



The FLASH!

FEBRUARY 2010

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

**NEW LOGO
NEEDED.
CONTEST
DETAILS
ON PAGE 3.**

BOS shooter notes that any score is only one judge's opinion

By **RUSSELL McGUIRE**

Firstly, the technical aspects of "Waiting for the Last Train," judged the Best of Show for November and shown at the January 2010 meeting.

The image was taken on a Canon 30D using a 24-105mm L series lens - Hand-held (with Image Stabilization on) but braced by leaning backward against a convenient wall. The lighting was horrible – a mixture of just about every color temperature lighting imaginable. Segments of the image had different color casts depending on the light falling on them, sometimes a combination of 3-4 lights. The train in the tunnel has the "cleanest" lighting.

I initially converted The image to monochrome but felt it needed some color, so went back into Lightroom 2 and used the Aged Photo preset and increased the saturation slightly. I also used the graduated filter tool in a few areas to try to improve the overall exposure. The image displayed was from the full file with only minor cropping and some straightening (hey, it was late!).

The location was the lowest terminal for the Cable Car in Wellington, the capital of New Zealand (my native land) (<http://www.wellingtonmap.co.nz/ATTRACTIONS/Cable%20Car.html>). This transports passengers up the steep incline from The Terrace in the downtown business center up to the garden areas in the Wellington Botanic Garden with stops on the way in residential and educational areas.

Night trips are best when you have some company, as in any public transport system. This is a great way to see the city – catch the cable car to the top, check out the view of Wellington (pick a good day, as it can be miserably cold, wet and windy), then walk down through the botanic gardens, through an historic graveyard, then onto The Terrace



and into the main business /shopping area and on to the wharf area.

Secondly, this competition was a great example of showing how, while important, a judge's opinion of the worthiness of an image is simply that – his or her opinion. This is not to belittle the judge, far from it. However, the image is judged based on the judge's preferences, not on some quantitative assessment of that image.

This month numerous images were awarded the maximum 15 points. Selecting the #1 image and Best of Show then became simply the preference of the judge. In this competition it seemed the judge preferred images with people in them; by good fortune my image had that element.

Personally, I felt that Jose Artiles' image (Mercedes car hood ornament and sweeping bend ahead) was many levels above my image, but my opinion doesn't matter in this type of competition.

For anyone entering these competitions, a lot can be learned from hearing the perspective provided by a judge, but just because your image does not score highly, it is simply that judge's opinion in that specific competition. A different competition with a different judge and the result may be very different.

Like what you see? You can do it at Feb. 27 workshop

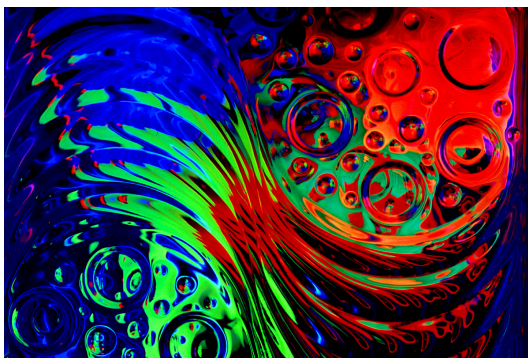
From R.E. (Ron) Marabito, Vice President of Activities

See all the images on this page? They were shot during one or more Tabletop Workshops sponsored over the years by the Plano Photography Club.



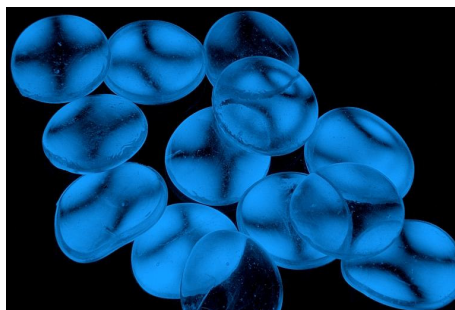
The 2010 workshop is scheduled for 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27, in second floor classrooms #200-212 of Grace Presbyterian Church, 4300 Park Blvd. (between Coit Rd. and Preston Rd.).

It's a "hands-on" cafeteria-style photography workshop that encourages learning through participation. 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

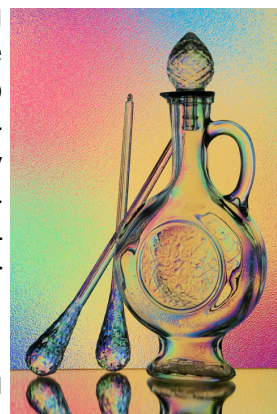


skill levels of current members.

The workshop is free to all current members of the Plano Photography Club. Half-year member-

ships are available for \$12.

Suggested equipment to bring includes 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.



As you move from station, you will be encouraged to participate in arranging objects at tabletop set-ups, as this will help you develop skills at composition. You may bring your own special objects to include and photograph.



Photographs taken at this workshop may be entered in competitions *if* you arranged the items or somehow effected the photographic composition.

Volunteers are welcome to show up at the church before 10 a.m. to help set up tabletop stations and/or to stay afterwards to help load out materials and return the church to usable condition for the following Sunday.

Photos courtesy Priscilla Killian, James Stover and Dan Leffel.

Looking for fame, fortune? Try your hand at design for club's new logo

See contest rules here



The Plano Photography Club announces a contest, open to current members of the club, for the design of a new graphic logo for the club to replace the one shown here.

Members may submit up to 5 unique logos suitable for use on web sites, newsletters, and promotional material in both Color and Black & White.

The logo should be graphic, not photographic, in design and pay tribute to the history of the club and photography. Both a Black & White and Color version should be submitted. Each pair constitutes one of the five logos.

JPG versions will be accepted via the Club Contest Web Site from Feb. 15 through May 31, subject to the regular contest parameters.

Three finalists will be chosen by the club board at the June board meeting, and the club will vote on the winner at the June club meeting.

The winner will provide high-resolution Color and Black & White versions to the club, preferably in a native drawing format or other high-resolution format. The club will retain rights to the image.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

'Selective focus,' as it relates to the club's prints-only March competition, is defined as a technique using a shallow depth of field to isolate or emphasize the main subject of the image. "Selective focus" is the control of the zone of sharpness (depth of field). The center of interest is in sharp focus, while foreground and background elements are out of focus.

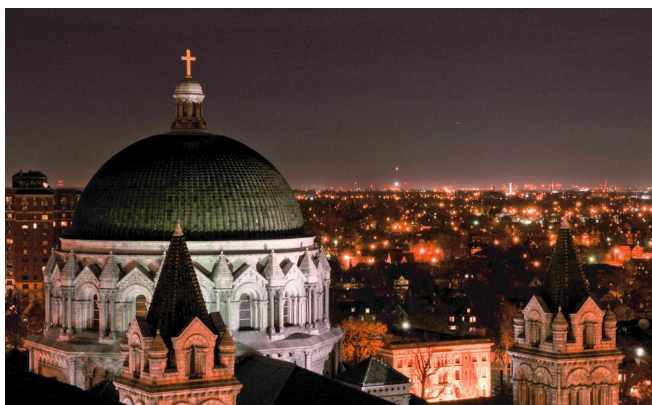
The club's **Spring Indoor Model Shoot** is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 27, at Grace Presbyterian Church. Check the web-site or watch for a club-wide e-mail blast for updated information.

The **Feb. 6 club shoot** at a "collection" in Bonham, Texas, was canceled because of the owner's illness.

The club board has begun searching for **2010-11 contest topics**. There will be six named, designated topics plus five for Open Competition. Any member with a topic idea is welcome to offer that to any board member (see list on Page 8 of this issue).

Beginners November Winners

Jennifer Carrick	Cathedral Dome, St Louis	14	1st
Willie Baker	Sticks (HDR)	13	2nd
Rajibul Islam	TIME	11	3rd
Sharlott Hasty	First State Bank Eagle Sculpture	11	HM
Sharlott Hasty	Magenta Moon over a misty river Maas-Netherlands	11	HM
Stephen Finnerty	Dallas Skyline	11	HM



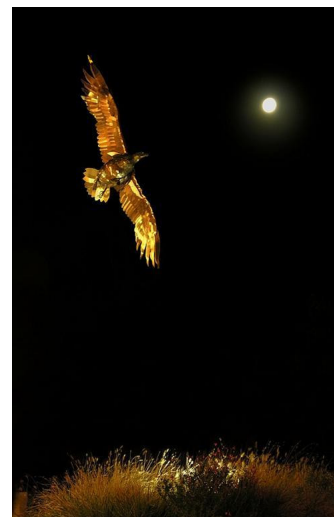
JENNIFER CARRICK



WILLIE BAKER



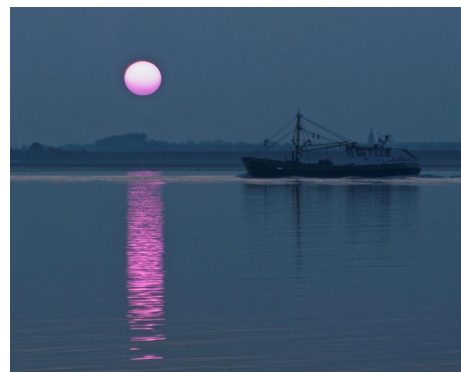
RAIBUL ISLAM



SHARLOTT HASTY



STEPHEN FINNERTY



SHARLOTT HASTY

Masters
November
Winners

Russell McGuire	Waiting for the last train.	15	BOS, 1 st
Jose Artiles	Driving at Night	15	2nd
Larry Petterborg	bar san miguel	15	3rd
Eleanore Avery	Moonlight On a Glacier	14	HM
John Lehman	Campfire portait	14	HM
Jose Artiles	Manhattan Night/Looking East	14	HM



RUSSELL MCGUIRE
(see Page 1)



JOSE ARTILES



LARRY PETTERBORG



JOHN LEHMAN



ELEANORE AVERY



JOSE ARTILES

Advanced November winners

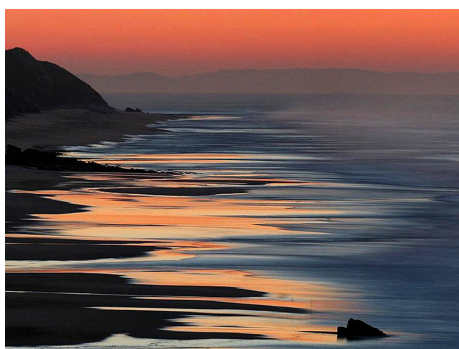
Dennis Fritsche	Let Me In!	15	1 st
Ken Morton	Twin Strike	14	2nd
Bernard Pysz	Darkening Coast	14	3rd
David Philips	Lido Beach Cabanas, Venice, Italy	14	HM
Ernie Tacsik	Macau Venetian	14	HM
Paul Spencer	ALAMO MOON	14	HM



DENNIS FRITSCHÉ



KEN MORTON



BERNARD PYSZ



PAUL SPENCER



ERNIE TACSIK

DAVID PHILIPS



Cumulative competitive scores as of November 2009

	TOTAL PLACE POINTS	TOTAL JUDGES' POINTS		TOTAL PLACE	TOTAL JUDGES'
Advanced			Beginners		
Dennis Fritsche	29	164	Jennifer Carrick	30	139
Bud Barlow	9	156	Michael Losurdo Jr	6	132
Danette Volkmer	10	153	Willie Baker	38	125
Linda Grigsby	10	150	Nicholas Tovell	19	120
Bernard Pysz	6	150	Jean Karlik	15	110
Peter Staxen	10	148	Sharlott Hasty	0	110
Stewart Musket	0	145	David Ringrose	3	105
Ernie Tacsik	0	142	Danny Fyffe	0	84
Ron Hasty	9	141	Ron Deage	3	71
Jim Spencer	3	140	Liz Graves	16	70
John Lovelace	0	140	Mike Konczal	0	38
Andrew Hibma	6	138	Rajibul Islam	6	37
Jerry Schlesinger	0	130	Debbie Conard	3	21
David Phillips	0	129	Ron Giordano	0	21
Carol Barlow	13	123	Steve Finnerty	0	21
Hal Mayfield	0	116	Joe Sullivan	0	17
Paul Spencer	0	107	Michelle Bowers	0	14
Ken Morton	6	106	Lisa Smith	0	13
Bill Boyd	0	104	John Sutton	0	12
Jim Shannon	0	100	John Liu	0	9
Marie Hansen	16	99	Masters		
Kim Clack	0	70	Eleanore Avery	23	169
Lewis Sheriff	6	68	Jose Artiles	12	164
Billy Erwin	0	66	Russell McGuire	19	161
Diana Jaramillo	0	61	John Lehman	12	161
Terri Rapp	0	49	Jamie Hilbig	21	148
Lucy Huffstetter	0	44	Larry Petterborg	9	147
Bill McMurray	10	40	James Stover	3	142
Katherine Robertson	3	30	Lois Lehman	16	95
Marea Downey	0	24	Mitsuka Iwahiro	10	78
			Ed Auger	6	41

PPC Programs Spring 2010

February 22

March 22

April 26

May 24

June 28

Panoramas

Composition

TBD

TBD

TBD

Peter Poulides

Ron Marabito

Mark Rogers

Dan Leffel

Sean Fitzgerald

February program speaker to focus on panoramas

Peter Poulides, the PPC speaker Feb. 22 on "Panoramas," is a first generation Greek-American of immigrant parents. He spent several years in Athens attending an international high school, largely immersed in learning photography and often wrist-deep in darkroom chemicals. He learned by devouring every magazine and book he could find that discussed or featured photography and by shooting a lot.

His degree is in TV & film production, with a minor in graphics and printing. He worked as an educational video producer for four years while starting to shoot stills professionally and building a portfolio. In 1980 he started as a "full time" freelancer specializing in travel and editorial photography for the next dozen years or so, shooting for Smithsonian, Travel & Leisure, Food & Wine, Business Week, Time, Fortune, Newsweek, The Dallas Morning News, WGBH and others. He also shot commercial and industrial work for small and large companies including Texaco, CompUSA, AMEX and Fluor. He taught formal photography courses as a shooter and more recently has taught school workshops.

PCC members who won awards in the 2010 City of Richardson Photo Contest were Eleanore Avery, Mary Baker, Debbie Conard, Billy Erwin, Linda Grigsby, Ron Marabito, Tom Marusa, Bill McMurray, Stewart Musket and Kent Taylor. Winning images are on display at the Richardson Public Library (3rd floor), 411 W. Arapaho Road., Richardson.

PPC member Willie Baker won third place and scored 12 points in the Gulf State Council of Camera Clubs January Projected Digital contest. Winning image "Confined Emotions" is the same photo for which he won first place in our club's August competition (see October Flash).

PCC Master Class member and former club president Dan Leffel offers the following used equipment for sale:

Canon EF28-300mm f/3.5-5.6 L IS USM lens, used 3-4 times, USA warranty, price new \$2400; asking \$2050.

Tenba camera/computer backpack DB15C, never used, price new \$160; asking \$120

LowePro rolling computrekker plus AW backpack, used on only one trip, price new \$300; asking \$245

LowePro Fastpack 350 camera/computer backpack, like new, price new \$98, asking \$65

ThinkTank Photo Streetwalker Harddrive camera/computer backpack, like new, price new \$179; asking \$135

Pelican PCS 283 rolling camera/computer bag, extremely durable, price new \$260; asking \$200

If interested, contact call cell 214-491-7745, e-mail danleffel@aol.com

Contest Topics by month 2009-2010

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

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Vice President — Programs
Vice President — Activities
Secretary
Treasurer
Contests
Contest Website
GSCCC Representative
PSA Representative
Historian
Light Rental
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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.