

HEARD NATURE PHOTOGRAPHERS CLUB

JANUARY 2019

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- **Reminder – time to pay 2019 yearly dues**
- **Meeting to be held at the SRC building**

Presidents thoughts

Happy New Year to everyone! Here's wishing you all good health, loving families, warm friendships, and good light!

Ron Marabito continues to improve, but of course not as fast as he wants. He is back on Facebook from time to time. We hope his health improves to the point he can not only attend our meetings but participate in some of our field trips that are close to home. Jackie has made a list of trips for 2019. Ron would welcome visitors by the way, just be sure to call ahead to make sure he's available and not doing a therapy session.

Thank you to the outgoing Officers, for your service to the Club these past years – Larry Petterborg, Tom Martin, Jerry Reece, and of course Ron Marabito. Please also welcome our noobs – Brian Clark and Alan Daniel.

Please take some time over the Holidays to prepare your images for the upcoming Photo Contest. The Contest website will be open for entries during February 2 ~ 24 period. Please take a look at our Club website, "2019 Photo Contest" tab, to familiarize yourself with the Contest categories, and for instructions on preparing your images:

<https://www.heardnaturephotographers.com/about-the-contest-1>

Everyone please feel free to contact me anytime with any suggestions, ideas, or concerns you might have, in order to improve your photography experience with the Club. I want everyone to feel like they belong here, and that they can continue to progress in their photography. We have some truly great photographers among us, folks we can learn from!

Your Officers will be meeting early in 2019 to develop and finalize various programs and activities for the year.

Peace,

Peter



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- **2019 Dues are due**
- **See Alan Daniel - \$20/year**

Guest Speaker: **Mital Patel**

BY ELISABETH SHORE

Our guest speaker for our January meeting is Mital Patel, a Dallas-based photographer, who has really come into his own in the past few years.

Mital has been taking pictures since he was 12, when he was first gifted a camera from his father, who was the family's official photographer. He took over from his father as family photographer and also took pictures for his community. It was during family vacations that he found his passion for landscape photography. His primary photographic discipline was still centered on family for almost 20 years. It was when his children started school that his photography took a more intentional approach, and it carried over into his life.

He started taking regular nature hikes with camera in tow, the challenge a little greater with each new adventure. At the same time, Mital also started logging more hours in the digital world, using social media to talk shop with other photographers.

Eventually, online connections led to real-world creative exchanges in cities and remote regions of the world, where he and his new connections found perches to set up cameras and be humbled by the epicness of the natural world. He has spent hundreds of hours gazing at stunning expanses of earth, sea, and sky and trying to relay those memories to a broader community through his photography. It never gets old, and he always has a new destination in mind.

His presentation will showcase a recent trip to Greenland – with pictures of the country's landscape, including icebergs and the people in their daily lives. He will have stories to tell about how he set up and photographed his images, along with the challenges he faced. He will also share some tips on traveling there, for those who might be interested in contemplating this as a future destination!



Mital's work can be found on the following social media inks:

- Instagram: www.instagram.com/mitalpatelphoto
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/mitalpatelphoto
- Twitter: www.twitter.com/mitalpatelphoto
- Web: www.mitalpatelphoto.com

Mital Patel Images:





2019 Field Trip Schedule Heard Nature Photographers (As of December 22, 2018)

January 26, 2019	Texas Discovery Gardens' Rosine Smith Sammons Butterfly House & Insectarium (in Fair Park – Dallas)
February 23, 2019	<p>Helen Lee's Daffodil Garden 21600 County Rd 3103, Gladewater, TX 75647 http://www.daffodilgarden.com/daffodils_home.htm</p> <p>This date may have to change depending upon weather and blooming!</p>
March 2019	<p>Possibility of two field trips in March!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• March 30, 2019 - Tyler Azalea and Spring Flower Trails• Scarborough Haven in Emory (azaleas & more). They have not yet announced the one weekend they will be open.
April 27, 2019	Cedars on the Brazos – Glen Rose, TX
May 4, 2019	Colleyville Nature Center – Colleyville, TX
June 28-29-30, 2019	<p>Caddo Lake – Uncertain, TX Boat trip will be at sunrise on Saturday, June 29.</p>
July 2019	Working on it!
August 17, 2019	Annual Tabletop Workshop
September 2019	Working on it!
October 19-26, 2019	Big Bend National Park
November 2019	<p>Possibility of two Fall Color field trips for November!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scarborough Haven – Emory, TX – dates not yet announced (they will only be open for one weekend).• Dallas Arboretum (Date pending Scarborough Haven date).
December 7, 2019	Vitruvian Lights – Addison, TX

Note that this is a living schedule and subject to updates/changes.

Call if you have questions!

Jackie Ranney
Field Trip Coordinator
214/478-2107

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.

To enter:

www.heardnaturephotographers.com/about-the-contest/

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

Let's Get Social



January Refreshment Volunteers: Donations

**Thanks to all who have donated money in 2018
We are using those funds to provide snacks for the social time this
month.**



Ed Pierce

Needed:

Volunteers to bring refreshments.

We ask that about 5 folks volunteer to bring a snack to share – could be something healthy like a veggie tray or you could share a favorite baked good. Ed will have the sign-up sheets available at the meeting.

Helpful Tips:

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/>

<https://digital-photography-school.com/photographers-shutter-speed-cheat-sheet-reference/>

<https://www.amateurphotographer.co.uk/latest/articles/take-better-bird-photographs-123041>

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.

GULF STATES CAMERA CLUB COUNCIL

Larry Petterborg is our representative and submits images for our club. He is always needing new images. You can get more info and send mages to: lpetterborg@gmail.com. The convention this year is being held in the Dallas area – Dallas Camera Club is sponsoring it. There is always a great lineup of speakers and fieldtrips offered. Check out the website for more info: <http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/convention-2019/>

CONVENTION 2019

MAY 3-5, 2019
DALLAS, TEXAS

Dallas Camera Club will be the host club



New HNP Member: Craig Rowen

By Tom Martin, Membership/Marketing Coordinator (12/2018)

I'm not sure if, last spring, Craig Rowen had just learned of the Heard Nature Photographers, or if, having retired, he finally had some time to participate. Either way, he decided to check us out. I guess he liked what he saw, because he promptly joined and had become an active member. He's been to most of our regular meetings, and field trips, and post-field trip luncheons since joining.

Like Kathy Ledzius, who was featured as a new member back in February, Craig hails from northwestern Indiana. His "first exposure to photography" (Sorry, I couldn't resist the sorry old photographic play on words.) came after he joined the Army and left Indiana. For a time, he was stationed in Germany where he had an opportunity to take a darkroom-based photography class. He learned to develop black and white film, and he played with color photography before being transferred. But, by then, he was already hooked. He could not afford a 35mm SLR at the time, so he was content using a small 110-format film camera with 24 frames per cartridge.

After finishing his "extended vacation" with the Army, he attended Purdue University and graduated with a degree in engineering. He took a job with Texas Instruments and came to the Lonestar State in 1974. With a real job, he could finally afford a 35mm camera, and he settled on a Canon AE-1. He still has that camera and the lenses he bought for it. Later, he bought an Olympus XA pocket 35mm film camera just to have something convenient to carry around. He primarily shot color slides, and those were mostly of his family.

Craig's initial foray into digital photography was with small, early, point-and-shoot cameras back around the turn of the millennium: first, some flavor or early Nikon Coolpix followed by a Canon PowerShot A95. He eventually got a Canon EOS Rebel T1i. He currently shoots with a Canon EOS 70D. He also shoots with his cell phone. Now that he is a dyed-in-the-wool digital guy, he prefers to shoot raw images which he edits in Adobe Lightroom and Adobe Photoshop. He enjoys sharing his images electronically, but he also enjoys printing his images.

Craig's primary photographic interests are nature, landscape, macro/micro, and night photography. He also enjoys walk-arounds and shooting cityscapes. In terms of moving to a new level with his photography, he is interested in improving his in-camera composition.

If you're at one of our regular meetings or on one of our field trips, Craig will probably be there. He's friendly and easy to talk to. So, reach out and welcome him to the Heard Nature Photographers and get acquainted.

Craig Rowen's Images



Member's Choice



Congratulations to Paul Chance for winning the Member's Choice this year.

Here is how Paul was able to capture this image: "I had the good fortune to spend 3 weeks in the bush a couple years ago with some buddies. Saw lots of everything except only a few cheetahs. This shot of a leopard was captured in South Africa near Kruger National Park. While it was dusty I did amplify it a bit by applying a texture layer in PS which also applied the vignette effect. Shot with a Nikon D3S, 70-200 at ISO 5600."

We had 116 images compete for the title of Member's Choice. Paul also had the 2nd runner up image; it was a great year for Paul. Thanks to all the club members for submitting an outstanding group of images. I honestly don't know how we manage to choose a winner every year. Keep on shooting and don't forget that you can also enter these images in the Heard Photo Contest.



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

2019 CLUB OFFICERS

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MONTHLY MEETING 12 JANUARY 2019 1:30PM

HEARD NATURAL SCIENCE MUSEUM
1 Nature Place
McKinney, TX 75069

<http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com>