

## **A Celebration of Birds!**

### **A photographic tribute to the wonder of nature by Leslie Scopes Anderson and Mike Anderson**

From Aug. 15-Sept. 5, 2020 two award-winning photographers will present an exhibit at Red Butte Gardens. It will showcase the beauty of birds, in the garden and other habitats around the world and throughout the seasons. Leslie & Mike have been photographing birds for more than a decade and are pleased to share their passion with you. During these uncertain times, it is so important to turn our thoughts toward experiences that bring joy! We hope this show, and the inspiring surroundings of Red Butte Garden, will help brighten your outlook!

## **Leslie Scopes Anderson and Mike Anderson, Photographers**

### **Joint Biography**

Leslie Scopes Anderson, a life-long lover of nature, is from Salt Lake City, where she received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design with a minor in Photography from the University of Utah. She founded a graphic design studio that became an advertising agency, Scopes/Garcia/Carlisle, where she served 25 years as Creative VP and Designer. She retired in 2000 and started a one-person graphic design studio, White Tree Design. Most of her current work is pro bono for non-profit groups, including SUWA, Friends of the Arcata Marsh, Humboldt Botanical Garden Foundation, and North Coast Land Trust. She has also served on several non-profit boards including HawkWatch International, Utah Symphony, and Utah Society for Environmental Education. In 2010 Leslie completed a National Association for Interpretation course to become a Certified Interpretive Guide, and is now a volunteer docent at the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary.

Mike Anderson was raised in the rural town of Oroville in northern California, where he developed a love of the outdoors. By education and training he is an engineer and an educator. He has a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering (Air Quality) from Oregon State University, and is a licensed Professional Engineer in California. He is currently Emeritus Professor of Environmental Resources Engineering at Humboldt State University (HSU), where he taught for 38 years until retiring in 2011. In addition, for seven summers during the 1990's, he was a commercial whitewater rafting guide for Whitewater Voyages, primarily on the Kern River in the southern California desert. He started Mike Anderson Bird Photography in 2007.

In 2005, Leslie married Mike and moved to Arcata. Up to this point she had been a committed film photographer, focusing on scenics. However, this changed in 2006 when Mike gave her a digital SLR camera as a gift. She began photographing egrets and night-herons at the Arcata Marsh, and Mike decided to join in the fun. He bought a DSLR for himself, and a new joint passion was born! Mike didn't have any previous experience in photography, but his natural technical skills meshed nicely with Leslie's artistic background, and they learned from and with each other. To further increase their proficiency, they have participated in a number of workshops, seminars, and internet courses. Together, they share the dedication and patience required to catch just the right image in the field. Their love of photobirding has taken them to many parts of the U.S. and several foreign countries in search of exciting new adventures.

Leslie authored and published a book of their photos, "Marsh Moments," and she co-authored a bird guide and a plant guide for the Arcata Marsh, as well as a field guide to Northcoast California birds. Leslie and Mike have made presentations about bird photography to groups including Redwood Audubon, Redwood Camera Club, Humboldt Botanical Gardens, Mensa, and Tracy Aviary. They have shown their work in Northern California galleries and businesses. Their photos have received honors and awards from organizations including National Audubon Society, The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, National Wildlife Federation, The Nature Conservancy, Communication Arts, and Nature's Best Photography.

Mike and Leslie are deeply dedicated to the conservation of wildlife and the natural environment. They hope their photography fosters an awareness of and love for the irreplaceable majesty of nature.