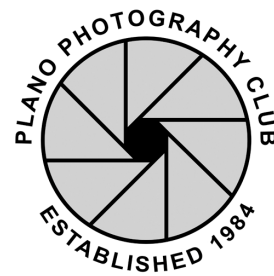




The FLASH!

AUGUST 2009

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club



Advice from BOS artist: 'look from many directions'

By MITSUKA IWAHIRO

I am happy to tell you how I made this image. It is very simple. Think BASICS. Anyone can make this image.

FOCAL POINT and COMPOSITION are keys of the image.

One of our PPC activities has been an annual workshop in the springtime. I have set up fresh

flowers every year, telling everyone "find a face of the flowers. Where is the most interesting part of the flowers? That would be a focal point."

Everyone choose their focal point, how to make a nice image. When the day is over I am exhausted.

After I learn of Best of Show for June, I started to look at "Bird of Paradise" from many directions.

1. My Digital Camera is Nikon Cool Pix 5000 with zoom lens set on tripod.
2. Macro setting, Aperture priority auto, usually F stop 7 with ISO 200 so shutter speed will set automatically (about 1/8 or 1/4) (those are different with different type of camera).
3. Use natural light, not too bright, rather use reflected on the ground and bounce from the window (I tested where is a best place in my house).
4. Look at the monitor to set the composed image.
5. Focal point is a unique blue strong line.
6. The image of dark blue, use which card to reflect the light.
7. With my Photoshop just adjusted with hue.

*** Important thing is learn to know about your own camera to read manual book, even small Digital Camera can take very good picture now. Don't need expensive one.

Editor's Note: In an e-mail note to the editor, PPC Master Photographer Mitsuka Iwahiro wrote, "I am not good in English so I appreciated you make correction of sentences if I had any mistakes." Readers deserve to know that in appreciation of Mitsuka's superbly instructive article, only a few minor changes were made. If any point remains unclear, do yourself a big favor and introduce yourself to Mitsuka at the Aug. 24 meeting.

| Club Meeting | Meeting Date | Program Theme | Speaker |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| August | 24-Aug | Photo Journalism | Vernon Bryant |
| Sept. | 28-Sep | Landscape | Charles Lai |
| October | 26-Oct | Print Competitions/Home Businesss | Larry Lourcey |
| November | 23-Nov | Recent Images | Dan Leffel |
| December | NA | No meeting | NA |
| January | 25-Jan | TBD | Jeremy Woodhouse |
| February | 22-Feb | | |
| March | 22-Mar | Composition | Ron Marabito |
| April | 26-Apr | | |
| May | 24-May | | |



Dallas Morning News staff photographer Vernon Bryant (above) heads a list of speakers lined up by PPC Program Vice President Dennis Fritsche through most of the remainder of the 2009-2010 club year. Bryant will speak Aug. 24 on Photo Journalism, the theme of the club's September competition.

Aug. 22 shoot slated at Trinity River Audubon Center

From Ron Marabito, Vice President, Activities

We have scheduled a field trip on Saturday, Aug. 22, to take advantage of the current **Trinity River Corridor Photography Contest sponsored by the City of Dallas** which runs until Sept. 30, plus it will introduce you to the **Trinity River Audubon Center** and all it has to offer.

We will meet at Grace Presbyterian Church at 8 a.m. on Saturday morning and depart at 8:15 a.m. sharp. We'll carpool down to the Audubon Center, which is located east of IH 45 on Loop 12. Maps can be downloaded from the Trinity River Audubon Center website. Just Google the name. Bring snacks and water. For those wishing to meet us there, we expect we will be at the ticket window at 9:00 to 9:15 a.m.

Please e-mail R.E. (Ron) Marabito a confirmation indicating your intent to participate at **remarabito@att.net**

We will remain at the center as long as you wish. There are hiking trails leading out from the center, so you can shoot images outdoors or you can remain inside the center to shoot images there. Be prepared to adjust your carpool rides according to your length of stay desired.

Be prepared to shoot a large variety of images, which could go from Macro to telephoto.

This is the first City of Dallas photographic contest featuring the Trinity River Corridor. Anyone can participate. Entries are FREE. A total of 4 images can be entered. The four categories are: Wildlife, River, Forest and Architecture/Structure. Members of the Dallas Camera Club have served as advisors to the city in planning this event.

Visit the following web site for all details:
<http://www.trinityrivercorridor.com/PhotoContest/index.html>

June winners
Beginners

| | | | | |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-----|----|
| Willie Baker | Beginner | Lonna | 1st | 13 |
| Willie Baker | Beginner | 1923 Ford T Bucket | 2nd | 10 |
| Jean Karlik | Beginner | Life Amid the Ruins | 3rd | 10 |
| Danny Fyffe | Beginner | Surprised squirrel! | HM | 9 |



WILLIE BAKER



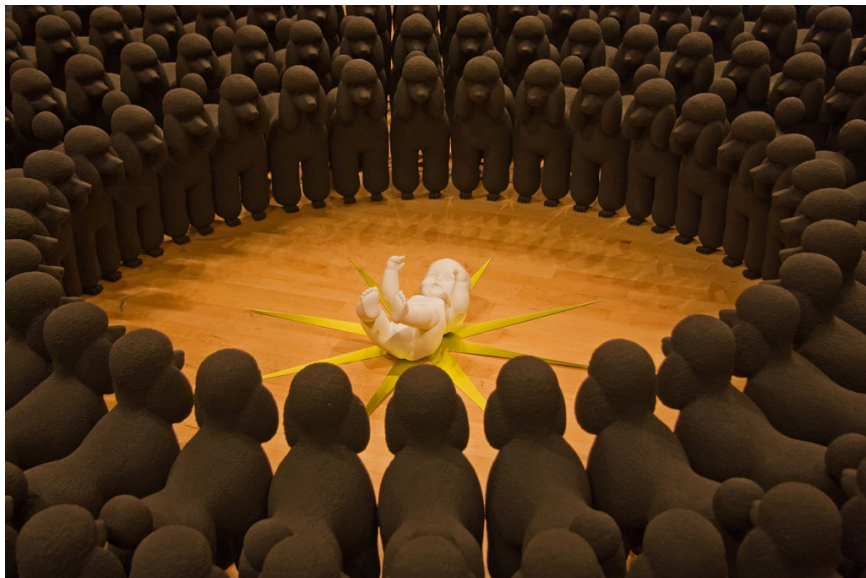
JEAN KARLIK



WILLIE BAKER

June winners Advanced

| | | | | |
|--------------|----------|-------------------|-----|----|
| Peter Staxen | Advanced | Among Friends | 1st | 14 |
| Marie Hansen | Advanced | Dance of Passion | 2nd | 13 |
| Carol Barlow | Advanced | Filigree Flower | 3rd | 13 |
| Jim Shannon | Advanced | Yana 0257 | HM | 12 |
| Jim Spencer | Advanced | Row of Birds | HM | 12 |
| Marie Hansen | Advanced | Mysterious Forest | HM | 12 |
| Kim Clack | Advanced | Monochrome Arch | HM | 12 |



PETER STAXEN



CAROL BARLOW



MARIE HANSEN

June winners
Masters

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--------|-------------------------------------|----------|----|
| Mitsuka Iwahiro | Master | Bird of Paradise | 1st, BOS | 14 |
| John Lehman | Master | Painted feet | 2nd | 12 |
| Jose Artiles | Master | Guitar Player, McKinney, TX | 3rd | 11 |
| John Lehman | Master | Brenda | HM | 11 |
| Jose Artiles | Master | Blue House-White Fence, Denison, TX | HM | 11 |



MITSUKA IWAHIRO
(see Page 1)



JOHN LEHMAN



JOSE ARTILES

Cumulative competitive scores as of June 2009

| Advanced | Cumulative Place Points | Cumulative Judge's Points |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Bud Barlow | 9 | 51 |
| Linda Grigsby | 10 | 49 |
| Marie Hansen | 6 | 47 |
| Bernard Pysz | 0 | 46 |
| Jim Spencer | 3 | 45 |
| Danette Volkmer | 0 | 45 |
| Dennis Fritsche | 0 | 44 |
| Jerry Schlesinger | 0 | 42 |
| John Lovelace | 0 | 42 |
| Peter Staxen | 10 | 42 |
| Ken Morton | 0 | 42 |
| Paul Spencer | 0 | 39 |
| Ron Hasty | 0 | 38 |
| Andrew Hibma | 0 | 37 |
| Stewart Musket | 0 | 36 |
| David Philips | 0 | 31 |
| Ernie Tacsik | 0 | 27 |
| Lewis Sheriff | 0 | 23 |
| Carol Barlow | 3 | 21 |
| Hal Mayfield | 0 | 21 |
| Jim Shannon | 0 | 20 |
| Kim Clack | 0 | 20 |

| Beginners | Cumulative Place Points | Cumulative Judge's Points |
|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Willie Baker | 22 | 47 |
| Jennifer Carrick | 10 | 38 |
| Jean Karlik | 3 | 37 |
| Michael Losurdo Jr | 0 | 34 |
| David Ringrose | 3 | 32 |
| Nicholas Tovell | 0 | 31 |
| Mike Konczal | 0 | 21 |
| Bill Boyd | 0 | 20 |
| Danny Fyffe | 0 | 16 |
| Sharlott Hasty | 0 | 14 |

| Masters | Cumulative Place Points | Cumulative Judge's Points |
|------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Lois Lehman | 6 | 49 |
| Eleanore Avery | 0 | 49 |
| John Lehman | 9 | 48 |
| Jose Artiles | 3 | 48 |
| Jamie Hilbig | 11 | 46 |
| Russell McGuire | 0 | 46 |
| Mitsuka Iwahiro | 10 | 44 |
| Larry Petterborg | 0 | 42 |
| James Stover | 0 | 41 |

Scheduled PPC speaker relates successes of South Texas shoot

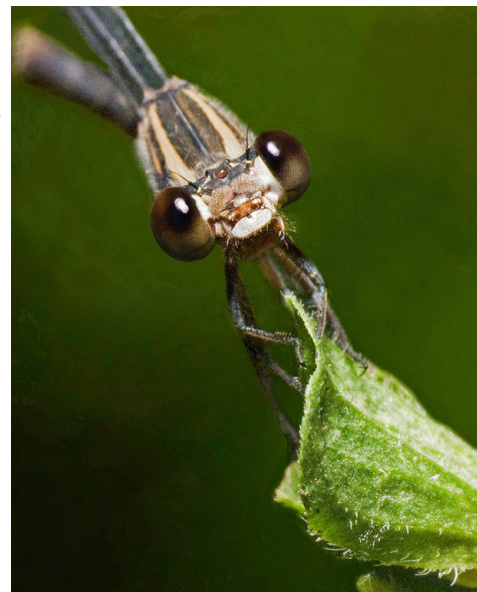
Jeremy Woodhouse, scheduled speaker for the PPC's Jan. 25, 2010, meeting, shared this word with PPC President James T. Stover:

"I have just returned with a client from a wildlife photography shoot in a hot and dry south Texas. It was the first time he had photographed wildlife, and within three hours he got to see his first bobcat (my second in 12 years!). We photographed in heat up to 104 degrees, but there was a constant stream of animals coming into the waterhole to drink."

See <http://www.pixelchrome.com/blog/?p=2084>
Please check out the link if you are interested in wildlife photography in South Texas
<http://www.pixelchrome.com/blog/?p=1314>

From Danette Volkmer, PPC rep Gulf States Council of Camera Clubs.

Congratulations to Billy Erwin for his Honorable Mention in GSCCC's recent Nature Competition. Billy won 2nd HM with 12 points for his photo "Out on a Leaf."



Showcase deadline Sept. 1

From David Lerry and Jamie Hilbig
Exhibits co-chairpersons

Limited space is filling fast for the club's 2009 Showcase. All who have registered or who want to register should bring their entries — limit two per member — to the Aug. 24 meeting or no later than the Sept. 1 hanging (see below).

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".

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.

A reception on Friday, Oct. 23, will recognize all ribbon winners and also show all photographs that were submitted.

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.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

PPC Activities Vice President Ron Marabito provided this list of upcoming field trips or special events.

Trinity River Audubon Center Aug. 22 (see Page 2 of this issue)

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Plano Hot-Air Balloon Festival | Sept. 18-20 |
| Outdoor Model Shoot | October |
| Photo Train, Texas State Railroad | Nov. 7 |
| Christmas Party | December |

President James T. Stover reminds that if you have not renewed, you are no longer eligible to submit contest entries.

FLASHback: Believe it or not, NO PICTURES at all (except clip art) were to be found in The Flash until 1998, when January winners were scanned into the March issue. Now, current and past issues of the newsletter can be viewed on line in color.

August 1996-- Last month's trip to Jim Dunlap's Outdoor Learning Center in Plano gave 11 members a fun opportunity to be near and photograph lizards, pythons and an alligator.

... From PPC historian Cindy Vaillancourt

Contest Topics by month 2009-2010

August 2009: Open
September 2009: Photojournalism
October 2009: Open
November 2009: Night
December 2009: Christmas party. 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

Post-processing “a lot more fun than the darkroom”

This is another in a series of articles designed to acquaint PPC members with 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.

I'm Bud Barlow and have been a Texas resident for 14 years. Working for EDS, I moved here from New Jersey, living in Memphis before that.



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 PPC in 2001. As a visitor at my first meeting, I remember saying that I was hoping the PPC would revive my interests in photography... and it's certainly done that. I've served as the PPC membership officer and as our rep to the PSA.

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

My first camera was a Konica. I set up a darkroom and focused on B&W photography. I played with different darkroom techniques to try to create something a bit different, and, while pleased with the results, I can recall regular feedback from friends, “They're good, but would be better in color.”

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

Sony a350, with Sony 18-70mm and 55-220mm lenses, a Sigma 105mm F2.8 macro, and a Minolta 3600HD flash. While not odd, I've found the ‘lenspen’ a truly useful lens cleaning device. (Thanks to Ed Auger for allowing me to try his Sigma lens. it was love at first sight.)

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

I enjoy spending time post-processing images, trying to create something different... although it's a whole lot more fun than the darkroom ever was. Combining images and extensive digital manipulation lets me lose myself in the process.

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

Nothing planned

What lens to you use most often?

Sony 18-70 F3.5

What software do you use for post-processing your images?

Lightroom 2 and Photoshop CS3

Describe any photography highlights, i.e., awards, honors, anything published, etc.

Cover photo for an American Gas Association publication; author photo for historical non-fiction book; several first place photos in PPC competitions. Without doubt, however, my greatest recognition is from my mother-in-law for preparing a calendar with the birthdays, anniversaries and photos of all her children, grand-children and great grand-children.

Any photography advice for our club members?

I believe the best advice is what we frequently hear from other club members, “Keep shooting”. If you don't shoot, the rest doesn't matter.



'Somewhere is a great image . . . Light is a fleeting element'

This is another article in a series of articles designed to acquaint PPC members with one another. The interviewer is Bill J Boyd.

Give us anything that you think your fellow club members would like to know about you.

My name is Hal Mayfield. My wife is Mary Lynn. My family moved to Texas in 1829. They took up residence in an Indian Mud Hut near Huntsville Texas. My Great Great Uncle served under Sam Houston at the Battle of San Jacinto. My wife and I have lived in the Dallas area since 1960 and have been residents of Plano for six years. I have been involved in photography since I was 12 years old. I have specialized in Nature photography for the last 12 years, the last 6 of which has been spent pursuing bird photography.



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 PPC a year ago. I am also a member of the Dallas Camera Club and the Heard Camera Club. I have also served as a volunteer at the Heard Wildlife Refuge.

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

I don't know what prompted my interest in photography unless it was when I was 10 years and made a pinhole camera. It worked. Of all the things I tried out as I grew up I enjoyed the most success with photography. I was on the yearbook staff in college and did wedding and bar mitzvah photography for extra money. My major was Broadcast Management with a minor in photography. I started my professional career as a news photographer in 1955.

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

I like Nikon equipment. I guess I have a few older items but I usually trade up every model or two. I currently have a D-300, a D3X and a 24-70, 70-200, and a 200-400mm lenses, all image stabilized. I also have a variety of other specialty lenses and filters including wide angle and macro.

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

I have been unable to shoot much lately due to some orthopedic surgery. I have been fortunate to shoot with some of the more notable nature photographers such as Larry Ditto, Joe Zinn, Jeremy Woodhouse and Mike Choate. I have spent a lot of time in the Rio Grande Valley, South Padre Island and other Gulf Coast sites and the Texas Hill Country. I have also shot in other parts of Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas and have organized trips to Caddo Lake. In addition, my wife and I have spent a lot of time in Alaska and Hawaii where our son lived, and Europe and Switzerland where our daughter lives. There is, of course, an abundance of photo opportunity there.

What lens to you use most often?

I really like the new Nikkor 24-70mm, aspherical but the nature of my subject matter requires that I use the Nikkor 70 – 200mm VR lens most of the time. Macro is also a favorite (Nikkor 105mm, VR).

Describe any photography highlights, i.e., awards, honors, anything published, etc.

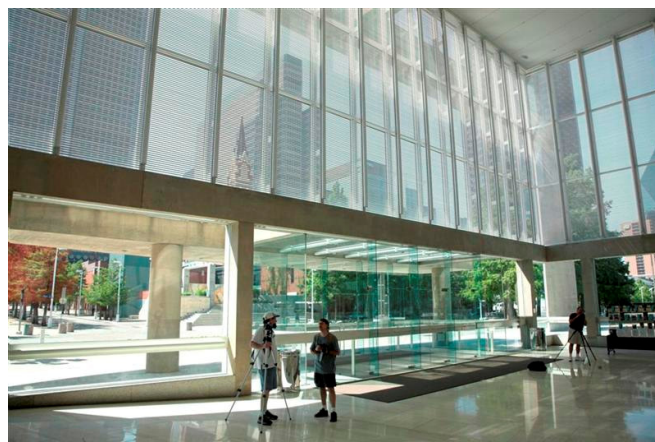
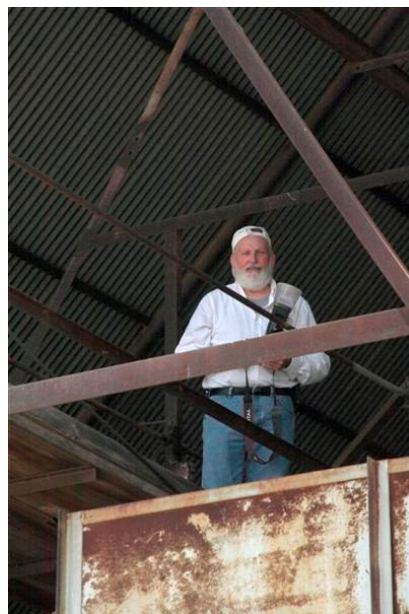
I had an image of a Northern Caracara in the McAllen newspaper but, I haven't entered competition very often. The image at right won "Best of Show" at the State Fair of Texas in 1983. I have also won a few blue ribbons but nothing very noteworthy. I hope that I can become more involved in club competition.



Any photography advice for our club members?

Buy the best equipment you can afford. With digital there are some really good cameras and lenses that don't cost a fortune. Then learn everything about your equipment. Study the manuals. You can't get the best shots unless you go where the action is. Then shoot early, shoot often" (digital photography gives you an advantage...it doesn't cost much per image). Don't stop shooting while the action lasts. Somewhere in there is a great image. That goes for wildlife and scenes too. Light is a fleeting element.

Random shots from recent PPC trips town and country



Plano Photography Club Officers

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| President | James Stover |
| Vice President — Programs | Dennis Fritsche |
| Vice President — Activities | Ron Marabito, Ed Auger |
| Secretary | Lewis Sheriff |
| Treasurer | Peter Staxen |
| Contests | Hal Mayfield |
| Contest Website | Carol Barlow |
| GSCC Representative | Danette Volkmer |
| PSA Representative | Eleanore Avery |
| Historian | Cindy Vaillancourt |
| Light Rental | Don Pool |
| Membership | Linda L. Grigsby |
| Newsletter Editor/Publisher | John A. Lovelace |
| Webmaster | David Ringrose, Ernie Tacsik |
| Exhibits | David Lerry, Katherine Robertson |
| Model Shoot Coordinator | Ken Guthrie |
| Tabletop Equipment | Jamie Hilbig |
| Publicity | Open |

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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 ex-
 cept December at
 Grace Presbyte-
 rian Church, 4300
 W. Park Blvd.
 Officers meet at
 7p.m. on the sec-
 ond Monday of
 each month ex-
 cept December at
 Schimelpfenig
 Library, 5024
 Custer Road.