

HEARD NATURE PHOTOGRAPHERS CLUB

JUNE 2019
VOLUME 35, ISSUE 6

MEETING DATE *JUNE 8TH*****

• MEETING WILL BE IN LAUGHLIN HALL

President's thoughts

Some of us are very fortunate to be able to travel extensively, including to far-off exotic places. Others for various reasons are for the most part confined close to home. Nevertheless, there are plenty of opportunities for photographing Nature in our area – the Heard Museum being one obvious example. Occasionally, you find nature subjects in unlikely places. Case in point – I photographed these Texas Primroses in a vacant lot across the fence from my condo – I spotted them from my upstairs bedroom window. Took me all of 3 minutes to set up my camera and 110mm macro lens. Two shots are attached. A week later, they mowed the field, and the flowers are gone (until next year, I hope).

I updated my Lightroom Classic this week, to take advantage of the new Texture slider/brush (among other things; see below). These two flower shots were reprocessed to add some Texture, and it really does make a difference. (The Texture slider works in reverse to improve skin softness in portraits, much better than Clarity).

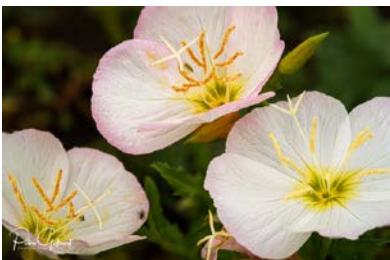
Another new feature in LR/Photoshop is the Adobe Flat Field Filter. If anyone is interested in learning more about this, see me, I've used this a lot with adapted lenses.

Elisabeth always has challenges in securing monthly speakers – no fault of hers, she's doing a great job – people frequently "commit" to our date, then back out at the last minute. If any member has ideas for speakers, either topics, or (better) someone to give us a talk, please let Elisabeth know. Maybe some of our own members could do a show on their travels – we have had a few such programs in the past (Ron and Sharlott; Anita; yours truly, etc.).

A couple of reminders: (1) Jackie will be conducting an orientation class for BBNP (for those members who have signed up) on July 13 at 12 noon (Laughlin Hall) before the regular club meeting, and (2) the annual tabletop meeting will be Saturday August 17 10 am – 3 pm in the SRC building. Details on our club website.

Good shooting!

Peter



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Male Western Tanager
By Mike Cameron

Guest Speaker Mike Cameron

By Elisabeth Shore



Mike Cameron

This month's speaker is one of our own very talented members – Mike Cameron. You may know him best as our residential bird expert photographer, and one of our recurring guest speakers at our August Table Top Workshop.

Mike is a self-taught photographer who first began the hobby of photography at the dawn of the digital era with a Nikon Coolpix 900 in 1999. He quickly graduated to a digital SLR in 2001 and has been seriously photographing wildlife and landscapes for past 15 years. He continually hones his skills photographing a variety of natural subjects, but over the years he has specialized in photographing bird life, especially in the North Texas region. His photographs have been published by the Plano Parks Department, the Nature Conservancy, eBird's Spring Migration BirdCast 2017, and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Bird ID Cards. In addition to photography, Mike leads educational bird walks for local organizations such as The Heard Museum, the Richardson Parks Department, and the Prairie and Timbers Audubon Society (PTAS). Mike is currently employed by Texas Instruments, Inc. where he has a 25-year career in semiconductor manufacturing, and he is the current president of Prairie and Timbers Audubon Society.

Mike will share a presentation on "Birding the Pacific Northwest", showcasing some of his bird photography from a 2018 trip to Washington State. He, and a group from the Prairie and Timbers Audubon Society, made the 10-day journey, visiting many different habitats from coastal Puget Sound around Seattle, through the rain forests of the Western Cascades, over the mountains to the dry scrub of Eastern Washington, back to the Olympic peninsula, and finally a quick jaunt over to Victoria, B.C on Vancouver Island. He will share his experiences and insights in photographing some of the 142 species birds that were seen on the trip, as well as some videography and landscape photography along the way.

His work can be seen on his websites (<http://mikecameronphoto.com>) and (<http://www.cameron-digital.com>).



Female Dickcissel

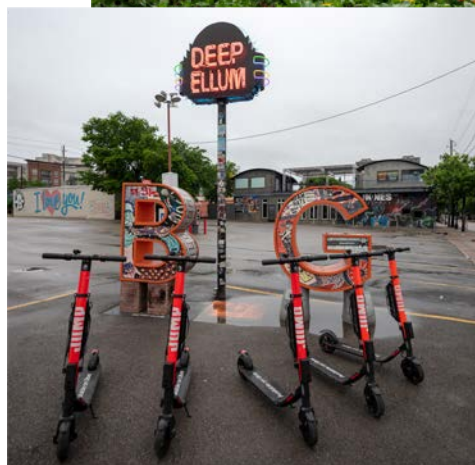


Townsend's Warbler



Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Roadtrips



The Gulf States Camera Club Council annual convention was held May 2-4 of the year. Heard Nature Photographers Club is a member. All of the attendees from Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Mississippi had a great time. There were a number of great speakers. Lots of great images and prints in the Year End competition and lots of fun photos events. These images are a few from some of the events, which included nationally renowned Martinez Ballet dances at Ozona Grill and Bar, Night shoot in downtown Dallas and an early morning shoot at the Dallas Arboretum on Friday morning and a Saturday photo shoot in Deep Ellum. It was a fun time.

Alan Daniel



2019 Field Trip Schedule

Heard Nature Photographers

(As of May 17, 2019)

June 28-29-30, 2019	Caddo Lake – Uncertain, TX – wait list only
July 20, 2019	Nighttime Photography with Jim Hamel in Downtown Dallas – wait list only
August 17, 2019	Annual Tabletop Workshop
September	Still working on it!
October 12, 2019	Blackland Prairie Raptor Center – Lucas, TX (This has been rescheduled by the Center due to weather conditions predicted for their May 18, 2019 event.)
October 19-25, 2019	Big Bend National Park – wait list only.
November	<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 5, 2019	<p>Vitruvian Lights – Addison, TX</p> <p>This has been changed to a week night since crowds on the weekends are very heavy and not conducive to real photography.</p>

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

As always, call if you have questions!

Jackie Ranney
Field Trip Coordinator
214/478-2107

FIELD TRIPS – WHY ARE SOME OF THEM WAITLISTED??

Since this isn't something we have done in the past, I thought a word of explanation would be helpful. Ideally on our field trips everyone has adequate space to set up their equipment as needed to get their shots and to have an opportunity for instruction if needed. Occasionally (as in the Night Photography field trip with Jim Hamel), managing multiple attendees and being able to provide both the space and the individual attention are to be considered. Yes, there is plenty of space on the levee across from downtown but once the group moves to the downtown streets in locations that will be chosen by Jim, available space and individual attention become a different situation.

With destinations such as Big Bend and Caddo Lake, managing large groups is an entirely different situation (i.e. 30 participants!!) In Big Bend, although there are 880,000 acres in the park, for visiting individual locations within the park, parking is not available for more than a limited number of cars at a time in many of the locations. (Just pulling off the road isn't permitted since damage to ecologically sensitive plants is inevitable). Thus traveling as a large group to each of these locations must be reevaluated. In one location (Dorgan-Sublett – the most significant ruins in the park), it's on a small plateau and once photographers are on that plateau, there is limited opportunity for others to get out of your shots. Closed Canyon – just being there with no noise other than the overhead birds is a whole new experience to be treasured. (Can you imagine keeping 30 people quiet for an hour?)



Dorgan-Sublett Ranch – Big Bend National Park

Then there's Caddo Lake! How many of us want a boat full of people in our photographs? Both managing multiple people when loading the boats and the pilots being able to spread out far enough on the lake for us to get clean shots is something else to be considered.

Hope this clarifies what's happening when you really want to go on a particular trip only to find the "wait listed" notice. If not, call me and let's talk!

Jackie Ranney
Field Trip Coordinator
214/478-2107

Nature First Photography: Principles of Nature Photography

Nature Photographers Unite to Preserve Remaining Wilderness

By [Christian Hoiberg](#)

Please take a few minutes and read this press release from [Nature First Photography](#), an alliance focusing on preserving nature and promoting responsible nature photography

The Harm Stops Here: Nature Photographers Unite to Preserve Remaining Wilderness

April 22, 2019. Estes Park, Colorado – From the trampled poppy fields of California to the over-run waterfalls of Iceland, all over our world we are seeing the ever-growing impact of photography and social media. Blooming sunflower fields attracted tens of thousands of people, shutting down highways and destroying farmers' fields while previously unknown waterfalls and mountain vistas fill Instagram and Facebook pages drawing thousands of visitors to these once pristine places.

In the last decade, many of our world's most beautiful and often unknown places have been put in the spotlight via social media. Places once protected due to their anonymity are now attracting ever more traffic daily and most of these wild places can't survive the attention. These beautiful locations are now surrounded by mud and gravel, trampled vegetation and trash. No longer are they marked by natural silence and active wildlife but instead have become hubs of noisy human activity.

Since long before the time of Ansel Adams, nature photographers have been exploring our beautiful world and sharing its wonder with the rest of the human population. From its earliest beginnings photographers such as Carleton Watkins, William Henry Jackson and Philip Hyde used their photography to bring attention to the need to preserve our natural world. Their photos were instrumental in the formation of many of America's national parks. But, by the early 2000's, things changed dramatically. No longer were their images reserved for books and magazines but were now appearing on computers and mobile devices around the world. The rise of Instagram with its algorithm encouraging the sharing of location information tipped the scale and nature photography soon went from a means of promoting the protection our natural world to an invitation to everyone to reach out and touch these places. Natural areas across the planet have seen an explosion of growth in visitation. For instance, Rocky Mountain National Park has seen over 40% growth since 2012 stretching it beyond capacity. It is similar for Arches National Park, Zion National Park, the country of Iceland, national parks in Norway and New Zealand, etc. Without the infrastructure to support and protect these places, our natural world is being loved to death.

At the same time photographers have been taking ever greater risks to get a photo that no one else has. As photographers push into new places and share them with the world, the world follows in their footsteps. For many photographers today it is all about coming away with a dramatic photo without the appreciation of the flora, fauna, geology, history and delicate nature of these places. In these instances the places themselves are not loved but merely used for what they can provide—more fans and followers.

Nature First is built on seven core principles that help communicate how each of us can enjoy nature photography responsibly. The Seven Principles of Nature First Photography were developed to help educate and guide both professional and recreational photographers in sustainable, minimal impact practices that will help preserve nature's beautiful locations. #naturefirst

THE NATURE FIRST PRINCIPLES

- 1. Prioritize the well-being of nature over photography.**
- 2. Educate yourself about the places you photograph.**
- 3. Reflect on the possible impact of your actions.**
- 4. Use discretion if sharing locations.**
- 5. Know and follow rules and regulations.**
- 6. Always follow Leave No Trace principles and strive to leave places better than you found them.**
- 7. Actively promote and educate others about these principles**



****SUBMITTED BY LARRY PETTERBORG****



FOR SALE - CAMERA SHOULDER BAGS

Domke F6 Canvas. Includes Domke "Post Office" strap pad, and 2-section insert (plus the regular 4-section insert). Excellent + \$50 OBO

Domke F4AF Rugged Wear. Includes Domke "Post Office" strap pad. I have a can of the wax also (unused). Like New - \$70 OBO

Contact Peter Gilbert peter.gilbert@att.net | 214-733-1466

I'm selling some equipment.

Canon EOS 7D Mark ii W/ 18 - 135 STM kit lens: \$1000

Canon EOS EF 24-105 Lens: \$900

Canon EF 16-35mm f/2.8L II USM Lens: \$1000

Genustech 77mm Variable Neutral Density Filter: \$90

Toshiba P50t Laptop: \$250

[Here is a website with more details and pictures.](http://guyhuntleyphotography.com/forsale/index.html)

Thanks . . . Guy Huntley

<http://guyhuntleyphotography.com/forsale/index.html>

UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

<i>Month</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Guest Speaker Name</i>	<i>Presentation Topic</i>
<i>July</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>Kathy Adams Clark</i>	<i>There's Nothing to Photograph!</i>
<i>August</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>Kathy & Robert Norwood</i>	<i>Drone Photography</i>
<i>September</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>TBA</i>	
<i>October</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>Earl Nottingham</i>	<i>Have you seen what is around Texas</i>
<i>November</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>TBA</i>	
<i>December</i>		<i>No Guest Speaker</i>	<i>Members Choice</i>

Let's Get Social

June Refreshment Volunteers:

Clif Ranney
Linda Grigsby

If you haven't volunteered to bring snacks to share – there's still time – Ed will have a sign-up sheet at the meeting. We need about 5 folks per meeting to bring your favorite dessert or something healthy like a fruit or veggie tray.

A big thanks to Ed who brings the drinks, cups, plates, napkins, forks and ice to every meeting.





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

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

2019 CLUB OFFICERS

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MONTHLY MEETING

8 JUNE 2019

1:30 PM

HEARD NATURAL SCIENCE MUSEUM

1 NATURE PLACE

MCKINNEY, TX 75069

<http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com>