

# HEARD

## Nature Photographers

[www.heardnaturephotographers.com](http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com)



Volume 32, Issue No. 03

March, 2016

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Spring is almost here! Bushes and trees are budding and some birds are already nesting. Our neighbors Ron and Debbie have a Screech Owl nesting in their box! Chandra and I have a Mourning Dove nesting in our front tree. The Great Horned Owls have been hooting at night. I also discovered a hibernating toad and snake while clearing out some Pampas Grass this morning. What wildlife have you discovered in your yard or neighborhood?

Reminder – please submit your digital images for the annual Heard Nature Photo Contest by March 20! Images can be recent or old. Proceeds benefit the Heard Nature Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary. Check-out the revised categories via the link on our web site: [HeardNaturePhotographers.com](http://HeardNaturePhotographers.com). Contact our hard-working Contest Coordinator Jackie Ranney ([jackieranney@aol.com](mailto:jackieranney@aol.com)) if you have any questions!

Thanks to Larry Petterborg for producing our fantastic club newsletter each month, for being our representative at Gulf States, for keeping our club active in the image competitions and for being our March presenter! We have a fine officer team and club. I sure appreciate all that you do! If it has been a while since you last attended a club meeting – come check us out!

Jim Ross, President.



# HEARD NATURE PHOTO CONTEST NOTICE

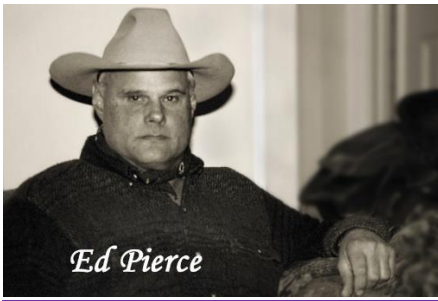
**LESS THAN THREE WEEKS LEFT TO SUBMIT DIGITAL IMAGES FOR THE 38<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HEARD NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST.**

Submissions are being accepted until March 20, 2016 at [www.heardnaturephotographers.com/contest](http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com/contest)  
(Please see last two pages of this newsletter for details)

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Below are the MARCH refreshment volunteers:

- Anita Oakley
- John Yates
- Tom Cheek
- Jackie Ranney
- Steve Jordan



Please sign up at the next meeting to bring snacks to a future meeting or just give Ed Pierce some money. Thanks to all that contribute to making our meetings more enjoyable!

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**“JUST ONE PHOTO” - March**

"Splash of Color"

March's subject is Splash of Color. Send me ONE photo that you have taken during the month of March that represents your interpretation of the subject. I need the photo emailed to me by midnight of March 31st. You can put your name or initials on the photos if you'd like. This is not a contest to be judged, just an opportunity to show off your talent. Make sure you send your photo in a .jpg format. Email to: [t.stone3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:t.stone3@sbcglobal.net)

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## Field Trip Report

By: R. E. (Ron) Marabito

On Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016 a group of 13 members met at 9:00 am at the Heard to capture images of the beautiful and demure Trout Lilies that grow on the forest floor of the Heard Sanctuary. The weather began overcast, which is great for flower photography, but it soon turned sunny. The flowers needed the sun to open nicely.

This year we found that the abundance of flowers were at the bottom of the hill along the Hoot Owl Trail. I showed the group my milk jug diffuser used for capturing the Lilies. Several in the group captured images using the jug. Rob Hull, our resident Pro Photographer, used a typical white diffuser for most of his images and Brian Clark used a macro flash. Lots of great images were captured and the slideshow being created by Lee Hatfield will prove it.

At 11:15 am we headed back up to the museum. 11 of the members went to the Great Outdoors for lunch. It was a great time and a few new members got to know some of the older members. Everyone had a great day and headed their respective ways by 1:00 pm. If you couldn't join us on Saturday, you can still have a chance for about the next 2 weeks.



## FUTURE FIELD TRIPS

### **March 26 - April 2, 2016, High Island, Bolivar Peninsular, and Texas Upper Gulf Coast**

Houston Audubon has several sanctuaries at High Island including the Boy Scout Woods Sanctuary and Nature Preserve, Smith Oaks and The Rookery. Houston Audubon offers birding walks and even seating for birders near the rookery. Day passes are \$7 per person or the \$25 patch provides unlimited access to all Audubon High Island sanctuaries for a year. The Upper Texas Coast is on the flyway for birds migrating to and from Mexico, Central and South America. Anahuac NWR is also in this area and we will plan to check it out, too.

I have marked off a week for this birding trip but you can come for all or part of this time. For lodging there are houses to rent along the coast, one motel at High Island, more hotels inland at Winnie. Sign-up sheets will be available at the November meeting, but if you want to go, please book your lodging as soon as possible and let me know.

Links to birding on High Island and some local history: <http://www.birdinghighisland.com/about.htm>  
<http://www.houstonaudubon.org/default.aspx/MenuItemID/373/MenuGroup/High+Island.htm>

**April 16, 2016 White Rock Lake, Dallas** - Photography of local birds (maybe owls) wildflowers and wildlife, early morning. (see <https://www.flickr.com/photos/lpetterborg/collections/72157650494898047/>)

**May 7, 2016 Dallas Arboretum** - Spring blooms and water features, 9 a.m. to noon

**June 18, 2016 Hagerman NWR Butterfly Garden and Haller's Haven or Harris Creek Walk** - 7:30 a.m. to 11:00

**July 16 2016 TBD**

**August 6, 2016 Tabletop Workshop at the Heard SRC**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**September 10, 2016 Heard Sanctuary Trail Walk**, butterflies and birds, this is our meeting day and we can enter the sanctuary at 7:30 a.m.

**October 25-30, 2016 Ozarks Fall Foliage**, landscapes and wildlife in Arkansas

**November 19, 2016 John Bunker Sands Wetlands**, wildlife and birds

**December 2016** No Field Trip

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## GSCCC NEWS

Gulf States CCC has a new web site, <http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/>, check it out. While you are at it, please look at the description of speakers and activities to be available at the 2016 GSCCC Convention to be hosted by the Beaumont Camera Club (<http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/convention-1/>). Make plans now to attend. The 2016 convention will be held at the MCM Elegant Hotel in Beaumont, TX. The dates are May 5-7, 2016. <https://www.facebook.com/gsgccc2016/>

As a member club in the Gulf States Camera Club Council (GSCCC), we may submit a total of 4 images from 4 different members to each Projected Nature contest. The contests are held every May, July, September, November, and February. I maintain a collection of images to pick from for use in future competitions. If you would like to participate, please send me copies of your best nature photos (see guidelines <http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/new-page-1/>). Files should be resized to no more than 1024 (wide) x 768 (high) and the file name should include the title of the image and the name of the maker. Please do not put your name or copyright on the image itself. Attach files to an email and send to [Lpetterborg@gmail.com](mailto:Lpetterborg@gmail.com).

The results of the February GSCCC Projected Nature competitions are in and the HNPC scored a total of 45 points, good enough for a tie for third place. There were 15 clubs entered in the contest. Congratulations to Lee Hatfield for earning First Honorable Mention with "Sandhill Cranes".

Female Black-chinned Hummingbird by Larry Petterborg. 10 pts.



Nothing but Blue Skys by Mike Sweatt. 12 pts.

Dragonfly on Lily by Mary Binford. 10 pts.



Sandhill Cranes by Lee Hatfield. 13 pts and 1<sup>st</sup> Honorable Mention.



## NORTH TEXAS NATURE NOTES

In this space, I plan to highlight things for North Texas nature photographers to see and do. Please feel free to send me items of interest to share with the club. Thanks.

1. Michael Frye is one of the best writers on landscape photography working today, <http://www.michaelfrye.com/landscape-photography-blog/2016/02/08/telling-visual-story/>
2. Check out these winning images, I particularly like the one from White Sands, NM. <http://www.dpreview.com/news/6696631757/wonder-of-nature-eight-winning-photos-from-the-9th-international-garden-photographer-of-the-year>
3. Interested in bird photography? Check out FeatherFest in Galveston, <http://galvestonfeatherfest.com/>
4. Want to know what's going on in North Texas? Check out this web site; <http://www.northtexasactivelife.com>
5. From Ron Marabito: *Converting Images to Black & White*; I will be doing about a 45 min. presentation for the "Complete Photographers" on Tuesday evening, March 8, 7:00 pm at the Plano Farmstead Museum located on 15<sup>th</sup> street and one block east of Custer in Plano. The group meets in an old farm house on the south side of the property. Meeting attendance is \$5.00. Anyone is welcome. I will present (3) easy and quick methods to make the conversion in Photoshop. And I will do a 4<sup>th</sup> method using NIK Silver Efex . Pro Silver Efex Pro is considered the best converter by a majority of Pros.
6. Alison Shaw workshop at Sun to Moon Gallery May 19-21. COMPLETE WORKSHOP DETAILS are available online at: [www.suntomoon.com/pages/AlisonShaw\\_workshop\\_2016.html](http://www.suntomoon.com/pages/AlisonShaw_workshop_2016.html). There is also a short promotional video for the workshop: <https://youtu.be/htqP7cTHrpM>.
7. 2016 PSA ANNUAL CONFERENCE; September 10-17 in San Antonio, TX. <http://www.psa-photo.org/index.php?2016-psa-conference>



# MARCH PROGRAM

LARRY PETTERBORG

## WESTERN OREGON: WET AND GREEN

It is merely a coincidence that the March program involving the lush, green landscapes of western Oregon corresponds to the month we celebrate the Emerald Isle and St. Patrick. Did you know that there are no poisonous snakes in the Coast Range of Oregon? Larry has been visiting the Oregon coast and the Willamette Valley for more than 50 years. In a self-indulgent, autobiographical presentation, he will discuss the ease with which nature images can be captured in such a fertile landscape. Recently, Larry has been ungauged in an effort to make meaningful waterfall images in the Cascade Mountains. His program will eventually get around to him talking techniques learned about what it takes to get that special picture of a spectacular waterfall.







## FUTURE PROGRAMS

MONTH	SPEAKER	TOPIC
MARCH	LARRY PETTERBORG	WESTERN OREGON: WET AND GREEN
APRIL	RUSSEL GRAVES	TBA
MAY	ELEANORE AVERY	BIG CATS OF AFRICA
JUNE		
JULY	TOM SAVAGE	PHOTOGRAPHING BEARS IN ALASKA
AUGUST	THOMAS MYNT	VIDEO

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### LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGE? GO BACK TO SCHOOL

#### Larry Petterborg

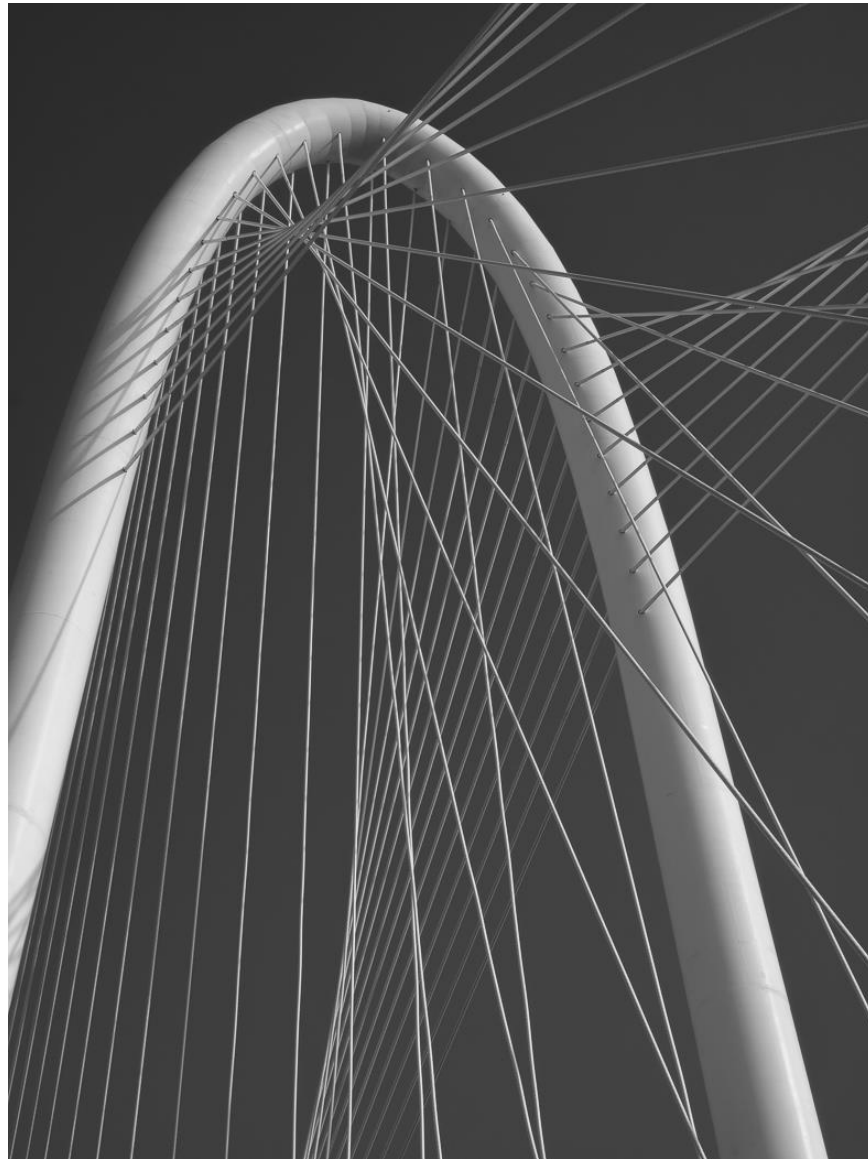
After teaching for more than 30 years, I retired last year. After a couple of months adjusting, I was looking for things to do. So, I signed up for a photography course at Richland College (part of the Dallas County Community College District, <http://richlandcollege.edu/>). What I thought was to be an online photojournalism class turned out to a beginning photography class. After meeting the instructor (Marcy Palmer) and reading the syllabus I decided to continue since the emphasis of the class would be on making black and white images while learning about composition and various basic photographic techniques. Because I already knew how to operate my camera, I figured that I could concentrate on a new photographic pursuit for me, the artistic aspects of black and white photography.

The course only lasted about a month, most of June and part of July. Since the class was online, it was easy to submit the 5 images per assignment and comment on fellow student submissions, even while in Utah visiting my mother. The ten assignments we had to turn in were 1) geometry, 2) light & shadows, 3) familiar things in unfamiliar ways, 4) surfaces, 5) portraits including one of self (had to show both eyes and no smiles), 6) the frame divided, 7) night time, 8) decisive moment, 9) smorgasbord (I picked stained glass windows so I could do something in color), and 10) dreams, nightmares & illusions; to see these images, please go to <https://www.flickr.com/photos/lpetterborg/sets/72157656272897771>.

We also had an examination and had to write a paper on an influential photographer, I wrote about Edward Weston. The end to the class was an evening meeting where we all got together on campus to display a portfolio of 15 prints each and talk about what we had done and comment on the work of everyone else. The instructor was great with her encouraging comments and suggestions. What I learned by taking this class is that I really enjoy trying to make good B&W images, from capture to print. In fact, I liked it so much that I

signed up for an independent study class Fall Semester with Wayne Loucas to further explore B&W cityscapes (unnatural landscapes). This project was pretty far from the landscapes I normally shoot. My 12 image portfolio from this class is currently on display in the Photography Department in Thunderduck Hall at Richland College (or go to <https://www.flickr.com/photos/lpetterborg/albums/72157661993849750>).

Overall, these experiences were highly rewarding and stimulating. I can whole heartedly encourage anyone that feels a need to try something different to sign up for a class at your local community college and go back to school. Since I am now of a certain age and not interested in taking courses for academic credit, I was able to get tuition waivers so my only costs were what I paid to mount my pictures. After 30+ years as the “professor”, it was wonderful being a student again. I can’t wait to take the Photoshop class.





<http://www.psa-photo.org/>

<http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/>

### **CLUB OFFICERS**

President: Jim Ross

Co -Vice – President: Terree Stone

Co -Vice – President: Anita Oakley

Secretary: Peter Gilbert

Treasurer: Ron Marabito

Membership: Peter Gilbert

Refreshments - Ed Pierce

Field Trips – Lee Hatfield

Field Trips: Jack Harrison

Field Trips: Jack Twiggs

Contest Coordinator: Jackie Ranney

Webmaster: Rob Hull

Newsletter Editor: Larry Petterborg

GSCCC Representative: Larry Petterborg

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## **Monthly Meeting**

MARCH 12, 2016

**1:30 PM**

Heard Natural Science Museum

1 Nature Place

McKinney, TX

[http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com/.](http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com/)

# 2016 Annual Heard Nature Photography Contest

Jackie Ranney, Contest Coordinator

The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Heard Nature Photography Contest dates have been set and the website is “up and running”. Please go to the website for complete details: [www.heardnaturephotographers.com/contest](http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com/contest)

## **CONTEST CATEGORIES – ADULT DIVISIONS**

- Adult - Beginner/Intermediate
- Adult - Advanced  
Comfortable with the technical aspects of the camera. Proficient in the concepts of composition, exposure, lighting and post-processing techniques for creating images. May be skillful in more than one genre of photography (for example: landscape, portrait, macro, photojournalism, still life, etc.)

## **ANIMALS - CAPTIVE**

Images of animals in a controlled setting (i.e. farm, zoo, ranch, etc.). May include mammals, marine life, reptiles and amphibians. Does not include pets.

## **ANIMALS - WILD**

Non-captive animals.

## **BIRDS**

Wild or captive birds.

## **CREATIVE INTERPRETATION**

Nature-related images intended to express the photographer’s impression of the subject (i.e. creative blurs, abstract and digital manipulation.) Not to be judged on amount of manipulation but on artistic end result.

## **FLORAL AND STILL LIFE IN NATURE**

Images of natural or cultivated flowers, plants or gardens.

## **INSECTS & ARACHNIDS**

Wild or captive insects and arachnids.

## **NATURAL ARTISTIC ABSTRACTIONS IN NATURE**

*Naturally* occurring patterns, lines, shapes and forms of animals, objects, or plants in nature; also may include macro and extreme close-up images in cases where the patterns, lines, shapes, etc. are the principal subject.

## **SCENICS**

Expansive views that may include landscapes, cloudscapes, mountains, forests, deserts, etc. Nature should be the subject of the image.

## **WATERSCAPES**

Images primarily featuring water such as seascapes, oceans, waterfalls, lakes, streams and rivers. Water is to be the primary subject.

**Note:** *It is the responsibility of the photographer to read through the category descriptions carefully and choose the appropriate category for each image. The photographer's selection will be final. Anything not meeting the criteria will be ineligible for judging*

## **CONTEST CATEGORIES – YOUTH DIVISIONS**

- **Junior Youth** – Up to age 14
- **Senior Youth** – Age 15 – 18

**NOTE:** *In all categories, the “hand of man” is acceptable as long as it is incidental and not the subject of the image. This is a change from previous years.*

## **ANIMALS (including Pets)**

Images of animals in a controlled setting (i.e. farm, zoo, ranch, etc.). May include mammals, marine life, reptiles and amphibians

## **ANIMALS – WILD**

Non-captive animals.

## **BIRDS**

Wild or captive birds.

## **CREATIVE INTERPRETATION**

Nature-related images intended to express the photographer's impression of the subject (i.e. creative blurs, abstract and digital manipulation.) Not to be judged on amount of manipulation but on artistic end result.

## **FLORAL AND STILL LIFE IN NATURE**

Images of natural or cultivated flowers, plants or gardens.

## **INSECTS & ARACHNIDS**

Wild or captive insects and arachnids.

## **WATERSCAPES & SCENICS**

Expansive views that may include seascapes, oceans, waterfalls, lakes, streams, rivers, landscapes, cloudscapes, mountains, forests, deserts, etc. Nature should be the subject of the image.