

Heard  
Nature

# Photographers

*Your first 10,000 photographs are  
your worst.*  
~Henri Cartier-Bresson

Next meeting September 9th



September 2023

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<http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com>

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JD Luttmer

# President's Letter

## Doug Boone



The August table-top workshop was a big success. Thanks to all the people who brought their ideas, props, equipment, and skills and shared. It was a lot of fun for everyone and it got us out of the heat for a day. I wish I had time to visit all the different opportunities and I'm really

looking forward to the September slide show. You can see many of the photos people made that day on our Facebook group so check it out if you haven't in a while. And the pizza was pretty good. We've got a field trip lined up for every month through November so be sure to visit the Field Trip page and sign up. I see that the in-park cabins at Petit Jean State Park are already full for October 28 but there are still a few rooms available at Cedar Falls Lodge.

This month's speaker is going to be Jen Strongin showing her work on tidal pool photography. You can check out some of her work at <https://www.instagram.com/jensseattle/>. I'm sure there will be lots of questions based on how to take photos without

destroying your equipment in such a harsh environment.

Hopefully this brutal weather will be ending soon before all the grass dies off. I hope it doesn't affect next spring's wildflower blooms.

## Newsletter 101

This document is an interactive PDF. If you click on an item under "In this issue" it will take you to that page. Hyperlinks will take you to the appropriate website. Clicking the HNP logo button at the bottom of the page will take you back to home.

Headings are color coded by subject. Educational items are tan, general info cobalt, field trips red, etc.

The newsletter is only as valuable as the information in it. Please contribute images, stories, trip reports, and anything you can share.

## Vital Info

### Meetings:

Our meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month, in Laughlin Hall at the Heard. Any exceptions to the meeting location are announced in the newsletter and email.

### Website and Facebook:

There is always good information on the club website. We also have a Facebook page where members are able to share images, meetups, and information.



Brigitte Stamp-Kiba

# Good to Know...

## At the Heard

On our meeting days you can take advantage of the grounds at the Heard even if you aren't a member.

The Heard sanctuary has five habitats including Blackland prairie, wetlands, bottomland forest, upland forest and white rock escarpment. Each habitat is unique and offers a variety of plants and animals that live in specific environments.

If you would like to join the Heard and visit the rest of the month, memberships are only \$70 a year, or \$50 for those of us over 60.

## Join the Facebook Page!

If you haven't joined the Heard Nature Photographers Facebook page, consider doing so. It's a great space to share your images, share hints, ask questions, or organize a photo meetup.



Paul Chance

## HNP Membership

Dues are \$20 a year, payable on January 1. The grace period is 2 months, so if you haven't paid by March 1st, you will miss out on the newsletters, field trips, etc. until you have renewed your membership. We've had some discussion about changing to renewal on your membership date, but no decision has been made as yet.

## Dallas Center for Photography

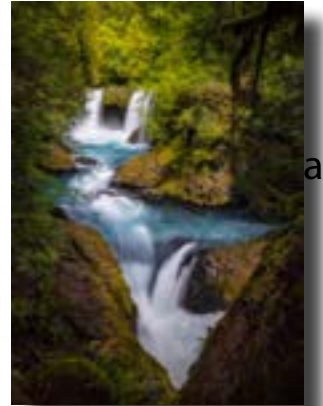
As you may be aware, the *Dallas Center for Photography* is closed as of August 4th. But all is not lost! Richard Klein and some others are organizing a replacement. They have a URL, and are in the planning stages. Keep an eye out for more information to come!



Mary Binford

## Newsletter Pictures

Every month I will try to have a featured member. But in addition I'll sprinkle few images from others. Keep an eye out - you never know when one of your pictures will turn up!



Alan Abair

## Heard Museum Butterfly House

Walk among free-flying native butterflies and other pollinators in the Native Texas Butterfly House & Garden. The butterfly house includes native species, which vary by season and what is available from suppliers. Our butterfly garden is filled with host plants that naturally attract these lovely creatures. You may even find a few ideas to try in your own garden!

# Calendar at a Glance

## September

**9/9: Meeting** - Jen Strongin with "Above Water Tidal Pool Photography." 10:00 - 12:00 in Laughlin Hall

**9/16:** Field trip to Hagerman - time TBD. meet at the visitor center parking lot.

## October

**10/7: Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Center** - 7:00 - 201 E. Jones St, Lewisville. Six trails, each with its own ecosystem.

**10/14: Meeting** - Sean Fitzgerald on Prairie Photography.- "As a North Texan, prairie is my identity, my history, the little bit of earth and sky to which I anchor."

**10/27-29: Petit Jean State Park** - 1285 Petit Jean Mountain Rd, Morrilton, AR

## November

**11/4: Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge** - Forests, prairies, and wetlands make this a great place for nature photography. Step back in time and experience what the Fort Worth/ Dallas Metroplex was like in the early 20th century.

**11/11: Meeting** - Jason Weingart presenting "Tornado Adventures" Jason Weingart travels over 50,000 miles each year in search of new and compelling images. You will find him from vast landscapes, to the edge of molten lava, beneath spinning supercell thunderstorms, and the darkest places on Earth.

**11/15 - 12/5: Submit images for Members' Choice** - Instructions to come.

## December

**12/9: Meeting** - This is our annual Members' Choice meeting. The club buys BBQ meats, and everyone brings a favorite side or desert. After lunch we vote on the image we choose to represent the club for 2024



**Sean Fitzgerald**



**Jason Weingart**



**Jen Strongin**

# September Speaker

## David Duckworth

Based in the Pacific Northwest, Jen is a professional photographer, educator and naturalist. She finds great inspiration in the natural world, both deep in the wild and on the edges of her urban habitat in Seattle, WA. Her photography explores the intersections of land and sea, urban and wild, science and art. She encourages her viewers to walk alongside her in these spaces, to be transported to worlds beyond their own for a brief moment in time, to revel in joy and wonder at the beauty of our home planet.

She will share with us her techniques for tidepool photography and many of her fantastic images.



# Scheduled Speakers

David Duckworth

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Sept. 9, 2023	Jen Strogon	Above water photography of tidal pools.
Oct. 14, 2023	Sean Fitzgerald	Prairie Photography
Nov. 11, 2023	Jason Weingart	Tornado Adventures
Dec. 9, 2023	N/A	Members' Choice

# Field Trips

## September 16th

Terree Stone is in charge of the field trip for September. We'll be going to the [Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge](#). (Time to be announced.) *Featuring 11,000 acres of outdoor recreation opportunities, Hagerman NWR is an excellent destination for Birding and Wildlife Viewing.*



The Hagerman club is having a photo contest, so this will be the perfect opportunity to get some shots to enter. Their contest, like ours, is a benefit for their sponsor organization. Contest info at the [FOH Website](#).

That happens to be the same date of the Friends of Hagerman NWR Nature Photography Club meeting. Their meetings are open for anyone to attend, and they would be happy to share their meeting with Heard club members. Richard Barnes' is giving a presentation on nature videos. The meeting will start with a few minutes of club information. Then Richard will give his presentation which will last about 1 hour. Details are at <https://friendsofhagerman.com/event-5097950>.

## October 7th

We will make up the postponed June field trip to [Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Center](#). Anita Oakley leading. Meet at 8:00 by the pavillion. *With over 6 miles of hiking trails, LLELA is positioned where the Blackland Prairie mingles with the dry upland forests of the Eastern Cross Timbers. The Elm Fork of the Trinity River, with its surrounding bottomland forests, winds through the middle of these two ecosystems.*

## October 27-29

Petit Jean State Park - If you haven't signed up yet, be sure to do that and find accommodations soon! Here is the [park's website](#). If you haven't been to Petit Jean in the fall, you will be amazed at the scenery and photo opportunities!

The canyon and bluffs were created by Cedar Creek, which cascades into the canyon in an impressive 95-foot (29 m) waterfall. Above the falls, Cedar Creek has been dammed to create the 100-acre Lake Bailey which is used for pedal-boating and fishing.



# Field Trips

## November 4th

Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge - Meet in the parking lot of the Hardwicke Interpretive Center at 8:00 AM. Jackie Ranney is the leader on this one.

*Forests, prairies, and wetlands, oh my! Step back in time and experience what the Fort Worth/Dallas Metroplex was like in the early 20th century. At its current state, the FWNC&R covers 3,621 acres and includes over 20 miles of hiking trails, making the park one of the largest city-owned nature centers in the United States.*



## Wanted - Field Trip Leaders

Hopefully you have noticed that the club has had more field trips and photo opportunities recently. That's because several of our members have stepped up to help lead trips. We are set through the fall, but we need more people to take a turn leading just ONE field trip in the coming year. Here's what it would involve:

1. Find a cool place for the club to go. It could be somewhere new, but it doesn't have to be. Some places are worth repeat visits!
2. Set a date. Coordinate it with Anita Oakley or Steven Earles.
3. Write up a short explanation of the trip for the newsletter, and send it to Anita. Include some pictures as a teaser.
4. Send the same notice to Rob for the website.
5. Get a list of those who are registered for the trip a week before the date and send reminder email with suggested equipment, meeting place, lunch plans, etc.
6. Go on the trip to make sure things go smoothly.



# Workshop Opportunities

## Hummingbird Basics -

Russell Graves  
6 people, Saturday, September 2, 2023

During the summer, Hackberry Farm typically has an abundance of hummingbirds.



In this camp, we'll learn how to photograph hummingbirds using both natural and artificial light and study how you can do hummingbird photography in your backyard.  
<https://www.wildlifephotoshow.com/camp>

## Cowboys and Canyonlands of the Texas Panhandle

Russell Graves

November 27 - December 1, 2023. For a full description see the August newsletter.



## The Eclipse -

Russell Graves  
20 people  
April 8, 2024 (filling up fast!)

The next total eclipse to hit the United States is coming to Hackberry Farm in Dodd City,



Texas, and we're hosting an eclipse party!

If you are a photographer looking for instructions on photographing the eclipse and need some post-processing strategies, this is the workshop for you. Join us for this once-in-a-lifetime event that will happen in our own backyard!

To keep our event small and for the maximum learning experience, we are limiting this workshop to twenty (20) people.

<https://www.wildlifephotoshow.com/camp>

If you have any questions, send me an email or call Russell Graves at 806.280.8007

## Magic of Alaska: 2024

Lisa Langel

June 2-7

Lisa Langell's "Magic of Alaska" photography experiences are completely unique, one-of-a-kind, small and very private. No other tour exists like it!

You will have access to several unique locations that other tours do not offer and will be carefully and joyfully guided through the best wildlife and nature along the Kenai Peninsula, Gulf of Alaska, and Lake Clark National Park.

# Other Workshops

## Tour the Oregon Coastline

Mike Mezeul

September 8-14, 2024

Class size: 6 - Only 1 spot open!

The Oregon coastline is one of the most beautiful coastlines within the United States. From dramatic cliffs, to mysteriously shaped sea stacks, historic lighthouses, islands and more, there are endless opportunities to fill your memory cards with beautiful images!

## Colorado Fall Colors

Shanda Akin

October 5-8 in Telluride

<https://www.shandaakin.com/colorado-fall-colors-workshop>

Join seasoned Colorado photographers Martha Montiel and Shanda Akin for an unforgettable fall colors workshop in beautiful Telluride, Colorado. We'll take you through winding trails and up to breathtaking vistas to capture the colors of fall in their full glory.



## Adirondack Fall Foliage

Muench Workshops

September 29 – October 5, 2023

The Adirondack Park is the largest publicly protected area in the continental United States—greater in size than Yellowstone, Everglades, Glacier, and Grand Canyon National Parks combined. There are over 3,000 lakes, 30,000 miles of rivers and streams, globally unique wetland types, old and new growth forests, and alpine mountains—truly a photographer's paradise.

## Moab Off Road Photography

Dan Ballard

Nov 17-19, 2023

\$1,400

4WD JEEPS INCLUDED! Moab is one of the most intriguing places on earth, with countless red rock formations and mystic landscapes ...yet most people only see a small part of it. In partnership with a local jeep guide, we will take the path less traveled in search of unique photographs in this 3-day workshop.

# GSCCC

## J.D. Luttmer

In the Gulf States Camera Club Council's August Competition, Ron Varley received 2nd Place for his Color image "Sunrise Sentinel", and 2nd Alternate for his Nature image "Maroon Bells. Congratulations, Ron!

Our GSCCC representative, JD Luttmer, needs additional images from club members for future contests. He has images suitable for the Photojournalism category from only two members, so those in particular are needed. Please send your images to him at [JDLuttmer@gmail.com](mailto:JDLuttmer@gmail.com). Detailed information about GSCCC was published in the September 2022 newsletter.



**Ron Varley**



**Ron Varley**

# Why Attend a Workshop?

## Anita Oakley



I'm a firm believer in photography workshops. I've been attending them since 1998, and have found them invaluable for many reasons. If you are on the fence about attending a workshop or photo tour, here are a few reasons I think there is no better way to improve your art.

### **Reignite your passion for photography.**

Photographer's burnout is a real thing. Every once in a while, I just lose the urge to go shoot. Nothing sounds appealing. But on a workshop, enthusiasm is contagious. I come home excited about my craft all over again.

### **Practice new skills and techniques.**

As much as I always wanted to get into storm photography, I probably never would have gone without the tornado alley tours I took with Mike Mezeul II. And if I did go out there, I would have taken much longer to learn the

skill set for lightning and supercells. I learned how to eliminate lens flare on a Kauai workshop. I learned focus stacking on a workshop to Death Valley. I learned soft flower techniques from John Shaw on my first workshop - in a 1998 Disney Institute class.

### **Receive valuable feedback on your work.**



Most workshops include at least one critique session. You can get honest opinions from the leaders and the other participants, helping you improve your photography. You also can get hands-on help with your post-processing.

### **Go to new exciting locations with someone who knows it well**

I've found that workshops also enabled me to go places I would never have gone on my own, including Kenya, Svalbard, and South Georgia Island.

Also, have you ever taken a trip to a great location, had a wish list for the shots you wanted, but found that you were there at the wrong time of day, or even worse, the wrong time of year? When you take a workshop, the leaders know the areas well. They know what time of day is best, they watch the weather and vary the itinerary based on the conditions. It frees you to do your best work.

### **Meet new people who share your passion for the art of photography**

I have made so many friends from all over the world on these trips! The bonds you make on your workshops can last far beyond the end date. And



every one of those people are as passionate about photography as you are!

# The State of Maine and iPhone Photography

## Lee Hatfield



On the west, Maine is bordered partially by Quebec Province and by the state of New Hampshire on the west and southern state line. Maine has 30,843 square miles, 3,500 miles of jagged coastline, over 6,000 lakes and ponds and over 17 million acres of forests. Interstate 95 runs basically north from the New Hampshire-Maine state line at Kittery to Houlton International Airport on the border with New Brunswick. All other main roads are state or county roads and are generally only two lanes altho Route 1 from the college town of Brunswick to Bath is four lanes. I-95 and Route 1 are the gateways to the towns and peninsulas of the coast.

You can fly into Boston's Logan Airport, rent a car and be in Maine in about an hour, or you can fly into Portland, Maine, and avoid the hassles of getting out of Boston and paying huge airport rental fees. Flights will also take you to Bangor International Airport where you can rent a vehicle and be in Bar Harbor on Mount Desert Island and Acadia National Park in about an hour.

Maine hosts over 10 million visitors every year and Acadia National Park hosts 4 million visitors each year. Be sure to book ahead for hotels, B&B's, cabins or cottages especially if you plan to arrive during June, July, August or October as these months are prime tourist times. Check out Acadia NP's webpage for the latest

rules and regulations before you go. This summer everyone had to purchase a special vehicle pass to drive up Cadillac Mountain - it was only \$6.00 but could only be purchased two days before you wanted to go, had to be purchased in advance, not at the checkpoint, and it was a timed entry pass. Be sure to make time to drive to Schoodic Point which is near Winter Harbor and further up the coast from Acadia. It is part of Acadia NP and seldom very busy, has some great trails and terrific crashing waves.



Altho I own two Nikon cameras and several lenses, I have been using just my iPhone 13 Pro Max for photography the last couple of years of traveling. It has nearly all the options I want, is easy to carry and I don't get back or neck pain carrying it plus editing and sharing images is easy and quick. I can further edit on my laptop with Photoshop if I choose to make a book or have them printed on canvas as images are 56" x 42" and a minimum of 25MB or more. I have it set to upload to iCloud everyday so I can access my images from my iPad and laptop. Now, if I want to photograph the Milky Way rising or birds flying or airshows, I'll take my Nikons, but for vacation shots, my iPhone is what I carry. I take advantage of the various settings and options including portrait mode where you can change the depth of field from f2.0 to f16. You can select features from Natural Light to High-Key Light Mono, plus you can shoot in panorama mode, time lapse or slo-mo. It's all about just playing and seeing what the various settings can do for you.

Here are a few images from my iPhone showing closeups, landscapes, and lighthouses. If you have questions or would like further information about traveling in Maine, please contact me at [leehatfield@me.com](mailto:leehatfield@me.com).

# What to Photograph in September

- Sept 4th - National Wildlife Day Maybe a trip to the Zoo?
- Sept 9 & 10 - Dallas Arboretum Hispanic Heritage Celebration
- Sept 13 to 17 - New Moon, Milky Way time!
- Sept 14 to 17 - Rockport-Fulton Hummerbird Festival
- Beginning Sept 17 - Autumn at the Arboretum
- Sept 23 - Free! Latinidad Festival Annette Strauss Square at 5:00
- Sept 29 - Full Moon
- Beginning Sept 29 - The Texas State Fair

# Featured Member

## JD Luttmer



Linda and I had the opportunity to participate in a May photography workshop in northern Italy. The tour was led by pros William Yu (<https://www.williamyuphotoworkshops.com/>) and Lorenzo Nadalini and included three other enthusiasts. Lorenzo drove us around in a large van and was quite familiar with iconic locations that are

popular with photographers. Little walking was required to get to the photo locations. The marvelous inns where we stayed were usually within a 30-minute drive of our best sunrise and sunset locations. The Italian food and wine were wonderful as expected.

The farmlands of Tuscany are the most photographed landscapes in Italy, so of course we encountered several other photography groups while there. But there was plenty of room for all, and all appeared respectful of others and the private lands.

The bad news was that it rained every day we were there, primarily afternoon storms. The good news is that it rained every day we were there! The weather made for dramatic skies, rainbows, saturated colors and cool temperatures – a marvelous combination.

Many locations offered great photo opportunities both at sunrise and sunset. The light and the weather would often change rapidly, so we had to be on our toes.

Other than a bit of jet lag, the only issue I had was a bit of sleep deprivation. We tried to get sunrise and sunset images every day, and then we dined together late in the evening. This enabled a measly 5 hours of sleep each night!

I shoot with a Canon R5 mirrorless camera, and used both a Canon RF 24-105 lens and a Canon RF100-500 lens in Tuscany. I rarely needed a lens wider than 24mm, so stitched images when I did. A few images required focus stacking. Photo processing was done using Lightroom, Photoshop, Topaz Denoise AI (when needed) and Helicon for focus stacking. I find the latter works much better than Photoshop for stacking. And of course I needed Linda's help color correcting some of my images due to my protanomaly.

If you have not had the opportunity to visit Tuscany, I highly recommend it for landscape photography. It is easy to get there, easy to get around and it is stunningly beautiful!

A few more images are posted on my Flickr account, available here: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjALc2s>



# Featured Member

## JD Luttmer





# Got Snacks?

**We have a time-honored tradition at the Heard of sharing a bite to eat and some great conversation after the meeting. Won't you sign up to bring something to share next month? There's a signup sheet by the food.**



# Lifetime Members

Several decades ago our club established the Honorary Lifetime Membership award to recognize and honor members who had made substantial (out of the ordinary) contributions to the photo club and to nature photography, spanning over a number years.

Since its inception, we have honored the following people with this award:

- Ernestine Freeman
- Dr. Harold Laughlin
- Harold Green
- Kay Griffith
- Rob Hull
- Ron Marabito
- Jim Ross
- Ed Pierce
- Larry Petterborg
- Terree Stone
- Anita Oakley
- Jackie Ranney
- Peter Gilbert

There are details about each person's service on our website.

# Who's Who

Position	Contact
President	Doug Boone
VP	David Duckworth
Equipment coordinator and backup VP	Craig Rowen
Secretary/Treasurer	Brian Clark
Membership/Marketing Coordinator	Guy Huntley
Field trip Coordinator	Steven Earles
Webmaster	Rob Hull
Newsletter Editor	Anita Oakley
GSCCC Representative	J. D. Luttmer
Photo Contest Coordinator	Anita Oakley
Refreshments	Linda Grigsby
Slide Show Coordinator	Ron Marabito

**There are links to email board members on the club website. If the person you need to reach isn't listed there, reach out to any board member who is listed.**



**The last word... This month's final image was captured by Linda Barnes.**