mind, which in itself lends to a confidence. Then the photographic making process finishing process sharing process is nerve wracking. And that nerve wracking. It shows up. I think you know what I'm talking about. I know it shows up in my work because when that confidence is there, then all of a sudden, as far as I'm concerned, the camera's not working the way I want it to, or the software is not working the way. And that's the reason why, you know, the photograph isn't working the way I want when actually it's it all comes back to me, the photographer who's driving this train and it doesn't have that confidence, that peace of mind, that all the pieces are falling in place as they should. Now, one thing that I started doing long ago, which I never really associated. Why I started doing it is I, I stopped telling myself, I have to shoot, gotta shoot, gotta shoot. So when I go to a location, for example, recently I was at Monument Valley and there's, there's, there's, there's very few places on this planet as inspirational and as photogenic as Monument Valley. Yet when I'm there, there are times where

just simply being there, standing there with a camera in my hand, but not to my eye, and just for lack of better terms, soaking it up. That peace of mind kind of rushes over me. And then all of a sudden, photographs where maybe ten, twenty years ago, I would be putting so much pressure to make this, that click this, that click this, that click, which later on I would go. Why did I take this picture? Now I don't take those photographs. Now I just take it in and kind of like let that good vibe pile up. I bank all those good vibes. So then when all of a sudden, not just being there in the peace of mind is satisfying enough, but all of a sudden it's like, okay, put the camera to my eye. Oh, and that peace of mind rushes through that glass and comes to that, that EVF that. It's a simple, easy click. I'm not wondering what F-stop or filter exposure comp. None of that stuff comes in. It's just it just flows. It's just like, oh, this is obvious. I need to do this. I need to do that. Don't do this, don't do that. Stand here, bend over and go click. It's amazing how that peace of mind that that calm comes all the way through. One of the, one of the things that I noticed right at the start when I started feeling that, but I never really never just dawned on me what it was. The image started becoming sharper and I was like, okay, it's still the same me. It's still the same camera gear. Why? And I think you could associate it all with, if you're firing a long gun and you're shooting at one hundred to five hundred yards, the calm that has to come over you as you slowly pull to the point where the fire, the shot actually surprises you. That calm is transmitted through the camera when you're not killing. At least every time you get that shot, God, God, when you just roll your finger and go, are that come. It's that peace of mind. And I thought of this this week and I'm like, okay, so Moose, you've made this revelation for yourself. How can you help others get to that same place? And that's where I think I kind of, I, I found a few speed bumps and potholes and detours because we all kind of come to that peace of mind in our own way, yet we're all afflicted by everything that leads up to needing that peace of mind. One thing I thought about that might help with that peace of mind is something that we do a lot here at the ranch, and that's literally just park our butt in a chair with a beverage and and just watch life unfold as the critters go by. And the camera is there in case. But I find that beginning very selective when you're in that kind of transcendental kind of state. It's got so many other muscle memories that you kind of start practicing it. You'd be surprised how it starts to just unfold a bit on its own rather than constantly picking up shooting, picking up, shooting. Wait till on that perfect perch with that perfect background, with the perfect light. So then when you make the shot, you have the peace of mind knowing that when you made the shot, it was the best possible at that moment, which is what we're all striving for, right? That that best possible click. So then we can shoot for the subject, finish for the light, and then share it. And when you you have that process and that peace of mind, it makes sharing it so much simpler. And I think when you have that peace of mind, when you go through your morning shoot or your day shoot or your trip shoot, finding those gems that which really summate everything that you experience and felt so much simpler is that that peace of mind. And I got the darndest feeling that getting to that point is for all of us, kind of a long road. It could be a challenge like anything, because I think being human causes a whole lot of those potholes and speed bumps. But if you I think if you have that, that knowledge that out there, Maybe within your grasp, maybe just beyond your grasps, the possibility of finding that that peace of mind in the confidence that brings that your photography will without anything else elevate. Because if one thing you should have learned from all of these podcasts, because it's coming on its eleventh year, is that I firmly believe that the best way to improve your

photography comes with within you and not the camera bag. So when you understand that, I think you're going to gain that peace of mind. You folks have a marvelous week. I look forward to hearing from you. More importantly, I look forward to seeing those things you share in all the ways we can share, knowing that you're making every click your story.