

## Press Release

**Sacramento, CA:** Appel Gallery is proud to announce a premier showing of Sacramento photographer Lewis Kemper's work, "In our Backyard – Images of Effie Yeaw Nature Center." The show will run during the month of August at the Appel Gallery 931 T Street, Sacramento, California. There will be an opening reception at the gallery on the Second Saturday, August 12, 2006 from 5-9 PM.

The Effie Yeaw Nature Center at a small nature preserve in Sacramento County. The preserve is only 79 acres but it sits along the American River and is part of the American River Parkway, which stretches 23 miles along the river. According to the Sacramento Parks Department over 5 million visitors enjoy the parkway a year. The preserve is an award-winning environmental and cultural education center. Thousands of school children visit the center every year. Yet many Sacramento area residents are not familiar with the Center.

While the terrain is not exceptional, the Center offers a unique beauty. Kemper has traveled from the arctic to the tropics and finds his images taken at the Center to be some of his favorite. Kemper hopes to use the images taken there to increase the awareness of the center and to make sure it continues to receive its county and state funding for operations. Every budget year there are threats to close the center. Fortunately this has not happened yet and he hopes with increased awareness it never will.

The exhibition will feature approximately 25 images, mostly in the 16 x 20 size for exhibit, along with a multimedia slide show that will be continuously running, on Kemper's Canon digital projector, showing hundreds of my images taken over the past two years.

The gallery and Kemper are each donating 10% of the proceeds to ARNHA the American River Natural History Association that provides support for the Nature Center.

Lewis Kemper has been photographing the natural beauty of North America, and its parklands for over 27 years. During his extensive travels, he has been to 47 states from Alaska to Florida. His work has been exhibited and published in magazines, books, and calendars worldwide.

Before moving west, he received a BA in Fine Art Photography from the George Washington University in 1976. The grandeur of the west beckoned and Lewis moved to Yosemite National Park, where he lived for 11 years. From 1978 until 1980, he worked at The Ansel Adams Gallery. Working at the gallery gave him the opportunity to meet, observe and learn from some of the greatest photographers of our time. "The experience of working at The Ansel Adams Gallery was very influential in my development as a photographer", he states.

Kemper photographs in color using Canon 1Ds and 1Ds Mark2 cameras 35mm and 4 x 5 cameras. He is also working with digital imaging on his Apple computer to create new work. Lewis Kemper has his work represented by Tony Stone Images, Stock Imagery, DRK Photo, Animals Unlimited and Superstock. His work has been sold for editorial and commercial uses in over 16 different countries ranging from national ads to book covers. He is the author of *The Yosemite Photographer's Handbook*, and *The Yellowstone Photographer's Handbook*. And the photographer for, *Ancient Ancestors of the Southwest*, published by Graphic Arts Center Publishing. He has recently been selected to Canon's Explorers of Light program featuring 60 of the country's most influential photographers.

Lewis' photographs are in many private collections as well as in the permanent collection of the Baltimore Museum of Art and Kaiser Permanente. His work has been shown nationally in galleries and museums. Some of these include: The Cornell Museum, The Frederick S. Wight Gallery, The Baltimore Museum of Art, The Princeton Gallery of Fine Art, The Popular Photography Gallery, The Ansel Adams Gallery, Photographer's Gallery and the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

He prints his own archival pigment giclees using the finest materials available.

Currently Lewis is a contributing editor to *Outdoor Photographer* and *PC Photo*, where his column *Outside/Inside* appears.

The Appel Gallery also features work from Kemper's outstanding nature photography work accrued during a quarter of a century of travels.

Appel Gallery is Sacramento's only commercial fine art photography gallery. The gallery represents over sixty artists, covering traditional black and white methods to cutting-edge experimental techniques.

The opening night reception will be on Second Saturday, August 12, 2006, from 5-9 PM. The Exhibition will run thru Thursday, August 31, 2006. Regular Gallery Hours/Days: Thursdays thru Sundays from 1:00 to 6:00 PM. Other Days and Times by Appointment. Location: 931 T Street; Sacramento, CA 95814. Telephone: 916-442-6014. Web page: <http://www.appelgallery.com>.