

**HEARD**  
**Nature Photographers**  
[www.heardnaturephotographers.com](http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com)



Volume 32, Issue No. 1

January, 2016

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Happy New Year! Thanks to all returning Club Officers and to our newly elected Membership Coordinator Peter Gilbert! We sure appreciate your help. Thanks also to all who participated in our December Member's Choice Holiday celebration. The food was wonderful and a fun time was had by all. Congrats to Lee Hatfield for winning the Members Choice event with her beautiful Sandhill Crane image! We sure have a talented club.

Now is the time to begin selecting images to enter in the all digital Heard Nature Photography Contest. This annual contest raises money for the Heard Nature Center. Images are submitted on-line Feb 3 – March 20.

Revised category description and contest details are available at:

<http://heardnaturephotographers.com/contest/>.

Our hearts go out to club member Fay Stout and all those impacted by the recent north Texas tornados. Thanks to all of the club members who helped with the clean-up efforts!

Feel free to invite a friend to our next photo club meeting. We are a warm, welcoming group, focused on helping each other learn more about nature photography. Be sure to sign-up with Ed Pierce (refreshments coordinator) to bring a tasty treat to share at a future club meeting. We love to socialize and snack while getting to know one another!

Thanks for your participation,

Jim Ross, President

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## Dues Notice

**January** is the month to renew your club membership, so, if you would like to mail a check to Ron Marabito at the address below, that is fine. Otherwise, plan on bringing your Twenty American Dollars to the January meeting. Make your checks out to the Heard Nature Photographers Club. Send to:

Heard Nature Photographers  
915 St. Lukes Dr.  
Richardson, TX 75080

## LEE HATFIELD IS THE 2015 MEMBER'S CHOICE WINNER



Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge is just south of San Antonio, New Mexico along Interstate 25, about 90 miles south of Albuquerque. Bosque is a managed refuge and they plant corn for the cranes and



geese to feed on plus they have an intricate water system where they can draw water from the Rio Grande River to maintain levels for the waterfowl and wildlife that migrate through the refuge and also for those that live there all year.

Sandhills stand 34-42" tall and have a wingspan of 73-90" depending on their age. They travel as far south as the Gulf of Mexico from their breeding grounds on the Arctic tundra and marshes. Several thousand cranes and geese winter at Bosque del Apache from mid-November thru the end of January when they head north again.

There are several ponds on State Highway 1 leading to the Bosque Visitor Center and refuge and the cranes and geese often overnight in these shallow ponds to avoid predators. This pair had just taken off to head to the fields of corn. Their very distinct voices can be heard as they feed and as they fly together, continually calling out to each other. As they prepare to takeoff, they lean forward into the wind, take a few running steps across the water or on the ice if the pond is frozen and with wings spread, they take flight.

For this image I used my Nikon D800e with my Nikon 70-200mm f2.8 lens and a 2X tele-extender. I shot it at 1/2000 sec, f5.6 at ISO 500 on December 12, 2012 at 9:45 a.m.

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## DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY PICS



## Field Trip Report by Lee Hatfield

### Hagerman NWR Field Trip

We had 12 members come up to Hagerman NWR for sunrise on **December 19**. Since there were no clouds, we turned our attention to the several thousand geese that were resting in the lake near Meyers Low Water Crossing. We were treated to a thrilling (and noisy) mass takeoff as they flew to greener pastures to feed for the day. As we moved down Wildlife Drive we found Pintails and Mallards greeting the sun and American Coots seemed to be everywhere.

A flock of 30 White Pelicans resting and preening above water on a bar near Tern pad road gave us great photo ops while several Ring-billed Gulls were nearby. A lovely Great Blue Heron was hunting breakfast and posed long enough for reflection shots. We spotted a beaver swimming in the lake and several deer pranced through the forest on Bennett and Sandy Point Roads. Cardinals darted along the road and a huge hawk flew off before I could even stop the car. The owls were illusive so we just have to go back!

Sue Malnory, President of the Friends of Hagerman group, gave us a nice presentation and slideshow in the Visitor Center and provided hot coffee and treats for us. Seven of us met for lunch at Cracker Barrel in Sherman.





## **FUTURE FIELD TRIPS**

January 13-17, 2016: Bosque del Apache NWR, San Antonio, NM

A trip to photograph the wildlife at Bosque including Sandhill Cranes, Snow Geese, hawks, bald eagles, waterfowl, deer and feral hogs.

Nineteen members are signed up for this trip. If you want to go, please let me know and make your lodging reservations now. We'll have group dinners Friday and Saturday nights in Socorro.



February 27, 2016: Heard Nature Sanctuary, McKinney, TX,

We will meet at 9 a.m. on the deck outside the back door of the visitor center. Be sure to sign in at the Visitor Center desk and pay your entry fee if you are not a member of the Heard Nature and Science Museum. This is an opportunity to photograph the Trout Lilies also known as Dogtooth Violet, Eastern Trout-lily, and Adder's Tongue but are of the lily family. A perennial flower with mottled leaves found growing in a colony along the Hoot Owl Trail. The Sycamore Trail and the Wood Duck Trail also offer photo opportunities for those who want to stretch their legs. We'll plan to meet for lunch.

March 26 - April 2, 2016: High Island, Upper Texas Gulf Coast.

Opportunity for photographing shorebirds, the rookery with egrets, heron and roseate spoonbills. We'll visit Anahuac NWR and other local areas as well as check out the Bolivar Peninsula.

Lodging is available in High Island and Winnie or you may rent a beach house in or near High Island. Come for all or part of the week for sunshine, sunrises, sunsets, beach walks and the sound of the waves.

April 16, 2016: White Rock Lake, Dallas

A walk with Robert Bunch to look for owls, waterfowl, birds, and spring flowers.

May 7, 2016: Dallas Arboretum, Spring Blooms, water features

June 18, 2016: Hagerman NWR Butterfly Garden, Harris Creek Trail, drive through the refuge to photograph waterfowl

July 16-23, 2016: TBD - Possible options: Great Sand Dunes, Pagosa Springs, Durango/Silverton areas of Colorado

August 6, 2016: Tabletop workshop at the SRC, Heard

September 13-18, 2016: Perhaps another trip to the Wichita Mountains NWR?

October 25-30, 2016: Fall foliage in the Ozarks, Northern Arkansas or Caddo Lake in East Texas

November 19, 2016: John Bunker Hunt Sands Wetlands

December 17, 2016: Ft. Worth Japanese Gardens for fall foliage

Please note this calendar may change depending on interest, weather, lodging availability and unforeseen circumstances. Please email me at [leeatfield@me.com](mailto:leeatfield@me.com) with your preferences for the July, September and October options.

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## **JUST ONE PHOTO by Terree Stone**

January's subject is SILHOUETTE. Send me ONE photo that you have taken during the month of January that represents your interpretation of the subject. I need the photo emailed to me by midnight of January 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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## **Below are the January refreshment volunteers:**

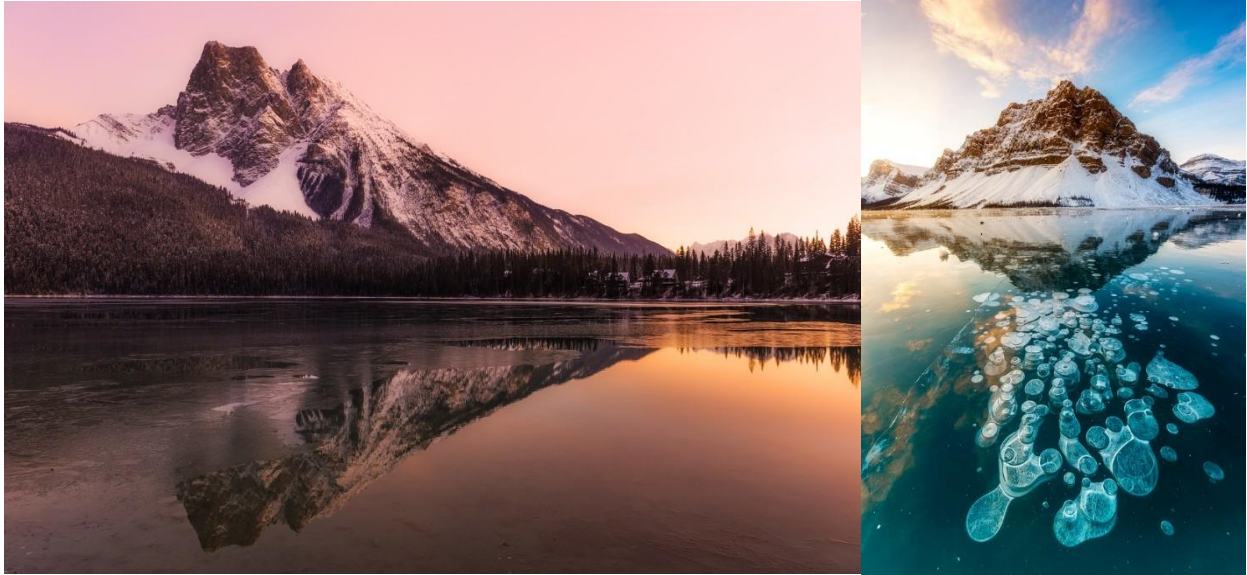
- Tom Murto
- Anita Oakley
- John Yates
- Ed Pierce



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

## JANUARY PROGRAM

### MIKE MEZEUL



Our January speaker will be Mike Mezeul II. He's a self-taught nature photographer, who has recently seen a lot of national acclaim. His image of the total eclipse of the moon went viral, with over 600,000 shares. He has had articles written about him on Yahoo, Pinterest, Tumblr, BHPPhotoVideo, NBC News, and the Dallas Observer. He leads workshops year around. See his website, <http://mikemezphotography.com>, for trips to photograph Big Bend, San Francisco, New York, Banff, Iceland, or Southwestern Colorado.

Mike spoke to us last year about severe weather photography and was very entertaining and informative. This month he plans to speak about Landscape photography and what you have to do to get "The" shot.









## 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.

Photographic Society of America

# 78th Annual Conference

Join Us in

# San Antonio

TEXAS



## September 10-17, 2016

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### GSCCC NEWS

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/html/nature\\_rules.html](http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/html/nature_rules.html)). 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).



<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  
Contest Coordinator: Jackie Ranney  
Webmaster: Rob Hull  
Newsletter Editor: Larry Petterborg  
GSCCC Representative: Larry Petterborg

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## **Monthly Meeting**

JANUARY 9, 2016

**1:30 PM**

Heard Natural Science Museum  
1 Nature Place  
McKinney, TX

[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, clouds, mountains, forests, deserts, etc. Nature should be the subject of the image.