



# HEARD

## Nature Photographers

www.heardnaturephotographers.com



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

Spring is in the air! Now is the time to dust-off that camera, get outdoors, and start shooting! Here are some ideas you might try this month. If into birds, you might try driving down a country road using your car as a "blind", supporting your zoom lens with a bean-bag, and freezing the subject using a shutter speed of 1/focal length or faster. If into landscapes, you might try using a neutral-density filter to balance the contrast between the bright sky and shadowed land. If into wildflowers, you might use an extension tube placed between your lens and camera body to magnify the apparent size of your subject so that it completely fills the frame.

Please note that our April meeting is on 4/3, one week earlier than normal due to the Heard spring native plant sale. You might consider bringing a snack to share at a future meeting. Please sign-up on the volunteer sheet or contact Ed Pierce for details.

Spring is here and so are the wildflowers! You might consider joining us on our next fieldtrip to the hill country, open to all paid club members. Thanks again to Ron Marabito and Jack Harrison for coordinating our field trips!

Jim



Jim's "Opossum" taken at White Rock Lake..

### *April Program - The Heard Herd Hikes the Hills of San Miguel, by Larry Petterborg* *Heard Museum, Laughlin Hall - Saturday, April 3, 1:30 p.m.*

Last November, a group of Heard Nature Photography Club members accompanied Jeremy Woodhouse to the central Mexico town of San Miguel de Allende to photograph the annual Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebration. We spent a wonderful week exploring San Miguel and the surrounding area. We were up before the sun, walked and walked, and ate very well. Best of all, we enjoyed the company of fellow photographers in a visually stunning setting taking hundreds of pictures. In this presentation, we will share some of our favorite images from the trip. Please join us at 6000 feet amid the colorful Spanish-Colonial buildings, cobblestone streets, and friendly people of San Miguel.



The program contains about 300 images from 8 different photographers (Jim and Debbie Oates, Margaret Grennell, Catherine Huey, Larry and Mary Petterborg, Terree Stone, and Fay Stout). The 32 minute show is arranged thematically and is accompanied with

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ED: Larry has included a couple of his images, to whet our appetites.

sic.

## New Members

We are fortunate to have 5 new members, James Travis, David Lindsey & Dan Coppersmith joined at the March meeting, and Deborah Conard and Mike Sweatt joined by mail.

**James Travis** has been a photographer for a long time and joins the club for socializing, inspiration and education. He does mostly nature and travel photography.

**David Lindsey** is also an experienced photographer and would like to increase his general photography knowledge. He uses both film and digital equipment and does creative photography, such as patterns in nature.

**Dan Coppersmith** is a relatively new photographer and is interested in sharing resources, learning new skills and gaining friends. He does mostly nature photography and uses a digital SLR.

**Debbie Conard** has been taking photos most of her life but is interested in learning how to improve, including mastering digital photography. She prefers outdoor photography, including animals and landscapes. She has a foot in both worlds – film and digital.

**Mike Sweatt** is interested in meeting with others who have similar interests - to learn better techniques and form friendships. He has been photographing for 20 years and does mostly nature, landscape and abstract images. He uses digital SLR's.

WELCOME TO THE CLUB, FOLKS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING ACQUAINTED!

## Photo Opportunities

The Heard Museum's spring native plant sale is scheduled for the weekend of April 9 - 11, at the museum. If you need native plants for your home landscape. This would be the ideal time and place to get them.

**The last day for early registration for the Gulf Coast Camera Club Council Convention has been changed to Monday, March 29**

**REGISTER ON-LINE** for the 2010 Convention in Corpus Christi, Texas. On-line registration by PayPal is **AVAILABLE**.

Check it all out at <http://corpuschristicameraclub.com/images-by-the-bay-the-gulf-states-convention/>

Adam Jones, one of Canon's Explorers of Light will speak at the Friday night Bar-B-Que

We have a great series of programs for Friday afternoon and all day Saturday which covers topics from PJ to Nature plus Photoshop and Lightroom training.

Tom Savage  
GSCCC Competitions VP

## BLUEBONNET ALERT!

Larry Petterborg reports on seeing bluebonnets blooming, already. He says "They are on the northeast side of LBJ at Greenville. And boy are they ever going to be thick".

At the beginning of the wildflower season, it's timely that we, as nature photographers, remember to be good stewards of the natural world.

In our quest to get the very best angle to frame a flower or toadstool, we all sometimes tend to get a little careless of the plants surrounding the subject. Or, we might be tempted to intrude a little too closely onto a nesting bird, to get a shot of the hatchlings.

In those situations, let's vow to take a deep breath and think about what we are doing and take care of our wild plants and animals, and also be considerate of other photographers who might be there the next day.

**Wildflower Field Trip to the Hill Country, April 16-18<sup>th</sup>**

**This year, we expect to have a bonanza, so you don't want to miss this trip.** Our base of operations will be Burnet, Texas. It turns out that Llano is having their Crawfish Festival with golf tournament and they are already booked up solid. It is important for you to make a commitment early, as the popularity of the wildflowers will put a lot of pressure on rooms. Best Western currently has rooms and they provide a Continental Breakfast.

Our original intent was to base in Llano to make it easier to reach the Mason area. It just didn't work out.

I plan to be staying at the Big Chief RV Resort on Lake Buchanan. It is one mile north on FM690 from Texas hiway 29 and about 10 miles west of Burnet. This is close to the east end of the Lake Buchanan Dam. Please email me or call to get on the list. My email is: [remarabito@att.net](mailto:remarabito@att.net) and the phone is 214-676-4046. We will have a sign-up sheet at the March and April meetings. Please make your reservations early. Let me know where you are staying as I will need a way to find you.



*Hill Country wildflowers, by Ron Marabito*

We will meet at 7:00 am at the Best Western on Friday morning. I will hand out maps, schedule and information about the best locations in the area while you are enjoying your Continental Breakfast. I plan to scout the area for a couple of days before you arrive. This should reduce your hunting time.

By the way, The Chief RV Resort also has cabins if you are interested.

Ron Marabito, Field Trip Coordinator

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Ron Marabito, Field Trip Coordinator



*Ron Marabito's "Prairie Dogs Playing" Image*

2009 - 2010 Heard Nature Photographers Field Trip Schedule	
Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge	Saturday, December 5, 2009
Macro Workshop, with Image Stacking	Saturday, January 9, 2010
Trout Lily Photo Shoot	Saturday, March 6, 2010
Dallas Arboretum for "Dallas Blooms"	Saturday, March 20, 2010
Hill Country Wildflowers (provided there are any)	April 16 - 18, 2010
Ennis Bluebonnets	Saturday, April 17, 2010
Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge, OK	April 30 - May 2, 2010
<i>This is a living schedule and is subject to change, based on weather and other unforeseen circumstances.</i>	

## Members Gallery

This space is intended to give members an opportunity to show off their images to other members of the club. You are encouraged to submit images to the editor, for display here in the future. Send jpg images, 100 dpi, at 3 x 4 inches, or so.



John Deals - "Steeple Framed With White Blossoms"



Tom Heath's - "Outshining the Others"



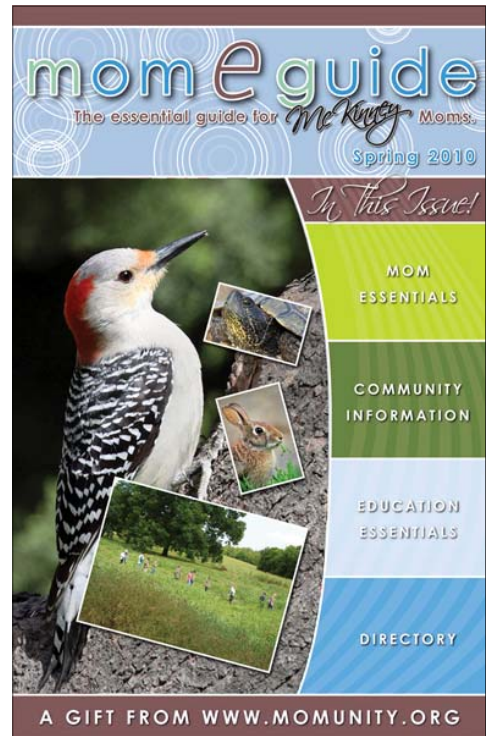
Jack Harrison's - "Trout Lilies"



Ron Marabito's - "Trout Lily"

Jim Ross, our esteemed President, just had an image selected to appear on the cover of the spring issue of the magazine, *Mom e Guide*, which will be circulated in the McKinney and Allen communities.

Congratulations, Jim.



**PLEASE NOTE:** Our April meeting date has been moved forward, to Saturday, April 3, because of the Heard's Native Plant Sale is scheduled for our regular meeting date.

### 2010 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

January 09 - Yellowstone & Iceland, by Dan Leffel	July 10 - Subject to be Announced, by Sean Fitzgerald
February 13 - Wildlife Photography, by Russell Graves	August 14 - Japan in Winter, by Eleanore Avery
March 13 - Adobe Lightroom for the Nature Photographer, by Tom Maddrey	September 11 - Subject to be Announced, by Bob Frank
April 3 - Mexico - Day of the Dead, by Larry Petterborg	October 09 - Subject and Presenter to be Announced
May 8 - Lewa - An African Adventure, by Randi Bolton	November 13 - Zoo Photography & Its Challenger - Cathy Burkey
June 12 - Macro Flowers, by Therese Tusa	December 11 - Member's Choice Award, plus

## Club Leadership

President - Jim Ross  
 Vice - President - Laurie Snidow  
 Treasurer/Editor - Harold Green  
 Membership - John Yates  
 Refreshments - Ed Pierce  
 Field Trips - Ron Marabito  
                   - Jack Harrison  
 Contest Coordinator - Peggy Evans  
 Webmaster- Rob Hull

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