



In Focus

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December 2014

December Program- Best of Year Awards Banquet

It's pretty safe to assume that most members of Huntsville Photo Society love photography. It's also pretty safe to assume that most of those same members love good food (judging by the number of members who usually attend the "After the Meeting – Meeting" at Cracker Barrel). The great thing about our December HPS Meeting is that we get to do both at the same location.

Our annual HPS Year End Banquet and Awards Ceremony is December 8th at our regular meeting room at the Huntsville Madison County Library. This will be our only meeting for the month of December. The HPS Banquet will begin at 6:00 pm. We will enjoy a wonderful meal, catered by Carrabba's with dessert and drinks furnished by our friends at Costco. Feel free to bring your spouse or a guest. **If you have not already made arrangements to attend, please contact our treasurer, Sam Alexander at samalex1@gmail.com or Eddie Sewall at cesewall@comcast.net by Tuesday, Dec 2.**

Following the meal, we will have our annual HPS Year End Awards Ceremony. If you choose not to attend the banquet at 6:00 pm, you are certainly still welcome to attend the Year End Awards Ceremony at 7:00 pm. All photos that have placed during the year at our regular monthly competitions will be on display and the choices for the Best of the Year will be announced. We expect to have great food, fotos, fellowship and fun so make plans now to attend.

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It's that time of year again! Membership dues are due by January 1. Checks can be mailed to address on page 8 of the newsletter. See p. 3 for more info.



From The President

The Holiday season is upon us once again; where has time gone - it seems like just yesterday was summer. What a great time to take photos, especially for January's topic of "Emotions." From my letter of two years ago, consider love, hope, joy, excitement (someone got what they wanted), disappointment (someone didn't get what they wanted), frustration (those darn lights aren't working), or some other pent up emotion. Enjoy the holidays with your family and friends.

Lee Pratt and Andrea Shetley presented their annual 3-D photography program, this time with images from New Mexico. The photos were stunning; the landscape colors and shapes rendered in 3-D made you believe you were really there. One thing I found interesting that Andrea said was that the technology and cameras seem to be in hold mode right now – not near the explosion of capabilities seen in previous years.

Pamela Keller, Professor of Art at Athens State University, was our November judge for "Open." However, she could not make the

actual meeting, so Diana Davidson judged the print competition. Diana explained that she would be looking for the image's impact, composition, and technical merit, and she did a great job in selecting the winning images and providing meaningful comments. Congratulations to all of our November winners. Be sure to check them out in the newsletter or in our website gallery.

At the November competition meeting we completed two business items. First, the membership approved the Board-submitted budget for 2015. This budget incorporates a dues increase for family memberships, from \$20 per year, which was the same as for individuals, to \$30 per year, with no limit to number of family members. We also confirmed Charles Gattis as the new Primary Competition Officer, replacing Ernie High.

The Huntsville Museum of Art submissions are due by midnight, December 1st. Each member is allowed 2 submissions. Cara Fuller will down-select the submissions to 70, and then the Museum will choose the final 50 for exhibition. Exhibitors will be notified in early January, which will allow them time to get the images printed and matted. The exhibit starts in early March.

I want to extend my thanks to Henry Norton, one of our newer members, for presenting a mini-class on packing for a photo trip. Henry is a photographer at Redstone Arsenal and has had to pack for many and varied photo trips throughout his career. His insights and suggestions were very valuable, even for day trips, let alone multiple-day trips out of the country.

Don't forget about our Year-End Banquet and awards presentation on December 8th in the Library auditorium. Carrabba's will be catering again and Costco will provide desserts. The banquet starts at 6:00, followed by the awards at 7:00.

Eddie Sewall

New Competition Category

The HPS Board has approved a new competition category for 2015 and beyond – Digital Monochrome. That means we will now have four competition categories – digital color, digital monochrome, color prints, and monochrome prints. The rules for the digital monochrome will be a combination of the digital and monochrome print rules – jpeg format; maximum width = 1920 pixels; maximum height = 1080 pixels; monochrome can be black and white, sepia, or any other single color along with white. The number of submissions will remain the same – four (4) images total, no more than two (2) in any of the four categories.

Best of Year Judging

Best of Year judging will take place on Saturday, December 6 at the Asbury United Methodist Church in Madison, AL. Time is from 9:00-12:00. Judges are from the Sparkman High School Photography Department.

TAC Gallery at the VBC

Charles Gattis, the HPS coordinator for The Arts Council Gallery, needs Fellows or Masters to display in 2015. The immediate concern is for the month of March. This will be a one month display, instead of the usual 2 month, due to Panoply using the Gallery in April.

This is a great opportunity for those who achieved Fellow status in 2014. For more info, including guidelines for the Gallery, contact Charles at cfgattis@me.com. He also needs participants (2 people per period) for the following months:

May/June
July/ August
September/October
November/December

Family Dues Increase

The HPS 2015 budget was approved by the membership at the Nov. 24 meeting, including an increase in the Family membership dues.

Individual- \$20/ \$18 before Jan 1
Family- \$30/ \$27 before Jan 1

November Competition Results
Subject- Open
Judges- Diana Davidson & Pamela Keller

	Digital (76)	Color Print (64)	Monochrome Print (33)
1st	John Kirwin	Henry Norton	Sam Alexander
2nd	David Blue	Dolores Burns	John Kirwin
3rd	Sam Alexander	Sam Alexander	Randy Stephens
HM	Carol Poland	Dave Edens	Emily Saile
HM	Garth Fraser	Nicole Harper	Ron Atchley
HM	Bart Fay	Peter Van Hoff	Henry Norton
HM	Cliff Loehr	Glen Romanczuk	
HM	Barbara Hitt	Margaret Phillips	
HM	Barbara Montgomery	Margaret Philips	
HM	Virgil Lipscomb		
HM	Susi Stroud		

First place winners

Digital by
John Kirwin



Monochrome Print
by Sam Alexander



Color Print by
Henry Norton



Name	2014 Points	2014 Wins	Name	2014 Points	2014 Wins
Sam Alexander	46	14	Susi Stroud	8	5
Charles Gattis	28	11	Gary Stiger	7	3
Randy Stephens	25	8	Dave Edens	7	5
Don Wolfe	23	12	Liz Smith	6	2
Virginia Gilbert	21	6	Lee Pratt	6	2
Barbara Staggs	21	9	Tim Solomon	5	3
Garth Fraser	20	10	Rosemary Davidson	5	1
Henry Smith	18	7	Sam Tumminello	5	5
Nicole Harper	17	6	Eddie Sewall	5	2
Margaret Phillips	16	6	Daniel Little	5	1
Charles Leverett	15	7	Barbara Montgomery	5	5
Tom Bryant	15	6	Barbara Hitt	5	3
Nathan Robbins	14	6	Liz High	4	1
Virgil Lipscomb	14	6	Richard Modlin	3	1
Emily Saile	14	8	Jerry Green	3	3
Alan Forney	13	7	Fred Schlich	3	1
Dolores Burns	13	5	Bart Fay	3	3
Martha Teal	12	7	David Rudolph	2	2
Glen Romanczuk	12	5	Brian Boardman	2	2
John Kirwin	12	5	Sheila Gentle	1	1
Veronica Beaudry	11	4	Taylor Romanczuk	1	1
David Blue	11	4	Debbie Tromblee	1	1
Wayne James	10	5	Jackie Rudolph	1	1
Ron Atchley	9	4	Steve Mitchell	1	1
Doris Leverett	8	4	Lonnie Withem	1	1
Joy Henderson	8	4	Carol Poland	1	1
Cliff Loehr	8	4	Pete Van Hoff	1	1

Best Of Year Judges:- Sparkman High School Photo Department

Christmas Gifts For That Special Photographer

Books are a wonderful source of inspiration and learning especially when the author includes information such as technique and thought process of how the image was conceived by the photographer. One such author is **Peter Essick**, a photojournalist for National Geographic magazine. His latest book, *Our Beautiful, Fragile World: The Nature and Environmental Photographs of Peter Essick*, includes a diverse series of photographs from some of the most beautiful natural areas in the world, including commentary about major environmental issues and the research he completed for each story.

Here are a few other books to check out:

Road To Seeing by **Dan Winters**

Window Seat: The Art of Digital Photography and Creative Thinking by **Julianne Kost**

Magazine subscriptions are also great, unexpected gifts with information about the latest gear, software, developing creativity, and post-processing techniques. Popular magazines include *Shutterbug*, *Popular Photography*, *Outdoor Photographer*, and *Digital Photographer* (from the UK).

25th Annual Wilderness Wildlife Week

One of the most popular events in Pigeon Forge, Wilderness Wildlife Week, is scheduled for Jan 24-31, 2015. The week of events includes exhibits, performances, workshops, classes, and walks that are informative and entertaining. The programs celebrate the many wonders of the Great Smokey Mountains National Park and surrounding areas. There are daily musical presentations in addition to classes. Programs usually start at 8 a.m. and continue throughout the day, ending around 7:30 p.m. when the day's keynote program starts. Participants can come and go as they please, choosing which programs to attend on their own schedule. And it's all FREE! Programs are held at the LeConte Center at Pigeon Forge. Attendees must sign up for hikes.

Highlights of the first weekend include:

Sat, Jan 24- Nature Photography Workshop with Kendall Chiles, Daniel Dempster, and Tom & Pat Cory; Making Your Nature Images POP! With Larry Perry; Entering Photographic Competitions: The Benefits of Entering, Pitfalls to Avoid and Image Selection Process with Douglas Hubbard.

Sun, Jan 25- Turn Your Photography Into Art Workshop with Karen Jones (Limited Class); Blooms, Birds, and Butterflies with Tom & Pat Cory; The Dos, Don'ts and How's of Photographing Birds with Clay Thurston; Great Photography with any Camera, Cell Phone or Tablet with Rich Iceland.

For the entire week's schedule go to:

<http://www.mypigeonforge.com/pdf/wilderness-wildlife-week-classes-and-seminars.pdf>

2015 Competition Subjects

January	Emotions
February	Alabama the Beautiful
March	Open
April	Shadows & Silhouettes
May	People
June	It's About Time
July	Things That Fly
August	Faces in Objects
September	Unusual Perspective
October	Open
November	Leaf & Petal
December	Best of Year
Jan 2016	Streets & Alleys

Christmas Lighting Events

Galaxy of Lights at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens, driving tour, through Jan 3.

Tinsel Trail, downtown Huntsville near the Museum of Art, walking trail, open through Jan 4. <http://tinseltrail.com>

Sixth Annual Festival of Trees, Guntersville Museum, 1215 Rayburn Ave, with special holiday music (choir and dulcimer group) on Sunday Dec 7, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Admission is free.
<http://www.guntersvillemuseum.org>

Rocky Mountain School of Photography

The Rocky Mountain School of Photography (RMSP) is coming to a town near you. RMSP weekends include a wide variety of courses where participants choose their own curriculum. Courses are designed for beginner to intermediate level photographers, with group critique, and the opportunity to connect with the instructors. There is a Photo Weekend scheduled for Atlanta, GA, Jan 24-25, 2015 and Birmingham, AL, May 9-10 2015. Group discounts are offered for 5 or more, with \$20 off 2-day tuition or \$10 off 1-day tuition.

For course descriptions and to register, copy/paste the following link in your browser:
www.rmisp.com/weekends/?utm_source=RMSP+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=01fced472d-Quarterly_Newsletter_November_201410_27_2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f5fc992ee0-01fced472d-75755193#tab-description

2014 Officers of Huntsville Photographic Society

President	Eddie Sewall	(256) 880-7714	cesewall@comcast.net
Primary Competition Officer	Ernie High	(256)772-5864	ernhigh@knology.net
Digital Competition Officer	Cliff Loehr	(256)746-8436	cliff@brighterhost.com
Competition Records Officer	Margaret Phillips		phillipsqh@gmail.com
Program Officer	Roger Hunter	(256)755-1057	rogerhunter01@bellsouth.net
Activities Officer	Bob Gower		bgoing2@yahoo.com
Publicity Officer	Sam Tumminello	(256)534-1480	samjt3@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Sam Alexander		samalex1@gmail.com
Communications Officer	Geri Reddy	(256)721-0106	hpseditor@bellsouth.net
Historian	Dolores Burns		doloresburns@att.net
PSA Representative	Lee Pratt	(256)325-1854	leepratt@knology.net
Webmaster	Margaret Phillips		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
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/399566463394251/> (closed group)

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