



# In Focus

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January 2017

## January Program- Astrophotography by Jim Gardepe

January's presentation will be by HPS's Jim Gardepe, a psychologist with a private solo practice, who describes himself as an enthusiastic amateur photographer with a special interest in astrophotography, especially of the Moon and of total solar eclipses. Through years of capturing solar eclipses starting in 2010, he has perfected his photography by trial and error. In his own words- " To prepare for eclipse photography, I practiced by photographing the Moon. Many of the photographic methods and processing techniques used for Moon photography are similar to those used for eclipse photography, and the general skill of handling a camera efficiently in the dark is essential to both. I have come to love learning about our companion satellite through photography. I am in constant pursuit of greater detail in my lunar images". His discussion on moon photography will answer some of the challenges of moon photography,

describe the workflow used in processing moon photos, a presentation on freeware that can be used to bring out remarkable detail in moon photos, and suggest some ways to get interesting images. The section on photographing eclipses will discuss how techniques used to photograph the moon can be adapted to the unique circumstances of total solar eclipses. He will also present an online library of resources that photographers can use to plan for photographing the "Great American Eclipse" of 2017.

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**See page 9 for more info about HMA exhibit. Submissions are now being accepted at <http://www.huntsvillephotographicsociety.org/contest>**



## From The President

Looking forward to 2017! A special thanks must be made to Diana Davidson for her participation in our monthly photo contests and her achievement of the 2016 President's award. Inspired by Diana, my new year's resolution is to take more pictures and to compete in every HPS photo contest in 2017!

The hot topic (for right now) is the Huntsville Museum of Art exhibit! It is a great honor for any photographer to show at the Museum of Art. This is open to all HPS members so please take advantage of this incredible opportunity. The topic for this year's exhibit is "Huntsville" and you can submit up to 5 images! Please be sure to look on our website for more details.

I want to thank you all, for your passion of photography, and encourage you by what "art" does for everyone. To the artist, it

helps us find hidden beauty in the things we see every day. To the observer, it inspires an unexpected emotion. Being a photographer is both easy and extremely complicated. All of you inspire me to dig deeper and look for the unseen through the lens of my camera.

*Cliff Loehr*

## January Judge- Muril Robertson

Muril Robertson will return as our judge for Competition Night on January 23, 2017. The topic should prove to be most interesting – “Gone with the Wind.” Bring your best shot that fits the topic so we can all learn from his comments.

Muril has been a friend to and associated with the Huntsville Photographic Society for many years.

Currently an honorary member of the society, he is one of our past presidents. More recently, he has helped us by judging at least one of our competitions each year.

Still living and working in Huntsville, he has freelanced as a photographer since 1985. He has a Ph.D. in pure mathematics, with particular interests in mathematical analysis and geometry. That combined with his natural love of truth and beauty provides a sound basis for his work in photography.

Muril has photographed widely across the United States, and has won numerous awards both in our local community and in national competitions.



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# January Judge

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Currently, he has over 100,000 images in stock, many of which can be seen on his commercial website - [murilrobertson.com](http://murilrobertson.com).

If you would like some idea of what Muril might be expecting in the images he sees, he has posted this paragraph on his webpage:

*My goal is to make beautiful and interesting photographs of the world around us. My work varies from pristine landscapes to the whimsical. Forever searching for compositions and subjects that interest me, I strive to create images that are new to me. Yet, I must give credit to God almighty, because it is his work that I simply record and manipulate on film and pixels.*

Muril judged "Letters," for us in February of 2013, "Peace/Tranquility," in February of 2014, and the first open competition in March of last year. We welcome him back this year and look forward to what he will teach us.

## **Festival of the Cranes at Wheeler NWR**

The annual Festival of the Cranes is January 14-15, 2017, at the Visitor Center on AL HWY 67. Take I-65 to exit 334, then head West on HWY 67, towards Decatur. Go to Facebook and search for their page "Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge Complex", to see the brochure, posted Dec 26, with event details/schedule.

### **Highlights for Saturday, January 14:**

- 6:30 a.m. Sunrise breakfast with morning birding walk
- 11:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. Auburn University Raptor Center Presentation with up-close birds of prey demo.
- 3:30 p.m. Nature Hike with John James Audubon (portrayed by Brian Ellis).

### **Highlights for Sunday, Jan 15:**

- 8:00 a.m. Birding 101. Learn basics of birding as you walk along the grounds of Visitor Center.
- 11:00 a.m. Auburn University Raptor Center Birds of Prey demo.
- 3:30 p.m. Bird walk with Erica Wheeler. Cranes will be on the move as daylight dims and sun begins to set providing photo opportunities.

## Best of Year Competition Results

### Judges – Bobby & Cheri Saint

	Color Digital (100)	Monochrome Digital (85)	Color Print (57)	Monochrome Print (42)
<b>1st</b>	John Kirwin	Bill Snoddy	Barb Staggs	Diana Davidson
<b>2nd</b>	Joy Henderson	Dave Edens	Henry Norton	Barb Staggs
<b>3rd</b>	Charles Gattis	Pete Van Hoff	Diana Davidson	Henry Smith
<b>HM</b>	Diana Davidson	Martha Teal	Nathan Robbins	Martha Teal
<b>HM</b>	Alan Montgomery	Charles Gattis	Sam Alexander	Sam Alexander
<b>HM</b>	Liz Little	Diana Davidson	Nathan Robbins	Barry Jackson
<b>HM</b>	Liz Little	Diana Davidson	Charles Leverett	Doris Leverett
<b>HM</b>	Thomas Johnson	Diana Davidson	Diana Davidson	
<b>HM</b>	Dannye Drake	Cliff Loehr	Barry Jackson	
<b>HM</b>	Gayle Biggs	Kathy Seeds		
<b>HM</b>	Barb Montgomery	Alan Forney		
<b>HM</b>	Garth Fraser	Dorinda Tyler		
<b>HM</b>	Gail Patton			

## *Best Of 2016 Images*



Monochrome Print  
BOY by Diana  
Davidson



Monochrome Print 2nd  
place by Barb Staggs



Monochrome Print 3<sup>rd</sup>  
place by Henry Smith



Monochrome Digital  
BOY by Bill Snoddy



Monochrome Digital 2<sup>nd</sup>  
place by Dave Edens



Monochrome Digital 3<sup>rd</sup>  
place by Pete Van Hoff



Monochrome Print HM by  
Doris Leverett

Monochrome Print HM  
by Martha Teal





Color Print BOY  
by Barb Staggs



Color Print HM by  
Charles Leverett



Color Digital BOY by  
John Kirwin



Color Digital 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
by Joy Henderson



Color Digital 3<sup>rd</sup> place  
by Charles Gattis



Members Choice Print by  
Sam Alexander



Members Choice Digital by  
Gayle Biggs



# HPS Huntsville Museum Of Art (HMA) Exhibition

The HMA exhibition gallery is open for submissions! Check out our website's contest page to submit your images and our on-line calendar for dates and additional info.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

2/20/2017 - Image submission ends  
3/13/2017 - Announce gallery picks  
5/1/2017 - Mount/Frame images  
5/8/2017 - Framed delivered to HMA to be setup  
5/14/2017- Gallery opens to the public  
5/18/2017 - HPS/Open House

## 2016 Awards

**President's Award**  
**Diana Davidson- 48 points**

### New Gold Fellows

Charles Leverett  
Margaret Phillips

### New Silver Fellows

Sam Alexander  
Charles Gattis

### New Bronze Fellows

Ron Atchley  
Alan Forney  
Charles Gattis  
Bill Snoddy

### New Fellows

Gayle Biggs  
Doris Leverett  
Dave Edens  
Susi Stroud  
Henry Norton

## 2017 Meeting Calendar

Jan 9- Astrophotography by Jim Gardepe  
Jan 23 – “Gone With The Wind” Competition Meeting  
Jan 30 – Fifth Monday (Open Forum Night)  
Feb 13 - Program TBA  
Feb 27 – “Glow In The Dark” Competition Meeting  
Mar 13 - Program TBA  
Mar 27 - “Open” Competition Meeting  
Apr 10 - Program TBA  
Apr 24 - “Beautiful Blur” Competition Meeting  
May 8 - Program TBA  
May 22 – “Rivers” Competition Meeting  
May 29 – Fifth Monday (Open Forum Night)  
Jun 12 - Program TBA  
Jun 26 - “Made In The USA” Competition Meeting  
July 10 - Program TBA  
July 24 - “Broken” Competition Meeting  
July 31 – Fifth Monday (Open Forum Night)  
Aug 14 - Program TBA  
Aug 28 - “Rural America” Competition Meeting  
Sep 11 – Program TBA  
Sep 25 - “Mystery” Competition Meeting  
Oct 9 - Program TBA  
Oct 23 - “Open” Competition Meeting  
Oct 30 - Fifth Monday (Open Forum Night)  
Nov 13 -  
Nov 27 - “Cabins” Competition Meeting  
Dec 11 - 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
Digital Competition Officer	Eddie Sewall	(256) 880-7714	cesewall@comcast.net
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Historian	James Burton II	(256)527-5712	jamesburton-ii@att.net@att.net
PSA Representative	Lee Pratt	(256)325-1854	leepratt@knology.net
Webmaster	Luis Lebron	(256)975-5935	lrlebron@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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