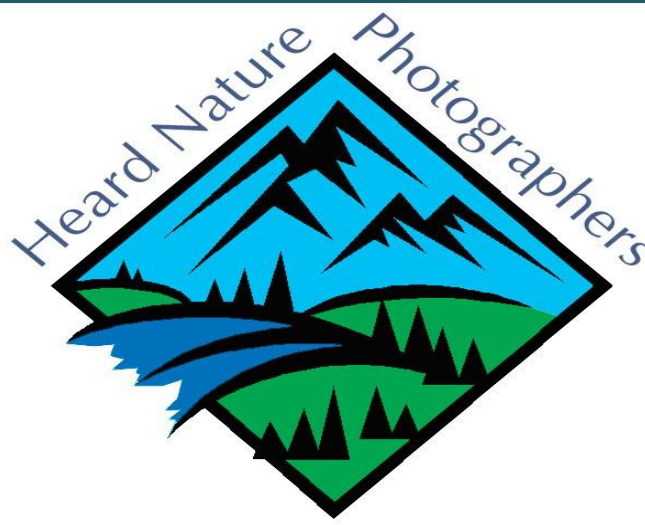


MAY, 2015



VOLUME 30, ISSUE 5

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Did you know that overcast / cloudy days can be your friend? This is the case when shooting flowers, fall leaves, or any subject where vivid saturated colors are important. Be sure to use a tripod as a slower shutter speed may be required. I captured this mid-afternoon scene on an overcast day of my buddy Gregg Schwartz engrossed in taking bluebonnet photos in the Hill Country near Fredericksburg, TX.

Good job to Anita Oakley & Terree Stone (our co-vice-Presidents) for lining up such excellent speakers! Last month Mike Mezuel shared his outstanding severe weather images. I was amazed! Check out his work at [www.mikemezphotography.com](http://www.mikemezphotography.com), and check to see if you own a Midland Storm Alert radio.

Lee Hatfield, our Field Trip Coordinator, has some exciting outings lined-up! Hopefully you will attend the Ennis Bluebonnet trip on 4/18, the Dallas Arboretum trip on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and/or the North Texas Water Gardeners Pond Tour on June 14. All should be fun!

I will miss the May meeting as my Dad is having knee replacement surgery in Wisconsin. But I will have access to email so feel free to drop me a line!

Jim Ross, President.

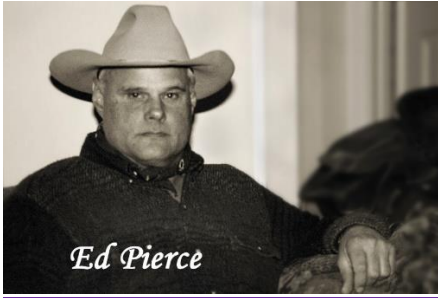


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**Below are the MAY refreshment volunteers. Thanks!!!!**

- Lee Hatfield
- John Yates
- Joyce Weaver
- Steve Harbula



Please sign up at the next meeting to bring snacks to a future meeting or just give Ed Pierce some money.

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## April Field Trip Report by Lee Hatfield

### Ennis Field Trip

Four club members and one guest participated in our Saturday field trip to Ennis while four other members went Sunday the 19th or the following week. Three of us met for breakfast Saturday at IHOP and later all five of us had a great lunch at Bubba's BBQ.

The bluebonnets and Indian Paintbrush were quite lovely on Sugar Ridge Road as well as several other places along the North Loop around Palmer and Bristol. The west side of Andrews Road in Bristol was blanketed with bluebonnets and the delicate fragrance they gave off was worth the trip alone. Several spots along the South Loop area were also in bloom. Indian Paintbrush were prevalent on Sugar Ridge Road but not in many other places.

Three members went to Kachine Prairie Park in west Ennis for a walk with a master naturalist who identified several types of wildflowers and grasses growing there. The three quarter mile walk is easy to do in this area of restoration plus it's a great place for macro photography.

Heavy rains on Friday night as well as a severe storm line that went thru Saturday evening saturated the fields and road shoulders as well as other pull off areas. Fog and clouds obscured sunrise on Sunday but when the sun did shine, it turned the grass and flowers into twinkling diamonds. Bluebonnets seem to love the rain.

The map provided by the Ennis Garden Club points out where you may photograph Belgian horses, Longhorn steers, and where you can take a break at the Sugar Ridge Winery. If you decide to make the trip next year, try to be on the trails early to avoid the rush. Please also respect private property and do not walk, run or picnic in the fields of flowers so that others may enjoy them, too.

If you photographed the Ennis flowers, animals and scenery this month and want to participate in the slideshow for May, please forward 4 or 5 of your best images to me not later than May 3. Please label your images with your name and image number (or initials and image number) and size them about 1400 pixels on the long side or about 900KB total.

Lunch at Bubba's BBQ, Ennis





Steve Harbula, Dianne Cole, Anita Oakley, and Retha Moulder

Henry, a 1930 Model A Ford in a field near Ennis.



## Next Field Trip (MAY)

### May 2 Field Trip to the Dallas Arboretum

If you want to make the trek with the club to the Dallas Arboretum on Saturday, May 2, but have not yet signed up, please email me. We will plan to be there by 9 a.m. when they open, shoot all morning and have lunch. My email is [leeatfield@me.com](mailto:leeatfield@me.com)

## 2015 FIELD TRIPS

Please note the date change for our June field trip listed below.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
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May 2	Dallas Arboretum for spring flowers and White Rock Lake for birds
June	North Texas Water Gardeners Pond Tour with day (14 <sup>th</sup> ) and/or night (13 <sup>th</sup> ) photography of the flowers, koi, & waterfalls. There is a \$20 per group charge.
July 25	TBD - possible workshop on Lightroom editing
Aug	TBD
Sept 17-20	Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Lawton, OK (Elk, bison, prairie dogs, sunrise and sunset) Bugling Elk Bus Tour Sept. 19 at 6:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., reservations begin 8/31/15.
Oct 17-18	Caldwell Zoo, Opens at 9 a.m. Closes at 4:30 p.m. (\$10.50 adults, \$9.25 seniors 55+) and/or Tyler Rose Show, Tyler, TX.
Nov 6-8	Beavers Bend State Park, north of Broken Bow, OK, Fall Foliage, Talimena Scenic Byway, Ouachita National Forest, Lodging options: Beavers Bend Lodging cabins, Beavers Bend Resort Park Lodge, or hotels in Broken Bow  For those who want to book a cabin, here's the link to Beavers Bend Lodging: <a href="https://www.beaversbendlodging.com">https://www.beaversbendlodging.com</a> (see below)
Dec 5	Hagerman NWR, Sherman, TX (Geese and ducks)

## **MAY 9TH PROGRAM**

### **The Future of Wildlife Conservation in Texas - by Derek Broman**



Natural resource conservation in Texas is facing tremendous challenges, challenges that exceed the current mechanism's capacity to handle. Addressing these current and future challenges requires a shift in strategy, new mechanisms, and increased public involvement. These challenges will be examined, potential solutions presented, and the public's role, including that of photographers, in wildlife conservation.

Bio: Derek is an Urban Wildlife Biologist in the DFW Metroplex. Has been with TPWD since January 2013 and is originally from rural Iowa. He has worked with numerous wildlife species throughout the Midwest, but was in New England for 3 years before coming to Texas. While there, he studied bobcats for his Master's Degree in Wildlife Ecology from the University of New Hampshire and then studied black bears with the State of Connecticut. He offices out of Cedar Hill State Park, but works throughout the DFW Metroplex.



## **FUTURE PROGRAMS**

2015 Speakers		
Date	Speaker	Subject
1/10/2015	Rob Hull	
2/14/2015	John DeFillipo	John Bunker Sands Wetlands Center
3/14/2015	Ron Marabito	Images to Art
4/11/2015	Mike Mezuel	How to stay alive while photographing severe weather.
5/9/2015	Dereck Broman	Bobcats - Texas Parks & Wildlife
6/13/2015	Eleanore Avery	Western Ireland
7/11/2015		
8/8/2015	Russell Graves	TBD
9/12/2015	Marea Downey	Travel Photography
10/10/2015	Robert Bunch	TBD
11/14/2105	Jim Foster	TBD
12/12/2015	Members' Choice	

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### **JUST ONE PHOTO** (for May is for the) **BIRDS**

May's subject is BIRDS. Send me ONE photo that you have taken during the month of May that represents your interpretation of the subject. I need the photo emailed to me by midnight of May 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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## **GSCCC NEWS**

As a member club in the GSCCC, we may submit a total of 4 images from 4 different members to each 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 above for what is allowed). 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@tx.rr.com](mailto:Lpetterborg@tx.rr.com).





Our May contest entries are Laughing Whitefish Falls by Jack Harrison, Sunshine on my Shoulders by Mike Sweatt, Opal Morning by Anita Oakley, and Osprey Taking Off by Larry Petterborg. You can see the full contest results and the winning images in the GSCCC Newsletters.

**Our Club will be judging the July GSCCC Nature competition.**

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## **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. From Lee Hatfield: Great way to understand aperture & shutter speeds for any new to members!

<http://www.lifehack.org/articles/lifestyle/picture-show-you-clearly-the-effects-aperture-shutter-speed-and-iso-images.html>

2. From Ron Varley: The Hagerman Nature Photo Club is looking for photographers for our Photographer of the Month program. See <https://www.friendsofhagerman.com/Gallery> & <https://www.friendsofhagerman.com/PhotoClub> for more information.

3. Looking for help and/or inspiration? Check out *Michael Frye*

*Michael Frye is a professional photographer specializing in landscapes and nature. He is the author or principal photographer of The Photographer's Guide to Yosemite, Yosemite Meditations, Yosemite Meditations for Women, Yosemite Meditations for Adventurers, and Digital Landscape Photography: In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams and the Great Masters. He has also written three eBooks: Light & Land: Landscapes in the Digital Darkroom, Exposure for Outdoor Photography, and [Landscapes in Lightroom 5: The Essential Step-by-Step Guide](#). Michael has written numerous magazine articles on the art and technique of photography, and his images have been published in over thirty countries around the world. Michael has lived either in or near Yosemite National Park since 1983, currently residing just outside the park in Mariposa, California.*

4. From Elinor Hite: This looks interesting.

[http://www.foxnews.com/tech/2015/04/16/apple-acquisition-could-give-next-iphone-dslr-like-camera/?intcmp=ob\\_homepage\\_tech&intcmp=obnetwork](http://www.foxnews.com/tech/2015/04/16/apple-acquisition-could-give-next-iphone-dslr-like-camera/?intcmp=ob_homepage_tech&intcmp=obnetwork)

5. From Elinor Hite: The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is asking Texans to document milkweed plants, (native and horticultural species) throughout the state. Photographs and information about where and when the plants were seen can be uploaded online at <http://www.inaturalist.org/projects/texas-milkweeds-and-monarchs>. Also, this is the time to add milkweed to your gardens to help the Monarchs.



## Meet Anita Oakley

### Club Co-VP Programs

1. How long have you been a member of the Heard Nature Photographer Club? I really can't remember. A good long time before 2009, I know. But I didn't really get very active until about 2010.
2. How long have you been "doing" photography? What sparked your initial interest in photography in general? I started in college in the late 60s, but got very serious about it in 1997. I took classes then, at Northlake College, and went digital in 2004.
3. What has been your most memorable nature photo experience? Hard one. Africa was way up there, as was Iceland. Shooting puffins, who went about their business 5 feet away, completely ignoring us, was unbelievable.
4. What have you not been able to do and most want to do in nature photography? The Palouse in WA state. It seems like there is never the time. I keep saying "next year." Honestly, next year I plan to get up there, before all the great old barns fall down!
5. What advice do you have for nature photographers in the club? Just keep shooting – take video classes and look at lots of pictures for ideas, but don't try to copy other photographers' work. Just get ideas and do your own thing. Go back more than once. The second trip anywhere is better – you know the lay of the land, and you know what you did wrong last time.
6. Do you have a web site where members could go to see your images? If so, what is the URL? <http://anitaoakley.com>
7. Is there anything else that you would like to share with the club? Every once in a while, do something different. I love nature photography, but some of my best images were from different kinds of trips. One was a trip to Mexico for Dia de los Muertos, and the other to Venice for Carnivale. That sort of thing kicks you out of your rut.

**SOME OF ANITA'S FAVORITE IMAGES**



**KENYA**

**PAINTED  
BUNTING AT  
THE SANTA  
CLARA  
RANCH**





**PUFFIN**



**GREEN LADY**





<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: John Yates  
Refreshments - Ed Pierce  
Field Trips – Lee Hatfield  
Field Trips: Jack Harrison  
Contest Coordinator: Jackie Ranney  
Webmaster: Rob Hull  
Newsletter Editor: Larry Petterborg  
GSCCC Representative: Larry Petterborg

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[lpetterborg@gmail.com](mailto:lpetterborg@gmail.com)

## **Monthly Meeting**

MAY 9, 2015

**1:30 PM**

Heard Natural Science Museum  
1 Nature Place  
McKinney, TX

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