



# In Focus

Volume 61, Issue 2

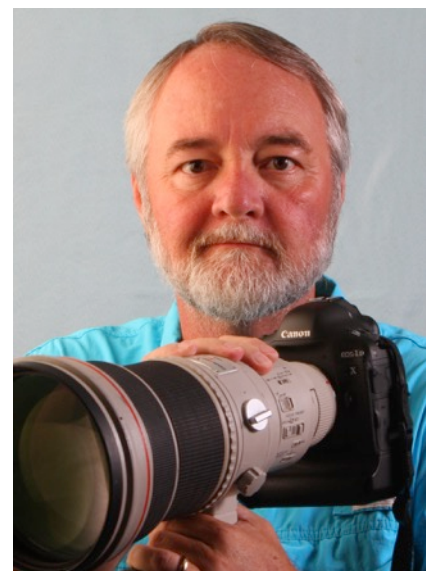
February 2016

## February Program- My Life As A Photojournalist *with Hal Yeager*

I had the good fortune to meet Hal Yeager last fall at the annual Fiddler’s Convention in Athens, Alabama. Ironically, it was not photography that led me to meet Hal but the amazing items that he had on display, which he had made from driftwood. As we talked ,Hal noticed my camera and mentioned that he shot a few photos himself. That was when I noticed the largest Canon camera I’ve ever seen setting on the table alongside his driftwood works of art. I was to learn that Hal was much more than just a casual shooter like myself. He has spent the last thirty-five years as a photojournalist for a number of large newspapers. Hal graduated from the University of North Alabama in 1980 with a degree in Commercial Photography and launch a career that led to so many photography awards that it took two pages just to list them all. In 2003, Hal was awarded the Alabama National Guard’s Distinguished Service Medal. His images have appeared in

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## From The President

I thought I would introduce myself and share my background for my second “official” President’s column. Five years ago, the notion of photography being anything more than taking pictures was a strange thought for me. I approached my first DSLR purchase as a technical challenge never expecting the hardest thing to learn would be how to point it. After joining HPS, I quickly learned a good image is more than being technically sound, it must somehow communicate without making a sound. The idea of an image telling a story or sparking an emotion is what makes this an art and the difference between a photographer and just another person with a camera.

From our by-laws – HPS exists “to promote the enjoyment, mastery, and furtherance of photography as an art, communication media, and recreational activity through cooperation, effort, and good fellowship.”

For me, HPS has been the #1 influence in encouraging my passion for photography. I was clueless as to how interesting and rewarding this hobby would become. 5 years ago I had never owned a DSLR and started a web hosting business. This year I will be dissolving that business, so I can focus solely on a photography-related website startup. So I want to thank you all for encouraging me along this path and especially for making me your new president.

Important things to know or do this month:

- Check out the new Member’s ONLY area on our website! To enter this area, first log in, then click the "Members" menu
- HMA submissions are due on Feb 14th
- Competition entries for “Textures” are due by the 16th
- Anyone interested in volunteering to shoot the Sweetheart dance at the Huntsville Senior center on Feb 13<sup>th</sup>, please contact me.

5<sup>th</sup> Monday this month!

*Cliff Loehr*

## Feb Program

(Continued from page 1)

numerous newspapers through the Associated Press and Getty Images. Hal's images have also appeared in such publications as Time Magazine, News Week, Sports Illustrated, plus the Lima, Peru Prison Ministry Project. Other projects that Hal has been involved in include, having been embedded with the Alabama National Guard 877<sup>th</sup> Combat Heavy Engineer Battalion –Mosul, Iraq in August 2003, the 1996 Summer Olympics, coverage of numerous Florida and Alabama Coastal Hurricanes as well as the "America 24/7" book project and the "America at Home" book project. Hal tells me he has seen a great deal of change that has taken place in his thirty-five year career as a photojournalist. We are very fortunate that Hal has agreed to come to Huntsville and share some of his experiences along with some observations regarding how photography has evolved during his career.

See more of Hal's images on p. 6



## Member News

Dave Edens has two photos selected for the 2016 Outdoor Alabama Calendar. This was the last (December issue) of the magazine as state budget cuts caused funding to not be available for the organization to continue a print publication. They will still have the annual photo contest, however winners will now only be displayed online and at a



traveling print exhibition. Dave's photographs are in the calendar for the months of September and November. The calendar can be purchased for \$3.00 at the following link:  
<https://www.alabamainteractive.org/dcnrsc/>

**January Competition Results**  
**Subject – Streets & Alleys**  
**Judge – Tony Triolo**

	Color Digital (53)	Monochrome Digital (39)	Color Print (27)	Monochrome Print (20)
1st	Gayle Biggs	James Burton II	Henry Norton	Tom Hix
2nd	Pete Van Hoff	Nicole Harper	Don Wolfe	Henry Smith
3rd	Waldy Cuevas	Nicole Harper	Steve Mitchell	Sam Alexander
HM	Bart Fay	Gayle Biggs	Tim Solomon	Charles Leverett
HM	Sam Tumminello	Randy Stevens	Barbara Staggs	Nicole Harper
HM	Gayle Biggs	Barbara Montgomery	Henry Smith	
HM	Martha Teal	Tim Solomon		
HM				
HM				
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## *First Place Images*

*(Color Print not available)*



Monochrome Digital by  
James Burton II



Color Digital  
by Gayle Biggs



Monochrome Print by  
Tom Hix

## February Judge-



We welcome Pamela Keller, Professor of Art at Athens College, as our judge for February on the topic of "Textures." Pamela has an extensive background in many fields of art including photography, bronze sculpture, sacred art history, graphic design, painting, and drawing. She has been with us before and her comments have been most appreciated by many of our members. We welcome her again in February.

Name	2016 Points	2016 Wins
Nicole Harper	8	3
Gayle Biggs	7	3
James Burton	5	1
Tom Hix	5	1
Henry Norton	5	1
Henry Smith	5	2
Pete Van Hoff	4	1
Don Wolfe	4	1
Sam Alexander	3	1
Waldy Cuevas	3	1
Steve Mitchell	3	1
Tim Solomon	2	2
Bart Fay	1	1
Charles Leverett	1	1
Barbara Montgomery	1	1
Barbara Staggs	1	1
Randy Stephens	1	1
Martha Teal	1	1
Sam Tumminello	1	1

*Entries for the 2016 Huntsville Museum of Art (HMA) exhibit are due by Feb 14. Don't wait till the last minute! Must be an HPS member to enter. Only digital submissions, same resolution as monthly contest. Submit entries on the same web page as monthly contests:*

*<http://www.huntsvillephotographicsociety.org/contest>*

*Feb Program-Hal Yeager's Images Continued...*



*Photos by  
Hal Yeager*





## Arts Huntsville Gallery at VBC

One of the requirements for the Master of Photography level in HPS is an exhibit of their work. The Arts Huntsville gallery (formerly The Arts Council) supports this by letting us use a portion of their gallery at the Von Braun Center. This is of particular interest to those who have achieved the rank of Gold Star Fellow. However, anyone who has achieved the rank of Fellow can exhibit there.

The two current exhibitors are Barbara Staggs and Charles Leverett. Don't miss them. Barbara Staggs' photos of Iceland are still up until Eddie Sewall has his ready. The entire gallery will change to Panoply pieces for the month of April so you only have 2 months to view these. Don Wolfe and Joe Fikes also have some photos there as well.

For more information, contact the HPS Coordinator, Tom Bryant at [ctbryant@hiwaay.net](mailto:ctbryant@hiwaay.net).



Charles Leverett

Barb Staggs' display



## 2016 Meeting Calendar

- Feb 8 - My Life As A Photojournalist by Hal Yeager
- Feb 22 - "Textures" Competition Meeting
- Feb 29 - Fifth Monday (Open Forum Night)
- Mar 14 - Touring Alaska by HPS members Henry Norton & Gary Stiger
- Mar 28 - "Open" Competition
- Apr 11 - Program TBA with Dury's Photography from Nashville
- Apr 25 - Roads In North AL Competition
- May 9 - Program TBA
- May 23 - Churches Competition Meeting
- Jun 13 - Wilderness Photography with Dusty Doddridge
- Jun 27 - "Delicate" Competition Meeting
- July 11 - Program TBA
- July 25 - "Doorways and Walls" Competition
- Aug 8 - Program TBA
- Aug 22 - "Water's Edge" Competition Meeting
- Aug 29 - Fifth Monday (Open Forum Night)
- Sep 12 - Children & Portrait Photography with Erin Cobb Photography
- Sep 26 - "The Night Sky" Competition Meeting
- Oct 10 - Program TBA
- Oct 24 - "Open" Competition Meeting
- Oct 31 - Fifth Monday (Open Forum Night)
- Nov 14 - 3D Stereography with Lee Pratt
- Nov 28 - "Smoke" Competition Meeting
- Dec 12 - Annual Best Of Year Dinner/Awards

2016 Officers of Huntsville Photographic Society

President	Cliff Loehr	(256) 476-8436	cliff@cliffpic.com
Primary Competition Officer	Charles Gattis	(256) 529-2329	cfgattis@me.com
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Competition Records Officer	Margaret Phillips	(256)426-3277	phillipsqh@gmail.com
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PSA Representative	Lee Pratt	(256)325-1854	leepratt@knology.net
Webmaster	Margaret Phillips	(256)426-3277	phillipsqh@gmail.com

**Meeting Information:** HPS meets the second and fourth Mondays of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the Huntsville/Madison County Library - Main Branch, 915 Monroe St.

**Website:** [www.huntsvillephotographicsociety.org](http://www.huntsvillephotographicsociety.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/399566463394251/> (closed group)

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Von Braun Civic Center  
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Huntsville AL 35801

