



The FLASH!

JANUARY 2010

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

**NEW LOGO
NEEDED.
CONTEST
DETAILS
DUE SOON.**

‘Keep going back to your favorite spots’

By DENNIS FRITSCHÉ

You probably want to know when I went to the jungle and which one to get “Jungle Dreams,” judged the Best of Show in our club’s October competition. Many of you think this looks like a structure at the Dallas Arboretum, and you are right! The damp and viney visage brought a jungle to mind, and the processing gave it that dreamy look.



I had gone to the Arboretum for a walk-about during the first week of October. It had rained the night before, and everything was nice and glistening. I was pretty unprepared equipment-wise -- wrong lens -- and had left my tripod in the car. I reached this structure and took some shots. After processing, I liked them but thought I could do better. (In fact, the best shot from this set won first place in monochrome at the Dallas Camera Club.)

As luck would have it, the very next week had a very foggy morning, and I headed out knowing just what I wanted to do. To keep detail in the bright sky and shadowed vines, I exposed five images, one stop apart (using the tripod) . At f11, the speeds varied from 1/250 to 1/15 of a second. Gear was a Nikon D3 and Nikon 24-70/f2.8 lens set at 24mm focal length, on a Gitzo tripod.

I processed the five single images with HDRSoft’s *Photomatix* software to produce the HDR (High Dynamic Range) image which maintains the detail in highlights and

shadows. I then moved to Photoshop CS4 to craft the image. This required extensive work and attention to detail. I did the following adjustments - curves, dodging and burning, “Tonal Contrast” filter from NikSoftware, removing offending vines, patching an ugly empty space, serious straightening and aligning, and adding a glow with a really cool technique. (Duplicate the layer, add Gaussian blur at about 50 radius, change blending mode to “overlay”. This pops saturation and darkens shadows. Now decrease the opacity of this layer to achieve the desired effect. Blending modes “multiply” and “softlight” are also interesting and I sometimes do more than one.)

I have gone to the Arboretum many times and have photographed this spot more than once with ho-hum results. Having a new set of conditions made it special this time. So keep going back to your favorite spots! No telling what you will see today!

January 25 club meeting
Second Floor (note change)
Grace Presbyterian Church

February 6 field trip
Junk Yard shoot (see Page 2)
Bonham, Texas

February 27 training event
Tabletop Workshop
Grace Church (see Page 2)

Learn tabletop skills at Feb. 27 workshop; helpers needed

**Tabletop Workshop at the church Saturday, Feb. 27
10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Well, it's time for the Tabletop Workshop again. We need volunteers to sign up NOW to man the exhibits and aid photographers with various setups. If you can help, contact Ron Marabito at remarabito@att.net

Tabletop Workshop—Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Purpose: The annual Tabletop Workshop is an indoor educational photo opportunity. The format is a "hands-on" cafeteria-style photography workshop that encourages learning through participation.

Tabletop Workshop: Members volunteer to monitor a "station" or table presenting some photo-related technique, equipment, or information. "Tabletop" actually refers to small objects or still-life scenes arranged on a table to be photographed. However, the workshop may include digital-one-on-one help stations and other stations presenting photo-related information. Techniques and information offered will depend on skill levels of current members.

Volunteers: The workshop is operated by members for members. Therefore, many volunteers are needed to set up and/or monitor a technique station, to substitute while monitors take photo-breaks at other setups, and to help with room preparation and restoration (carry equipment in/



out, set up, and take down).

Location: Second floor classrooms #200-212 of Grace Presbyterian Church, 4300 Park Blvd. (between Coit Rd. and Preston Rd.).

Admission: Free to all current members of the Plano Photography Club. \$12 (half-year membership fee) to become a member and attend.

Equipment (suggested): Camera (with some manual functions), Macro Lens and/or Lens with Close-up capability, Tripod, Memory cards, Batteries, Cable Release, Camera Manual, PC – Hot Shoe Adapter, Polarizer Filter, etc.

Props (see example at right): This is a "hands-on" workshop. You are encouraged to participate in arranging objects available at tabletop set-ups, as this will help you develop skills at composition. You may bring your own special objects to include and photograph in the various tabletop setups.

Workshop Etiquette: Please be considerate and share photo time at the various tabletop set-ups. The workshop rule at PSA (Photographic Society of America) suggests that members take three photos or five minutes, then return to the end of the line or move to another station. Since the tabletop arrangements are constantly changing, this rule increases your opportunity to photograph more different setups.

Use of Tabletop Workshop photographs in competitions: Photographs taken at this workshop may be entered in competitions *if* you are the person who arranged the items or somehow effected the photographic composition.

Thanks in advance for participating.

R.E. (Ron) Marabito, Vice President of Activities, PCC

Feel like shootin' a buncha junk? Here's your chance Feb. 6

This field trip Saturday, February 6th, will be to visit a small junk yard in Bonham, Texas, owned by a long-time resident of the area named Carl Adams. He indicated to me that he has this disease called "Collecting". He doesn't do anything with the items he collects other than just collect them. The collection con-

sists of cars, trucks, tractors and farm implements.

We will meet at the church that Saturday afternoon and depart at 2:00 PM. We should arrive in Bonham about 3:00 PM and we can shoot till 5:00 PM, giving you the chance to arrive back in Plano about 6:00 PM.

These hours were selected to give us the best light.

We will be limited to 15 people for this event, so get your name on the list ASAP. Sign-up sheet will be available at the January 25 meeting or you can email me at remarabito@att.net to get on the list.

Ho, Ho, Ho — PPC celebrates with annual Christmas party



PHOTOS BY JOSE ARTILES



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Dallas' Renner-Frankford Library exhibit of framed photographs submitted by PPC members is scheduled for March. Club member Barry Feldman is coordinating this effort. Please bring items for possible selection to the club's Feb. 22 meeting. For more information contact barry-tex@yahoo.com. This opportunity to display PPC images was arranged by David Lerry, PCC exhibits chair.

Rob Hull of GreatPhotography is hosting the 8th Annual Digital Revolution Saturday, Jan. 30, at the SMU Plano campus. Richard Sturdevant will speak about converting images into art. Among his achievements is earning perfect 100 point scores on five images in Professional Photographers of America competition. More info at GreatPhotography.com.

Dallas attorney Wm. D. Elliott needs a photographer to illustrate his article on outstanding woodwork in two Dallas historic buildings, the Belo Mansion and the Crescent Club. No pay, but publication credit is guaranteed. Contact bill@wdelliott.com

October
Advanced
Place
Winners

Dennis Fritsche	Jungle Dreams	13	BOS, 1 st
Danette Volkmer	Park(ed) Boat	13	1st
Dennis Fritsche	Thankfully Blue	13	2nd
Katherine Robertson	Heritage Square Garden Gate	12	3rd
Ron Hasty	Fishing Grizzly	12	3rd



DENNIS FRITSCHÉ
(see Page One



DANETTE VOLKMER



KATHERINE ROBERTSON



DENNIS FRITSCHÉ



RON HASTY

October Advanced Honorable Mentions

Bud Barlow	Crystal Lights	11	HM
Carol Barlow	Sorgham Silo	11	HM
Danette Volkmer	Green Tee	11	HM
Ernie Tacsik	Yellow Crane	12	HM



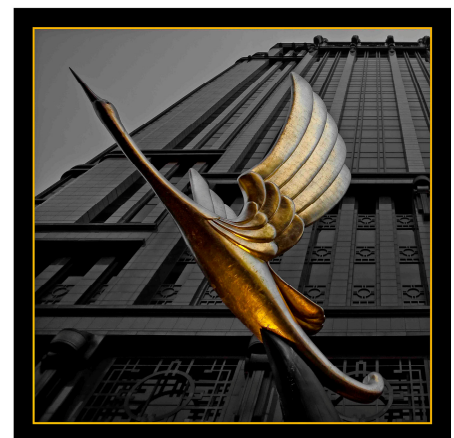
BUD BARLOW



CAROL BARLOW



DANETTE VOLKMER



ERNIE TACSIK

October
Winners
Masters

Eleanore Avery	Prey Sighted in Serengeti	12	1 st
Ed Auger	Proud As....	12	2nd
Eleanore Avery	Thermal Pool at Yellowstone	12	3rd
John Lehman	Tana	12	3rd
John Lehman	Fort Union	12	HM
Jose Artiles	Windmill	11	HM
Russell McGuire	Early Morning Landing	11	HM



ELEANORE AVERY



ELEANORE AVERY



RUSSELL MCGUIRE



ED AUGER



JOSE ARTILES

NOTE: Two images by John Lehman were not available for publication.

October winners Beginners

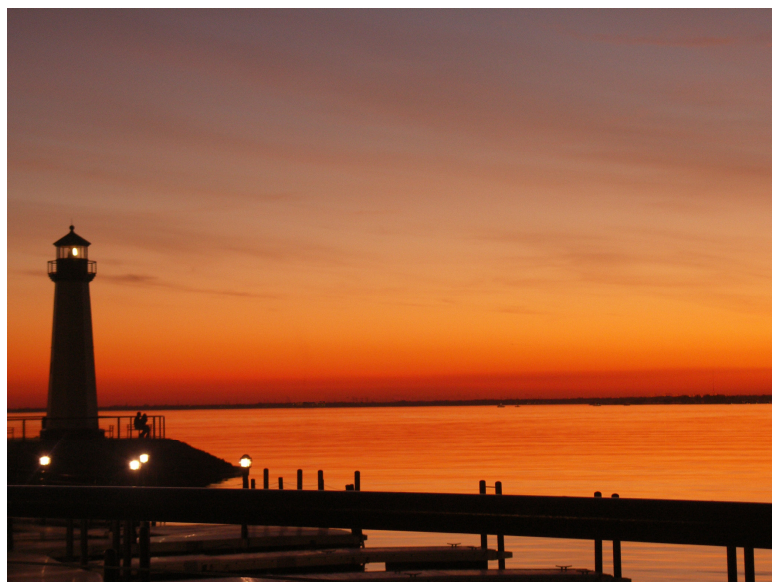
Nicholas Tovell	Pure Texas	12	1st
Jean Karlik	Woman Waiting	12	2nd
Rajibul Islam	Lake Ray Hubbard	11	3rd
Ron Giordano	Pitcher Plant	11	HM



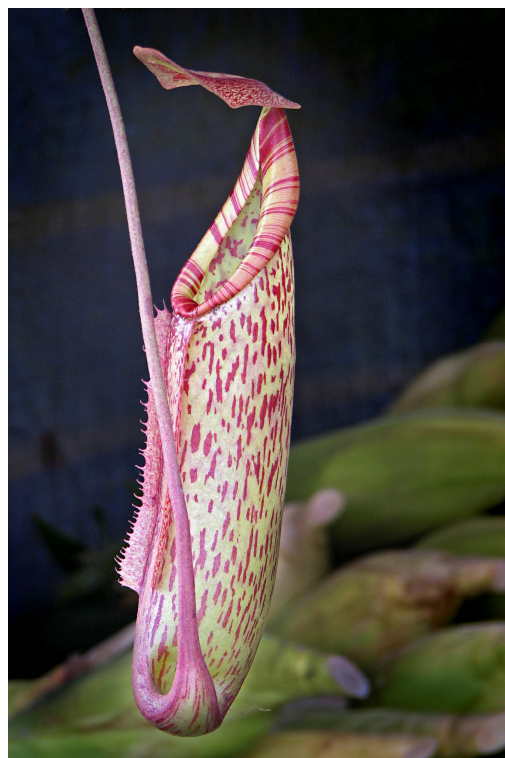
JEAN KARLIK



NICHOLAS TOVELL



RAJIBUL ISLAM



RON GIORDANO

Cumulative competitive scores as of October 2009

	TOTAL PLACE POINTS	TOTAL JUDGES' POINTS		TOTAL PLACE POINTS	TOTAL JUDGES' POINTS
Advanced			Beginners		
Dennis Fritsche	19	138	Michael Losurdo Jr	6	118
Bud Barlow	9	134	Jennifer Carrick	20	116
Danette Volkmer	10	133	Jean Karlik	15	110
Linda Grigsby	10	129	Nicholas Tovell	19	106
Peter Staxen	10	128	Willie Baker	32	106
Bernard Pysz	3	127	David Ringrose	3	92
Stewart Musket	0	127	Sharlott Hasty	0	88
Jim Spencer	3	126	Danny Fyffe	0	84
Ron Hasty	9	123	Liz Graves	16	70
Andrew Hibma	6	122	Ron Deage	3	57
John Lovelace	0	122	Mike Konczal	0	38
Ernie Tacsik	0	120	Debbie Conard	3	21
Jerry Schlesinger	0	116	Ron Giordano	0	21
David Philips	0	109	Rajibul Islam	3	20
Carol Barlow	13	107	John Sutton	0	12
Hal Mayfield	0	102	John Liu	0	9
Jim Shannon	0	100			
Marie Hansen	16	86			
Paul Spencer	0	83			
Bill Boyd	0	82	Masters		
Ken Morton	0	81	Eleanore Avery	23	143
Lewis Sheriff	6	68	John Lehman	12	137
Billy Erwin	0	66	Russell McGuire	9	136
Diana Jaramillo	0	61	Jose Artiles	6	135
Kim Clack	0	54	Jamie Hilbig	21	131
Lucy Huffstetter	0	44	Larry Petterborg	6	121
Bill McMurray	10	40	James Stover	3	118
Terri Rapp	0	33	Lois Lehman	16	95
Katherine Robertson	3	30	Mitsuka Iwahiro	10	78
			Ed Auger	6	41

PPC Programs Spring 2010

January 25

February 22

March 22

April 26

May 24

June 28

TBD

Panoramas

Composition

TBD

TBD

TBD

Jeremy Woodhouse

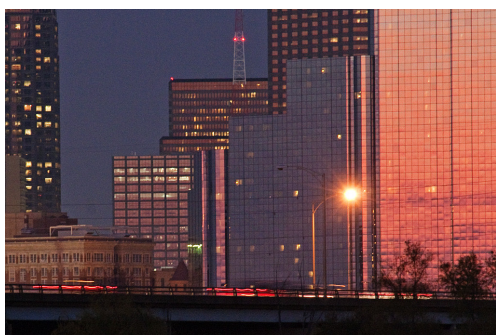
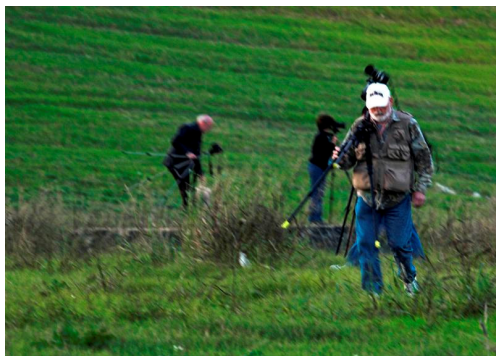
Peter Poulides

Ron Marabito

Mark Rogers

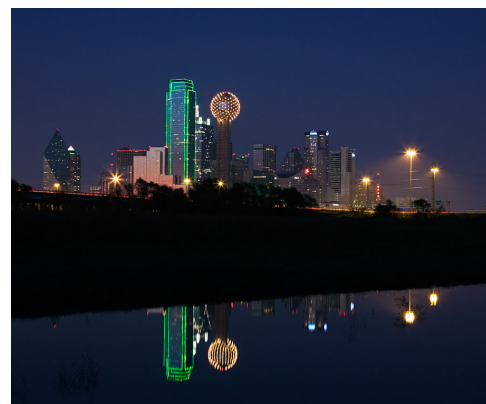
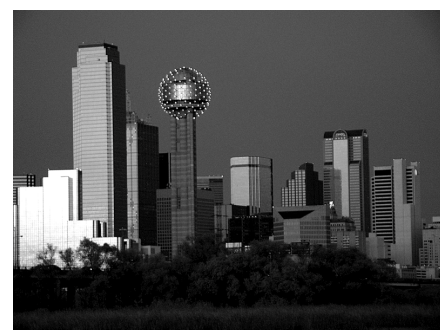
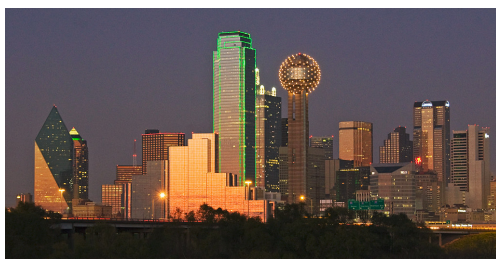
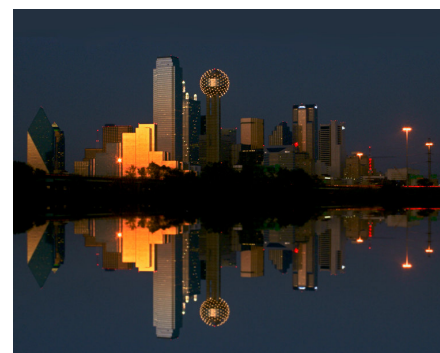
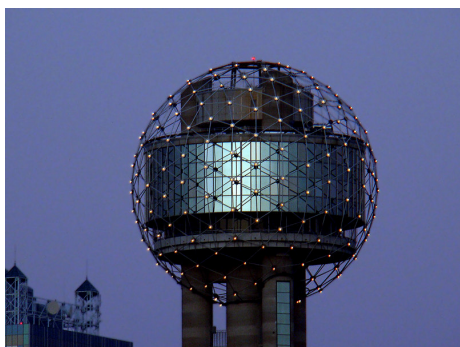
Dan Leffel

Sean Fitzgerald



*Gonna take me
some pictures ...
Down by the
riverside,
Down by the
riverside ...*

Images from the club's
Nov. 21 Trinity River
levee shoot. Thanks to
Ron Marabito, Priscilla
Killion, Ed Auger and
Linda Grigsby.



**JAMES STOVER**

Time to think about new club leaders

The success of the Plano Photography Club is due, in great part, to the hard work and dedication of the officers. We are quickly approaching the end of the club year and are beginning the search for volunteers for the new club year starting May 1st. We have a variety of positions available, and if you are interested in helping please contact any of the officers. Even if you are available only part-time as an assistant, we can use your help. In particular we need help with the newsletter, contest, exhibitions, activities and, not the least, president. So please pitch in and help.

Contest Topics by month 2009-2010

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

Plano Photography Club Officers

President
Vice President — Programs
Vice President — Activities
Secretary
Treasurer
Contests
Contest Website
GSCC 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
Ernie Tacsik, David Ringrose
Katherine Robertson
Ken Guthrie
Jamie Hilbig
Open

ppc@planophotographyclub.com
programs@planophotographyclub.com
activities@planophotographyclub.com
secretary@planophotographyclub.com
treasurer@planophotographyclub.com
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.