



# Heard Nature Photographers

To photograph is to hold one's breath, when all faculties converge to capture fleeting reality. It's at that precise moment that mastering an image becomes a great physical and intellectual joy.

Henri Cartier-Bresson

## Happy New Year

Meeting Date: January 9, 2021, 2:00 pm, online

A ZOOM link will be sent by e-mail prior to meetings  
In-person club events are canceled until further notice

January 2021  
Volume 37 Issue 1  
WINTER

[www.heardnaturephotographers.com](http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com)

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Members Choice Finalist 2020: **Anita Oakley**



**Members Choice Winner 2020: JD Luttmer**

I took this sunset photo during a guided tour of New Zealand's South Island in September 2017. The image was taken at the Pancake Rocks Lookout in the Paparoa National Park overlooking the Tasman Sea. The incoming waves would periodically force plumes of sea water through the blowhole.

Canon 5D Mark IV, 16mm, 1.6 sec, f/14, ISO 100

Welcome to 2021!

As we ring in the new year, it brings with it a renewed sense of purpose and a feeling of hope. After last year's heavy tolls of both infections and deaths, an election that has divided our country, and many natural disasters impacting people on a global scale, we definitely need both of these to lift our spirits.

Our area counties continue to evaluate the risk of COVID-19 at red, the highest level. However, help is on the way as vaccinations have begun to be rolled out for frontline workers and the most at-risk among us. And with plans to rapidly ramp up vaccine availability, we hope to see the infection rate start to drop significantly in the coming weeks and months.

One positive thing I feel has come out of this past year for our club has been the ability to continue our meetings virtually. Granted, seeing each other on a Zoom screen isn't the same as meeting in person, but we were able to rise to the occasion with our speakers being flexible in accommodating these changes. It has also shown us that we have new avenues to pursue in providing you all with quality educational opportunities from our guest speakers as we move into this new year.

I would like for us all to think of ways of continuing to increase and diversify our membership both in person and virtually. Also, I think that many of you have expressed interest in the educational training sessions, so I would like to continue looking into ways to bring more of those to you in the coming year. In order to make sure we are targeting what you are wanting to learn, I need you to let me know the topics of interest you have by sending me an email with some of your suggestions and thoughts.

I would like to give a very HUGE THANK YOU to all of the officers who served in 2020, as you have ALL helped to keep things "normal" and stable. We have new first time officers stepping up this year – I would like to say thanks to these members for taking on leadership roles in this uncertain time. As your new president, I am very lucky to have a team of such talented, positive, and hard-working people to depend upon and support our club.

Continue to stay safe and do what you need to protect yourself and your families. Please feel to contact me with any questions, concerns, and suggestions.

All the best,  
Elisabeth, [eshore738@gmail.com](mailto:eshore738@gmail.com)



Members Choice Finalist 2020: Alan Daniel



Members Choice Finalist 2020: Janice Goetz

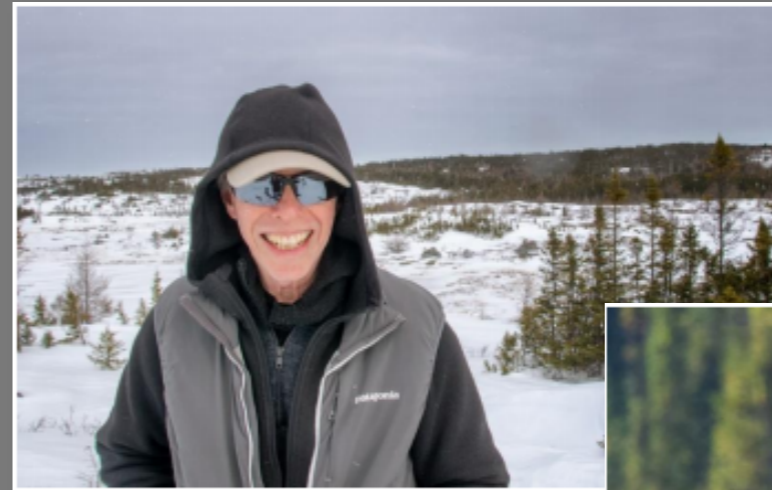
## JANUARY SPEAKERS

Our guest speakers for our January meeting will be coming to us from New Jersey. They are a husband and wife who both enjoy photography. Join us this month to watch and listen to Phil and Becky Witt share their experiences and images from several photographic tours they have taken of some of the most scenic areas of the British Isles: Scotland and Ireland. We'll travel photographically from the mountains of Glencoe to the valleys of the Caledonian Canal of Scotland to the hills and rocky beaches of Ireland. They will show their images and discuss their methods for capturing the striking vistas of these areas.

Phil has been photographing nature since he got his first SLR camera in the late 1970s. An avid birder, he is a volunteer at the Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary of NJ Audubon in Bernardsville, NJ, where he co-leads the photography workshop series, and he is currently on the NJ Audubon's Board of Directors. He is a past president of the Camera Naturalist Photo Club, NJ's only nature-only photography club. He judges photography competitions and presents instructional programs at photography clubs throughout New Jersey. He received the NJ Federation of Camera Club's 2017 Citation for service to photography in the state. He and his wife, Becky, enjoy traveling the world for photography, having visited Antarctica, the Galapagos, Tanzania, Iceland, Costa Rica, and other beautiful locations.

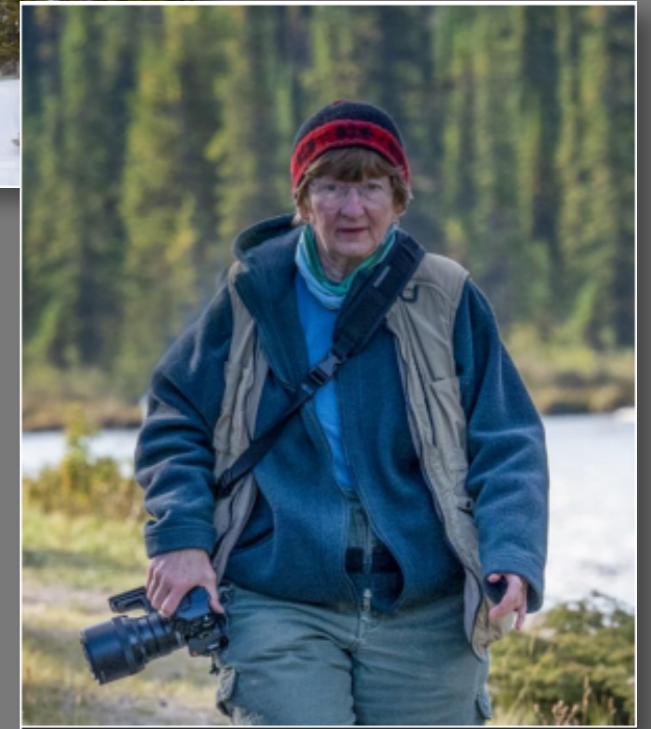
When not birding or photographing, Phil works as a forensic psychologist, specializing in legal cases and court testimony.

You can find Phil's work on his website: <https://philwitt.smugmug.com/>.



Phil Witt

Husband and wife  
photographers  
from New Jersey



Becky Witt

Based on her interests in birds and nature, Becky's photography began with photographing birds and has expanded to all areas of nature and beyond, to include hand-of-man and non-nature. She started just trying to get sharp and properly exposed shots, and now aims for an image that engages the viewer – evoking an emotion or feeling of wonder. She has served as a past member of the executive board of Camera Naturalists and currently serves on the board for the Somerset County Photo Club. She not only helps run photography workshops for NJ Audubon, but is also a judge in photography clubs around the state of New Jersey.

You can find Becky's work on her website: <https://beckywitt.smugmug.com/>.

**NEXT MEETING: Saturday, January 9, 2021, 2:00 pm by ZOOM**  
A link will be sent to your e-mail address  
Please be sure your membership is current



Coumeenole Beach, Ireland



Chaffinch, Scotland



Highland Cow, Scotland



Ireland



Abandoned Boat, Scotland



Loch Maree, Scotland



Quiraing, Scotland

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Anita Oakley shares this Learning Opportunity from Mike Mezeul:

“I received this from Mike Mezeul, a frequent speaker at the Heard Photo Club. He asked that I share it with members of the club. I am a member of his Patreon channel, and I’ve found the edit sessions to be a huge help with my own post processing. He usually takes an image from RAW out of the camera through fully processed, including some very nifty tricks to make the most of the images. Here’s his message:”

“With COVID limiting the amount of in-person education we can do right now, a few months back I started a Patreon channel where I teach group and private sessions on camera gear, Lightroom, and Photoshop editing. It’s had an awesome response and I’m looking to grow the page more. People can sign up for different tiers (starting at \$10) and have access to bi-weekly live edit sessions with Q&A, personal one-on-one edit sessions, and behind-the-scenes videos. Here is the link for the channel: [www.patreon.com/mikemezphoto](http://www.patreon.com/mikemezphoto).



### Mike Mezeul Photography

Mike Mezeul has invited everyone to an open Patreon group edit session on January 11th. I’ve been attending these all fall, and I’ve learned so many great Lightroom and Photoshop techniques! Here’s the information:

Hey guys! Our next live edit session will be held via Zoom on January 11 @7PM Central! This will be a full edit session from an amazing morning in Oregon! Topics and techniques covered will include:

- Double Processing RAW Images via Smart Objects
- Layer Masking
- Dodging & Burning
- Light Bleeding
- Orton Effect

Mark your calendars! Here is the link for the Zoom chat. Happy New Years you guys!

Topic: Live Edit Session - Full Edit Oregon Coast

Time: Jan 11, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

A ZOOM link will be sent by e-mail prior to the session.





## FIELD TRIPS

### Notes from Steve Earles, Field Trip Coordinator

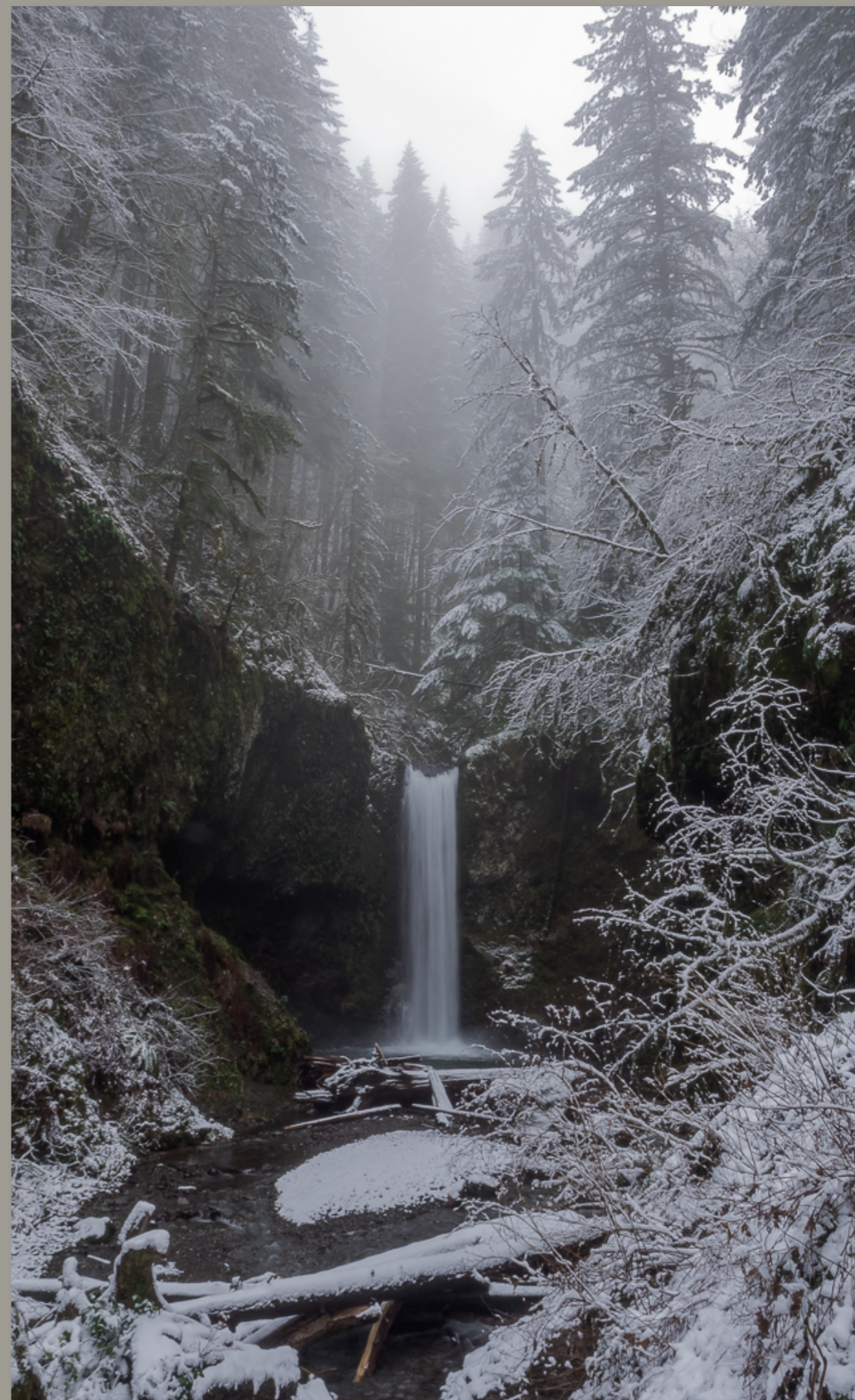
Happy New Year everyone. Let's hope 2021 is a better year. Our experts are telling us it will be late fall before we arrive at our new normal. I believe we can get out together so long as we have outdoor events and practice social distancing.

I do not have anything planned for January, but I will start posting events for late February and forward.

I am also coordinating a fall birding trip to Galveston for the weekend of October 16-17 with Jim Stevenson. Jim is a birder in the Galveston area and runs the Galveston Ornithological Society. He will lead us to some of his favorite birding locations. Save the date if you are interested, Once more of the details are known, I will get the trip posted.

In the meantime, here are some suggestions for self-guided trips alone or in meet-up groups:

Cedar Hill State Park  
Trinity River Area  
White Rock Lake  
Dallas Arboretum  
Hagerman Wildlife Refuge



Wiesendange Falls, Larry Petterborg

## 43<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL HEARD NATURE PHOTOGRAPY CONTEST

2021 Submission Dates:

February 1 -22, 2021

Once again, we are approaching the start date for our annual nature photography contest - February 1, 2021. This will be the 43rd year of the contest, which we, as a club, conduct in support of the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary. Since progressing to an all-digital submission process in 2015, a little over \$32,0000 has been generated for the museum. That is an exciting milestone.

Participating is easy - no need to print, mat, mail or deliver images. Deciding what to submit is a bit more complicated on your part. Look at your images - there are no date requirements - and this will be a good review of your image history. You will be pleasantly surprised when you find that image you may have forgotten or that trip that delighted you or that accidental sunset that made your day! Set up a digital folder and drop in your favorites. Simple!

Then go to our website and read the submission rules. We have included names, e-mails and phone numbers of our Contest Coordinators if you still have questions.

**[WEBSITE Contest link](#)**

**[FACEBOOK Contest link](#)**

**[INSTAGRAM Contest link](#)**



Members Choice Finalist 2020: Linda Grigsby



Members ChoiceFinalist 2020: Anita Oakley



Members ChoiceFinalist 2020: Alan Daniel

## WELCOME TO THE HEARD NATURAL SCIENCE MUSEUM'S ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

The contest is hosted by our affiliated photography club but you don't have to be a member of the museum or the photography club to participate. This contest is open to all photographers so find your best nature photographs and get ready to enter.

The Heard Nature Photography Contest predates the Heard Nature Photographers Club by several years. The contest began in 1978, three years prior to the club being formed. Soon after the formation of the club, the museum asked the club members to help with the contest and so began a long-lived partnership.

A lot has changed since the very first print was judged. Today our contest is all digital and includes images from the very young to the, well, not-so-very-young. Take time to enter your images and be included in this outstanding event.

Proceeds from the contest benefit the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary.

### AWARDS

Certificates may be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners in each category for each division. Awards are at the discretion of the judges.

A \$100 cash prize and certificate to Best of Show winners in each of the four contest Divisions.

Overall Best of Show. This image will be printed and displayed at the Heard Natural Science Museum.

# HEARD NATURAL SCIENCE MUSEUM'S ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

## ADULT DIVISIONS

**Aspiring**

**Experienced**

## ADULT CATEGORIES

**Animals (Wild & Captive)**

**Feathered Friends**

**Expressive Impressions**

**Floral**

**Creepy Crawlies**

**Scenics**

**Water**

**Back & White**

**Focus on the Sky**

## YOUTH DIVISIONS

**Junior - up to age 14**

**Senior - ages 15-18**

## YOUTH CATEGORIES

**Animals**

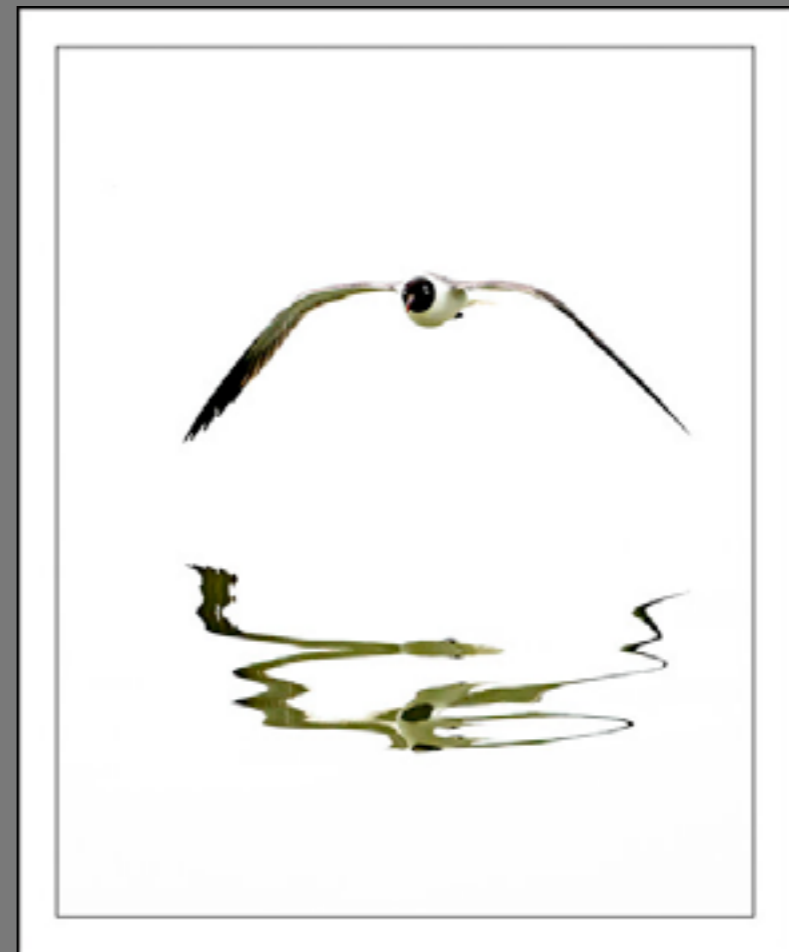
**Feathered Friends**

**Floral**

**Creepy Crawlies**

**Scenic**

**[WEBSITE Contest link](#)**



Members Choice Finalist 2020: Michael Sweatt



Members Choice Finalist 2020: Dennis Thompson

## CONTEST FEES

### ADULT FEES

Adult - \$10 for each image

### YOUTH FEES

Youth Junior/Youth Senior - \$5 for each image

### PAYING FOR YOUR SUBMISSION

We use a manual process to download images and to bill for the entry fee. Here's what happens:

Within 24-48 hours after you submit your images, you will receive an e-mail confirmation that they have been accepted (i.e. downloaded into the submission software).

Once the download happens, a list is generated from which PayPal invoices are manually prepared and sent to the email address under which the submission was made.

From the date of the invoice, participants have 72 hours in which to make their payment.

Each invoice has a separate invoice number. Please pay only from the embedded link in the PayPal invoice. This will automatically reflect that your invoice has been paid once the transaction is complete.

Payment must be made before the images will be included in the judging.

Payments are only accepted via PayPal. Credit cards are used for making this payment.

We are set up to accept international payments.

Cash and checks will not be accepted.

If you are having difficulty with the PayPal process, please contact Debbie Nielsen, Contest Coordinator for help at 972-369-0480 (Call or text), or [contest@heardnaturephotographers.com](mailto:contest@heardnaturephotographers.com)

Please note: Invoices for images submitted within two days of the deadline will need to be paid upon receipt.

## IMAGE SPECIFICATIONS

Images submitted should be saved as JPG files. RAW files are not accepted.

Image size should be at least 2000 pixels on the long edge and save it as a JPG file at 70% - 80% quality.

No identifying information should be visible on the image.

Ensure that the image Title and Copyright are included in the metadata of the image file.

**NEW!** If metadata is not entered in the digital file and your images places in any category, your name and image title will not appear with our image when winners are posted on our website or displayed during the awards reception.

[See website for metadata instructions.](#)

## IMPORTANT DATES

### SUBMISSION DATES

OPEN: February 1, 2021

Close: February 22, 2021

AWARDS CEREMONY (Virtual) A Zoom link will be sent by e-mail

March 21, 2021 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Winners will be notified by email after March 8, 2021. A full list of winners will be posted on the website after March 21, 2021.

## CONTEST SPONSORS



<https://competitivecameras.com/>

2025 Irving Blvd. Suite 107  
Dallas, TX 75207  
214-744-5511

[sales@competitivecameras.com](mailto:sales@competitivecameras.com)



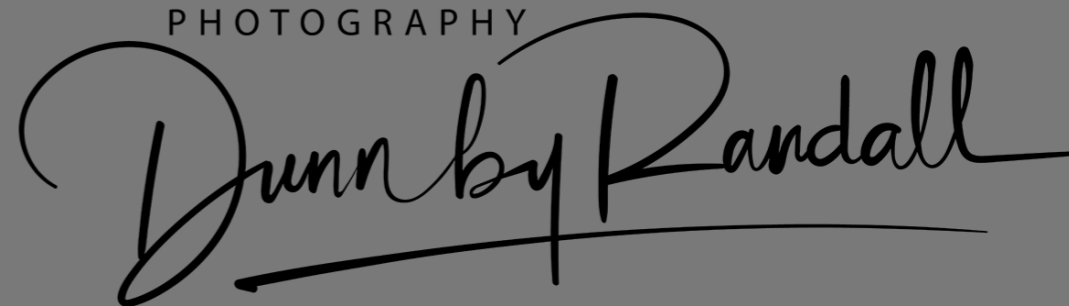
<https://garlandcamera.net/>

1401 Northwest Highway @ Saturn  
Garland, TX. 75041  
972/278-0717

For your camera and other equipment needs, just talk to Steve Wright.

[info@garlandcamera.net](mailto:info@garlandcamera.net)

PHOTOGRAPHY



<https://dunnbyrandall.zenfolio.com/>



<https://www.arlingtoncamera.com/shop/>

544 West Randal Mill Rd  
Arlington, TX 76011



[www.GreatPhotography.com](http://www.GreatPhotography.com)



Members Choice Finalist 2020: Debbie Neilsen



Members Choice Finalist 2020: Debbie Neilsen

## 2021 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL \$20 PER YEAR

**Thank You!! Thank you for being a supportive member of the Heard Nature Photographers Club. We really appreciate having you as a part of our growing family. Our association is better because of you.**

**Membership in the club is only \$20 each year. Use the [link](#) on this page to renew your membership.**

**Remember that, as a member, you can participate in some awesome field trips when the club once again meets in person. Our meeting speakers provide incredible insight into photography and our host, the [Heard Natural Science Museum](#), is an incredible facility.**

**Currently, members are able to take advantage of excellent speakers via ZOOM meetings and the club often meets in conjunction with area photography clubs while meetings are canceled.**

**If you are a first time member, you may want to read about the club. The [Heard Nature Photographers Club](#) is an auxiliary group of the [Heard Natural Science Museum](#), McKinney, Texas. [Click here for club bylaws and policies and procedures.](#)**

**[To renew, click on this link which will take you to the website.](#)**

**Membership is \$20. per year. You will be able to pay by credit card.**

**Dues can be paid via PayPal directly to [membership@heardnaturephotographers.com](mailto:membership@heardnaturephotographers.com)**

**Other options are to send a check made payable to:  
Heard Nature Photographers to:  
Treasurer, Brian Clark  
Heard Nature Photographers  
441 Cherry Spring Drive  
McKinney, TX 75072.**



## HEARD NATURE PHOTOGRAPHERS

If you are a new member, or are renewing a long standing membership, you may want to visit our [“About”](#) Page. The Club is an auxiliary group hosted by the Heard Natural Science Museum in McKinney, TX. Here you will read the history of the club and see a map of the in-person (when available) meeting location on the Heard Natural Science Museum grounds.

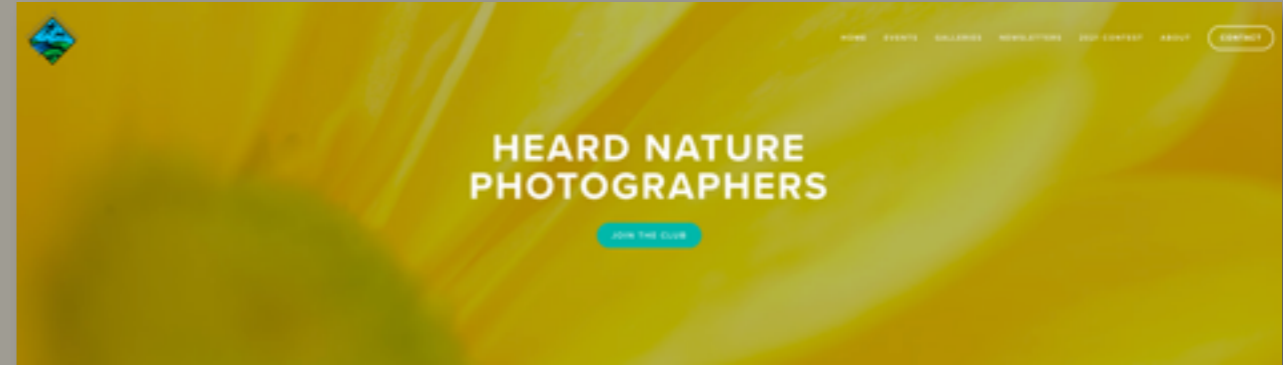
The club was established in 1981 and has served the and has served the nature photography enthusiast ever since. We are an affiliate of the [Photographic Societies of America](#) and focus our attention on nature photography.

We have a distinguished list of [Honorary Life Members](#) and all [Past Presidents](#) are listed.

The [Bylaws and Policies](#) are also available.

Although meetings cannot be in person at this time, the [Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary](#) is currently open and we encourage you to grab your camera and take a winter walk! Visit their [FACEBOOK](#) page for updated activities.

[Membership to the Heard](#) is available at different price levels, as well as activities for all ages.



## CLUB WEBSITE

The [Club website](#) has a wealth of information for both the new member and longstanding membership.

The [Meetings Page](#) lists the guest speakers who have presented on ZOOM since March 2020. Commentary and often photos are noted as well as contact information for speakers. Since most speakers are unable to lead workshops in the field, many of these professionals are offering free and/or subscription workshops online for the time being.

Under the [Events Page](#) you will find a wealth of video clips and resources for the photographer.

[Galleries](#) features member photos from a variety of contests and events.

[Newsletters](#) are archived from 2015 through 2020.

## SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

Our Facebook page (Members Only):

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HeardNP>

Instagram page:

<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/heardnaturephotographers/>





**President  
Elisabeth Shore**

To be revealed in the  
February Newsletter

**Vice President  
Craig Rowan**

To be revealed in the  
February Newsletter

**Secretary/Treasurer  
Brian Clark**

To be revealed in the  
February Newsletter

**Membership  
Coordinator  
Guy Huntley**



**Field Trip  
Coordinator  
Steven Earles**



**Webmaster  
Rob Hull**



**Newsletter Editor  
Nancy Mack**



**GSCCC Representative Contest Co-Coordinator  
Anita Oakley  
Debbie Nielson**

To be revealed in the  
February Newsletter



**Contest Co-Coordinator  
Steven Earles**



**Refreshments  
Open**

## OFFICERS 2021

OFFICER POSITION	REPRESENTATIVE	E-MAIL
President	Elisabeth Shore	<a href="mailto:eshore738@gmail.com">eshore738@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Craig Rowan	<a href="mailto:craigtr.photos@gmail.com">craigtr.photos@gmail.com</a>
Secretary/Treasurer	Brian Clark	<a href="mailto:brian@emporiummax.com">brian@emporiummax.com</a>
Membership Coordinator	Guy Huntley	<a href="mailto:guyjr1@gmail.com">guyjr1@gmail.com</a>
Field Trip Coordinator	Steven Earles	<a href="mailto:steven.earles@yahoo.com">steven.earles@yahoo.com</a>
Webmaster	President	<a href="mailto:rob.hull@greatphotography.com">rob.hull@greatphotography.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Nancy Mack	<a href="mailto:nmack2@earthlink.net">nmack2@earthlink.net</a>
GSCCC Representative	Anita Oakley	<a href="mailto:anitaoak@outlook.com">anitaoak@outlook.com</a>
Contest Co-Coordinator	Debbie Nielson	<a href="mailto:debn654@gmail.com">debn654@gmail.com</a>
Contest Co-Coordinator	Steven Earles	<a href="mailto:steven.earles@yahoo.com">steven.earles@yahoo.com</a>
Refreshments	Open until we return to in-person meetings	



## CLUB GEAR

The new club store is now open!! Members are now able to order a variety of merchandise emblazoned with the club logo. A giant leap beyond the red and green shirts, you can now choose classic button front shirts, polos, warm vests, jackets and more, all in colors that compliment our stylish blue logo. Separate sections are available for men's and women's clothing as well as sections for Totes and Bags and Accessories. They are also offering face masks.

**Lands End** Business Outfitters hosts this new site and fulfills your orders, shipping directly to you within days of your order.

**Tip:** Create an account before you start shopping to ensure you have a shopping cart - it makes the shopping experience smooth.

**[Click Here](#)** to access the club store.



Mt. Nebo, Larry Petterborg



Mule Deer Doe and Fawn, Larry Petterborg



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

## GSCCC Update

GSCCC contests resume in January. Thanks to everyone agreeing to the use of their Members' Choice entries for Gulf States. We have some great images all lined up for the new year. We will be able to really show off our members' talent.

Thank all of you who agreed, and if you have others you want to submit for the Gulf States contests, please send them to me at [anitaoak@outlook.com](mailto:anitaoak@outlook.com). Make sure there is no watermark, and size them at 4000 pixels on the long edge. The file name format should be Image Title-Your Name. For instance, one of mine might be: Yellowstone Falls-Anita Oakley.

Thanks,

Anita Oakley, GSCCC Representative

[anitaoak@outlook.com](mailto:anitaoak@outlook.com)

## GSCCC NEWS

Jack Harrison won an Honorable Mention in September for his image "End of Day – Grand Canyon." Congratulations Jack!



End of Day – Grand Canyon, Jack Harrison



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



<https://psa-photo.org/>



Winter Walk, Nancy Mack



Winter, Nancy Mack



Members Choice Finalist 2020: **JD Luttmer**

**Happy New Year**