



# The FLASH!

JULY 2009

*Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club*



## Hear ye, hear ye: Info needed for 2009 Showcase

**From David Lerry and Jamie Hilbig  
Exhibits co-chairpersons**

If you plan to submit framed photographs to the 2009 PPC Showcase we need the titles and your contact information by Aug. 10 so we can develop a catalog. Contact information should include your name and telephone number and/or email address. Please send this information to: [exhibits@planophotographyclub.com](mailto:exhibits@planophotographyclub.com)

Reminder: Photographs to be exhibited should be at least 8"x10" framed to 11"x14" (photographs 11"x14" framed to 16"x 20" would be even better). The maximum acceptable framed size is 24"x36". Maximum number of images per club member is two.

Showcase photographs will be hung at the Plano Municipal Center (City Hall 1520 Avenue K, just north of 15th street) on Tuesday, Sept. 1, and remain there until Monday, Oct. 26. Judges will select first, second and third place winners and any deserving honorable mention ribbons. There will be a reception on Friday, Oct. 23, to recognize all ribbon winners and also to show all photographs that were submitted. The Plano Photography Club has many talented members and they all deserve recognition.

On Monday, Oct. 26, approximately half of the photographs will be moved to the Plano Centre (the Convention Center) at Spring Creek Parkway and Jupiter Road. Wall space limitations require this reduction. Photographs will stay there until Tuesday, Jan. 5, and then be taken down.



## *Borrowed boots and spurs contribute to creativity for lover of bluebonnets*

**By JAMIE HILBIG**

Last Fall I took my Mom to visit her sister, who lives on a ranch in Comstock, TX. While there, I walked around on the land, picked up barbed wire and various other things that looked interesting. I told my Aunt that I was looking for things to put together for a still life shot that I wanted to take with my bluebonnets. (I love bluebonnets and have grown them in my yard for many years, but had never worked on a still life photograph with them.) When visiting my Aunt's sister-in-law, I asked if she had any old boots and spurs that I could borrow until the following spring. She went off into the back room and came back with the boots and spurs. She chuckled and said, "Bill will never miss these".

*(Best of Show story continues on Page 2)*

## Illness forces webmaster Becker to leave club post

Because of illness, LeDon Becker, PPC's webmaster since September 2007, has stepped down effective immediately.

President James Stover asked any PPC member interested in taking over the club's website management to contact him at [jtvstover@yahoo.com](mailto:jtvstover@yahoo.com). The webmaster automatically becomes a member of the PPC board.

Becker provided the board with detailed instructions for the club's website management. His immediate overhaul of the website in 2007 drew high praise from then-co-presidents Bernie Pysz and Bob Frank and from many members.

Becker's image titled "Such a Pretty Group," taken in an orchid grower's greenhouse, was named Best of Show in June 2007 Open competition (see club website home page). He also conducted a popular workshop in Photoshop 101 and is a member of both the Dallas and Plano photo clubs.

## *Bluebonnets and boots (contd.)*

Well, spring came and my bluebonnets started blooming and it was only a few days until I was to leave to go on my annual bluebonnet trip with my mother. I got the boots and spurs out of the bag and found that they were in worse shape than I thought.

The leather of the spurs was so stiff that I used some saddle soap to try to soften them so that I could attach them to the boots. I took some shots and wished that I had time to take more, but it was time to go. We traveled back to Comstock to return the boots. My Aunt's sister-in-law said, "Bill didn't even know the boots and spurs were missing".



To take the picture, I used the natural light that comes in from the North window of my home. I had my camera on a tripod. I use a Canon Rebel and shoot in camera RAW. The exposure time was 4 seconds, the F-stop-f/20, ISO speed 100, focal length 79 mm. The picture didn't quite have the look that I wanted. I applied the poster edges to it in Photoshop CS4.

## July 27 program: Big D slideshow, Pug Mark Park pitch for September

By DENNIS FRITSCHÉ  
Program Vice-President



Our program on July 27 will be by Tom Hicks and friends representing the Pug Mark Park. This is in conjunction with an opportunity for members to photograph the beautiful tigers and lion in McKinney in September. Please attend to learn more about this remarkable effort and photo opportunity.

I will show photographs made by PPC members on previous outings to Pug Mark Park like "Tiger Rocky" by Bernie Pysz, shown above.

I will also present a slideshow of some great photos from the Downtown Dallas Field Trip like Ed Auger's, shown at left. See more on Page 7 of this issue.



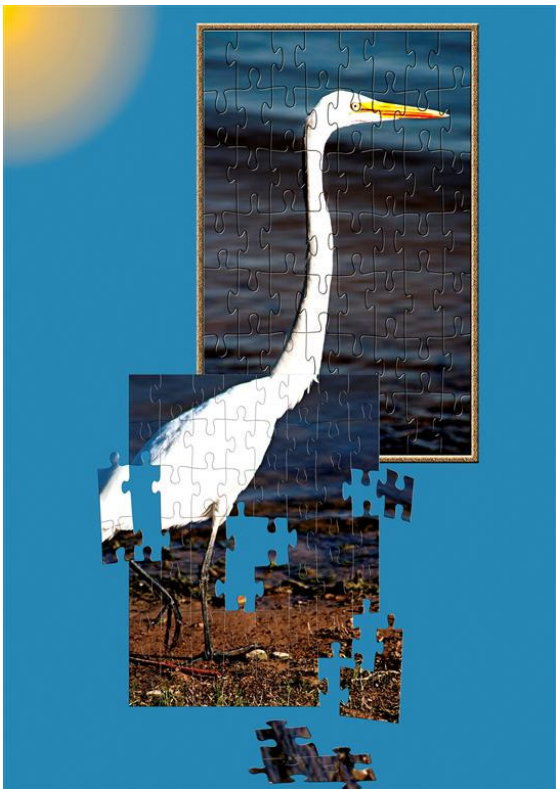


May winners  
Beginners

Jennifer Carrick	Beginner	Butterfly Kaleidoscope	1st	14
Willie Baker	Beginner	Puzzled Egret	2nd	13
David Ringrose	Beginner	Everyone Needs a Friend	3rd	12
Jean Karlik	Beginner	Reflections III	HM	12
Michael Losurdo Jr	Beginner	The Frosted Rose	HM	12



JENNIFER CARRICK



WILLIE BAKER



DAVID RINGROSE

Linda Grigsby	Advanced	Starlight Lily #1
Bud Barlow	Advanced	Liquid Lily
Bud Barlow	Advanced	Escape
Jim Spencer	Advanced	Wagon Wheel
Andrew Hibma	Advanced	Plowing
Jerry Schlesinger	Advanced	Autum Bounty

1st	15
2nd	15
3rd	14
3rd	14
HM	13
HM	13

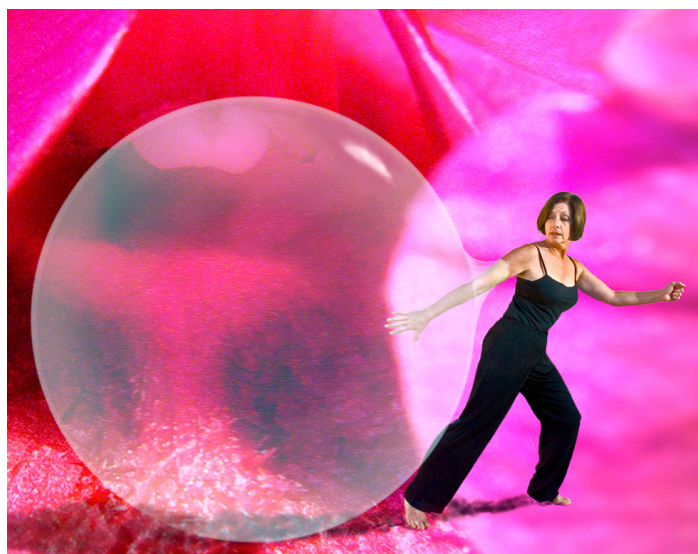
## May winners Advanced



**BUD BARLOW**



**LINDA GRIGSBY**



**BUD BARLOW**



**JIM SPENCER**



Jamie Hilbig	Master	Texas	1st,BOS	15
Lois Lehman	Master	A Coat of Many Colors	2nd	15
John Lehman	Master	Riverwalk	3rd	15
Eleanore Avery	Master	My Minnie	HM	15
Jamie Hilbig	Master	Water drop Reflections	HM	15
Jose Artiles	Master	Texas Ranch Hand	HM	14

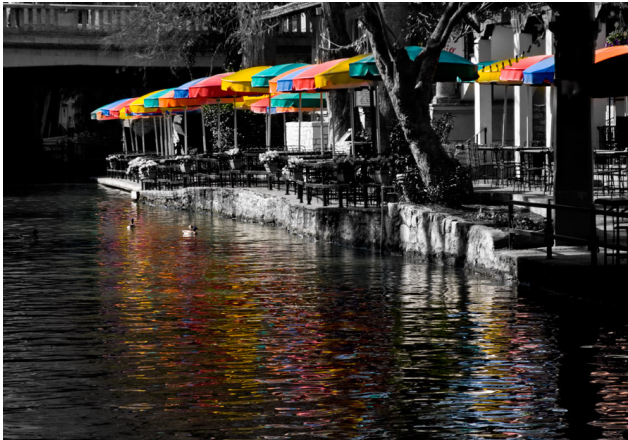
May winners  
Masters



JAMIE HILBIG  
(see Page 1)



LOIS LEHMAN



JOHN LEHMAN



ELEANORE AVERY



JAMIE HILBIG

## Contest scores through May

Advanced	Judge's Points	Place Points
Bud Barlow	29	9
Linda Grigsby	27	10
Jim Spencer	25	3
Bernard Pysz	25	0
Danette Volkmer	25	0
Andrew Hibma	24	0
Jerry Schlesinger	24	0
John Lovelace	24	0
Dennis Fritsche	23	0
Lewis Sheriff	23	0
Marie Hansen	22	0
Paul Spencer	22	0
Ken Morton	20	0
Stewart Musket	20	0
Peter Staxen	19	0
Ron Hasty	18	0
David Philips	12	0
Ernie Tacsik	12	0

Beginners	Judge's Points	Place Points
Jennifer Carrick	25	10
Willie Baker	24	6
David Ringrose	23	3
Michael Losurdo Jr	23	0
Jean Karlik	21	0
Mike Konczal	21	0
Bill Boyd	20	0
Nicholas Tovell	17	0

Masters	Judge's Points	Place Points
Jamie Hilbig	30	11
Lois Lehman	29	6
Eleanore Avery	29	0
Russell McGuire	27	0
Jose Artilles	26	0
John Lehman	25	3
Larry Petterborg	25	0
Mitsuka Iwahiro	24	0
James Stover	23	0

## *'Odd stuff' targeted for July 25 photo shoot*

**From Ron Marabito**

### **Activities co-chairperson**

Curling paint, rusty silos, barns, old doors and windows are just a few of the images we'll be photographing during this month's scheduled photo shoot on Saturday, July 25. We will meet at the Grace Presbyterian Church parking lot at 8 a.m. and car pool to Aubrey, Pilot Point and Collinsville.

We'll find all kinds of "odd stuff" to photograph. We may see some horses along the way and then have lunch in Collinsville before heading for some home air conditioning. We'll be in and out of our cars in between stops, so there will be some relief and cooling during the morning.

Lenses between 28mm and 300mm should be a practical range during the trip, and a few bottles of water would be a very good idea.

No real "hiking" is involved, but walking around the square in Pilot Point may require a pair of comfortable shoes. We will have maps for the drivers available at the church. We hope to see you Saturday the 25th in the parking lot.

## **Dallas sponsors river shoot**

The City of Dallas has just announced its first photographic contest featuring the Trinity River Corridor. Anyone can participate. The contest runs to Sept. 30; entries are FREE. A total of four images can be entered. The four categories are: Wildlife, River, Forest and Architecture/Structure.

For rules as well as maps and lists of popular photographic sites by the Trinity River, see

<http://www.trinityrivercorridor.com/PhotoContest/index.html>





PPC  
shoots  
Downtown  
Dallas  
June 27



Photo upper right by Bill J Boyd  
All others by Ed Auger

**Contest  
Topics  
by month  
2009-2010**

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

## *“They – Time/Life – paid me to pursue my hobby”*

***This is another in a series of articles designed to introduce PPC members to one another. The interviewer is Bill J Boyd.***

***Give us some background information, i.e., name, how long have you lived in Texas, and anything else that you think your fellow club members would like to know about you.***

My name is Jose Artiles. In 1961 I requested political asylum when I moved, suddenly and unexpectedly, from Havana to Miami after the failure of the Bay of Pigs Invasion. However, my relatives and close friends are convinced the real reason I came to the U.S. was because I was kicked out of the country for being the only Cuban who doesn't like or know how to dance. After a few months I relocated to NYC where I got a job as a photo lab tech with Time Inc., publishers of Time, Life, Sports Illustrated, People and quite a few more magazines. After 35 years, they finally got wise to the fact they had been paying me to have fun instead of working, so I beat them to the punch and retired in 1996. My wife had been living in the house we built in Frisco back in 1993 so, rather than continue to commute from NYC on a weekly basis, as I had been doing prior to my retirement, and much to her chagrin, I moved in with her. Soon thereafter, I joined PPC. However, Mary Ann is not too happy about it. It gets me out of the house only once a month...

***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 joined the Visual Arts Guild of Frisco several years ago but I am not an active member. In fact, Mary Ann has made several snide remarks about me and cobwebs. But, hey, I'm doing what I am very good at doing: Nothing!

***Tell us something about your very first camera and how you got interested in photography.***

My grandmother is to be blamed for having ad-

dicted me to photography when, at age 8 or so, she bought me my first camera. It was an Imperial Six-Twenty Snap Shot Camera (big name for something small and cheap). I eventually graduated to the up-scale Brownie HawkEye, Flash Model, no less! I began to take photography more seriously, though, when I discovered Life magazine in the early 50's. Little did I suspect that, eventually, they would pay me to pursue my hobby.



***What is in your camera bag? Describe the oddest item in your bag (if any).***

When I was using film, I used to take with me 3 Nikons: two N8008's with motor drives and an F100, each with a different focal length lens. However, after I went digital, I usually take with me only two Nikon D200's. One with a 12 ~ 24 Nikkor zoom, and the other one with an 18 ~ 200 Nikkor zoom. Sometimes, though seldom, I take my Nikon D70 (it was my first digital camera) with a Nikkor 500mm mirror lens or just as a spare body. I recently bought a Nikon D700, which, for now, I am using with a 28 ~ 70 Nikkor zoom. As to the oddest piece of equipment: I used to have (it was stolen in NYC years ago) a Russian Horizon 35mm panoramic camera. It took 140° photos. Each frame was the length of three 35mm standard frames, so it would only take 12 shots on a roll of 35mm film. It had a 50mm lens that pivoted on its axis. There was a vertical slit on the front of it that acted as the shutter curtain. The film sat on a concave cloth back. When the shutter was pressed, the lens swiveled, thus "painting" the image on to the film. This camera looked like a black metal brick, and there was lit-



tle to indicate what it really was. Amazingly, it had a very sharp lens. I eventually replaced it with a modern Horizon that actually looks like a camera, but the pictures are only 120°. I still have it, but I don't use it any more.

***Describe your photography interests, i.e., what do you like to shoot, how often do you shoot, etc.***

I am very picky as to what I shoot. I only like to photograph two different subjects: Those which are alive and those which are not. I can go for days without shooting anything, though, but when I do, I shoot a lot because it's cheaper than film. Besides, I figure that the law of averages is in my favor: the more I shoot, the more likely I am to come up with something worth looking at. However, I do spend my whole day, from about 9 a.m. till about 11:30 p.m. with appropriate breaks (some of which are more frequent at my age), in front of my Mac processing my RAW images with Pshop CS3. I have CS4 but I haven't installed it.

***Describe any photo shoots and/or photo trips you want to do in 2009.***

I rarely make any plans to photograph anything in particular. Sometimes I just happen to bump into what I consider to be a good image. Sometimes, I even have a camera with me. I have gone on

photo shoots with friends from PPC, who have very good ideas of places to go and who, on occasions, have been nice enough to invite me to go along with them. Mostly, though, they simply tell me where to go...

***What lens to you use most often?***

Before I bought the D700 (which is a full frame camera), the 18 ~ 200 was the lens I would use most frequently. That lens on the D200 has a factor of X1.5 which is the equivalent of a 27 - 300 on a full frame. But, now, I have a feeling it's going to be the 28 ~ 70 until I can find something equivalent for the D700. Although I have a feeling it would be so expensive that I would have to win the lottery or sell my first-born child in order to buy it. However, since my kid is 45 years old, I don't think I'll get much for him, so the lottery is looking like a valid option...



**Texas Ranch Hand  
by Jose Artiles**

**FLASHbacks by PPC Historian Cindi Vaillancourt**

**July 1984**— If you have a \$12 ticket to the Dallas Grand Prix Auto Races, you can get into special areas just for photographers. You must have proof you are using Kodak film. Info included from The Dallas Times Herald lists times for parades, vintage and Formula One races, Fair Park Midway and street festival activities. (Note: Since the TX Motor Speedway was built, the PPC has taken several trips there. Also the

Times Herald bit the dust in the early '90s).

**April 1996**— Wildflower photo op! The 436-acre Parkhill Prairie Reserve in northeast Collin County (McKinney) has 52 acres of original Blackland Tall-grass prairie. You can photograph magnificent scenes of the countryside, much like those viewed by early settlers. Wagon ruts more than 100 years old still lay undisturbed. A vast array of seasonal wildflowers bloom. Spring: Indian paintbrush, wild petunia,

winecups. Summer and Fall: purple coneflower, goldenrod. Mexican hat, azure sage, and asters..

**July 1996**— Contest subject is trees. Photo tips: look up with wide angle; star filter for sunlight through branches; framing; multi-image filter.

**September 1996**: Volunteers are needed to wait in line at the Haggard Library 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. to sign up for the club meeting room. (Note: We outgrew that room long ago!).

## *Many great activities planned for the year*

I want to thank everyone who helped with the End-Of-Year Party. It was a great party, lots of good food and images. Congratulations to the winners:

Beginners: Ron Hasty

Advanced: Andrew Hibma

Masters: Eleanore Avery

Photographer of the Year Eleanore Avery

Print of the Year: John Lehman - "Off to War"

Digital Image of the Year: Alistair Wilson - "Last Thing I Saw"

We have many great activities planned for the year, plus Showcase 2009, Fall Outdoor Model shoot and many more.



**JAMES STOVER**

Because of health issues, LeDon will no longer be able to act as Web Master. We are looking for someone with a little web site design experience to take over. LeDon has the site well under control and will help train. Please let me know if you are interested and can help.

## **NEWS YOU CAN USE**

If you entered prints in the club's March 2009 prints-only "Spirit of Texas" competition and have not reclaimed yours, you had better hurry.

**Ed Auger** has the leftovers and is about to consign them to the dust bin.

**Jamie Hilbig** has the club's Special Effects kit and would like to get it into the hands of some creative member.

The judge for June's Open competition is **Erik Rosengren**, veteran PSA member prize winner and judge from Florida.

## **Plano Photography Club Officers**

President  
Vice President — Programs  
Vice President — Activities  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Contests  
Contest Website  
GSCCC Representative  
PSA Representative  
Historian  
Light Rental  
Membership  
Newsletter Editor/Publisher  
Webmaster  
Exhibits  
Model Shoot Coordinator  
Tabletop Equipment  
Publicity

James Stover  
Dennis Fritsche  
Ron Marabito, Ed Auger  
Lewis Sheriff  
Peter Staxen  
Hal Mayfield  
Carol Barlow  
Danette Volkmer  
Eleanore Avery  
Cindy Vaillancourt  
Don Pool  
Linda L. Grigsby  
John A. Lovelace  
LeDon Becker  
David Lerry, Katherine Robertson  
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Jamie Hilbig  
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E-contest@planophotographyclub.com  
To be determined  
Gsccl-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  
To be determined  
To be determined

**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.**