



Heard Nature Photographers

“How do you put the frame around your idea?”

— Eddie Soloway

July 4
Summer, Part II: **EVEN HOTTER**

Next Meeting Date: Saturday, July 9, 2022, 2:00 pm

This meeting will be “in person”
ZOOM will also be available as an additional choice
A ZOOM link will be sent by e-mail prior to meeting

July 2022
Volume 38 Issue 7
SUMMER

www.heardnaturephotographers.com

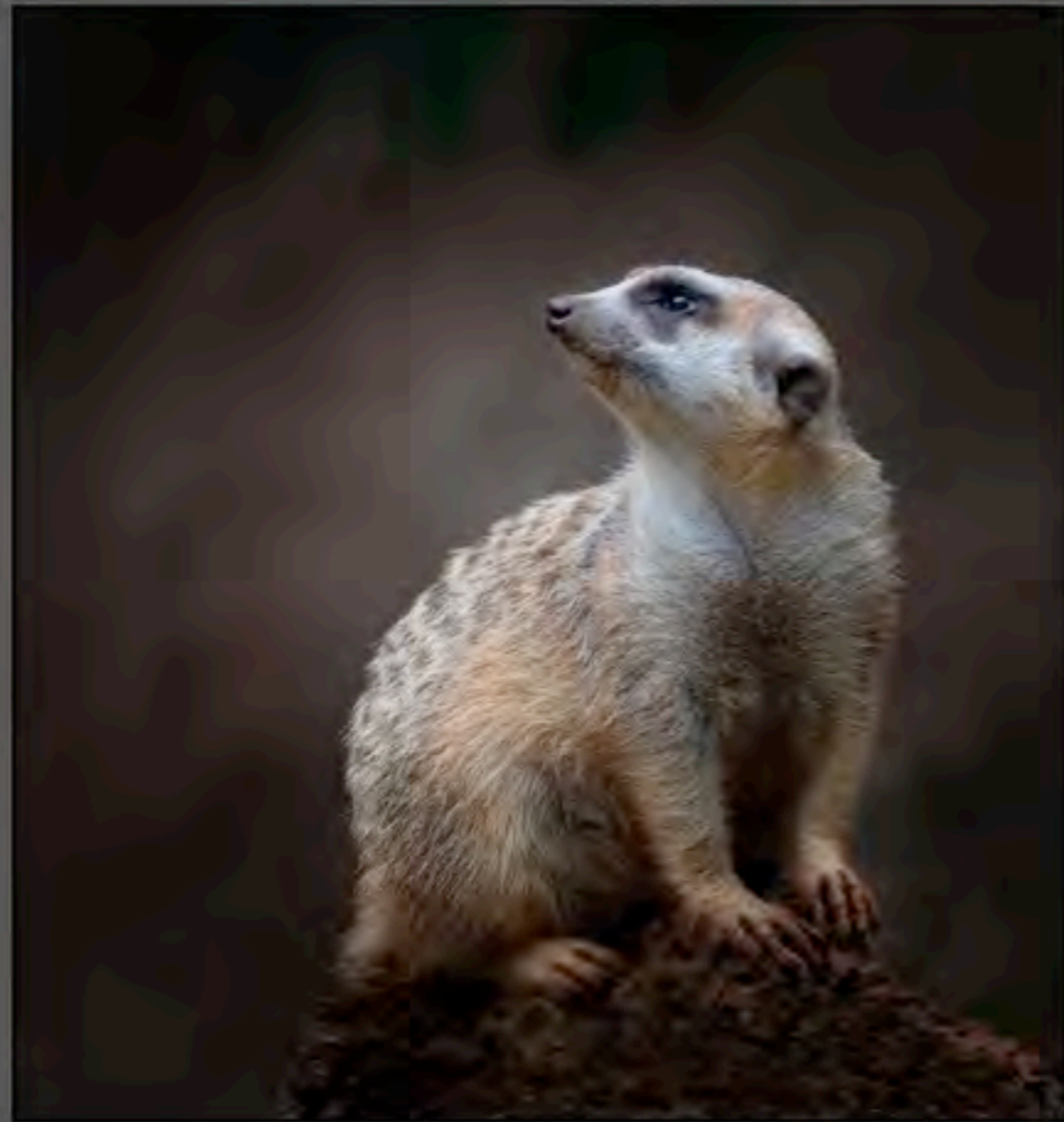
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Alan Daniel

RED SHOULDERED HAWK WITH SNAKE: Alan Daniel



2022 OVERALL BEST OF SHOW:

CHANDRA BROOKS

DID YOU GET MY GOOD SIDE?

I am honored and excited to have my image “Did You Get My Good Side” chosen as the Heard Nature Photography Contest Best in Show for 2022. I was fortunate to capture this image at one of my favorite local photography spots – the Dallas Zoo. I always hope to showcase my subject’s personality in my images, and fortunately for me, the Zoo’s meerkat mob has sass and personality in spades. I captured this image with the Sony A7RIII and a Sigma 150-600 Contemporary lens. Although I wasn't able to set this photo up in a traditional sense since these are captive animals, I took time to observe the meerkats, their behaviors and the habitat. I knew since I was working with a 6.3 minimum aperture at 600mm, the meerkat needed to climb a specific rock mound in the exhibit in order for me to have the subject to background distance to isolate the meerkat and give as much background blur as possible to eliminate the distractions. The rest was really a matter of patience, and timing, as I waited for this little one to perch on the rock mound for morning lookout duty complete with dusty paws and a sassy pose. One of the many reasons I enjoy zoo photography is that it does present some environmental and lighting challenges that require work to overcome, and hopefully, helps improve my skills as a photographer. Thank you to the Heard Nature Center and everyone involved in putting on such a wonderful annual contest.



2022 BEST OF SHOW: ADULT ASPIRING DIVISION

BARBARA VANCE

CONEFLOWER CRYSTAL FOREST

Winning Best of Show in my division was so exciting! There were many outstanding entries, and I was pleased to place among such talented company. This photo was taken in June, 2021 in my backyard with Canon 70D and Canon 100mm macro lens, f/2.8, 1/100, iso 100. I took several shots of the emerging Purple Coneflower blossoms with early morning dew, but this was the first of those shots, and I loved the detail in the dew drops framed by the petals.

This was my first DSLR, and I upgraded to a Canon R5 mirrorless full-frame shortly after this photo was taken. Varying elements of nature are my primary focus in photography. I enjoy macro, landscapes, birds, night skies, and water in all forms. I try to continue to improve my eye and skill by shooting with better photographers and by reading and on-line classes. I can be found on Instagram as @bobsey3.

I grew up in McKinney but have lived in Waco 30 years.

President's Message

Hi everyone!

I'm so excited to report that we had our first in person meeting at The Heard in Laughlin Hall for our June meeting! We had 33 people show up and 12 people attended via Zoom. I count that as a huge success, as our combined attendance matched what we have seen on the Zoom meetings over the last few years.

Our speaker was presenting via Zoom and overall, I think things went very well. It was a little bit of a learning curve to get everything set up and working correctly... we may have a few more bugs to iron out, but I definitely think that we have shown an ability to bring in a hybrid presentation model to our meetings that will allow us to further expand our presenter pool outside of the DFW area going forward. This should open up a world of opportunities for us as we continue to strive in growing our membership.

One of the things discussed in the meeting was the need for more images to be submitted to JD Luttmmer for the GSCCC monthly contests. If you are interested in providing any images, please make sure you submit a high-resolution image with no watermarks. Take a look towards the end of the newsletter for more information should you have any questions.

Remember there will be no formal field trips during the months of July and August due to the summer heat.

Thanks to Linda for providing our first social refreshments since the pandemic started. Ed left big shoes to fill, and she did an awesome job.

It was nice to see everyone's faces in person again... we even had 2 NEW members there for their first meeting!

Anita and I will be working with Doug Boone to start transitioning the President's responsibilities over to him for the remainder of the year, so you may be seeing all of our names as we work together through the remainder of the year.

Stay safe, stay cool, and Happy Fourth of July to you all. See you in a couple of weeks!

Elisabeth



HEARD MUSEUM PATH: Nancy Mack

Meetings

NEXT MEETING:
In Person & by Zoom
Saturday, JULY 9, 2022,
2:00 pm

A link will be sent to your e-mail address.
 Please be sure your membership is current.

Heard Nature Photographers Meeting Schedule, 2022

DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC
July 9, 2022	<u>Mike Olbinski</u>	Time Lapse Photography
August 13, 2022	<u>Shari Hunt</u>	Astrophotography
September 10, 2022	<u>David Downs</u>	The Artist Within
October 8, 2022	<u>Alan Murphy</u>	Ingredients of Great Bird Photography
November 12, 2022	<u>Carol Highsmith</u>	Library of Congress Photography
December 10, 2022		Members Choice

JULY SPEAKER

MIKE OLBINSKI

Topic:
Time Lapse Photography

By way of introduction, here are some some photos and quotes from Mike Olbinski's website as well as links to interviews and a link to his time-lapse movie of a supercell in Texas.

[an interview with SHUTTER MUSE](#)

[an interview with B&H Photo](#)

[A supercell near Booker, Texas](#)



career highlights

"I've somehow won an Emmy, had my photos published in countless magazines, including Arizona Highways, and have had my images and time-lapses licensed by huge clients like Microsoft, Marvel Studios, Mercedes, All-State, Lamborghini just to name a couple."

inspiration

"I'm constantly inspired by the weather itself, there is rarely a day when chasing a storm doesn't reveal amazing beauty. Photography inspirations include [Mitch Dobrowner](#), [Ryan Dyar](#) and [Zack Schnepf](#). The chasing prowess of Pecos Hank and Daniel Shaw always drives me to do better."

HEARD NATURE PHOTOGRAPHERS 2022 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	TRIP/LOCATION	ADDRESS	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
NEW DATE October 22, Saturday NATURE PLUS		<u>Mid America Flight Museum</u>	<u>602 Mike Hall Pkwy,</u> <u>Mount Pleasant, TX 75455</u>	To register: email to jackieranney@aol.com
September 24, Saturday T/B/D		Astrophotography Research is in progress to determine an appropriate location with prominent foreground detail.		
November 4-5-6, (Fri/Sat/Sun 2022		<u>Beavers Bend State Park</u>	<u>Southeast Oklahoma</u>	Recommend making lodging reservations ASAP. As of 5/27/2022, Lakeview Lodge within the park is still under renovation.

*****NATURE PLUS** is a designation for a field trip that includes “the hand of man” subject matter, in addition to nature

FIELD TRIP UPDATES

as of 6/23/2022

As we all remember, it's been a challenging year planning (then actually having) field trips this year!

June

Most recently, we opted to move the Mid-America Flight Museum field trip to Mount Pleasant from June 18 to Saturday, October 22 – a more “temperature-agreeable” time of the year. The 100-degree-plus days just plain weren't wise for us to pursue, and registrants were quickly withdrawing!

July and August – no plans are made for these elevated temperature months.

September

Then there's our Milky Way photography field trip in September at Fort Griffin. We have learned that so many people were not honoring the rules and have also been indiscriminately sharing the gate code that the park staff has come to the decision that night photography on the fort grounds will no longer be allowed. Just keep the September 24 open if you are interested in the astrophotography. Research is in progress to locate a destination with an appropriate foreground to include in our photographs.

Information regarding this field trip will be announced to the membership via email and will be posted on the website once details are confirmed.

Anita Oakley will be the trip leader for this event.

October

October 22 – new date for the Mid-America Flight Museum. Registration is open on our website.

Steve Earles will be the trip leader for this event

November

November 4-5-6 - Beaver's Bend State Park. Registration is available on our website. Ideally we'll be there in the midst of the annual color change. This year's heat and lack of rain may affect colors though.

For those who are fans of Facebook, please check out "Hochatown Nature Photography by Randy Sander". He posts multiple images taken in many locations not within the confines of the Beaver's Bend State Park and is responsive to private messages although he does not lead private tours. There are other Facebook pages also related to the Beaver's Bend area including "Beaver's Bend State Park/Broken Bow Lake".

If you have not yet made lodging reservations, please note that the lodge within the park is still closed for renovation as of this writing. Completion is anticipated by the end of the year. Other options within the park are still available. For lodging outside the park, please search Google for Broken Bow cabins or Beaver's Bend cabins for options or check VRBO and Airbnb.

Jackie and Steve will co-host this activity.

That's it for now. As always, call if you have questions!

Jackie Ranney Steven Earles
Field Trip Co-Coordinator Field Trip Co-Coordinator

Courtesies of Field Trip Travel

As we continue another year of field trips, let's review a few items that will make our trips even more successful both for the leaders and the participants. It's a time to share our love of nature photography while strengthening our relationships with each other in pursuit of our passion!

- Sign up for the field trip (even if you decide to go at the very last minute). Sign up can be done on our website! Frequently our field trip destinations request group size or other information about our group. Without adequate information, making arrangements for large groups can be tricky.
- When signing up for a trip, provide your name, your cell number and your email address. If your spouse/ designated family member is joining you, please list them as a guest. Complete information is essential since all correspondence/notifications with field trip participants is by email.

- Reminder that anyone going on our field trips is required join our club (which includes acknowledgement of the Waiver of Liability) and pay the membership fee.
- If your plans change and you are unable to go on the trip (local or out of town), don't just not show up. Let the Field Trip Coordinator know - preferably by telephone or text.
- Carpooling – offer to share in the expense whether it be gasoline or parking charges at the destination.
- If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Field Trip Co-Coordinator:
 - ♣ Jackie Ranney
 - ♣ 214/478-2107
 - ♣ jackieranney@aol.com

NEW DATE!!!

**FIELD TRIP ANNOUNCEMENT
SATURDAY OCTOBER 22, 2022
NATURE PLUS!**

DESTINATION:

**Mid America Flight Museum
602 Mike Hall Parkway
Mount Pleasant, TX
www.midamericaflightmuseum.com**

Vintage and historic military aircraft.
The Museum is dedicated
to preserving the memory of Veterans
and the planes they flew to defend our freedom.

DATE/TIME:

Saturday October 22, 2022

ARRIVE: 9:00 am

The Museum opens at 8:00 a.m. Should you wish to arrive that early,
please feel free to do so (just identify yourself as being from the Heard Nature Photographers).

There is no charge for admission or parking.

Lunch:

Laura's Cheesecake & Cafe in Mount Pleasant. Time: t/b/d

Equipment:

Tripod/monopod; a selection of lenses, comfortable walking shoes, bottled water.
(The Aircraft are in multiple buildings.)

MID AMERICA FLIGHT MUSEUM OCTOBER 22, 2022





There are over 60 aircraft at the Museum and the majority of them are flight-worthy. About 40-45 aircraft are on display at this point in time.

- They have two of the four known flyable planes that are Pearl Harbor survivors.
- Warbirds and vintage aircraft...bombers, fighters, helicopters, observation and transports.
- The collect is easily accessible. There are no ropes, chains or fences around the aircraft.
- Check out the website's many stories about the aircraft and their crews...fascinating!
www.midamericaflightmuseum.com
- There is plenty of seating in the Museum's many buildings.

Please go to our website to sign up for this field trip! Questions? Call me please!
Final details will be sent to the registrants a few days before the event.

Jackie Ranny
Field Trip Co-Coordinator/Trip Leader
214/478-2107
jackieranney@aol.com

BEAVER'S BEND STATE PARK **NOVEMBER 4-5-6, 2022**

FIELD TRIP ANNOUNCEMENT

FRIDAY-SATURDAY-SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 5, 6, 2022

DESTINATION:

Beaver's Bend State Park

Broken Bow, OK

This is far out, it's hard to predict the exact change of colors so we are taking our best shot! So much will depend upon Mother Nature!

DATE/TIME:

FRIDAY-SATURDAY-SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 5, 6, 2022

ARRIVE: Ideally Friday afternoon/evening

PLANS:

Still being formulated, but here's a general idea:

- Saturday morning - sunrise photography (about 7:40 am). Continue shooting in the park until lunchtime.
- Saturday lunch - based on past experience, some of us will have lunch at Foggy's, the in-park restaurant.
No organized group lunch plans.
- Saturday afternoon - on your own; no "club-organized" activities.
- Saturday evening - group dinner - location TBD.
- Sunday – departure at participant's option.



Photography by Jackie Ranney

LODGING:

- Beaver's Bend State Park has cabins (reservations 580/494-6300) or go to their website. (The website is not showing much availability; different than calling!) • Lakeview Lodge (inside the park)– still under renovation as of 3/6/2022.

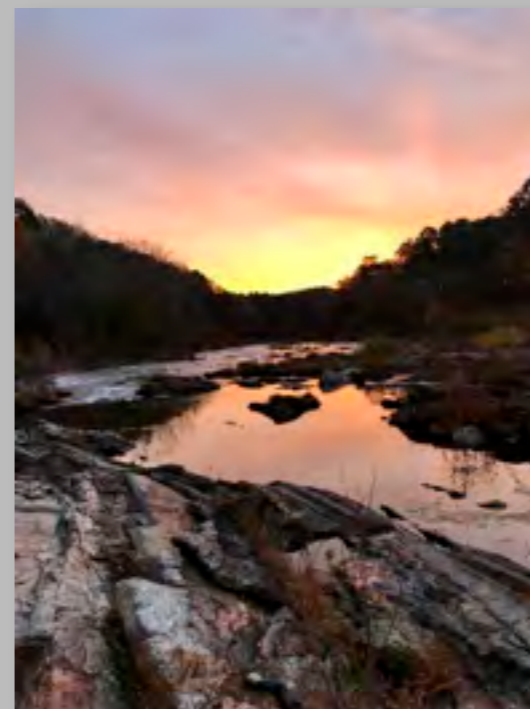
Projected completion is September 2022 – they are not yet taking reservations.

- Check VRBO, Airbnb, booking.com and other vacation rental sites for houses/cabins. Search Hochatown, OK or Broken Bow, OK.

- <https://guestrez.megasyshms.com/TTPRB/beavers-bend-state-park?ga=2.55111145.375172306.1646529802-356434746.1646529801>

STATE PARK PARKING PASS:

Using the link provided above, please review the policy about fees and a parking pass to be inside of this park.



Photography by Jackie Ranney

REGISTRATION:

Please go to our website to sign up for this field trip!
If the trip is not listed for registration yet, please e-mail:

Jackie Ranney
Field Trip Co-Coordinator
214/478-2107
jackieranney@aol.com

Final details will be sent to registrants a few days before the event.

YOU MUST BE A PAID MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE IN FIELD TRIP EVENTS

Birds in Flight



Alan Daniel

is this month's featured member.

Alan is a longtime member of Heard Nature Photographers and most recently President of the Plano Photography Club. Little did he know that when he accepted the position, he would preside over a club that did not meet for two years due to the pandemic. Alan marshaled his officer team and with great enthusiasm they provided activities and programs via Zoom as well as no contact field trips. A great challenge! And a great response!

Alan is also a regular winner in the Gulf States monthly contests, most recently in May and currently is a June winner - see page 35 of this Newsletter.

One of Alan's great loves is bird photography. In this article, he talks about the journey from his first lens to today's gear.

My interest in bird photography began 2016. Shortly after I purchased a 200-500mm lens, and I was hooked. I have always enjoyed nature and wildlife, and now I could get "up-close and personal." Why birds and not bears? Well, you can find birds everywhere which means I can photograph every day.

Here few of my favorite images. These images were made in local parks within a 50-mile radius of Plano, including my standby for birds, White Rock Lake. When I first started, I was just happy to spot a bird and click the shutter. Early images were limited to portraits and what some people call "a bird on a stick" I have progressed some from those early days, but there are times I still like the proverbial "bird on a stick", because of their beautiful colors.



Blue Gray Gnatcatcher, Alan Daniel



Bald Eagle, Alan Daniel



Alan Daniel



Alan Daniel

Prothonotary Warbler, Alan Daniel



Alan Daniel

Painted Bunting, Alan Daniel

The more time I spent out in nature, the more I knew I needed a longer lens and maybe even another camera body or two. You always need a reason for those photography purchases. I currently use a Nikon Z9 and a 500mm PF lens for birds. Bird photographers will always want a longer lens, and I am looking forward to getting an 800mm PF lens.

Bird portraits are OK, but I was ready for more action. I wanted to capture birds doing more than sitting on a stick or just posing for the camera. So, I began to watch for my subjects to do something. It turns out that if I spent enough time, the bird would provide me with the opportunity to capture them going about their daily life. Everything from hunting for their next meal, catching prey, preening, mating and even sleeping. If you watch enough, you can catch birds doing some funny stuff. Some of these images still make me smile.



Green Heron, Alan Daniel



Alan Daniel

Preening Pelican, Alan Daniel



Alan Daniel

Egret with Turtles, Alan Daniel



Bald Eagle with Catfish, Alan Daniel



Alan Daniel

Bald Eagle Pair in Nest, Alan Daniel



Alan Daniel

Scissor Tailed Flycatcher with Bee, Alan Daniel

There is one thing that birds do that most other animals can't, and that's FLY. "Birds in Flight" is my most challenging and rewarding photographic effort. Watching a bird take off, land, or just fly through a cloudy sky can be a therapeutic activity. That relaxing feeling can often come to an end the moment you attempt to capture that bird in flight. There are lots of YouTube videos that can give you all the settings and tell you how to do it, but there is no substitute for getting out in the field, putting that camera in burst mode, and holding down that shutter and attempting to track that bird. These are some of my favorite birds in flight.



Wood Duck, Alan Daniel



Alan Daniel

Scissor Tailed Flycatcher, Alan Daniel



Alan Daniel

Mandarin Duck, Alan Daniel



Alan Daniel

Ruby Throated Hummingbird, Alan Daniel



Alan Daniel

Northern Shoveler, Alan Daniel



Alan Daniel

Mallard Duck, Alan Daniel

If you have the urge to get started with bird photography, here are a few tips. Put the longest lens you own (you will always want a longer lens) on your camera, head out to your favorite park that has some water and trees and explore. You never know what you might find.



Alan Daniel

Bald Eagle Flyover, Alan Daniel



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.

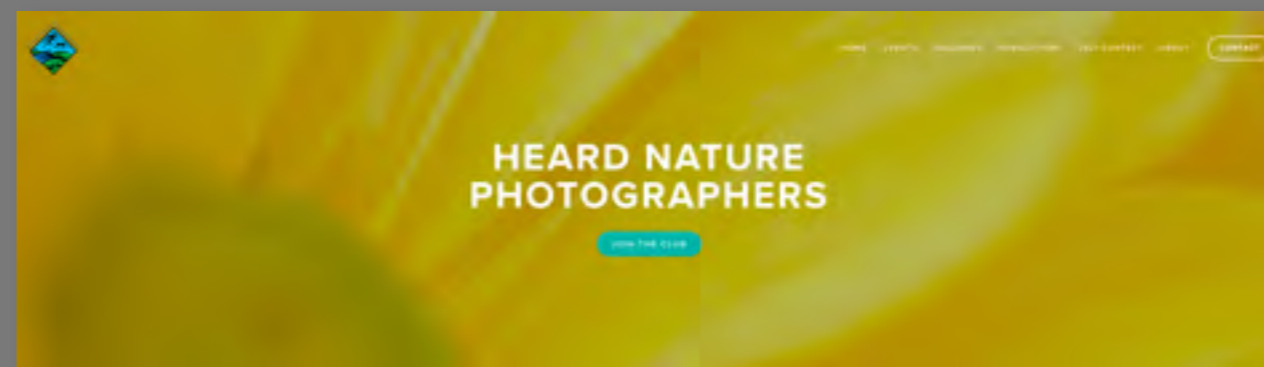
The club was established in 1981 and has served the nature photography enthusiast ever since. We are an affiliate of the [Photographic Society of America](#) and focus our attention on nature photography.

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](#) has videos of 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 [Videos: Educational Presentations](#) 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:

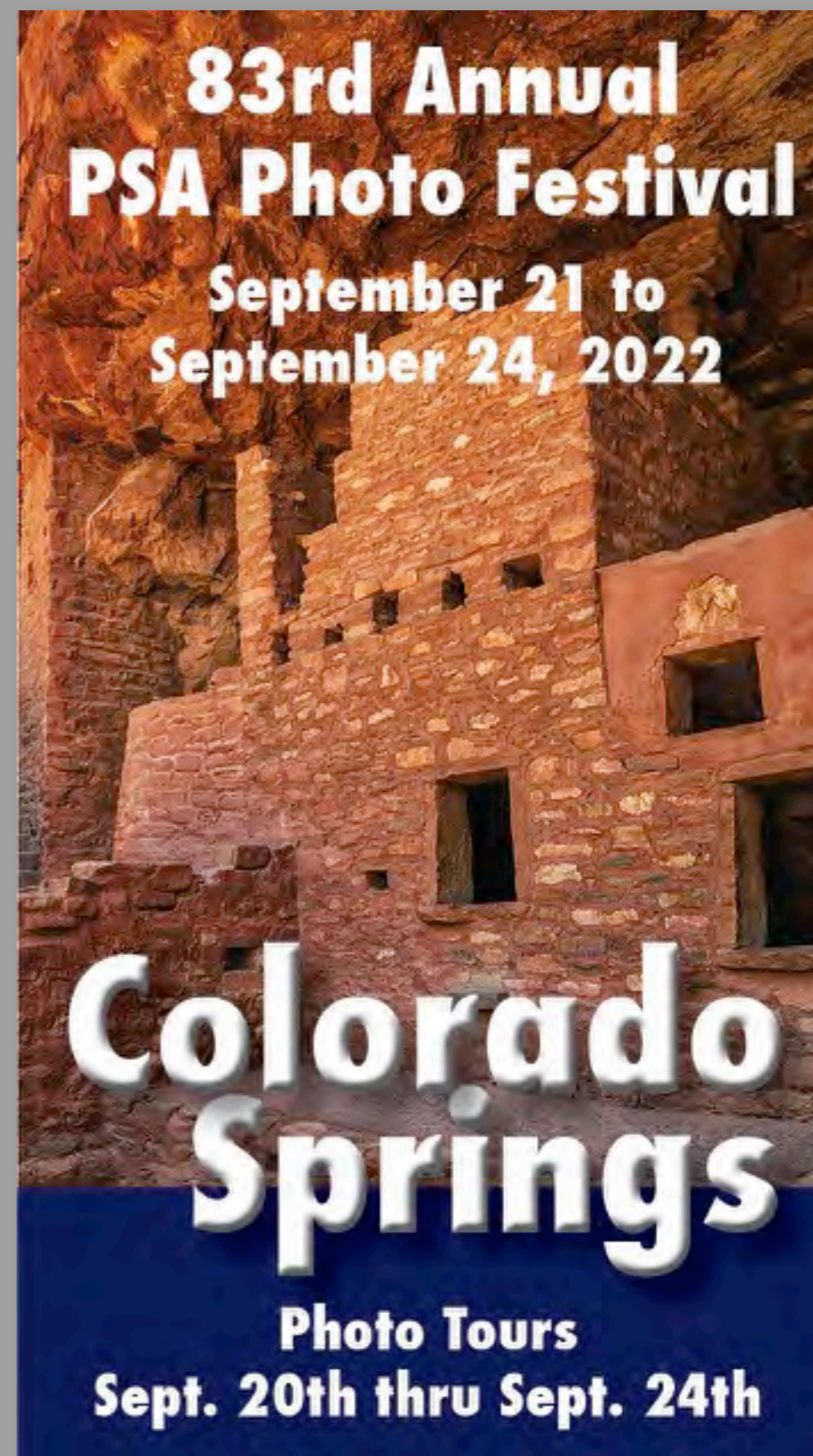
<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/heardnaturephotographers/>

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA



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

The Photographic Society of America (PSA), founded in 1934, is a world-wide organization providing abundant resources for photographers, from the novice to the professional. PSA offers on-line learning, webinars, study groups, competitions, mentors and consultants. Membership is in over 80 countries, 5,000 members, 460 Camera Clubs and 12 Chapters across the United States.



83rd Annual PSA Photo Festival

**September 21 through September 24, 2022
Hotel: Doubletree Hotel, Colorado Springs, Colorado**

GULF STATES CAMERA CLUB



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

The GSCC Heard Representative is JD Luttmer.

He can always use more images to submit. Remember, we may be a nature club but there's no reason you can submit other images. The four categories are Nature, Monochrome, Photojournalism, and Color. If you have primarily nature-related images that show the hand of man (like a fence, bridge, or road) I'll enter it in Color or Monochrome. Please send JPG images, 4000 pixels on the long side, and name them with the following naming convention:

Image Title~Your Name. Just email them to me at:
JDLuttmer@gmail.com.

The Gulf States Camera Club Council (GSCCC) was organized at a meeting in Baton Rouge, LA in October, 1954 at the Old Louisiana State Capitol. This meeting took place on the occasion of the First Annual Gulf States Camera Club Photographic Exhibition held under the sponsorship of the Louisiana Art Commission. This annual photographic competition was continued by the Louisiana Art Commission until 1966.

Today 35 clubs from Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas continue the organization and the convention tradition.

2022 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

\$10 PER YEAR

2023 MEMBERSHIP REVERTS TO

\$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 \$10 this 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 \$10. per year for 2022 and reverts to \$20. per year for 2023. You will be able to pay by credit card.

Dues can be paid via PayPal directly to
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

GULF STATES CAMERA CLUB



In the Gulf States Camera Club Council's June Competition, Alan Daniel placed first in the Nature category for his image "Turf Battle". Mary Binford received first honorable mention for her image "Flies are Beautiful" in the Nature category. Nancy Mack won 2nd Alternate for "Summer Sunflowers" in the Color Images Category. Congratulations to all of them!



Turf Battle, Alan Daniel

GULF STATES CAMERA CLUB



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Flies are Beautiful, Mary Binford

GULF STATES CAMERA CLUB



In the Gulf States Camera Club Council's June Competition, Alan Daniel placed FIRST in the Nature category for his image "Turf Battle". Mary Binford received First Honorable Mention for her image "Flies are Beautiful" in the Nature category. Nancy Mack won 2nd Alternate for "Summer Sunflowers" in the Color Images Category. Congratulations to all of them!



Summer Sunflowers, Nancy Mack

OFFICERS 2022

OFFICER POSITION	REPRESENTATIVE	REPRESENTATIVE	REPRESENTATIVE
President	Anita Oakley - MARCH	Elisabeth Shore - JUNE	Doug Boone - SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER
Vice President	David Duckworth - PRIMARY	Craig Rowen - Equipment Coordinator/ Back-Up	
Secretary/Treasurer	Brian Clark		
Membership/Marketing Coordinator	Guy Huntley		
Field Trip Coordinators - Co-Chairs	Steven Earles	Jackie Ranney	
Webmaster	<u>Rob Hull</u>		
Newsletter Editor	Nancy Mack		
GSCCC Representative	JD Luttmer		
Photo Contest Coordinator	Debbie Nielsen - 2022	Sherree Shafer - 2023	
Refreshments	Linda Grigsby - once we are back in-person		
Slide-Show Coordinator	Ron Maribito		



Alan Daniel