



Digital Color, HM, by Steve Mitchell. See more HMs starting on p.12.

In Focus

August Program—Ivory-Billed Woodpecker

By Bobby R. Harrison

August 8, 2022 Downtown Huntsville Madison County Library, 6:00 p.m.

Bobby Harrison is perhaps best known for his life-long quest to find the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, a bird thought by most ornithologists to be extinct. On February 27, 2004 he and colleague Tim Gallagher rediscovered the long thought extinct bird in eastern Arkansas. Their sighting, the first time since 1944 that two qualified observers had positively identified an ivory-billed woodpecker in the United States-quickly led to the largest search ever launched to find a rare bird and ultimately to the announcement in April, 2005 of the rediscovery of the species.

While there have been many sightings of this bird since 2005, the USFWS made the decision on September 30, 2022, to place the ivory-bill on a proposal to delist the bird from endangered to extinct. Mr. Harrison and others have been arduously working to obtain photographic evidence that the ivory-bill is indeed extant.

In this program Mr. Harrison will present video evidence that he captured during an Ivory-billed Woodpecker sighting on October 17, 2021. This is the same evidence that Mr. Harrison recently presented to the USFWS on July 18, 2022 as evidence of the persistence of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker in our southern forest.

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Bobby Harrison is an award-winning nature photographer, speaker, writer, and educator based in Huntsville, Alabama. Mr. Harrison holds a B.F.A. in Photography from Andrew's University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, and a M.S. in Media Technology from Alabama A&M University. After spending 40 years teaching photography he recently retired as Associate Professor of Photography, and the Director of the Visual Media Program at Oakwood University.

Mr. Harrison has published more than 100 articles accompanied with his photography in many of the major birding and natural history magazines in North America such as: Audubon, Nature's Best, Natural History, Living Bird, Birder's World, Wildbird, National Wildlife, Birds and Blooms, Bird Watcher's Digest and others. He was a columnist for WildBird, and Livingbird Magazine for more than a decade, and for the last 12 years, a columnist for Creation Illustrated magazine.

Mr. Harrison's photographs have won national recognition three times in the prestigious Nature's Best Photography contest, In 2018 his photograph of a Snowy egret was selected as one of the Top 100 images in the National Audubon Society Bird Photography Contest, and was a Honorable Mention winner in the 2018 Lucie Foundations, International Photography Awards.

One of Mr. Harrison's great passions is to document the existence of the rare and elusive Ivory-billed Woodpecker. His work on the Ivory-billed Woodpecker with colleague Tim Gallagher, has been featured in the "New York Times Magazine", and on CBS "60 Minutes", and in May, 2021 on "CBS Sunday Morning".



Photo by James T. Tanner

Ivory-billed Woodpecker in Singer Tract, Louisiana, 1935

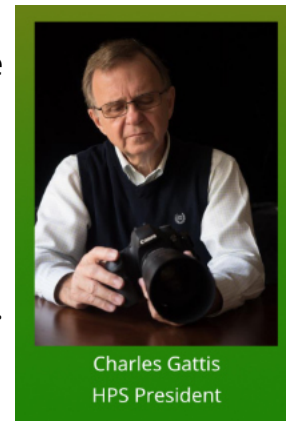


Schedule Changes

By Charles Gattis

I need to report to you the schedule changes that were determined at our last board meeting. As you know, for several months, we have had difficulty with our meeting time and venue. This has been true for the following reasons:

1. The pandemic forced us to stop meeting in person for over a year.
2. During the pandemic, the library changed its closing time from 9 pm to 8 pm, making it more difficult for us to meet in person.
3. We had to change our meeting time from 7 pm to 6 pm making it difficult for members who live at a distance to attend in person.
4. We attempted to have both in-person meetings and Zoom meetings at the same time making it easier for people to attend even if they had been infected with COVID or if they had trouble making the meeting.
5. All of this necessitated in us meeting for programs at the library and at Trinity United Methodist Church for competition.



Since all these solutions have felt inadequate, the board held a special meeting a couple of weeks ago to discuss how we might move forward in a more constructive manner. From a survey we took and from our discussion, four concerns became apparent:

1. In person and Zoom meetings are very hard to pull off, even though Bob has done a great job with that.
2. Meeting in person gives us the best opportunity for both fellowship and for learning together.
3. Starting our meetings later would make it possible for more of our members to attend in person.
4. We wanted a time period and venue where we would not feel rushed either for programs or competition.

With these concerns, we made the following decisions:

1. We will save Zoom meetings for times when we cannot meet in person and use it for the time being for board meetings and 5th Monday meetings. We won't try to do Zoom meetings at the same time we have an in-person meeting.
2. We will meet for our program meeting on August 8 at the library at 6 pm, and present our new schedule and meeting time to the group there so we can be clear
3. After August 8, we will start meeting both for programs and competition at Trinity United Methodist Church at 7 pm, to make it easier for our members to be in attendance and so we will have as much time as we need.

Thoughts from the July Competition–Family

By Tom Bryant

Cindy Shaver was our judge for the July competition. She left us some web site references if we want to watch judging being live-streamed on the Internet. The site to watch for local and state print competitions is printcompetition.com. It is free but they offer a premium membership if you really want to get into it. To watch PPA districts and International Print Competition it is Stream.theipc.org.

What is the PPA? It is an international organization of professional photographers with 30,000 members in 50 countries. PPA stands for Professional Photographers of America. It is about 150 years old. It provides an organization for certifying professional photographers and it is done through photo competition and service. After Cindy Shaver's name she can use "M Photog, M Artist, Cp, CPP" and these stand for Master Photographer, Photographic Craftsman, and Certified Professional Photographer.

The PPA web site is quite informative. Here is a link to their photo competitions page: <https://www.ppa.com/events/photo-competitions>. This is from the PPA site and it is something I have also said for a long time and truly believe: "Photo Competitions– Entering competition is the quickest way to improve your photography." From this page is a link to "12 Elements of a Merit Image". If you like a pro slide show with music, click on "2022 Grand Imaging Awards Finalists". Elsewhere on the web site is a link to their magazine. You cannot read it on line unless you are a member, but there are thumbnails and article summaries on the page that are informative.

Bobby and Cheri Saint judged for us for many years, and also for PPA. Bobby described the process PPA uses which requires 5 judges and a score sheet (perhaps based on the 12 Elements of a Merit Image mentioned above). Bobby said they would total the points by judge for each image and if one of the judge's scores was an outlier, they discussed it until they all agreed. This makes the judging much less subjective than ours at HPS, but would of course be impossible given our time restraints.

Cindy mentioned that the PPA criteria also involves classical paint art criteria. Remember Bobby Saint's criteria for the Still Life topic? He picked many photos that followed the renaissance Dutch Masters look.

So here are some hints for photographers starting out. 1) Compete! Don't worry about winning. In HPS, the prize is only praise and honor. 2) Look at all the images that you can, both photos and other art such as paintings. Ask why the artist composed the work the way they did. The "rules" of composition have been around since the days of the Greeks, yet some of the masters have not followed them religiously. Why? 3) Consider competing in prints. Our judges are usually very willing to stay around after the competition is over to discuss your images. That is much easier with a print than a digital image.

Cindy provided written comments on a number of the digital entries and they are on our web site with the text above the photo for easy reference. I want to encourage you to read them all, not just on yours.

August Judge—Neville Simpson
Subject—Huntsville/Madison County
August 22, Trinity United Methodist Church, 7:00 p.m.

We want to welcome a new member to the HPS family. Neville Simpson who owns HEADSHOTHSV will serve as our judge August 2022.

Photography is more than a business for Neville; it is a ministry that allows him to use his God-given talents and skills to bless others. For almost two decades, his love for God, people and photography have led him to become an award-winning photographer specializing in weddings, senior school portraits, professional headshots, and portrait photography.

Neville is known to provide images that are vivid, artistic, creative, and full of life, with dramatic lighting. He is a member of the Professional Photographer Association (PPA), Wedding Professional Photographer International (WPPI), and Texas School of Photography. Additionally, Neville Simpson Photography has been the Wedding Wire Brides Choice Award consecutively from 2012 -2016, winner of Huntsville Brides Front Cover Photo Contest and, Shoot-Out Contest Winner at the Texas School of Photography. Published in national and local media such as Business Weekly, Southern Brides, Munaluchi Bridal Magazine, Downtown Living, and Huntsville Brides, he is recognized as a leader in the industry.



You can visit his website www.headshotHSV.com

July Competition Results
Subject—Family
Judge—Cindy Shaver

	Color Digital (41)	Monochrome Digital (34)	Color Print (13)	Monochrome Print (8)
1st	Chris Baker	Philip Flowers	Joy Henderson	Joy Henderson
2nd	Susan Chi	Julia Gary	Joy Henderson	Doris Leverett
3rd	Alice Searcy	Julia Gary	Don Wolfe	Charles Leverett
HM	Steve Mitchell	Judy Kennamer DeBlanc	Barbara Staggs	Don Wolfe
HM	Susan Chi	Jim Spinoso		
HM	Judy Kennamer DeBlanc	CT Chi		
HM	Jack DeBlanc			

Speaker Request

The Alabama Private Investigators Association is requesting a speaker on the use of cameras as it pertains to lighting, manual and auto focus, and the importance of good equipment. The event is Sept. 14th and 15th at Huntsville Westin hotel. If interested, contact Betty Casteel at casteelagency@gmail.com. Call 205-966-8321 with any questions.

Photography Exhibit at the VBC

Submitted by Tom Bryant

ArtsHuntsville at the Von Braun Center lets HPS use a bit of their art exhibit space. John Shriver has just hung a new photography exhibit. I hope you can see it. Each piece is made at the aspect ratio that the photo needs rather than using standard print sizes and frame openings. Each frame is custom made by John. They may be printed on different papers. Ask John. Don't miss this exhibit at the VBC.



Equipment for Sale

I'm one of the founders of the "9" photo group and the Montgomery Photo Festival. I'm selling my Fuji X-T4 (purchased 6/2020). I'd like to make your members aware that it's for sale. You may share my e-mail with the group or any individual you think would be interested. Here are the details:

Fuji X-T4 digital camera with 16mm-80mm lens

Fuji NP-W235 Battery Pack (2)

Fuji Twin Battery Charger

The camera has been used very little and is in excellent shape.

I'm asking \$1,900. Retail, this package is \$2,500.

Thanks for considering my request.

Bob Corley

334-202-0114

bcorley3@gmail.com

Points for the Year to Date

Name	2022 points	2022 Wins
CT Chi	35	10
Charles Leverett	30	12
Christopher Baker	26	11
Judy Kennamer-DeBlanc	23	10
Don Wolfe	23	9
Barbara Staggs	22	9
Doris Leverett	19	7
Joy Henderson	18	7
Julie Gary	16	7
Emily Saile	15	6
Henry Smith	15	4
Ed Townsend	14	10
Jack Eidson	13	4
Charles Gattis	13	3
John Shriver	12	7
Carolyn Eidson	10	5
Earl Todd	10	5
Allen Gary	10	4
Susan Chi	9	4
Tom Bryant	9	3
Philip Flowers	8	4
Alice Searcy	7	3
Jack DeBlanc	6	3
Mat Bevill	5	3
Steve Mitchell	5	2
Jim Spinoso	4	4
Rosemary Davidson	4	1
Bob Gathany	3	3
Carolyn Shadden	3	1
David Edens	2	2
Eric Deylius	1	1
Trudi Gardner-Fay	1	1
Patricia Haag	1	1
Eddie Sewall	1	1
Gary Stiger	1	1
Sam Tumminello	1	1

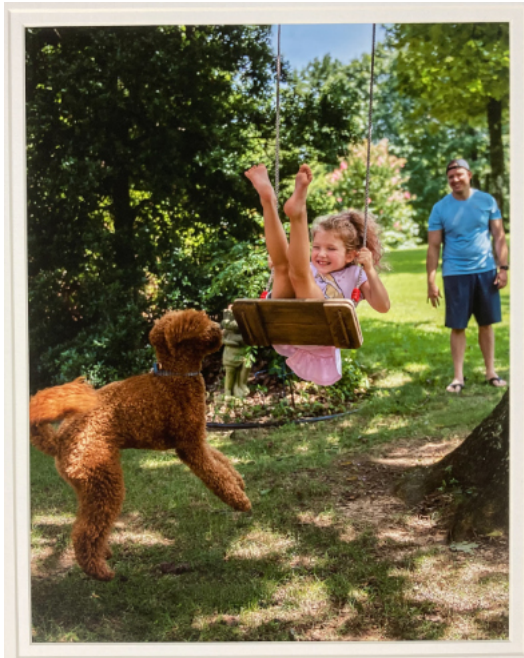
New Members

Alvin Goulbourne
 Casey Johnson
 Catherine Lawson
 Jane Reneau
 Paulette Risher

2022 Competition Topics

8/22— HSV/
 MADISON CTY
 9/26— NIGHT/
 LOW LIGHT
 10/24— OPEN
 11/28— TRUST

July 2022 Images



Color Print 1st place
by Joy Henderson

Color Print 2nd place
by Joy Henderson



Color Print 3rd place
by Don Wolfe





Monochrome Print
1st place
by Joy Henderson

Monochrome Print
2nd place
by Doris Leverett



Monochrome Print
3rd place
by Charles Leverett



Color Digital 1st place
by Chris Baker



Color Digital 2nd place
by Susan Chi

Color Digital 3rd place
by Alice Searcy





Monochrome Digital
1st place
by Philip Flowers

Monochrome Digital
2nd Place
by Julia Gary



Monochrome Digital
3rd Place
by Julia Gary

Honorable Mention—Print



Barbara Staggs



Don Wolfe

Honorable Mention—Digital



Steve Mitchell



Susan Chi



Judy Kennemer-DeBlanc



Jack DeBanc



Judy Kennemer-DeBlanc

Jim Spinoso





CT Chi

Officers of HPS

President: Charles Gattis

Primary Competition Officer: Steve Mitchell

Digital Competition Officer: Chris Baker

Competition Records Officer: Eddie Sewall

Program Officer: Roger Hunter

Outreach & Activities Officer: Brenda Barnes

Workshop Chairman: Charlie Leverett

Publicity Officer: Rosemary Davidson

Treasurer: Emily Saile

Communications Officer: Jay Bain

Historian: Tom Bryant

Exhibition Officer: Bob Gower

PSA Representative: Lee Pratt

Non Board Positions

Webmaster: John Shriver

Membership Officer: Alice Searcy

Mentor/Novice Program Officer: Henry Smith

HPS is meeting at the Huntsville Madison County Library on the second Monday of the month, 6-8 p.m., and Trinity United Methodist Church on the fourth Monday, 7-9 p.m.

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