

Nature Photography Workshop
July 11-13, 2008
With Wil and Donna Hershberger

Information Packet

Audience:

This workshop is tailored for the beginner that has used a camera at least a few times and will certainly be useful for more experienced shooters. While we will be focusing on 35 mm format (film and digital) equipment and techniques, point-and-shoot photographers are also encouraged to participate. We will cover all aspects of nature photography with classroom and outdoor field sessions. Class size will be limited to 15 participants ages 18 and older. The field sessions will be on mostly level ground and can be tailored to an individual's needs.

Topics:

Topics of discussion will include light, composition, equipment, workflow, and how to find images. Cacapon State Park should provide plenty of beautiful subject matter on which to practice. See Schedule/Syllabus for additional details.

What to Bring:

Everyone should bring a camera to the course. Please bring a camera, lenses, tripod and flash (if you have them). Participants are encouraged to bring 3 to 4 images (prints, slides or digital files) that they would like to have critiqued as part of a classroom session on Saturday evening. Please dress in layers, as you will spend time both indoors and out in the field. Please wear comfortable footwear suitable for walking on and off trails, and dress for the weather. The workshop will be held rain or shine. Bug spray/lotion, sunscreen, and a hat are also encouraged.

Meals:

Participants are invited to bring their own meals, or may purchase meals individually at the park lodge restaurant during the weekend. No pre-arrangements are required for this meal service. Breakfast is served from 8-10am, lunch from 12-2pm, and dinner from 5-8pm. Credit cards and cash are

accepted at the restaurant. Please see the Schedule/Syllabus to see how these meal times fit with the workshop framework.

Cost:

The weekend workshop is \$150 per participant. The fee includes classroom and field instruction as well as snacks and refreshments. A \$25 deposit is required with registration, and the remaining balance is due Friday evening. Check-in will begin at Cacapon State Park's Lodge at 5:45 pm Friday the 11th. Checks or cash will be accepted. Checks should be made out to Potomac Valley Audubon Society or "PVAS."

Lodging:

A variety of lodging is available at the park, from rustic cabins to the modern Main Lodge. If you choose to stay at the park, please make those arrangements with the park directly at 1-800-CALL-WVA or 304-258-1022. Additional information about the park including trail maps is available at www.cacaponresort.com.

To Register:

Pre-registration is required. Registrations will be accepted by mail, and will be accepted in the order that they are received. Download the registration form found at www.potomacaudubon.org. If the form does not download properly or if you'd rather have it mailed, please call 304-676-3397 or e-mail PVASmail@aol.com and leave a detailed message. Registration forms should be mailed with a non-refundable \$25 deposit to PVAS, PO Box 578, Shepherdstown, WV 25443. The balance of the fee is due upon checking in (5:45-6:30 Friday July 11th.)

Cancellation Policy:

The deposit is not refundable. However, if a participant is forced to leave the workshop due to injury or illness, a prorated refund of the registration fee (up to 50%) will be given. To be eligible for a refund (minus the deposit), cancellations must be made at least two weeks prior to the start of the workshop. We do reserve the right to cancel the workshop due to low enrollment. There would be a full refund in this situation.

Directions:

Directions to Cacapon State Park are found at www.cacaponresort.com/location.htm. When you arrive, come to the Main Lodge to check in with a PVAS representative. The workshop will be held downstairs in the Recreation Room. We will contact participants the week of the course to answer any questions and provide any additional details.

Nature Photography Workshop Schedule/Syllabus

Friday evening

5:45–6:30 Registration/Check-in

6:30 – 9:00 Introductions

Introduce yourself and why you chose this workshop

What are you hoping to get out of this experience?

“Seeing the Light”

The exposure triangle

Metering and tones

Saturday

Morning

7:00 – 9:30 Field session

9:30–10 Break/Snacks

10 – 12 Composition

12 – 1 PM Lunch (on your own or in the Lodge)

Afternoon

1:00 – 2 Equipment

2:00 – 2:30 Break/Snacks

2:30 – 4 Exposure review

4:00 – 5:30 Free Time

5:30–7 Dinner (on your own or in the Lodge)

7:00 – Student image critique

Bring 3–4 of your favorite images (slides, prints or digital)
for a constructive critique

Sunday

Morning

7:00 – 9:30 Field session

9:30 – 10 Break/Snacks

10:00 – 12 Workflow and review

About the Instructors:

Wil Hershberger has been an avid naturalist most of his life. After becoming an accomplished and well-respected birder, photography skills learned in his Dad's basement darkroom were rekindled. Today his photography has become an extension of his passion for the natural world. He has an innate ability to capture the natural world in an artistic way. A few years ago, Wil and his wife Donna formed Nature Images and Sounds, LLC. Together, they photograph everything from birds to bugs, participate in art shows and teach photography workshops. Wil is also an accomplished sound recordist. Most of his recordings, including birds and bugs are archived at the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's Macauley Library of Natural Sounds. Through their photography and sound recordings, they hope to instill in others the desire to protect and save these sacred natural treasures.

Wil's accomplishments also include:

- Past President of the Potomac Valley Audubon Society and the Frederick chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society
- Past First Vice President of the Shenandoah Photographic Society
- A co-founder of the Potomac Valley Nature Photographers
- Member of the American Ornithologist's Union, Society of Field Ornithologists, North American Nature Photographers Association (NANPA), North American Photoshop Professionals, Professional Photographers of America
- Past Moderator of the Flora and Macro Forum on the NatureScapes.net online photography community
- Awarded the honor of "Highly Commended" for an insect photo by the Shell/BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition for 2006
- Photographer of the Year 2006 Shenandoah Photographic Society
- Awarded "Best of the Bugs" for the support website for the book, "The Songs of Insects" by the University of Florida entomology and nematology department.
- Publications Include:
 - Images published in
 - Calendars by Gladstone Media
 - Books by Stackpole
 - Oasis Magazine of Italy
 - Appalachian Trail Conservancy Magazine
 - National Parks Magazine
 - Calendars by the Rockymarsh Run Network
 - Articles published in
 - Nature Photographers Magazine
 - NatureScapes.net online magazine
 - Books published
 - The Songs of Insects, Houghton Mifflin Co. - Co-authored with Lang Elliott
 - Sound Recordings Published in:
 - Books by Stackpole
 - Audio CD productions by the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's Macauley Library of Natural Sounds
 - www.songsofinsects.com
 - The Songs of Insects
 - Sound Recordings published
 - Songs and Calls of the Common Crickets and Katydid of the Mid-Atlantic States

- Insect Concertos

Donna's accomplishments also include:

- A co-founder of the Potomac Valley Nature Photographers
- Past Editor, Shenandoah Photographic Society
- Awarded "Honorable Mention" in the Cumberland Valley Photographic Salon
- Member of the North American Nature Photographers Association (NANPA)

Their images have been displayed in the following Art Fairs:

- Potomac Arts Festival
- Southern Wildlife Festival
- Easton Waterfowl Festival
- Bloomsbury Arts Festival

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