

HEARD

Nature Photographers Club

www.heardnaturephotographers.com



Volume 34, Issue No. 12

December 2018

President's Letter for December 2018

It's difficult to believe that 2018 is almost gone. We have one more club meeting on December 8, where we will enjoy fellowship with each other and share in some excellent food. We will be providing the BBQ meat again this year, as well as the breads. As a reminder, we would like to ask for our members to share in providing the Potluck sides – vegetables, fruits, desserts – anything you would like to let people taste! Please share your commitment to bring a side with Ed Pierce so that we can have an idea of what will be coming in. (Keep in mind food allergens – we will be making tent cards for the foods that have nuts, dairy, etc. in them so we can help keep everyone healthy!) Seating capacity in the SRC is limited to 100, so it will be First Come, First Served on the RSVP list. Please send your RSVPs to Ed Pearce (see end of Newsletter for email). After the first 100 spots, we will start a waiting list. Keep in mind that should your plans change, and you can't make it, you will need to contact Ed to release your seat for someone else.

Our last meeting of the year also brings us the task of choosing our Member's Choice image to represent the club at the Heard for 2019. I want to encourage all our members to look through your portfolios for an image to submit for our review. You have until midnight of December 5 to get them in. You can find instructions on the club's website under the "Member's Choice" link, and you will also find examples of past winners to inspire you.

A big congratulations to our new and returning officers for the year of 2019! Our club is getting bigger every year, and we have a great group of leaders to inspire us. Ron told me a story about his run for the Presidency this year. When he was contacted by Jackie about continuing the role for 2019, he originally said "No, I'm not sure if I'm up to it." However, he got to thinking about it, and realized that his involvement in the club is one of the things that helps him get out of bed, get energized, and connect with people through his photography. So, he called Jackie back and told her he would continue with his nomination. A week or two later came his stroke, and once again he had to make the decision to bow out. Fortunately, we have very talented people in our club who can step in when needed. Ron sends his regards and wanted the club members to know he misses everyone.

I am grateful we have a wonderful club like ours, with members who care and support each other – in our photography, in our friendships, and in our times of need. Continue to support each other – you never know when you might need a helping hand of your own. And that sums up the spirit of Christmas, doesn't it? Pay it forward by finding a way to share with others. You will find it comes back to enrich your life.

Wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Elisabeth Shore, Vice President, Heard Nature Photographer's Club

IMPORTANT NOTICE
FUTURE MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS

DATE	LOCATION
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)

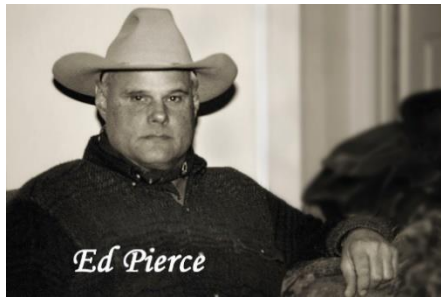
From the Secretary

A Members Meeting was held on November 10 prior to the regular Club meeting, in order to elect a new slate of Officers for 2019. There were 48 members present, and the slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee (Jackie Ranney, Alan Daniel and Kay Griffith) was elected unanimously without objection. Your new Officers will be

President - Peter Gilbert
Vice President - Elisabeth Shore
Secretary/Treasurer - Brian Clark
Membership/Marketing Coordinator - Alan Daniel
Field Trip Coordinator - Jackie Ranney
Contest Coordinator - Dick Robinson
Newsletter Editor - Terree Stone

Below are the December Refreshment Volunteers:

YOU!!!



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!

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.**

Field Trips

December – Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge

Saturday December 1st

8 am at the Refuge

This is a great opportunity to photograph Snow Geese during their annual migration south.

Note: Due to flooding from Lake Texoma, roads and the wheat fields were flooded. Currently the main road is accessible; however, the wheat fields are basically mud flats.

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.

Plan to meet at the parking lot in the visitor's center at 8:00 am. Some of you may wish to go earlier to catch the early morning light. If so, one of our members, who is familiar with the Hagerman and a member of the Hagerman Photo Club will be at the visitor's center shortly before sunrise.

Do remember to dress for rather cool weather.

I drove out on Monday, Nov, 19th, and was there between 9 am and 10 am. There were quite a few geese, a few ducks, some herons and a couple of pelicans.

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.

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

We will be going before the December meeting. If you did not sign up at the November meeting and this reaches you before December 1st, let me know you are going via bjreece@verizon.net or my cell phone 909-223-8052 (text or voice mail).

An email will be sent to all who have signed up a couple of days before the trip with specific information.

Thanks to all for your help and cooperation during 2018

This is my last activity as field trip coordinator for the Head Nature Photographer Club. I have enjoyed the opportunity to research and plan trips around my new home here in North Texas. It has helped me to learn the area and, hopefully, the trips have been a positive experience for you. Jackie Ranney will be taking over the field trip duties for 2019 and from what she tells me some exciting trips both locally and afar are in the planning stages.

Jerry Reece



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



MEMBER'S FORUM

FOR SALE

For Sale - Fuji X-T2 body with strap, battery, charger, manual - \$650 (add \$150 for vertical booster grip). Canon EF 100-400 f/4.5-5.6L IS II USM Lens with hood, case and RRS quick release mounting foot - \$1100. Spider camera plates & holsters, 2 ea. - \$50, Think Tank Turnstyle 10 sling camera bag - \$40, Think Tank Turnstyle 20 sling camera bag - \$50. Contact Randy Dunn at pdb75@gmail.com.

+++++

THE ONLY TIPS YOU WILL EVER NEED

20 KEY BEGINNER PHOTOGRAPHY MISTAKES, TIPS AND TRICKS

<https://totexi.com/20-key-beginner-photography-mistakes-tips-and-tricks/>

21 Photography Tips for Intermediate Photographers

<https://photographylife.com/photography-tips-for-intermediate-photographers>

99 Photography Tips To Take Your Images To The Next Level

<https://www.lightstalking.com/photography-tips/>

+++++

November GSCCC Entries



Dead Horse Point by Peter Gilbert



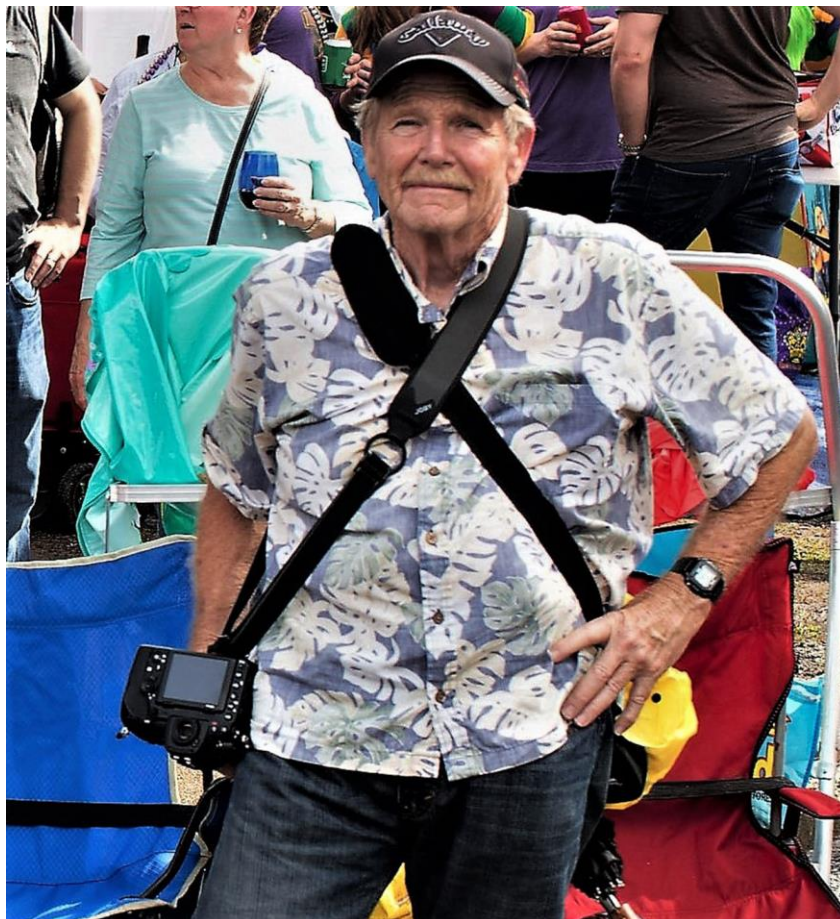
Here Come the Tourists by Tom Heath

Landing by Alan Daniel

You Lookin at Me? by Larry Petterborg



New HNP Member: Don Loucks
By Tom Martin, Membership/Marketing Coordinator



Don Loucks and his wife recently moved from Los Angeles to Prosper following similar moves by family members and friends over the past few years. They find great appeal in Prosper's "country living," but Don readily admits that an even stronger appeal is their granddaughters who currently are enrolled at TCU.

Don was first introduced to photography during his university years. He was scrambling to fill his class schedule with an elective course, and photography "seemed as good as any." During the more than 50 years since that first photography class, photography has been one of the constants in his life. He quickly developed a passion for the personal creativity photography offers.

Once he finished his university training and started his career as a western regional sales manager for Hershey Foods, he bought a new Canon SLR. He was almost constantly traveling for his work, and each trip was a new opportunity for photograph "magnificent landscapes" at nominal cost to him.

Once his children got into school, his broadened his photographic interests began to broaden as his family became another primary subject of his camera. When high school sports became his focus (pun intended), he realized that he needed to upgrade his equipment. He purchased his first digital camera, an early Olympus,

with digital zoom. It produced grainy images, but it captured the moments he wanted. It also taught him to pan in low light, a skill he continues to find useful when shooting birds.

He moved from Hershey to Lawry's Foods and, then, Dr. Pepper as a marketing director and, eventually, a vice president. The changes in his work brought corresponding changes in his frequent travel destinations. As he began visiting major cities across the U.S., he used free time to interact with locals and explore the "unique environment and situations" he encountered. Thus, the natural next step in his photographic evolution was street photography. He bought a small Nikon point-and-shoot camera that allowed him to discretely capture interesting scenes. Until his recent retirement, this was an exciting way to use free time during business trips that brought all kinds of human-interest stories his way.

Until he moved to Texas, he served as photographer for his LA golf club. He enjoyed capturing motion shots of golfers using a Nikon D7000 and a telephoto lens. He found sand shots the most fun, because he could get the ball and the sand flying together through the air. He hopes to get back to golf photography in 2019 with his new club in McKinney.

In the last few years, Don decided to "get serious" about wildlife photography. It's something he has been interested in for a while, but his career made it hard to find time to do it. That interest is what drew him to the Heard Nature Photographers.

Last year, he bought a Nikon D850 in preparation for doing more wildlife photography. He shoots his wildlife images with Nikon's latest 80-400 mm zoom lens, occasionally pairing it with a teleconverter. He really appreciates the high-resolution images captured by his D850, because, when shooting unpredictable wildlife, it gives him enough resolution to crop when necessary and still have a nice image. Check out the impressive hawk and butterfly images that he sent to accompany this introduction.

Don mostly shoots JPGs, but he shoots RAW in certain situations. He is committed to capturing the best possible image in-camera to minimize any post processing. He goes to great lengths to get it right in the camera.

Every May, Don gets together with an old college friend who lives in Colorado Springs. They actually enrolled in the same introductory photography course, and they have been getting together annually for a photo shoot for many years. This year, they went to Maris Gras in New Orleans, the setting of Don's portrait that accompanies this article.

I have visited with Don at our monthly meetings and on field trips. He is an advanced amateur photographer who is very friendly and who enjoys getting to know people. He is also interested in getting more involved with the Heard Nature Photographers and in giving back to the group. I have no doubt that you will find yourself as well-rewarded as I have been in making his acquaintance. So, take a moment to introduce yourself and say hello.





<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
Webmaster: Rob Hull
Newsletter Editor: Larry Petterborg
GSCCC Representative: Larry Petterborg

remarabito@gmail.com
eshore738@gmail.com
peter.gilbert@att.net
peter.gilbert@att.net
ntmarti1@tx.rr.com
ed.pierce1@att.net
bjreece@verizon.net
rcrobinson4649@att.net
info@greatphotography.com
lpetterborg@gmail.com
lpetterborg@gmail.com

Monthly Meeting

8 DEC 2018

Heard Natural Science Museum
1 Nature Place
McKinney, TX

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