



Huntsville Photographic Society Member's Packet

November 2024

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Huntsville Photographic Society (HPS). This packet of information contains useful details about the society. Our goal is to promote the science and art of photography. Being over 50 years old, the society is one of the oldest photographic organizations in Alabama.

WEBSITE

The HPS website is located at hpsphoto.org and contains most of the information listed in this document. It's also a good site to check for updates or changes to meeting locations, times, and dates.

HPS also has a members only group on Facebook where members can interact and share photos.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/399566463394251/>

We also have a Facebook page that we encourage you to LIKE since it will provide useful information:

https://www.facebook.com/HuntsvillePhotographicSociety/?ref=pages_you_manage

HPS members may also choose to share photos via the HPS FLICKR group.

http://www.flickr.com/groups/hps_20/

HPS also has a Meetup Group "Huntsville Photography Group"

<https://www.meetup.com/Huntsville-Photography-Group/>

BIMONTHLY MEETINGS

HPS meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Meetings are at the classroom inside of the GigaParts Superstore (6123 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806) at 6:30 pm.

Occasionally, meetings must be moved to other locations due to schedule conflicts. We will try to convey this information on both the website and social media.

The first meeting each month is a program. Programs may be presented by HPS members or non-members.

The second meeting is our monthly competition. Each month has a different topic; these are chosen by the board in November of the previous year and announced at our banquet in December

If a month has a fifth Monday, we may have an open forum meeting. People come to discuss general photography topics, show off pictures or equipment or ask questions.

- Contact: Chris Baker knc82099@me.com for questions about Program Nights
- Contact: Steven Butler stevenbutler9253@gmail.com for questions about Competition Nights

DUES

It is highly recommended that dues be paid online through the HPS website

<https://www.hpsphoto.org/membership-join/>. If for any reason you cannot pay online, you can mail a check payable

to Huntsville Photographic Society to the following address:

Bob Schmiedeskamp, HPS treasurer
115 Walnut Cove Blvd SW
Huntsville, AL 35824

Alternatively, you may give your payment to the treasurer or to any other board member at an HPS meeting. Dues are good for one full year from the date of payment. You will receive an email notice one month before the next year's dues need to be paid.

If you are purchasing a Family membership, you will be prompted to submit the name and email address of each family member so we can manually add them to the membership roster.

IMPORTANT: The payment feature on the HPS website uses PayPal's "subscription" service. This service will auto-renew your membership each year and keep you active. If you desire to change this to a single year (without automatic renewal), you can do so on PayPal's website.

Membership fees cover a full year from the time of purchase. Dues are \$30 for an individual or \$45 for a family or \$15 for a student.

- Contact Bob Schmiedeskamp rwssj@earthlink.net for questions regarding membership dues.

NEWSLETTER - "IN FOCUS"

Our monthly newsletter, "In Focus," is available on the website (<http://www.hpsphoto.org/news/newsletter>). Contact the Communication Officer, Jay Bain, if you are not receiving a notification and a link for the newsletter, or if your email address needs to be updated. At the end of the newsletter is contact information for the Communications Officer along with all other HPS board members. Members are encouraged to contribute articles for the newsletter. This includes local events of interest, photo techniques, book reviews and personal accomplishments or awards. The newsletter can also list items for sale by members.

- Contact: Jay Bain hpseditor@bellsouth.net for questions about the newsletter.

YEAR END BANQUET

The Best of Year Competition winners and President's Award winners are announced.

Any image that has been placed in monthly competitions during the year is eligible for entry into the Best of Year competition. It is the responsibility of the photographer to track their winning print images and resubmit them in November for the Best of Year Competition. Stickers placed on the back of winning prints should not be removed prior to the Best of Year Competition. Digital winners from monthly competitions will automatically be entered.

Note: *No points are awarded for the Best of the Year competition*

The President's Award is presented to the member who acquired the most points during the year in normal monthly competitions.

Lifetime Achievement awards are presented.

- Contact Chris Baker knc82099@me.com for questions regarding the year-end banquet.

MENTOR PROGRAM

Any HPS member wishing to get help with their photography can sign up for the Mentor program. When signing up they should list what kind of help they are looking for (technical, composition, macro, portrait, etc.) Experienced photographers can also sign up to be a mentor. After signing up they should list the area of photography they would like to help others with. The student and mentor can then discuss what works for both of them. It could be as simple as the mentor critiquing the student's work, a sit down over coffee discussing items, or a hands on photography outing. Students are welcome to try several mentors.

- Contact: Conner Hill conner.l.hill7@gmail.com for more information about this program.

WORKSHOPS AND OUTINGS

We attempt to do multiple workshops and group outings throughout the year. They can be on any topic of interest to the group and are normally led by members. They may be announced in the Newsletter, during meetings, by email, or on our social media sites. If interested in leading an outing or suggesting a topic for a workshop please contact the workshop officer.

- Contact: Philip Flowers pflowers1952@gmail.com for questions about or suggestions for workshops.

RULES OF COMPETITION

MONTHLY COMPETITION

The monthly competition is held on the 4th Monday of each month at the classroom inside of the GigaParts Superstore (6123 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806) at 6:30 pm. Each month has a different topic; these are chosen by the board in November of the previous year and announced at our banquet in December.

Members may submit Color prints, Monochrome prints, Color Digital or Monochrome Digital images that conform to the topic for that month. A list of current and past competition topics can always be found here - <https://www.hpsphoto.org/competition-topics/>.

Monthly Awards:

- First Place: 5 points
- Second Place: 4 points
- Third Place: 3 points
- Honorable Mention: 1 point

The judge is usually from outside the HPS.

ANNUAL COMPETITION

The Annual Banquet is held in December of each year in lieu of the regular meeting. The results of the Best of Year Competition, Members Choice Awards and the President's Award are presented at this meeting.

All entries that have placed in the monthly competitions are eligible.

Print images must be turned in by the last competition in November to be considered. All Digital images that have placed throughout the year are automatically entered.

Annual Awards

- **Best of Year:** presented to the best photograph in each category.
 - Best of Year Monochrome Print
 - Best of Year Color Print
 - Best of Year Monochrome Digital
 - Best of Year Color Digital

- **President's Award:** presented to the HPS member who has accumulated the most competition points during the year.

BASIC RULES

Only current, dues-paying, members in good standing are eligible to enter the competition.

HPS membership is open to all people regardless of residence. You do not need to be present at the meetings to compete. You may enter up to 4 images per monthly competition, no more than 2 per category.

- Example 1 2 Color Digital, and 2 Color prints
- Example 2 1 Monochrome Digital, 1 Color Digital, 1 Color print, and 1 Monochrome print
- Example 3 2 Monochrome Digital, and 2 Color digital
- Example 4 2 Color print, and 2 Monochrome print

Printed entries must be submitted no later than five minutes after the time the meeting is scheduled to begin. (e.g. Entries must be "in the hands" of the competition officer by 7:05 PM)

Digital entries must be submitted by 9:00 pm one week prior to the competition night meeting.

No duplicate entries may be entered in any monthly competition. For example, an image entered in Color Digital may not be entered in Color Print nor converted to Monochrome for the Monochrome categories of the same contest.

Once an image has placed in a monthly competition (1st, 2nd, 3rd or Honorable Mention), that image, or one nearly identical, must be retired and may not be re-entered in another monthly HPS competition.

The originating format of the photo does not dictate which category you may enter. You may print digital images and compete in the printed category. You may scan negative film, slides or prints and compete in the

digital competition. Any and all combinations are allowed.

The work must be your own original work. All "pixels" are to be the work of the photographer entering the competition. The author of an entry is to remain anonymous as far as possible until judging is completed. Watermarks on images and prints are not permitted

There should be no comments made by the membership during the judging of the competition.

DIGITAL ENTRIES

The Digital Officer must have photos one week (7 days) before the competition.

To enter the Digital competition, entries can be uploaded to the website starting the 1st of each month. Judging occurs during the week prior to the competition, therefore uploads will be disabled on Monday evening (at 9:00 pm) one week prior to the competition. The gallery will open for public viewing after the competition.

Submission Requirements:

- Format: JPG Images Only
- Maximum Width: 2800 pixels
- Maximum Height: 1600 pixels
- Quantity: Limit 2 per member per category (4 maximum per competition)

Recommendations:

- Color Depth: 8-bit color (8 bits/channel)
- Color Space: sRGB color space (this is the default for most cameras)

Submission Method:

By logging into the HPS Website and going to "Competition/Current" and then to the monthly topic for either the monochrome or color images you want to submit.

COLOR PRINTS

Minimum printed image size (without mat) is 5x7 inches.

Maximum size width 4', height 2'. (Must fit in Lightbox)

Print must be mounted and may be matted. Color mats are welcome.

Absolutely no frames!

Photographer's Name and Arrow indicating which way is UP must be on the back of the print!

All prints must be two dimensional. Prints that have been intentionally folded to stand out will not be allowed.

Entries must be a single print. Mats with multiple openings will not be allowed unless explicitly stated for a particular topic.

MONOCHROME

Monochrome Prints follow the same rules as for color prints.

Monochrome images can be monochrome or Sepia or any other single color along with white. If a print has two or more colors (i.e. hand tinted or colorized) it is considered a color print.

JUDGING

HPS has nurtured some terrific relationships within the Huntsville art and photography communities. As a result we are able to find very qualified judges with a variety of techniques and backgrounds. Each judge uses his or her own methods to critique images and may provide insightful, helpful and informative comments. The judge also awards places to the competition entries.

COMPETITION CONTACT INFORMATION:

- Primary Competition Officer – Steven Butler stevenbutler9253@gmail.com
- Digital Competition Officer – Doug Wong ndwong2020@gmail.com
- Competition Records Officer – Eddie Sewall cesewall@comcast.net

LIFETIME AWARDS PROGRAM

1. **Fellow of HPS:** An HPS member who has had twenty (20) entries that have placed during monthly competition shall attain the status of Fellow of HPS and receive a certificate so attesting.
2. **Fellow - Stars:** Once a member is a Fellow of HPS, additional earned competition points shall result in the following merit star awards:
 - 20 points - Bronze Star
 - 40 points - Silver Star
 - 60 points - Gold Star
3. **Master of Photography:** This is awarded after a Fellow of HPS has won one hundred (100) additional competition points and has had at least one public exhibition of their work.

For the exhibition; the following stipulations must be met:

- The exhibition may be with a group of other exhibitors or a single showing.
- The member must display a minimum of six (6) matted or framed prints.
- Exhibition must be in a public venue.
- The exhibition must last a minimum of 5 days.

In the past, The Huntsville Art League has made gallery space available for any HPS member nearing the Master's Level. In addition, there is gallery space available for HPS members at the Von Braun Center, made available through Arts Huntsville. The Huntsville Museum of Arts has also provided a special juried HPS exhibition each year over the past several years, but having enough images in that exhibition to qualify for Masters Level would be difficult.

It is the member's responsibility to notify the Competition Records Officer of the details of the public exhibition, and that officer must certify both the points and exhibition requirements.

- Contact Steven Butler stevenbutler9253@gmail.com with questions about awards.
- Contact Eddie Sewall cesewall@comcast.net with questions about current records.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

The Huntsville Photographic Society (HPS) wishes to recognize and honor those individuals who have contributed to or provided for the development, betterment, promotion, and appreciation of the art and science of photography through contributions to HPS and significant service to the photographic community.

Therefore, at any time, HPS members may nominate in writing to the Board non-HPS members for Lifetime Honorary Membership. After deliberation and receiving a majority vote of the Board during a Board meeting, the nominee shall be declared a lifetime Honorary Member of The Huntsville Photographic Society.

The nominee shall be informed and upon acceptance, shall be mailed or delivered a certificate signed and dated by the president certifying the honor. At the earliest opportunity, when the nominee can be present at an appropriate HPS event, the presiding HPS officer shall make a public recognition to the honoree. A permanent record both printed and electronic, shall be placed in the archives of HPS and an announcement shall be published in the next HPS newsletter.

The Honorary Member shall be afforded all rights and privileges of a regular member. Upon their agreement, their name may be published on HPS communications including stationery, newsletters, brochures, and web sites.

Currently, we have five Honorary Members: Betsy and Malcolm Tarkington (of Southerland's Photo), Barry Jackson an HPS Master, Sam Tumminello an HPS Master, and Barbara Staggs an HPS Master)

CAMERA CLUB COUNCIL OF TENNESSEE (3CT)

The Huntsville Photographic Society is a member of the Camera Club Council of Tennessee ("3CT").

3CT is a council made up of camera clubs from Tennessee and surrounding states. Its mission is to bring clubs together to share information and get clubs to interact with each other. The council has two photography-related events around the state each year in the Spring and Fall. Members of participating clubs or individual 3CT lifetime members can attend.

<https://3ct.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/cameraclubcounciloftennessee>

2025 BOARD OF OFFICERS OF HUNTSVILLE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

- **President:** Chris Baker, knc82099@me.com
- **Primary Competition Officer:** Steven Butler, stevenbutler9253@gmail.com
- **Digital Competition Officer:** Doug Wong, ndwong2020@gmail.com
- **Competition Records Officer:** Eddie Sewall, cesewall@comcast.net
- **Program Officer:** Paul Hauser, paulh3600@gmail.com
- **Workshops Officer :** Philip Flowers, pflowers1952@gmail.com
- **Publicity Officer :** Xavier Adams, adamsvxavier1998@gmail.com
- **Treasurer :** Bob Schmiedeskamp, rwssj@earthlink.net
- **Communications Officer:** Jay Bain, hpseditor@bellsouth.net
- **Historian:** Tom Bryant, ctbryant@hiwaay.net
- **PSA Representative:** Lee Pratt, leepratt@knology.net
- **Exhibition Officer:** Vacant

Non-Board Positions:

- **Webmaster:** John Shriver, shriverj@uah.edu
- **Membership Officer:** Vacant
- **Mentor/Novice Program Officer:** Conner Hill, conner.l.hill7@gmail.com