

**North American Nature Photography Association
Regional Meeting**

MEETING AGENDA

**Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
Chincoteague, Virginia
October 25-28, 2007**

**Host Hotel
Refuge Inn**

**7058 Maddox Boulevard, Chincoteague, VA 23336
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Thursday, October 25, 2007

- 4:00 – 7:00 pm **Registration**
- 7:00 – 7:15 pm **Introductions and Instructions**
- 7:15 – 9:00 pm **Between Ocean and Bay: The Eastern Shore**

Jim Clark, *Jim Clark Photography*

Jim takes the audience on a journey to the fabled Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia. The program explores the natural beauty of this coastal region that still retains some unique and important natural areas. With music by Emmy-Award winning composer Gary Malkin, this program journeys to the Assateague Island National Seashore and to a variety of national wildlife refuges such as Chincoteague, Blackwater, Eastern Neck, and Eastern Shore of Virginia. The program celebrates the coastal landscapes and creatures that call the marshes, fields, and woodlands home.

Friday, October 26, 2007

6:00 – 10:30 am **Field Trips**

1. Marsh Trail (Trip Lead: Jim Clark)

The marsh trail leads along the western edge of the Snow Goose Pool, inside the Wildlife Loop. This is a great trail for enjoying Chincoteague's waterfowl.

2. Woodland Trail (Trip Lead: Wil Hershberger)

The Woodland Trail is a 1.6 mile hiking trail that leads you through a loblolly pine forest, to the edge of a marsh, and back to the trailhead. In the early morning, you might see Delmarva Fox Squirrels, Sitka Deer, and perhaps the famous Assateague ponies. (The hiking trail is relatively short and flat. However, you will need to walk in with your equipment.)

3. Swans Cove Pool along Beach Road (Trip Lead: Joshua Taylor)

Swan Pool and the channels leading into the Pool provide good habitat for cormorants and blue herons. You can find them along Beach Road any time of the day but the morning and evening sun provides the best light and spectacular sunrises and sunsets.

4. The Beach at Sunrise and Toms Cove (Trip Lead: Bruce Haley)

What could be better than a sunrise on the beach? As soon as the gate opens, we will head directly to the beach for sunrise. After sunrise, we will turn our attention west to Swans Cove Pool and Toms Cove.

All events on Friday morning and afternoon will be at the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center.

10:30 am -12 noon

Critiques

The professional photographers and other participants will critique participants' photographs. To ensure that everyone receives feedback, each participant will be able to submit one photograph and half of the submitted photographs will be critiqued Friday morning and the other half on Saturday morning.

12:00 noon – 12:15 pm

Break

12:15 – 1:15 pm

Lunch (provided): Nature and the Great Outdoors

Joshua Taylor, *Archiphoto Workshops*

Photographers will see and learn how to use digital capture to create striking images of outdoor subjects and natural landscapes. Josh's digital presentation will cover techniques for lifting ordinary images of wildlife, outdoor subjects, and landscapes to the extraordinary. The focus of the presentation will be on shooting for visual impact, close-up techniques, and the use of basic photographic equipment and computer software to get the best possible digital image. The presentation will inspire photographers to create striking photographs worthy of showing, sharing, and selling.

1:15 – 1:30 pm

Break

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Panel Discussion: Ask the Pros

Jim Clark, Bruce Haley, Wil Hershberger, and Joshua Taylor

The pros will cover the business of photography, photo editing, field techniques, and the care and feeding of equipment in the field. You will also have an opportunity to ask questions of the experts.

2:30 – 6:30 pm

Field Trips

1. Wildlife Loop (Trip Lead: Wil Hershberger)

The Wildlife Loop can contain literally thousands of snow geese and other birds at this time of year providing the bird photographer with many opportunities to capture one bird or thousands of birds in flight. (Please, keep in mind that there will be no easily accessible bathrooms.)

2. Shoveler Pool (Northeast side of Wildlife Loop) (Trip Lead: Joshua Taylor)

Shoveler Pool is located on the northern end of the Wildlife Loop and provides picturesque sunsets and plenty of opportunities to photograph the snow geese and other birds.

3. Main Street, Chincoteague, VA (Trip Lead: Bruce Haley)

Main Street in Chincoteague runs along the Chincoteague Bay, providing photographic opportunities for the landscape artist. Off Main Street are fishing boats, a marina, and some sunken and rusted boats.

4. Black Duck Trail (Trip Lead: Jim Clark)

This path leads from Beach Road thru the marsh and onto the wildlife loop. This is an excellent trail to search for herons, turtles and other marsh life.

Saturday, October 27, 2007

6:00 – 10:30 am

Field Trips

1. Marsh Trail (Trip Lead: Wil Hershberger)
2. Lighthouse and Assateague Channel Inlet (Trip Lead: Joshua Taylor)

Assateague Island lighthouse was constructed in 1833 and has a base of 27 feet in diameter and twin rotating lights that flash one after the other from a height of 154 feet above sea level. This field trip will take you to some of the best spots for photographing the lighthouse as well as the beach on Assateague Channel.

3. Swans Cove Pool along Beach Road (Trip Lead: Bruce Haley)
4. Woodland Trail (Trip Lead: Jim Clark)

All events on Saturday morning and afternoon will be at the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center.

10:30 am -12 noon

Critiques

We will continue the review of photographs submitted by participants that began on Friday morning.

12:00 noon – 12:15 pm **Break**

12:15 – 1:15 pm

Lunch (provided): Creative Nature Photography: “An Alternative Path to Traditional Photography”

Bruce Haley, *Bruce K Haley Photography*

Want to add a little more creativity to your photographs? See some of Bruce’s work and hear about his philosophy and techniques for freeing yourself to let the “creative you” show in your nature photography.

1:15 – 1:30 pm

Break

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Macros and Close-ups

Wil Hershberger, *Nature Images & Sounds*

The wonderful world of macro photography can become an addiction. Seeing the wonderful images you make of tiny subjects that you can find almost anywhere makes you want to go out even more. Learn the techniques of macro photography with an emphasis on digital capture from f-stops to using flash.

2:30 – 6:30 pm

Field Trips

1. Macros and Close-ups (Woodland Trail) (Trip Lead: Wil Hershberger)

Macro and close-up photography can reveal the hidden detail in nature. Practice what you learn in the afternoon and go with us on a hunt for the detail, abstract, and small things in nature.

2. Wildlife Loop (Trip Lead: Joshua Taylor)
3. Swans Cove Pool along Beach Road (Trip Lead: Bruce Haley)
4. Marsh Trail (Trip Lead: Jim Clark)

7:00 pm

Group Dinner (buffet at Refuge Inn)

Sunday, October 28, 2007

6:00 – 11:00 am

Field Trips

1. Macros and Close-ups (Woodland Trail) (Trip Lead: Wil Hershberger)
2. The Beach at Sunrise and Toms Cove (Trip Lead: Bruce Haley)
3. Swans Cove Pool along Beach Road (Trip Lead: Jim Clark)
4. Black Duck Trail (Trip Lead: Joshua Taylor)

11:00 am

Meeting Ends

12:00 noon – 2:00 pm

Volunteer Activity at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge

At the end of our weekend together, we should “Take only photographs and leave only footprints” behind us at the Refuge. To help ensure that we do that and say “thank you,” we are working with the Refuge staff to design a volunteer project that we can all work on together. The project assigned to us will depend on what the Refuge needs done in October, but the activity could be as simple as picking up litter to something more complicated such as weather proofing an observation deck. (There will be different tasks to fit all levels of physical abilities.) If you don’t have a plane to catch and can spare a couple of hours after the morning shoot, please join us and help us leave behind a Refuge in a little bit better shape than when we arrived.