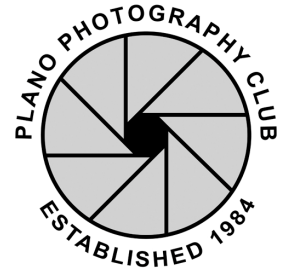




The FLASH!

NOVEMBER 2007

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club



Best of Show, September: 'Never Forget'

By Jean M. Karlik

This September I vacationed in Eastern Europe. As a new member of the Plano Photography Club, I took this opportunity to improve my composition and use of natural light. I also looked for subjects that could be entered into the club's photojournalism theme competition for September.

At the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp complex near Krakow, Poland, I found meaningful sites to photograph. Emotion turned out to be the most important element. Seeing a concentration camp was difficult for me because I could visualize what people experienced. I visited a crematorium and crude wooden barracks. I saw shoes, luggage, clothing, and hair from innocent prisoners.



As I walked around the complex, I looked for a symbolic composition, specifically repetition. To me, repetition would represent the destruction of millions of people. Of the photos I took, I selected "Never Forget" as my entry in the club contest because it included repetitive chimneys from destroyed barracks. The weather was cloudy -- an appropriate setting for a photo of such a tragic site. Also, the scene was bounded by a cruel fence.

To take the picture, I hand-held a Sony Cyber-shot, which has a Carl Zeiss 34-136 mm-equivalent lens. I photographed at F6.3, 1/250 second, 68mm, F6.3, with ISO-100. (See judge's warmly appreciative comment on this image on Page 6 of this issue).

Mark your calendars!

The PPC Christmas Party will be held this year at David Wille's home on Saturday, Dec. 15, 5-9 p.m. There will be a sign-up sheet and more information at the Nov. 26 club meeting. It is customary that everyone bring a salad or vegetable or appetizer or dessert, and the club supplies the drinks and meats. Also, there are no club meetings in December except for the Christmas Party.

Winners, PPC Showcase 2007



First Place (right)
"Water Cycle"
 Priscilla Killion

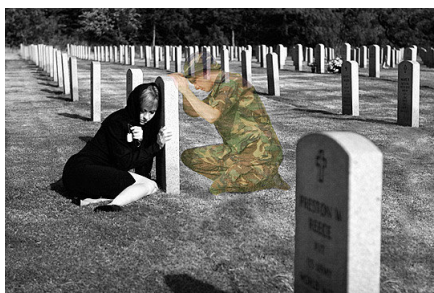
Second Place (left)
"Horses—Hawaii"
 Jose Artilles

Third Place (see Page 1)
"Never Forget"
 Jean Karlik



HMs: "True Cost of War," (below)
 Dan Leffel

"Grandma's Quilt," (right) John Lehman
Not shown: "Modius Trip," Don Weaver



The PPC Showcase 2007 continues through Jan. 6 at the Plano Municipal Center then moves to the Plano Convention Centre Jan. 8 through Feb. 29. Co-chairs Ed Auger and Jamie Hilbig thank all who helped hang the show.

Webmaster offers hands-on basic Photoshop training

PPC Webmaster LeDon Becker is offering a Photoshop workshop for novices and beginners Saturday, Jan. 26. Contact webmaster@planophotographyclub.com.

Morning Session

Landscape

You will learn landscape techniques guaranteed to raise your score when entering PPC contests. You will learn to use the crop tool, the straightening tool, clone tool, the magic wand, also the dodge and burn tools. In addition you will learn how to create and use layers. And you will learn how to combine two photos to create one image with more impact.

Portraits

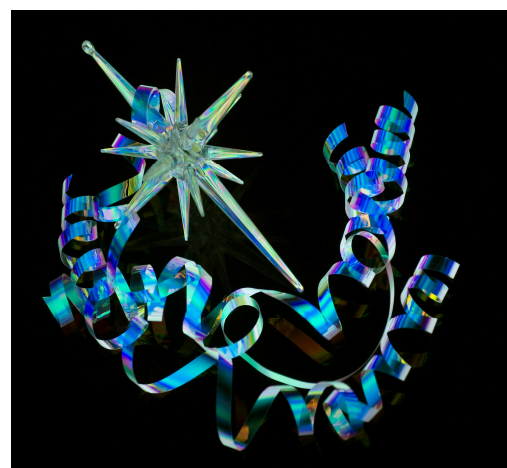
You will learn to create portraits that really "pop" with sparkling eyes, white glistening teeth and charming smiles. You will learn to use the clone tool, the crop tool, the spot healing tool, the magic wand, the dodge and burn tools. In addition you will learn how to make quick selections, create layers, and create and use layer masks.

Afternoon Session

Personal one-on-one sessions with a Photoshop guru to help you enhance your image for the January contest on "Leading Lines".

Annual Tabletop Workshop is scheduled for February 16, 2008:

This is an indoor educational photo opportunity. Members volunteer to set up objects or



special techniques to be photographed. And some winning images are always produced. For example, the above photograph, "Ornaments and Ribbons," was taken by Dawn Attebery at the 2007 Tabletop Workshop. Her Cross-Polarization image won a First Place in club competition. So, please plan to volunteer to help in the workshop or attend as a photographer. More information coming in January.

Ex-president Leffel slates November 26 'light' show

Dan Leffel, PPC co-president last year and winner of the club's "Photographer of the Year" title for the past two years, will present "Exploring Light" for the club program Monday, Nov. 26.

He said, "It will feature only photos I have taken since my presentation to the club a year ago and will include images from fall color trips to California, Colorado, West Virginia and New England; winter photography in Colorado and Utah; the Grand Canyon rafting trip in April 2007; and photography in northern New Mexico.



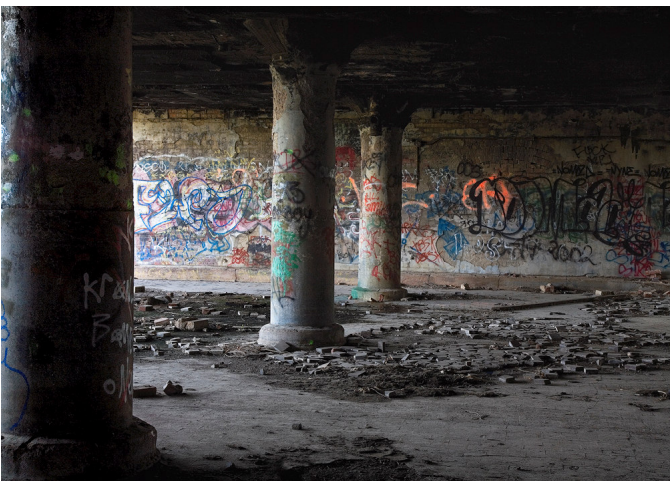
"We will talk about what makes images have impact and how to maximize the quality of photos taken under various lighting conditions outdoors."

Dan has been an avid photographer for over 40 years and has pursued photography full time since he retired eight years ago from EDS. His passion for photography includes shooting fine art, scenic landscapes as well as commissioned portraits in his studio. Dan's photography has taken him on two 12-day rafting trips through the Grand Canyon, an 11-day rafting trip through the Alaskan wilderness, and on trips spanning North America. He frequently photographs New England, the Colorado Plateau, the four corners area, all parts of California, the Canadian Rockies, and the Northwest.

Book publishes club member's 'photo that inspires'

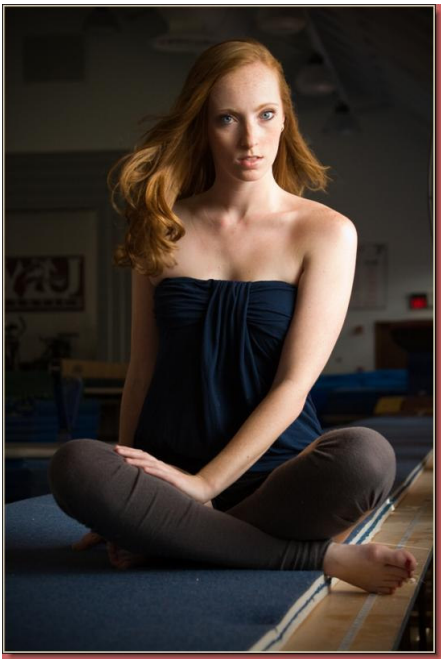
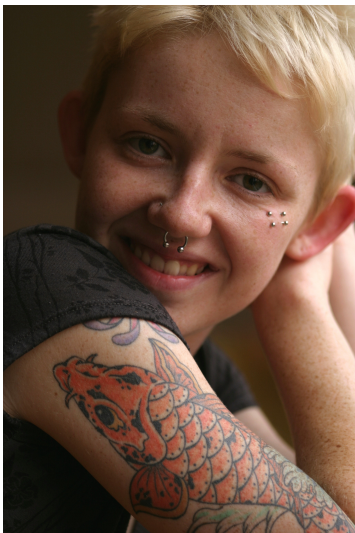
A photograph by PPC member Kevin Moody is included in the book titled "Photos That Inspire" by Lynne Eodice published October 2007. His photograph titled "Cowntown Graffiti" is in the book's Architecture and Urban Scenes section, page 160. The photo was shot in Fort Worth's old Stockyards district, site of long-abandoned Armour and Swift meat processing plants. The book's author found Kevin's photo through an Adobe Photo Contest.

Kevin provided The PPC Flash this background on his published shot: The processing plants were closed in the 60's. One caught fire twice in the 70's. Not much remains, but the Swift & Co. headquarters had housed a Spaghetti Warehouse restaurant. Other buildings across the street to the west are in very poor condition. They're all fenced in and almost impossible to obtain access.



Whenever I was in the Stockyards district I would always visit the old processing plant. About eight months ago someone had a car accident and mowed down the fence; in its place was a plastic three-foot construction fence. I must have spent three hours walking around the place, trying to find something unique to shoot. Old doors, windows etc. were available but didn't quite light the fire I was after.

The last building I entered expecting nothing, but when I turned the corner the shot I took was almost the exact view I saw. The west wall had collapsed, allowing the light to enter. This was around 10 a.m. so the sun was still on the east side of the building. Canon EOS 5D, Canon 24-105 IS at 47mm, 1/2 second at f16, ISO 100.



PPC members captured vibrant images on a creative Saturday afternoon Oct. 6 with Texas Woman's University dance students. Thanks to Larry Peterborg for arranging the shoot and to those who shared some of their work.



Competition winners in September 'open' contest

Beginners			
1	13	Jean Karlik	Never Forget
2	12	Clint Hastings	Allen CFA in Action
3	11	Svatava Strnad	Blue Grass Original Band
HM	10	Jean Karlik	Rural Life in Myanmar
HM	10	Linda L. Grigsby	Plano East Band at Marching Contest
Advanced			
1	13	Tatyana Bessmertnaya	Victory Day
2	12	Andrew Hibma	Fumble
3	12	Stewart Musket	Preparing to Launch
HM	12	Danette Volkmer	Whoah!
HM	12	Jay Goode	English Pottery
Masters			
1	13	Larry Petterborg	Rehydration
2	12	Bob Frank	Amish Farmer
3	12	Dawn Attebery	Meet Me on the Corner
HM	12	Eleanore Avery	Not Happy with This Chore
HM	12	Jamie Hilbig	Chef Demonstrates New Twist for Centerpieces

Best of Show **Never Forget** by Jean Karlik (see Page 1)

Judge's comment: This is a compelling image, a stark reminder of the horrors committed at Auschwitz. I've walked among those ruins and I have seen a thousand pictures of the atrocities committed there. But the picture entitled "Never Forget" is special because of its unique perspective. Peering at those horrible furnaces through the rusting strands of barbwire is a view I've never seen and I won't forget. Congratulations, Jean Karlik, on this outstanding photograph and on winning Best of Show!

"Rehydration"
Larry Petterborg
First Place, Masters
13 points



"Victory Day"
Tatyana Bessmertnaya
First Place, Advanced
13 points

Competition standings as of September 2007

Beginners

Name	Place Points	Judge's Points
Svatava Strnad	9	97
Linda L. Grigsby	10	92
Paul Rimka	18	79
Clint Hastings	6	54
Eran Spigelman	20	47
Jean Karlik	14	45
Sanaa Diab	3	41
Nicci Ackermann	10	33
Aida La Point	6	23
Debbie Tigh	0	15
Joe DeVincentis	0	12
Meirie Rusly	0	10

Advanced

Name	Place Points	Judge's Points
David Grossman	21	117
Tatyana Bessmertnaya	20	113
Dennis Fritsche	3	107
Stewart Musket	14	105
Jim Berry	0	105
Harry Rumberger	0	105
LeDon Becker	11	103
Danette Volkmer	3	102
Kay Griffith	6	100
Andrew Hibma	9	99
Alistair Wilson	0	97
John Lovelace	0	87
Terree Stone	0	87
Bernie Pysz	0	72
Anne Hargreaves	0	62
Bill McMurray	0	60
Barry Grossman	0	59
Fred Grossman	0	57
Irwin Lightstone	10	53
Marie Hansen	0	46
Bud Barlow	0	37
Laura Farnham	0	36
Jay Goode	0	23
Anita Oakley	0	21
Will Gunadi	0	8

Masters

NAME	PLACE POINTS	JUDGE'S POINTS
Dan Leffel	6	120
Dawn Attebery	3	118
David Willie	3	118
Priscilla Killion	0	118
Jose Artiles	24	117
Eleanore Avery	10	114
Larry Petterborg	13	113
Elizabeth Szilagyi	0	106
Jamie Hilbig	0	101
James Stover	6	96
Bob Frank	12	89
Lois Lehman	11	88
Michael La Point	9	70
John Lehman	0	61
Ed Auger	0	49

FLASHbacks

September 1984-- The monthly assignment was "eggs".

November-December 1988--- A site to see--

On Marsh Lane, just where Frankford dead-ends into it, there is a magnificent turn-of the century ranch house with a brilliant red roof. Nearby red barns often have cattle grazing in front of them.

Note: Bush Turnpike now runs across this property. Oh well.

-- PPC Historian

Cindy Vaillancourt

Welcome to new and returning members:
Will Gunidi
Greg Harp
Ron Hasty
Randy Snyder
Paul Spencer
Peter Watt

Want to light your shots better? Club has set for minimal rent By DON POOL

It doesn't matter whether you're a novice or a lighting expert and have your own set of light lights that needs to be augmented for a special shoot, the club lights are a real bargain. Rental is only \$20 per week, which includes the following: Three mono-lights, two 30 inch silver umbrellas, two 6 foot light stands, one 3 foot background light stand, one large (approximately 10'x20'), two-sided cloth background (black on one face and a steel blue/gray on the other) with stands, one brown cloth background, two sets of barn doors, two additional smaller painted canvas backgrounds for headshots (one blue, one brown), a Sekonic L-358 light meter, PC cord to connect the camera to a light, power cords, a light tent for small product photography. Just experiment and learn before you have a "real" shoot. Have fun! **Contact Don Pool at d.pool@tx.rr.com or (214) 448-9121 for more info.**

Holiday Greetings from your Co-Presidents!

Since your club has no activities except for the **Annual Christmas Party**, which will be held on December 16, this will be the last presidents' letter for 2007. We wish you all a Great Holiday on **Thanksgiving** and **Christmas** as well as a **Happy New Year**.

It was an active year in 2007, and we have additional plans for y'all in 2008.



BERNIE

We wish a special greeting to all the new members, and by all means please plan to come to the Christmas Party in December. It is a great time to socialize and meet the other club members.

Also you need to submit your "Nature" photo contest digital images by the members' meeting this month, November 26, and have a Happy Thanksgiving with your families.

Since we will not have a meeting in December, you will receive the November contest results at the January meeting.

Good Luck on your entries.

Bernie and Bob



BOB

Monthly Photo Club Contest Topics 2007-2008

November 2007: Nature
January 2008: Leading Lines
February 2008: Open
March 2008: Portraits (prints only)
April 2008: Open
May 2008 (start of new contest year) Weather
June 2008: Open
July 2008: Abstracts

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 Vice President — Programs
 Vice Presidents — Activities
 Secretary
 Treasurer
 Contests

GSCC Representative
 PSA Representative
 Historian
 Light Rental
 Membership
 Newsletter Editor/Publisher
 Webmaster
 Exhibits
 Model Shoot Coordinator

Bernie Pysz, Bob Frank
 Michael La Point
 Jack Dickson, Reuben Mendiola
 James Stover
 P.D. Killion
 Elizabeth Szilagyi, Laura Farnham
 Tatiyana Bessmertnaya
 Stewart Musket
 Carol Bohnstengel
 Cindy Vaillancourt
 Don Pool
 Debbie Tigh, Don Pool
 John A. Lovelace
 LeDon Becker
 Ed Auger, Jamie Hilbig
 Ken Guthrie

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The club meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month except December at Grace Presbyterian Church, 4300 W. Park Blvd. Officers meet at 7p.m. on the second Monday of each month except December at Schimelpfenig Library, 5024 Custer Road.