

HEARD

Nature Photographers Club

www.heardnaturephotographers.com



IMPORTANT NOTICE FUTURE MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS

DATE	LOCATION
NOV 10	SCIENCE RESOURCE CENTER (SRC)
DEC 8	SCIENCE RESOURCE CENTER (SRC)
JAN 12	SCIENCE RESOURCE CENTER (SRC)
FEB 9	LAUGHLIN HALL (LH)
MAR 9	SCIENCE RESOURCE CENTER (SRC)
APR 6	LAUGHLIN HALL (LH)
MAY 11	LAUGHLIN HALL (LH)
JUN 18	LAUGHLIN HALL (LH)

President’s Letter for November 2018

This month’s President’s Letter isn’t from Ron, but rather Elisabeth, your Vice President. Unfortunately, Ron had a small stroke on Thursday, October 11. He has been transferred to Presbyterian Village North in their Rehabilitation and Therapy Services wing. He is making good progress in his recovery, and he is upbeat, positive, and jovial, as always. He will be there for at least the next few months. Let’s show him our support by giving him lots of visitors and flooding the mail with cards and letters for him to read. The address to send him mail is: Presbyterian Village North, 8600 Skyline Dr., Room #930, Dallas, TX 75243. Please keep him, Shirley and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

Before this month’s meeting starts, we will also have our 2019 Officer Nomination elections. We have some new names on the ballot, but if you want to get involved, please let Jackie Ranney as the Nomination Committee Chair know of your interest. Be sure to arrive a little early so you can cast your VOTE!



Photo courtesy of Peter Gilbert

We had an excellent speaker last month who gave a lot of insightful information on how to look at your current portfolio of images, as well as what compositions to think about for future pictures if you are interested in submitting to photography contests, which is a great reminder that our contest is just around the corner in February 2019. Time to start thinking about which images you want to submit! We made just under \$8000 in last year's contest – let's try to beat that in the up-coming contest. Word of mouth using the Nextdoor app on your mobile devices and online at www.Nextdoor.com seems to have made the most significant impact in our marketing last year. We will be posting a blurb on the Club's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HeardNP/>) if you want share that to your individual FB pages to help spread the word.

December brings us to our final meeting of the year, which also includes our Member's Choice submissions and voting. We will be providing the BBQ meat again this year, as well as the breads. We would like to ask for our members to share in providing the Potluck sides – each year we have such good and yummy things to choose from! Please share your commitment to bring a side with Ed Pierce so that we can have an idea of what will be coming in. We look forward, as always, to a great turnout.

Don't forget that prior to this month's meeting we have our last morning Educational class speaker, led by our very own Denise Remfert. You can read the introduction of her later in the newsletter, as well as the introduction of our last Guest Speaker for the year.

My thanks to all of you for making this such a wonderful club of which to be a member.

Elisabeth Shore, Vice President
Heard Nature Photographer's Club



Below are the November Refreshment Volunteers:

- Kay Griffith
- Denise Remfert
- Ed Pierce



Be sure to sign up at the next meeting to bring snacks to a future meeting. If you would prefer to just give some **money** for refreshments, that's ok too. Please make donations to the club by way of Club Treasurer, **Peter Gilbert**. Thanks to all that contribute to making our meetings more enjoyable!

2019 Heard Photo Contest

Mark your calendars and get outside and shoot...the 2019 Heard Photo Contest is not that far away! Submission of digital images will begin on February 2 and continue through February 24, 2019. Results of the judging will be revealed on March 17, 2019 at the Awards Program with projected images of the top three in each category along with ribbon presentations and some cash prizes.

Also, if you have wanted to become more involved with the Heard Photo Club, we are looking to increase our committee participation in the area of Photo Intake, Marketing, Awards Production, Awards Presentation, and Outreach. If you would like to be part of the Photo Contest Team, contact Dick Robinson at rcrobinson4649@att.net.

Dick Robinson
2019 Heard Photo Contest Coordinator



Fall at White Rock Lake, Dallas TX

November Educational Workshop – Denise Remfert



Denise will be our guest lecturer for our Educational series that takes place on the morning of our next club meeting – November 10 from 10:00a – 12:00 noon. Her presentation will give you an insight in the various ways digital photography, along with your own imagination and creativity, can allow you to transform your images and take them to a new level.

The session will begin with basic techniques you will find immediately useful. It then progresses in difficulty and complexity through a survey of processing techniques using Photoshop, Lightroom, and Plug-In filters like Topaz and hand painting in Photoshop. She hopes you will enjoy seeing the potential you have at your disposal once you play with the magic of the pixel.

Handouts will be given for the session - you do not need to bring your computer.

Denise joined the Heard Nature Photographers Club in 2003 as a novice after viewing the photo contest. Her first contest images garnered a place at the back of the room in a dark corner. Determined to find out how to get images in print that came closer to what she desired has led her to many classes, workshops and competitions. There is always more to learn, but it is so much fun!



Tulip shot in front of window.



Minimal processing and painting.



Original picture



Painted and with added texture

November Guest Speaker – Brad Smith



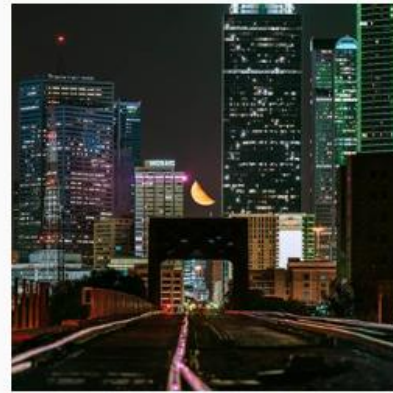
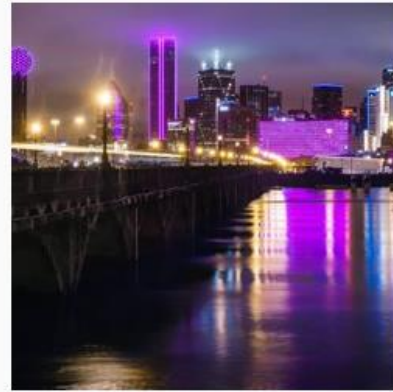
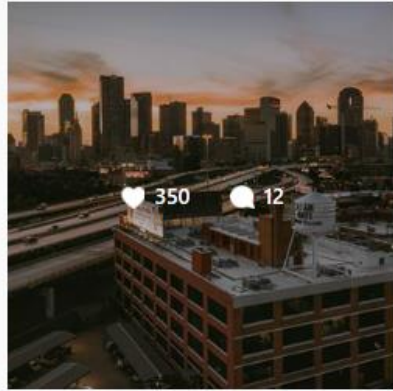
Our guest speaker for our November meeting is Brad Smith, a Dallas-based photographer, who also happens to have a day job. His specialties are cityscapes, aerial photography, and time-lapse creation.

Brad has taken pictures of cityscapes, sunrises, sunsets, thunderstorm ripping in from clear skies, the moon dancing over city streets, firework displays, and the stars sprawling overhead in stunning hyper-motion. His photography has taken him across the United States, from New York to San Francisco, and especially home across Texas.

His presentation will reveal how close you already are or may be to planning your own time-lapse creations (*think dark skies with star trails, storms with lightening, beaches with waves coming in, or animals in nature, to name but a few*). He will review what you will need to get started, the fundamentals of planning a shot, and discuss his perpetually evolving ideas about what compels time-lapse footage to come alive.



His work can be found on Instagram under @disasterfilm. Below are some samples from his Instagram page.



I look forward to seeing everyone at our November 10th meeting.
Elisabeth

Field Trips

November – Japanese Garden – Fort Worth

Saturday, November 24, 2018

8:00 am

Fall Color, Reflections, Formal Japanese Gardens -- Lots to Enjoy!



This is a date change from the originally announced November date. I talked with the event scheduling person and it looks like November 17th is now loaded with several weddings throughout the day, morning included. Thus, we will be going on November 24th. I know this is Thanksgiving weekend so hopefully the change will work for you. *If you go ahead and go on a different date, of course, I will continue to include your images in our slide show. You can note on the sign-up sheet that you are going on a different day.*

Web site for the Japanese Garden: <http://www.fwbg.org/the-japanese-garden/> When I last checked the web site, it had not been updated to reflect the current winter hours. I am assured that they will be open at 8 am in Nov. So it's early to bed after your Black Friday shopping!!

The Fort Worth Japanese Garden was completed in 1973. It is a traditional stroll garden with winding paths through the landscapes and around ponds. The Garden consists of 7.5 acres filled with cherry trees, Japanese maples, magnolias, bamboo, bridges, and ponds which are home to over 1,200 Koi fish. Except in the spring, there are few flowers blooming in the Japanese Garden due to the Japanese practice of Mono no Aware. Mono no Aware translates to transient/bittersweet beauty, meaning if the garden was always blooming it would never be special.



We should be at or about the peak of fall color in the Garden. Consider using a polarizer to enhance the colors and reduce spectral glare (blown out highlights) from the leaves. If I am using the polarizer with quite a wide angle lens, I watch to make sure that I don't get dark banding, particularly in the sky. A monopod or a lens with vibration reduction will aid with the slower shutter speeds caused by the polarizer. Typically, wide angle lenses work well in

gardens of this nature. However, the normal lens and short telephoto will have their places especially for details and close-ups. (My fisheye lens is already packed in my bag.) *Image from Japanese Garden web site to gives an idea of what we might expect.*

Garden etiquette requires that we stay on designated walkways and trails and not step into shrub beds, etc. It is important that we do not create congestion, blocking the general public, and that we regularly check to be sure that we have not stepped into another photographer's field of view.

Although tripods are allowed in the general Botanical Gardens area, they are **not allowed in the Japanese Garden.** ***Monopods are okay in the Japanese Garden – Tripods are not.*** Any photos that we take cannot be used for commercial purposes and are only for our personal and internal club use.

Admission: \$7 Adults \$5 Seniors Parking is free

If our information is correct, your Dallas Arboretum membership card should get you in free.

Address: 3400 Japanese Garden Blvd, Fort Worth, TX 76107

Phone: 817-392-7665

The car pool location will again be Sam's Club at Coit and the Geo. Bush in Plano.

Details will be emailed a few days prior to Nov 24th to all that signup or otherwise alerted me via bjreece@verizon.net or 909-223-8052, text or message, you are attending



December – Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge

Saturday December 1st

Early Morning Trip – Time to be announced.

This is a great opportunity to photograph Snow Geese during their annual migration south. The Refuge plants wheat every year for the purpose of attracting and feeding the Snow Geese. Timing is dependent upon the bird migration and how fast they eat up the grain. Thus, the date may have to be adjusted to accommodate the winter vacation plans of the geese.

Note: Due to flooding from Lake Texoma, roads and the wheat fields have flooded. As of this writing, roads in the refuge are currently closed. It is possible the planted wheat fields may not be productive as a result of the flooding. That being the case, the geese may spend a lot of time flying from the refuge to nearby farmer's fields. I will be keeping in touch with the refuge and keep those signed up informed as to the presence of geese and accessibility.

It is a little bit of a drive to the preserve. We will probably leave fairly early in the morning. It is about 62 miles and a one hour drive from my home in the south part of Plano. The refuge is found by traveling north on Hwy 75; west on US 82 for 5 miles; north on Hwy 289 for 4 miles; then west on Refuge Rd for 4 miles. Or just head out 289 north to Refuge Rd. There will be a map in the packet that I send out a few days before the trip.

A long telephoto is certainly an advantage, but other lenses will work also. A tripod and a polarizing filter will be handy, but not absolutely necessary.

Here is a shot I got last December. This was shot on a crop frame Fuji X-T2 with a 100-400 mm telephoto lens.

Looks like US Hwy 75 northbound during the afternoon commute!!!

So, birds in flight, birds on the ground, with Alan's help maybe an eagle shot and if we are lucky maybe other birds and wildlife.



The web site for the Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge is: www.fws.gov/refuge/Hagerman/

Signup sheet will be at the November meeting, so reserve the date. We will be going before the December meeting so be sure to sign up at the November meeting or let me know you are going via bjreece@verizon.net or my cell phone 909-223-8052 (text or voice mail).

Report: John Bunker Sands Wetlands Trip in October

Mike Cameron reports that 6 members attended the shoot. A seventh member went later in the morning. There was a wide variety of birds that morning, including an eagle that did a fly by.

If you went to the John Bunker Sands Wetlands in October and did not get a "call for images email", let me know immediately at bjreece@verizon.net so that I can send you directions to submit images.

Jerry Reece,

Field Trip Coordinator



Members Choice



Every **December** we dedicate our meeting time to celebrating the talents and accomplishments of our members. A keystone of the meeting is our **Members Choice** show. It's a way to share your photos with other club members in a risk free environment.

All members are encouraged to submit images for our Members Choice show and from the pool of images entered, club members will vote on one image that best represents the club for the upcoming year. That image will be designated as the Members Choice Award winner.

Our first Member's Choice winner was Mel Wright in 2002 with his image of a fog shrouded Emerald Lake in the Canadian Rockies. And for the past 17 years we've celebrated our members talents with this special recognition.

Enter Your Images

Entering images in the show is easy. This isn't a contest so there are no categories or strict interpretation of nature scenics. But, remember that we are a Nature photography club. Any kind of image can be shared during the show but only nature images will be considered for Members Choice.

Preparing Your Images

Don't worry about resizing the image. Just save it as a JPG file and upload it. You can upload up to 5 images. Don't include any watermark on the image. There can be no identifying mark visible during the show.

To upload your images, go to the HeardNaturePhotographers.com website and click on Members Choice.

Deadline

Photos will be accepted until MIDNIGHT, Wednesday, December 5, 2018. This is one day earlier than in years past. Please get your images uploaded by the due date. We can NOT accept any images after that time.

MEMBER'S FORUM

If you have items to sale, stories to tell, or just want to express your opinion on topics related to nature and photography, please send me some words and pictures I can put in upcoming newsletters.

Maddie Nolan, a junior photographer that has won many ribbons over the past few years in our annual contest, is a **youth division finalist in the 2018 Nature Photography Contest** sponsored by the Audubon Community Nature Center, Jamestown, NY. You can check out her photo at <https://www.acncphotocontest.com/2018-winners.html>. Congratulations Maddie!!!

FOR SALE

I have a Canon 5D MkII with Super Color Infrared (590nm) Life Pixel Conversion along with a focus calibrated Canon EF24-105mm F/4 L IS I lens for sale. The conversion was completed in May 2017. Also includes Lens Hood, UV Filter, Battery and Charger, Strap and Really Right Stuff L Plate. Asking \$1250.00

Ron Varley
Mobile 808-927-6004
Email AggiePilot73@gmail.com

From Elizebeth: <https://www.lightstalking.com/aurora-photography-guide/>

I think there are a few club members that use this software. Might be a good teaser for new users!
<https://skylum.com/blog/new-unique-feature-in-luminar-a-surprise-update-and-more>

<https://www.gdanmitchell.com/equipment-reports-tests-and-commentary/sierra-nevada-fall-color>

Blackland Prairie Raptor Center invites you to
the 4th Annual Ribs n' Raptors fundraiser
Saturday, November 10th
Still time to sign up!

Tickets are \$75 each

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for tickets. Pre-registration is requested
by Nov. 7th.

Our World Is Kind: A Global Photography Contest

Do you believe the world can be a kinder and happier place? It can,
through *your* photography.

We are seeking photos from talented photographers around the world that can inspire kindness. Enter the **2018 Our World Is Kind Photo Contest** to make the world a better place and maybe win some cash in appreciation for your work!

Capture kindness and submit today!

[Enter now](#)

Accepting entries through World Kindness Day: November 13, 2018
Entry is FREE and open to anyone 18 years of age or older.



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

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

2018 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Ron Marabito

Vice President: Elisabeth Shore

Secretary: Peter Gilbert

Treasurer: Peter Gilbert

Membership: Tom Martin

Refreshments: Ed Pierce

Field Trips: Jerry Reece

Contest Coordinator: Dick Robinson

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Newsletter Editor: Larry Petterborg

GSCCC Representative: Larry Petterborg

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Monthly Meeting

10 NOV 2018

1:30 PM

Heard Natural Science Museum

1 Nature Place

McKinney, TX

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