



FEBRUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

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Showcase Photo from Facebook: [Friends of Hagerman NWR Nature Photography Group](#)



(Photo Credit: Shiva Shenoy)



Larry Howard with a bellows unit.
(Photo credit: Lisa Wilkins)



(Photo credit: Amanda Williams)



(Photo credit: Brianna Stone)

Past Events

Photo Club Meeting – January 21, 2023

Larry Howard gave a presentation on macro photography. He brought in an array of equipment that is used for macro. Larry displayed and explained recommended equipment: tripod, sandbag, camera clamp, remote release or cable release, lens reversing ring, lens coupling ring, diopters, extension tubes, bellows unit, macro lens, and macro slide rail.

A few main factors to consider in macro photography are depth-of-field, background/subject merger, focal length of lens, and shutter speed to prevent mirror slaps with DSLR cameras

Larry gave many useful tips, including.

- Pick a background that is pleasing in tone and does not merge with your subject. Try to have background far enough away to render it out of focus.
- The longer focal length of the lens you are using the more extensions you must use to get close to the subject. The more magnification you use the more useful the macro-slider will be.
- Whenever you can, keep the camera as close to parallel to the subject as possible to ensure a more overall plane of sharpness on the subject.
- As far as lighting on a subject, use a reflective surface on a sunny day to light your subject. If the day is very cloudy, you might try a flash unit.
- When you want to get really close to your subjects or want a lot of magnification, you will likely need to use a sandbag, camera clamp or tripod to steady the camera. A tripod is frequently used and one that has the capability to go low to the ground is your best choice with either a ball head or a pan/tilt head.

Larry has been a professor of photography since 1973 and taught photography classes in portrait, weddings, nature, wildlife, food, architecture, and photo journalism. Larry lives in Tom Bean, Texas, with his wife and they have been married 54 years. He is a fifth generation Texan and an army veteran.

Upcoming Events

- Photo club meetings are on the third Saturday of every other month (Jan, Mar, May, July, Sep, Nov) at 1:00-2:30 pm in the Visitor Center at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge (HNWR). If you want, bring your camera to meetings and at the end of meetings to ask questions of each other and share information.
- More details about events and speakers will be provided as it gets nearer to the event date.

Date	Event
March 18, Saturday 1:00-2:30 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photo club meeting. Location: Visitor Center in HNWR. • Our guest speaker is Raul Rivero. Raul is an experienced and versatile photographer, videographer and digital content creator. He is an experienced visual storyteller with more than 30 years in the communication and entertainment industry. For the last 10 years he has specialized on visual content for social media and e-commerce. He has been working on the Collin County Heritage Project. Collin Heritage is a heartfelt homage to all the historic and emblematic places in Collin County, Texas. You can see Raul's photography at www.raulriverophotography.com. • Prior to March 10, select 3 of your favorite photos taken at HNWR and email them to FOHphotoclub@gmail.com. Maximum 2MB per photo. Your photos will be included in a slideshow shown at the March meeting for you to talk about content of the photo, techniques, ask for assistance, etc.
April	Field trip to Ennis Bluebonnet Trails .
May 20, Saturday 1:00-2:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photo club meeting. Location: Visitor Center in HNWR. • Speaker: Carey Stinson. Carey is a professional photography and teaches aspiring photographers via Collin College Continuing Education and online Wyzant tutoring. careystinson.com • Topic: Night Shooting.
June or July?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photo shoot of Lotus flowers at Meadow Pond in HNWR.
July 15, Saturday 1:00-2:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photo club meeting. Location: Visitor Center in HNWR. • Speaker: Murali Hanabe. Murali's landscape photos won multiple awards in the 2022 Hagerman Nature Photo Contest. • Topic: TBD.
September 1 – 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit your photos for the FOH NWR Nature Photography Club – Annual Nature Photo Contest.
September 16, Saturday 1:00-2:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photo club meeting. Location: Visitor Center in HNWR. • Speaker: Richard Barnes. Richard creates wondrous videos of nature in action, including videos shot at HNWR. Richard EH Barnes YouTube. • Topic: Nature Videos.
October 7, Saturday 1:00-2:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photo shoot of butterflies in the Butterfly Garden in HNWR. • Laurie Sheppard will be there to identify butterflies.
November 18, Saturday 1:00-2:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photo club meeting. Location: Visitor Center in HNWR. • Speaker and topic TBD.
November	Field trip to the Japanese Garden at Fort Worth Botanic Garden .

Volunteers

We need members to volunteer to make events happen. Please let us know if you can help out.

- We need a field trip leader for each off-site field trip. The field trip leader may be expected to: setup the meeting time and place, assist in coordinating sharing rides, coordinate with the location venue, select a restaurant for gathering after the photo shoot, etc.
- We also need a volunteer to lead a late night shoot in HNWR. Maybe someone that is knowledgeable in astronomy and selecting a date, such as October 14 for solar eclipse.
- Many members said they are interested in having photography classes outside of the regular photo club meetings. Possibly 3-hour length and may be willing to pay a small fee. Some members have volunteered their time to teach some classes. We need volunteers to be an Education Committee and organize these type of classes – select dates, speakers, topics, etc.

2022 PHOTO CONTEST WINNER



(Photo credit: Curtis Hall)

Annual Photo Contest

Every September, the FOH NWR Nature Photography Club sponsors a nature-themed photo contest. Divisions include Beginner and Intermediate/Advanced.

- All photos entered in the contest must have been taken within Hagerman NWR boundaries within the past five years.
- Entries will be accepted from September 1 – September 30, 2023.
- Categories: Landscapes, Flora and Macro, Artistic, and Wildlife.

Details can be found at <https://friendsofhagerman.com/Photo-Club-Contest>. Entry instructions for 2023 contest will be updated soon.

Come on out to Hagerman NWR and take some winning photographs!

Photo Blind

There is a photo blind located on Raasch Trail at HNWR. The photo blind will be relocated to a different area on the refuge grounds. Volunteers will be needed to give the photo blind some much needed updating at the new location. This will be a great volunteer opportunity for our photo club to get together and renew the photo blind. More info to come.

Photo Club Facebook Group

The [Friends of Hagerman NWR Nature Photography Group](#) on Facebook is aimed to support, assist and educate nature photographers of all levels. Post your photos taken on the Hagerman refuge. Post recent photos of bird sightings, wildlife, habitats, nature. Ask a question about how to improve your photo. Share a technique or tip that you used. Ask about camera equipment.

Photo Club Member Directory

Want to connect with other photo club members to ask questions, share information, or get together? You can share and see contact info in the photo club member directory on the [Friends of Hagerman website](#). Enter your contact info and camera equipment and then select the option to share your info with other members. Instructions on how to set up your profile and view the member directory are in a separate document attached to this February 2023 newsletter email.

Membership

Do you know someone that wants to join the Friends of Hagerman and Photo Club? Give them this link <https://friendsofhagerman.com/Membership> to sign up for a membership.

Contact Info

Jeff Gladden, Nature Photo Club Leader
Lisa Wilkins, Nature Photo Club Leader Nominee for 2023
Friends of Hagerman NWR Nature Photography Club
Email: fohphotoclub@gmail.com
Website: <https://friendsofhagerman.com/Photo-Club>
Facebook: [Friends of Hagerman NWR Nature Photography Group](#)

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