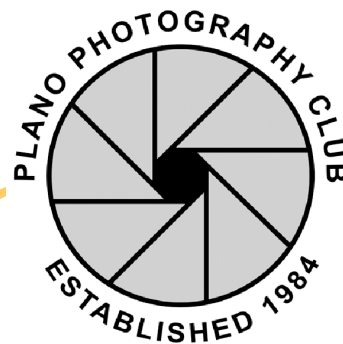


The FLASH!

May 2010

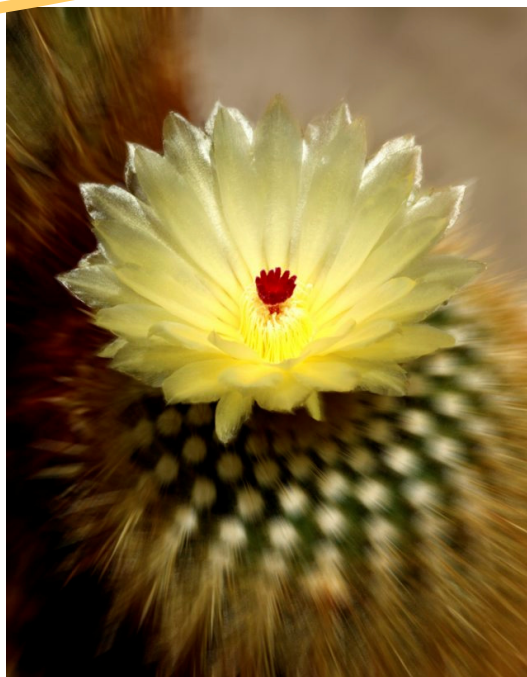
Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



Best of Show: Cactus #3 by Ed Auger

This image was taken at Irwin Lightstone's house where the landscape includes hundreds of cactus varieties to photograph. My thanks to him for sharing his extended family members with our club members from time to time. It was shot with my Sony 350 14.2 megapixel DSLR on a medium overcast day using available light only (no flash). The lens was a Sigma 105mm macro, and the camera was set at f16, ISO 200 and shot at 1/160 of a second. Auto white balance was set and the camera tripod mounted.



The downloaded image was presentable with decent saturation and relatively good sharpness but lacked the impact I wanted. It was time to play PhotoShop for a few minutes. Since I've been using this software for 12 years, my workflow has been refined to some very basic steps. I usually don't shoot in Raw, preferring to set my camera correctly in the first place to capture the image, thus saving hard drive space and eliminating the additional RAW conversion process.

My post editing steps were as follows: Using the magnetic lasso polygon tool, I isolated the yellow bloom. I then invoked the select/inverse tool to activate the balance of the image except the bloom. I selected the radial blur from the filter options and set the zoom feature to 20 in draft quality and hit OK. I then hit deselect and took the brightness down -6 before some minor burning around the outer edges of the photograph to ensure the viewer's eyes would remain on my subject. Unsharp Mask was then used at 100% with a radius setting of 1 pixel to slightly sharpen the image. Since some of the edges were too sharp, I finished with the smudge tool to soften this condition.

One of the keys to working in PhotoShop or any editing software is to simplify your efforts by experimenting with all the tools available then selecting those that you will use most often. Establish a systematic workflow using Auto Levels, Levels, Brightness/Contrast, Color Balance (if needed) and Unsharp Mask. If your original camera capture is good, the necessity to work in Layers, Masks, Curves and some of the more sophisticated tools becomes a rarity and will save you tremendous time and frustration. The adjustments on this image of Cactus #3 took 12 to 15 minutes.

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Club Logo Contest

May 31st is the deadline to submit entries in the Club's Logo Contest. Each member may submit up to five graphic, NOT photographic, images in both color and black and white.

Each entry should pay tribute to the history of the club and of photography. Board members will choose three entries for voting on at the June 28th club meeting.



Spring Indoor Model Shoot

Look for full details of the Spring Indoor Model Shoot in next month's Flash.

May Guest Speaker Dan Leffel

Dan Leffel will be our guest speaker this month. He is a longtime member and past president of the club.

Dan is exhibiting 31 photographs at the Garden Cafe in north Dallas until Sunday, June 20. Most of the images are large, gallery-wrapped canvases (20x30) or 16x20 prints framed to 24x28, and most of them have never been displayed before!

There will be a "Meet the Artist" wine and cheese reception 6-8 pm, Thursday, June 10th and the public is invited, so bring your friends!

The Garden Cafe is at 5310 Junius, just east of Munger Blvd. They are open 8:00 am to 2:00 pm Tuesday thru Sunday and have great food!

www.boldlightphoto.com

Trinity River Photography Contest

The winners of last fall's first City of Dallas Trinity River Photo Contest were honored at a reception on April 29 at Methodist Dallas Medical Center. Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert and Councilmember Neumann spoke at the opening exhibit of the winning images. The photos will be on exhibit at Methodist through May 21 and then will move to other city venues in the upcoming months.

PPC boasts three contest winners:

2nd place and Honorable Mention Amateur Architecture/Structures – Danette Volkmer

3rd Place Amateur Architecture/Structures – Katherine Robertson
Honorable Mention Amateur River - Harry Rumberger

View the winning images online at:

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/30708952/Trinity-Contest-Winners-110409>

End-Of-Year Party and Awards Banquet

The club's annual End-Of-Year Party and Awards Banquet will be held June 12th at Grace Presbyterian Church in our regular meeting room. Set up is at 5:15 and the dinner lasts from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Members and their spouses, guests, significant other, and/or date, are invited.

The club will provide meat, drinks, and tableware. Please bring an appetizer, salad, vegetable, or desert.

You may also bring a short slide show of no more than 5 to 10 images that you would like to share with members. CD or flash drive only.

There will be signup sheet so that we can get a count at the May meeting.



Danette Volkmer and Tom Leppert



Flux, Plano 2009



Crossing the Neches River



New PPC President Dennis Fritsche Honored

Dennis Fritsche, our new president, is profiled in the July 2010 issue of *Color The Magazine for Collectors of Fine Photography*. The article includes a number of his images, one of which, *Flux*, is shown at left.

Dennis is retired from TI, where he started the DLP projector business. Before being elected PPC president, he was Programs Chairman and has just been promoted to the Masters Class.

Dennis was also First Place winner in the *Adobe PSA Club Photo Contest* for his image *Crossing the Neches River*. Congratulations to Dennis on his fine photographs and thanks for taking on the formidable task of club President.

Congratulations!

Winning Images:
BEGINNERS

Jennifer Carrick	Claude	1st	14
Aimee Wilson	Lotus	2nd	14
Debbie Conard	New Beginning	3rd	13
Joe Sullivan	Butterfly on Watch	HM	12
Sharlott Hasty	Rose	HM	13
Willie Baker	Butterfly	HM	13



Jennifer Carrick



Aimee Wilson



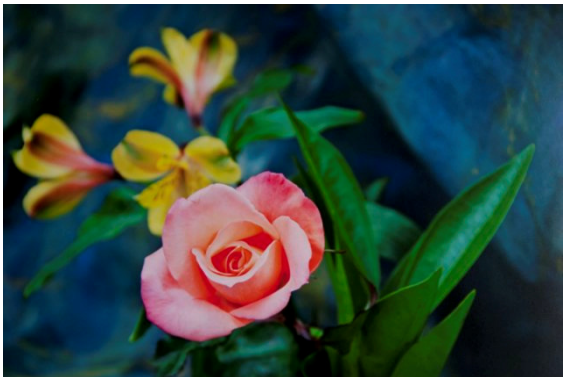
Debbie Conard



Willie Baker



Joe Sullivan



Sharlott Hasty

Winning Images: ADVANCED

Danette Volkmer	Texas Icon	1st	15
Ernie Tacsik	Kafu Bei	2nd	15
Stewart Musket	Sunscape Daisy	3rd	14
Dennis Fritsche	Boldly Leading the Way	HM	14
Jim Spencer	Swirling Forms	HM	14
Peter Staxen	The Lineup	HM	14



Ernie Tacsik



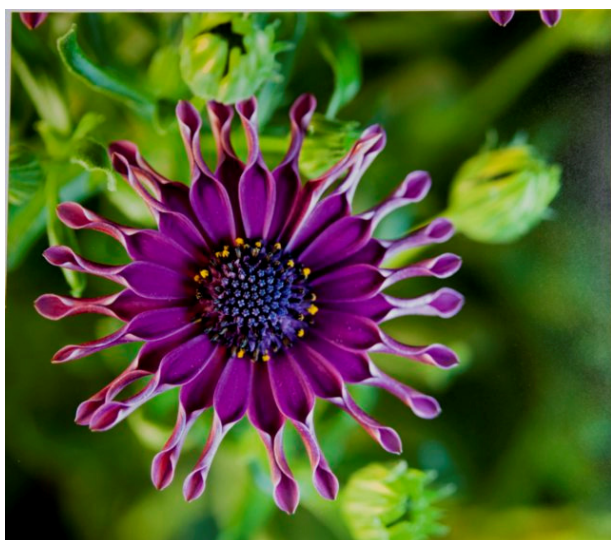
Danette Volkmer



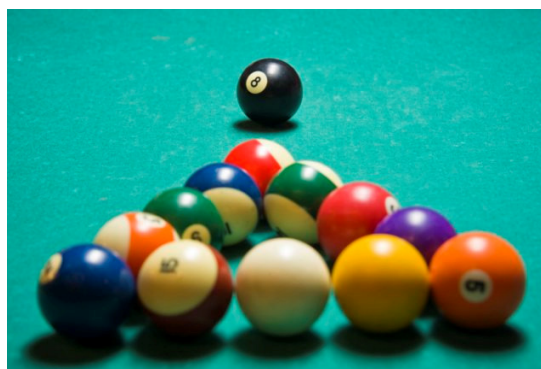
Dennis Fritsche



Jim Spencer



Stewart Musket



Peter Staxen

Winning Images: MASTERS

Ed Auger	Cactus #3	BOS	15
Eleanore Avery	Whooper Swan	2nd	15
Larry Petterborg	Paper Lite Butterfly	3rd	15
James Stover	Corn	HM	14
James Stover	Surface Tension	HM	14
Larry Petterborg	Florets	HM	14



Larry Petterborg



James Stover



Eleanore Avery



Larry Petterborg



James Stover

Time to Renew Your Membership

Once again it is time to renew your annual membership. The cost is still only \$24 and has not been raised in many years. Renewal forms are available at the membership desk.

This Month in Club History, MAY 2001

Club activities included a Dallas Skyline Shoot from the Levee and a trip to the Texas Motor Speedway. The competition consisted of two categories, prints and slides. No digital images yet!

Promotions Announced

The board is pleased to announce the promotions of Danette Volkmer and Dennis Fritsche to the Masters Class. Promotion is based on competition results, service to the club, and overall artistic merit. Please join all of us in congratulating Danette and Dennis!

As a reminder, members in the Beginners Class may elect to be promoted to Advanced Class. If you are in the Beginners Class and think that you are ready for the Advanced Class, send an email to Contest Site Administrator Carol Barlow at contestsiteadmin@planophotographyclub.com

COMPETITION STANDINGS

Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judge's Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judge's Points
ADVANCED			BEGINNERS		
Dennis Fritsche	30	232	Jennifer Carrick	40	205
Danette Volkmer	20	231	Willie Baker	48	195
Peter Staxen	16	228	Sharlott Hasty	0	171
Bud Barlow	9	224	Michael Losurdo Jr.	6	170
Bernard Pysz	6	218	Jean Karlik	15	156
Stewart Musket	3	216	Nicholas Tovell	19	120
Ernie Tacsik	12	215	Ron Deage	12	116
Linda Grigsby	10	214	Liz Graves	16	113
Jim Spencer	14	213	David Ringrose	3	105
Ron Hasty	9	205	Steve Finnerty	10	98
John Lovelace	0	204	Danny Fyffe	0	94
Carol Barlow	16	192	Joe Sullivan	3	76
Jerry Schlesinger	0	192	Debbie Conard	6	66
Hal Mayfield	0	184	Rajibul Islam	12	60
Andrew Hibma	9	183	Mike Konczal	0	38
Paul Spencer	11	179	Aimee Wilson	6	26
David Philips	0	170	Lisa Smith	0	25
Ken Morton	6	153	Michelle Bowers	0	23
Bill Boyd	0	147	Ron Giordano	0	21
Lewis Sheriff	6	125	John Sutton	0	12
Jim Shannon	0	100	Joe Wilson	0	11
Marie Hansen	17	99	John Liu	0	9
Marea Downey	0	96	MASTERS		
Billy Erwin	0	91	Eleanore Avery	32	248
Katherine Robertson	3	76	John Lehman	22	237
Kim Clack	0	70	Jose Artilles	21	237
Diana Jaramillo	0	61	Russell McGuire	30	235
Bill McMurray	11	59	Jamie Hilbig	28	224
Terri Rapp	0	49	Larry Petterborg	12	221
Tom Marusa	0	47	James Stover	3	213
Lucy Huffstetter	3	44	Lois Lehman	16	154
Fred Grossman	0	43	Mitsuka Iwahiro	11	124
			Ed Auger	17	56

CONTEST TOPICS BY MONTH

May 2010: Opposites	February 2011: Open
June 2010: Open	March 2011: Panoramic (Print format)
July 2010: Diagonals	April 2011: Open
August 2010: Open	May 2011: Planes, Trains and Automobiles
September 2010: Photojournalism	June 2011: Open
October 2010: Open (Print format)	July 2011: Shadows and Silhouettes
November 2010: Reflections	August 2011: Open
December 2010: No competition	September 2011: To be announced
January 2011: Cemeteries	October 2011: Open (Print format)

ABOUT THE CLUB

The club meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month, (except December when no meeting is held). The club meets at Grace Presbyterian Church; 4300 West Park Blvd. Visitors are welcome!

Officers meet at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month, (except December when no meeting is held), at Schimelpfenig Library, 5024 Custer Road.

The club is a member of:
Gulf States Camera Club Council
Photographic Society of America

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James Stover, Editor