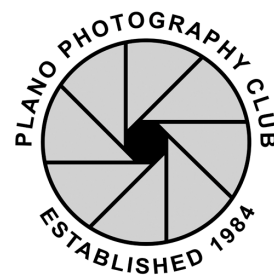




The FLASH!

APRIL 2009

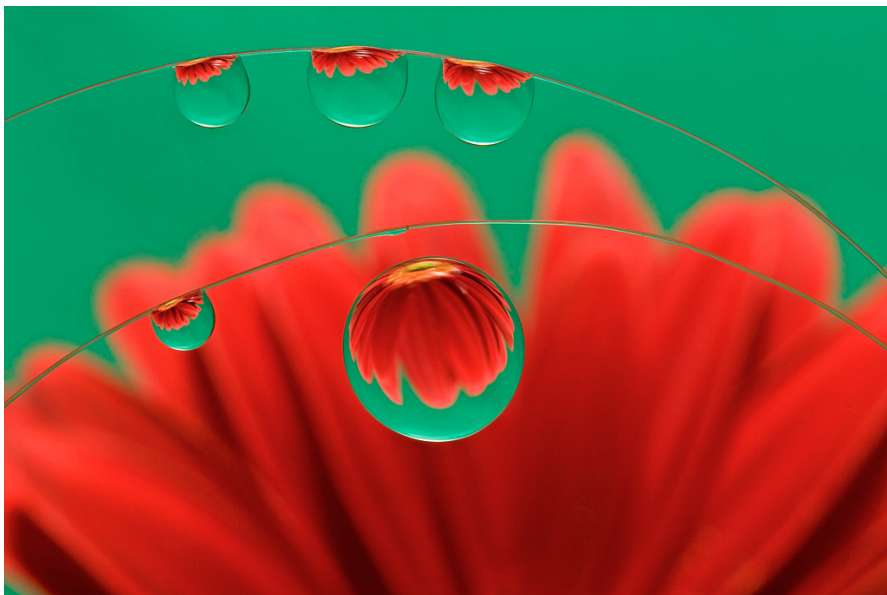
Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club



Tabletop technique with club-owned box helps produce BOS

By **PRISCILLA KILLION**

All elements of this composition, *Waterdrops over Red Gerbera*, named Best of Show in February's 'Open' competition, were intentionally chosen and positioned. That is both the pleasure and pain in doing still-life photography.



My waterdrop setup involved a 3-sided black (foam core) box with framing glass on top. A red Gerbera daisy was placed inside this box on some green wrapping paper (complementary colors). Then I arranged the water drops and monofilament fishing line on the glass (treated with Rain-X). The arrangement and choice of subject, color, drop size, etc. is endless. The most difficult aspect of the technique is choosing a focus point and f-stop (for depth of field inside the drop).

This waterdrop setup has been demonstrated at the club's annual Tabletop Workshops. A "Waterdrop Technique Box" has also been assembled with all necessary instructions and equipment. As a club member, you may borrow this Technique Box for one month and create your own waterdrop images. Contact a club officer for further details.

2009-2010 officer elections scheduled for April 27 meet

Election of club officers for 2009-2010 is on the agenda for the April 27 meeting. Anticipated candidates are:

President: James Stover
Programs: Dennis Fritsche
Activities: Ron Marabito, Ed Auger
Website: LeDon Becker
Secretary: Lewis Sheriff
Historian: Cindy Vaillancourt
Exhibits: Dave Lerry, Jamie Hilbig

Membership: Linda Grigsby
Lights: Don Pool
PSA: Eleanore Avery
Newsletter: John Lovelace
Models: Ken Guthrie
Treasurer:
GSCCC:
Contest Web Site Administrator: Carol Barlow,
Contest: Hal Mayfield
Publicity:

Contest topics announced for club's 2009-2010 year

For your advance planning, here is the schedule of monthly contest subjects selected by the club's Board of Directors for the 2009-2010 year (May-April) and beyond:

May 2009: Special Effects (either digital manipulation of your image or in-camera special effects)

June 2009: Open

July 2009: Action (fast or slow shutter speed techniques)

August 2009: Open

September 2009: Photojournalism

October 2009: Open

November 2009: Night

December 2009: No meeting, no contest

January 2010: Yellow

February 2010: Open

March 2010: Selective Focus (prints only; no digital images)

April 2010: Open

May 2010: Opposites

June 2010: Open

July 2010: Diagonals

Definitions and explanations of topics will be posted on the club website and published in future issues of The Flash.

Club, two members win at GSCCC

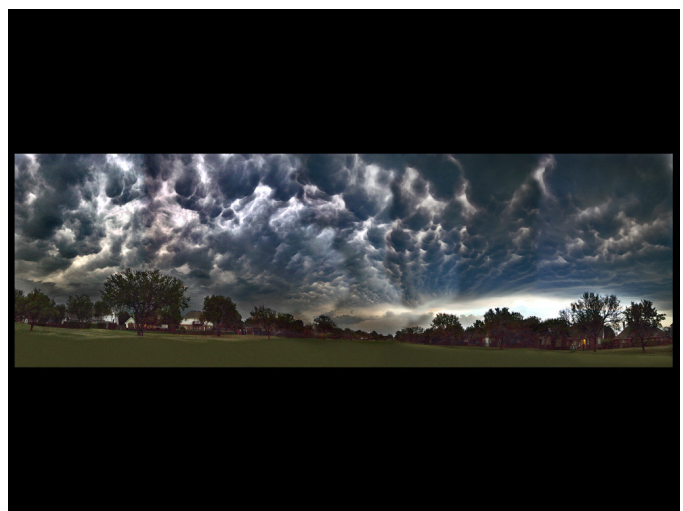
From **STEWART MUSKET**
PPC representative to GSCCC

The Plano Photography Club, as a club, did very well in this year's Gulf States Council of Camera Clubs competition, placing 1st in Nature Projected Images, 2nd in Pictorial Projected Digital, and 5th in Photojournalism Projected Images Digital.

In addition, two PPC members won 1st places in the GSCCC End-of-Year competitions, Eleanore Avery in Nature Projected for "Baby Seal in the Antarctic" and Jose Artiles in Pictorial Projected Digital for "Bad Weather in Frisco". All images judged at least HM in local-club competitions and submitted by GSCCC-member clubs for the year were considered in this contest. Winners were announced at the GSCCC meeting in New Orleans.



ELEANORE AVERY



JOSE ARTILES

FLASHing forward: Meet your fellow-PPC members

Editor's Note: This is the first in a planned series of articles introducing PPC members to one another. The interviewer is Bill J. Boyd.

Q. Tell us how long you have lived in Texas and anything else that you think club members would like to know about you. My name is Lance Nail and I am 53. I have lived in the Carrollton area for 51 years. In April of 2008 I became an Ironman triathlete by completing Ironman Arizona. I have enjoyed photography as a hobby for 15 years.



LANCE NAIL

Q. How long have you been a member of Plano Photography Club (PPC)? Are you a member of any other photo organizations and/or clubs? I have been a member of PPC for about 6 months and I am also a member of DCC and plan on joining PSA.

Q. Tell us something about your very first camera and how you got interested in photography. My interest in photography began with digital photography and our purchase of a travel trailer. Our family vacations became my national photo shoots. My first digital camera was a Nikon Coolpix 950 (2.1 mega pixels). I then purchased an Olympus C-760 (4.2 mega pixels), and I currently use a Canon Rebel XSI (12.2 mega pixels).

Q. What is in your camera bag? My current equipment is all new due to the fact I just upgraded to the digital SLR. I use a medium size Lowepro back-pack bag. I have a 70mm – 300mm zoom, 18mm – 55mm

wide angle zoom, and a 50mm macro. I carry multiple SD cards so I can switch out periodically to make sure I never lose all my images.

Q. What do you like to shoot, how often do you shoot, etc? I have mainly shot nature, landscape and macro. But I am enjoying the camera clubs' monthly categories for competition because it gets me out of my comfort zones.

Q. Describe any photo shoots and/or photo trips you want to do in 2009. My wife and I are planning a trip this spring to Boston and Maine. We also are going to Big Bend in the near future.

Q. What lens to you use most often? Probably the 70 – 300mm.

Q. What software do you use for post-processing your images? Photoshop Elements 7 and my Wacom tablet.

Q. Describe any photography highlights, i.e., awards, honors, anything published, etc. I am new to both camera clubs, but I won first place in projected image class at the DCC December meeting and third place in the Monochrome print at the DCC January meeting.

Q. Any photography advice for our club members? Being a relatively new photographer I feel the best advice I can give is always be willing to share your knowledge about photography with anyone interested, because I have been a recipient of this practice and it has been a big help to me.

FLASHBACK

October 1987-- The August 1987 contest subject "Special Effects" resulted in absolutely NO entries for Beginner Prints or Beginner Slides. Intermediate Prints had only one entry, thus no placing. Nellie Bretherick placed 2nd in Intermediate Slides with "Ghost of Lady Bretherick" at 9 points.

(Note: what an evolution in the 2000's-- now it's all about special effects!)

Smith offers lighting seminar May 2-3

Scott Smith, who has presented programs to the PPC, is offering a lighting and posing seminar May 2-3 in Fort Worth. Tuition is \$239 for the two days.

Topics to be covered include simple head and shoulders portraits, large groups, full lengths, couples, kids and profiles. Detailed information will include making wedding photography smooth and fun for everyone.

For more information visit <http://www.lightingmagic.com/seminar.htm> or call 1-800-853-1190.

Beginners winners in February 'Open' contests

NAME	Total Place Points	Judges' Total Points
Beginners		
Linda Grigsby	25	199
Ron Hasty	13	186
Svatava Strnad	13	183
Jim Shannon	16	177
Bill J. Boyd	30	160
Troy Becker	6	156
Michael Losurdo	6	154
Betty A. Johnson		150
Bob Johnson	19	143
Nicholas Tovell	9	132
Willie Baker	9	124
Charles Henthorne		115
Brett Buchmiller		104
Ray Daberko	10	102
Joe Sullivan		102
Jean Karlik		93
Lance Nail		39
Laurence Briggs		35
Franz Crystal	6	34
Aida LaPoint		27
Ronnie Scaggs	10	25
David Ringrose		20
Valerie Harris		20
Debbie Tigh		19
Mike Konczal		19
Steve Wheeler		14

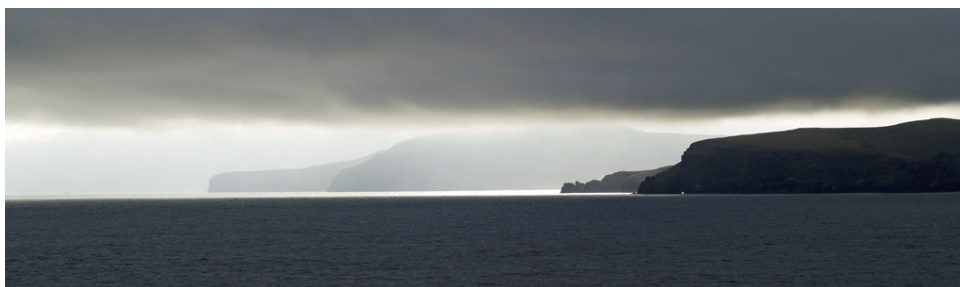
Svatava Strnad	Looking at You	13	1 st
Willie Baker	Porsche	14	2 nd
Linda L. Grigsby	Hanging Baubles	12	3 rd
Joe Sullivan	Costal mountains	13	HM
Ron Hasty	Lilac Breasted Roller Southern Africa	12	HM



SVATAVA STRNAD



WILLIE BAKER



JOE SULLIVAN

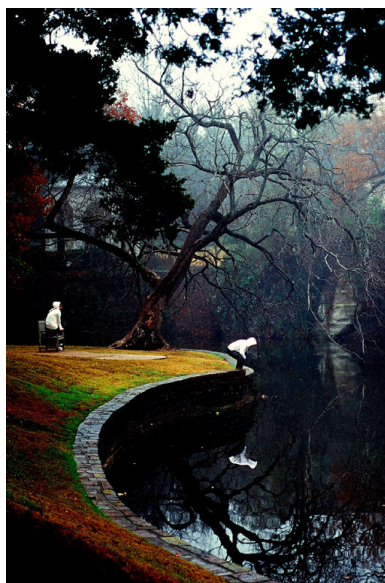


LINDA L. GRIGSBY

Advanced winners in February 'Open' contests

NAME	Total Place Points	Judges' Total Points
Advanced		
Andrew Hibma	9	205
Dennis Fritsche	17	191
Paul Spencer	20	190
John A. Lovelace	20	188
Danette Volkmer	11	186
Kent Taylor	11	184
Jim Spencer	3	181
Alistair Wilson	14	180
Bernie Pysz		180
Tatyana Bessmertnaya	18	172
Stewart Musket		172
Peter Staxen		158
LeDon Becker		155
Billy Erwin	11	154
Katherine Robertson	17	127
Marie Hansen		126
Andrew L. Hollander	6	118
Harry Rumberger	6	111
Terree Stone		110
Mary J. Baker		106
Lewis Sheriff	9	99
Kay Griffith		93
Jerry E. Schlesinger		86
Bud Barlow		83
Warren Paul Harris	6	69
Anne Hargreaves		69
Hal Mayfield		56
Holly Lynn		56
Carol Barlow		52
Fred Grossman		49
Irwin Lightstone		49
Bill McMurray		40
Ken Morton		25
Lee Vestyck		24
Lucy Huffstutter		24
Steve Korevec		24
Diana Jaramillo		22
Jerry Whitty		14

John A. Lovelace	Turtle Creek Reflections	14	1 st
Paul Spencer	Peekaboo	14	2 nd
Jim Spencer	Colorado Autumn	11	3 rd
Danette Volkmer	Hitchcock's Vision	14	HM
Hal Mayfield	Clear Reflection	14	HM
Tatyana Bessmertnaya	Sunflower	12	HM



JOHN A. LOVELACE



PAUL SPENCER

JIM SPENCER



DANETTE VOLKMER



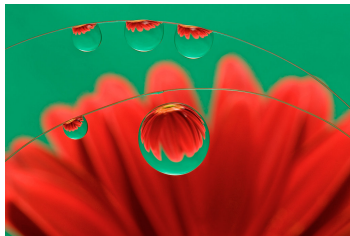
HAL MAYFIELD



Masters winners in February 'Open' contests

NAME	Total Place Points	Judges' Total Points
Masters		
Eleanore Avery	51	216
Jamie Hilbig	20	206
Jose Artilles	16	202
Priscilla Killion	29	193
James T. Stover	3	189
Larry Petterborg	6	153
John Lehman	13	139
Michael LaPoint	12	128
Ed Auger	3	110
Mitsuka Iwahiro	3	79
Lois Lehman	6	50
Elizabeth Szilagyi	10	48

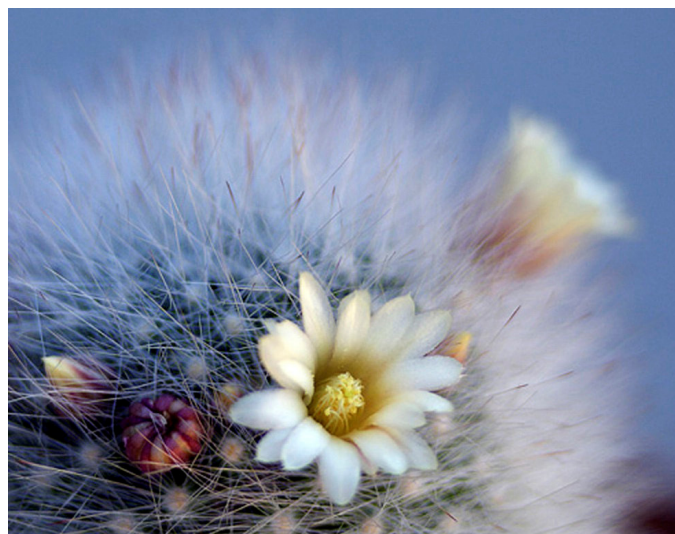
Priscilla Killion	Waterdrops over Gerbera	15	1 st
Eleanore Avery	Tuscany at Dawn	15	2 nd
Ed Auger	Bloom'n Cacti	15	3 rd
James T Stover	Light Show	13	HM
Larry Petterborg	Posted	14	HM



PRISCILLA KILLION
(See Best of Show article
on Page 1 of this issue)



ELEANORE AVERY



ED AUGER

A CAUTIONARY TALE

BY LARRY PETTEBORG

One morning a few weeks ago, my wife and I left for work. She went her way and I went off to Denton. When I returned home that afternoon the back fence gates were open. Odd, I thought, but maybe she had come home at lunch time and unlocked them for the Terminex guy.

I came in through the kitchen and said hello to the bird. As usual, he didn't say anything I could understand (but, as it turns out, he did have something to tell me). I then went into the den to turn on the computer so I could check on my e-mail. To my dismay, the computer was gone and the patio door was wide open. Thieves had

broken in the steel door (a replacement for the door the previous burglars had trashed) and hauled off the computer, Mary's camera, jewelry, DVDs, a radio, about 12 bottles of wine and all the cold beer in the refrigerator. They used our big blue recycling bin to carry off the loot, and the bird just watched them do it.

As bad as it was to have someone come into our home, go through our stuff and leave with all they could carry (in our recycling bin), I lost my digital photo files. Gone just like that, several years worth of images and it was completely my fault; I've been putting off getting a portable hard drive for backing up files, waiting for the price to drop

a little more.

Dumb, dumb, dumb!!

There is no good reason not to back up files. Extra memory is cheap and, compared to the emotional as well as financial cost of lost images, you cannot afford not to have your files duplicated and stored in a safe place. To be really safe, the backup files must be kept separate from your main computer (many people have their backup drive sitting next to their desktop computer).

Do not be like me and wait to back up your files. Do it now and store them in a safe location.



Sierra Club books PPC's Dan Leffel

PPC ex-president Dan Leffel will present a 40-50 minute slide show to the Dallas Sierra Club on Tuesday, May 12, at 7 p.m. The meeting will be at the Center for Spiritual Living, 4801 Spring Valley Road, Suite 115, just west of the Dallas North Tollway. Snacks will be served at 6 p.m.

Leffel will present images from his February 2009 trip for winter photography in Yellowstone National Park as well as images from his Inca Trail hike to Machu Picchu, and his camping trip to Vermillion Cliffs Wilderness Area last year. He presented a program on his Incan and Antarctic trips to the PPC this year. PPC members and guests are welcome to attend. the May 12 presentation.

Skylight Artist's Association Presents

Two local artist's fine art is on display now at
George's Frame and Art Gallery
from April 7th thru May 5th
7130 Campbell Rd., Suite 201 at Hillcrest
Dallas, Texas 75248

**You are invited to join them
Saturday, April 11th between 4:00
and 7:00PM for a wine, cheese and
more reception**



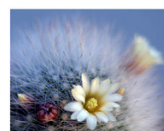
"Texas & Beyond"
created by
David Lerry



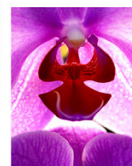
"Visual Sweets"
created by
Ed Auger



Please feel free to
bring your family,
friends, relatives
and neighbors to
spend an enjoyable
evening.



Gallery Hours:
Tuesday: 10:00am-7:00pm
Wed. - Fri. 10:00am-8:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am-5:00pm
Phone: (972) 931-8117





Members tested their equipment with John Lehman (far right) during the April 18 training session for the April 25 model shoot.

Lightstone macro demo on April 27 PPC member Irwin Lightstone, a specialist in macro photography, will demonstrate his equipment and techniques for the April 27 meeting. Election of officers for 2009-2010 and renewal of membership dues at \$24 per person or per family for the coming club year are also on the agenda.

Club Year Comes to a Close

The Plano Photography Club's year is coming to a close. It has been a very successful year, especially due to the hard work of the board and the tremendous participation of all of the club members.



JAMES STOVER

The club has over 200 members and continues to grow. There have been many changes during the year. Among the highlights are improvements to the model shoots through the use of professional models. The board has investigated and implemented a new contest web site that will make submitting and judging images easier.

Next year promises to be even better. I want to thank everyone for their support and help during the year. And I look forward to an even more exciting year to come.

Contest Topics 2008-2009

April 2009: Open

May 2009: Special Effects (either digital manipulation of your image or in-camera special effects)

June 2009: Open

July 2009: Action (fast or slow shutter speed techniques)

Plano Photography Club Officers

President
Vice President — Programs
Vice President — Activities
Secretary
Treasurer
Contests
GSCC Representative
PSA Representative
Historian
Light Rental
Membership
Newsletter Editor/Publisher
Webmaster
Exhibits
Model Shoot Coordinator

James Stover
Ed Auger
Elizabeth Szilagyi
Lewis Sheriff
P.D. Killion
Tatiyana Bessmertnaya
Stewart Musket
Eleanore Avery
Cindy Vaillancourt
Don Pool
Linda L. Grigsby, Debbie Tigh
John A. Lovelace
LeDon Becker
David Lerry, Jamie Hilbig
Ken Guthrie

ppc@planophotographyclub.com
programs@planophotographyclub.com
activities@planophotographyclub.com
secretary@planophotographyclub.com
treasurer@planophotographyclub.com
E-contest@planophotographyclub.com
Gscce-rep@planophotographyclub.com
Psa-rep@planophotographyclub.com
historian@planophotographyclub.com
lightrental@planophotographyclub.com
membership@planophotographyclub.com
newsletter@planophotographyclub.com
webmaster@planophotographyclub.com
exhibits@planophotographyclub.com
modeling@planophotographyclub.com

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.