



# HEARD Nature Photographers

www.heardnaturephotographers.com



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## *The President's Letter, by Jim Ross, President*

**D**id you get the shot? The answer is “yes” – if you were prepared. Here are some tips: First, get to know your equipment such that you can operate it quickly. Second, keep the equipment handy – in your hands or on the tripod ready to use. Third, practice good photo technique – avoid harsh lighting, use a fast shutter speed to freeze the action, compose your shot to tell a story, control your depth of field to emphasize what is important and re-position your camera to eliminate distractions. Finally use a tripod, image stabilization, or brace

your equipment to reduce camera shake. Be sure to back-up your prize images and keep them in a safe place! Two club officers recently experienced home break-ins and had their computer equipment and external hard drives taken. Their advice – invest in a good alarm system and keep a copy of key images in a separate location.

Yippee! We printed a thousand Heard Nature Photographers Club business cards to help advertise our group, website, field trips and monthly meetings. Feel free to give out a card to your friends! Also, sure

to sign-up with Ed Pierce to bring a treat / snack to a future meeting. We rely on your generosity for our club socials!

Happy shooting,

Jim



Jim, in position to get a good shot

## *May Program - "Man Cannot Live on Nature Alone", by Jeremy Woodhouse Heard Museum, Laughlin Hall - May 9, 1:30 p.m.*

Jeremy Woodhouse started out as a dedicated nature photographer, taking both wildlife and landscape pictures. After he turned professional in 1999 he soon realized that he was not going to pay the bills with the meager income that came from nature photography.

His decision was to start to travel the world and take travel-related images, focusing chiefly on the city skylines. To date he has photographed in more than 50 countries and has been in hundreds of towns and cities - he stopped counting.

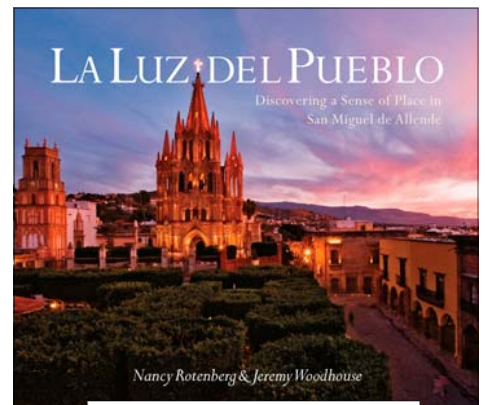
More recently, he has produced a coffee table book, with workshop partner Nancy Rotenberg, about the colonial town of San Miguel de

Allende. It was published at the end of 2008, the same year San Miguel gained World Heritage status.

Jeremy has always approached his travel photography through the eyes of a nature photographer. He is careful to include natural elements where possible, and of course great light and composition are the key to the strength of his images.

The program will include several audio visuals highlighting both his nature and urban photographs.

Jeremy will have copies of his book available at the meeting, which he would be happy to sign.



Jeremy's book cover photo

*This is a can't miss program!*

# Membership News

We have three new members, Margaret Grinnell, Elaine Smith and Mitch Strew, who joined at the April meeting.



Margaret is interested in learning more about photography and taking better pictures. She does mostly travel, nature and people images.



Elaine has been photographing a while. She would like to sharpen her practices, participate in field trips and interact with the members. She does nature and wildlife images.



Mitch has been photographing approximately 20 years. He is now retired and wants to get serious about photography. He does landscape and wildlife images.

- PHOTO OPS**
- **Black Prairie Raptor Shoot**, June 6, at the Black Prairie Raptor Center, at Brockdale Park, on Lavon Lake, near Lucas. For more information and to register, go to [www.bpraptorcenter.org](http://www.bpraptorcenter.org), click on the donations button, and be sure to write "Registration for BOP Photo Day", in the comments block. Cost is \$20.00.
  - **Butterfly Exhibit at the Dallas Zoo**. The zoo will have a butterfly exhibit on display, beginning May 1 - July 5. Go to the zoo's website for more information.

## Field Trip News, by Ron Marabito

Saturday, April 4, 2009 began with a group of about 12 people from the club, meeting at Northpark Shopping Center at 8:00 am. We departed for Dogwood Canyon, located in Cedar Hill, after Harold Green handed everyone a map to prevent getting lost. Well, would you believe, Harold and Jack, with Harold navigating, were the only ones that got lost?

David Hurt, a close friend of Harold's met us at the parking area and led us into the canyon with numerous stops along the way for tidbits of information about the plants and animals of Dogwood Canyon. The whole projects development and accumulation of acreage came about from a gift of the first 40 acres by David and his wife, Kim.

We moved down one side of the canyon and back up the other side till we arrived at a grove of dogwood trees, native to East Texas, sitting alongside some prickly pear cactus which is native to West Texas and the Hill Country. Since the area was fairly thick with growth, the dogwoods had grown pretty tall. David had tied an extension ladder to one of the trees, so people could reach the canopy to see the flowers and take photos. This particular tree was estimated to be some 400 years old. A few of the group climbed up and shot images. The others took advantage of some blossoms down low on a younger tree. After a shooting session, we began the trek back to the cars.

A few of us stopped for some Bar BQ before heading home around 1:00 pm.

This was a very exciting environment to visit and I for one look forward to the Audubon Society moving forward with development to allow the public a chance to enjoy this area.



Jack's dogwood blossom



Ron's young oak leaves

Don't forget **Sharkarosa Wildlife Ranch** Field Trip coming up on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

## *Member's Gallery, by Harold Green*

This space is intended to give members an opportunity to show off their images to other members of the club. If you want to share some of yours, send them, digitally, to the editor, with your name and the title of the image.



John Yates' "Horned Owl"



Peggy Evans' "Alaska Northern Lights"



Jack Harrison's "Hawk"



Andy Hollander's "Southern Prairie Skink"

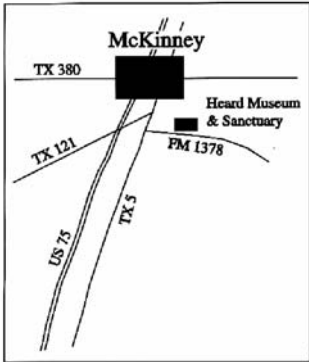


Harold Green's "Duck in Water"



Steve Wheeler's "Mountain Goats"

FIRST CLASS MAIL



At the April meeting, Rob Hull, right, was awarded the club's Honorary Lifetime Membership Award. Over the several years that he has been a member, Rob has served as President, has personally presented many programs and served as de facto program arranger for numerous others. He also facilitates the annual Member's Choice Award event and hosts the club web site, plus many behind the scenes activities. Harold Green, left, a former recipient, is presenting the award.

**2009 PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

January 10 - Tips for Obtaining and Preparing Heard Nature Photo. Contest Winners, by Larry Petterborg & Don Steele	July 11 - To Be Announced
February 14 - To Be Announced	August 8 - Roger Sanderson - Subject To Be Announced
March 1 - Heard Photo Contest Exhibition March 14 - The Art of International Ecotourism Photography: Madagascar, by Andy Hollander	September 12 - DFW Wildlife Hot Spots, by Jim Ross
April 11 - Eleanore Avery - Wildebeests, Gorillas, etc.	October 10 - Ron Marabito - Subject to be Announced
May 9 - Jeremy Woodhouse - Man Cannot Live on Nature Alone	November 14 - "Come Fly With Me, by Sid & Shirley Rucker
June 13 - Pub Mark Park, by Tom Hicks	December 12 - Member's Choice

**Club Leadership**

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