



The FLASH!

May 2011

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



Inside this Issue

Best of Show	1
Activities	2
New Officers	2
Time to Renew	2
Lewis Kemper Workshop	3
End of Year Party	3
Guest Speaker	3
Winning Images from Competition	4
About the Club	7
Competition Standings	7
Flash-Back	7
Competition Topics	8
President's Message	8

BEST OF SHOW: *STORM OVER BLUE MESA* - BY DENNIS FRITSCH

Blue Mesa Reservoir, Colorado's largest body of water, was formed by the Gunnison River which also created the Black Canyon of the Gunnison. I was going from Crested Butte to Ouray and was passing by it for my second or third time. But today was different – there were clouds! And not just clouds but storm clouds!

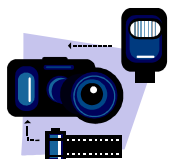
I used a tripod, panorama-head, an adjustment rail, Nikon D3X and 24-70mm zoom. Manual settings – f11, 1/250, 70mm, RAW. I shot three over-lapping images with the camera in the landscape orientation. (Should have shot six in the portrait orientation to get more sky, like the judge said). I ended up with a nice set of images.

I combined them using Photoshop CS5's panorama tool which I find quite good. I cropped some of the foreground out as it was not very exciting. I thought black and white was a good treatment (I might go back and work on the color presentation). I did a lot of fine tuning on the image to really emphasize the clouds and the detail in the cliffs. I used Nik Software Color Efex Pro Complete – Tonal Contrast and Darken/Lighten Center filters plus dodging and burning.

I printed this several times finding each to be a little flat and boring. I kept pushing the image to create the drama I saw that day. Since it was a stitched image from a high resolution camera, I had plenty of information in the file and it held up very well, I think.

I guess a lesson here is that seeing a locale or an object just once is usually not enough. Pictures taken the other times I passed here were OK record shots, but nothing special. It took the dramatic weather to make this dramatic image. By the way, this image won a Bronze Star in the Epson International 2011 Panorama Contest.





Upcoming Activities

May 21, 2011 – Photography Workshop with Lewis Kemper: 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM. Grace Presbyterian Church at 4300 W. Park Blvd. Plano, Texas 75093, Room 204-205 on the second floor of the education wing. \$50 payable by check to the Plano Photography Club mailed to Ron Hasty, 5904 Moss Rose Lane, Aubrey, TX 76227, 940-395-6088. See below for details.

June 11 (full) and 18 2011 – Dallas Zoo Photo Safari: 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Breakfast and photo tour with professional staff photographers. The last day to register May 23, 2011. \$40 check payable to the Dallas Zoological Society. Signup at May meeting. Limit 15 people per day. June 11th is full. June 18th is still open.

June 11, 2011 – End of Year Party: Setup 5:30. Dinner at 6:00. See below for details.

July, 2011 – Arts District Tour: Look for details later.

August, 2011 – Workshop – TableTop and Beyond: Grace Presbyterian Church, 4300 West Park Blvd in Plano. Everything from creating the image to producing the final image. Combines practical applications with instruction.

September 16 - 18 2011 – Plano Balloon Festival: Look for details later.

October 15, 2011 (tentative) – Fall Outdoor Model Shoot: Location TBA There are a limited number of slots available and a fee of approximately \$30. Signup and payment required. For information contact Ken Guthrie at modeling@planophotographyclub.com. (October 22nd rain day). Signup details TBA.

October 22 – 23, 2011 – Scavenger Hunt at Red Steagall Cowboy Gathering in Fort Worth: Look for details later.

November, 2011 – Trinity River Audubon Center: Look for details later.

For more information on the above activities contact activities@planophotographyclub.com.

Other Activities of Interest

June 25, July 23, Aug. 20, Sept. 17, 2011 – PUG MARK PARK: McKinney TX. Wildlife Refuge. See John Yates for details at johnyatesphoto@mindspring.com

June 18 - 19, 2011 – Lone Star Park: Dallas Camera Club activity.

May 5 - 16, 2012 - GRAND CANYON PHOTOGRAPHY RAFT TRIP: David Wille of the Plano Photography Club is organizing a Grand Canyon photography rafting trip. The trip goes from Lee's Ferry to Lake Mead and stops at the most photogenic locations within the Canyon. Each day typically involves some hiking. Because the trip is a photography trip, we have some ability to remain in certain locations for the best light. While this is not always possible, the guides do their best to accommodate the wishes of the photographers. If you are interested, please contact David at david.wille@bakerbotts.com. The cost is \$2700 per person. This includes a tent, sleeping pad, food, etc.

New Officers Elected

At the April meeting a slate of new officers was proposed and voted on by the membership. Please see page 8 for their names. Thanks to all of last year's officers for their contributions to the club. And welcome to the new officers joining the many returning officers.

TIME TO RENEW

Dues are due now. Please renew at the meeting. Dues are \$24 a year and provide access to many wonderful club activities and benefits. Checks are strongly urged, as cash is difficult to handle.



GUEST SPEAKER — AN EVENING WITH LEWIS KEMPER — SPONSORED BY CANNON

Lewis Kemper, a Canon Explorer of Light Photographer, has been photographing the natural beauty of North America and its parklands for over 30 years. His work has been exhibited and published in magazines, books, and calendars worldwide.

He received a BA in Fine Art Photography from the George Washington University in 1976. "The experience of working at The Ansel Adams Gallery was very influential in my development as a photographer", he states. He has been selected to Canon's Explorers of Light program featuring 62 of the country's most influential photographers.

Kemper's photographs are in many private collections as well as in the permanent collection of the Baltimore Museum of Art and Kaiser Permanente. His work has been shown nationally in galleries and museums. Some of these include: The Frederick S. Wight Gallery, The Baltimore Museum of Art, The Cornell Museum, The Princeton Gallery of Fine Art, The Popular Photography Gallery, The Ansel Adams Gallery, Photographer's Gallery and the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

He is the author of "The Yosemite Photographer's Handbook", and "The Yellowstone Photographer's Handbook." He was the photographer for "Ancient Ancestors of the Southwest", published by Graphic Arts Center Publishing. His monograph, "Capturing the Light" won the People's Choice Awards in Fine Art in the 2009 *Photography Book Now* competition. His latest publication "Photographing Yosemite Digital Field Guide" was voted in the top 20 field guides. And he produces the acclaimed Photoshop training DVD's "The Photographer's Toolbox for Photoshop®". His work has been published in numerous books including publications by The Sierra Club, The National Geographic Society, Little and Brown, APA Insight Guides, Prentice Hall, and Hyperion Books.

His pictures have appeared in calendars published by Audubon, The Sierra Club, The Mono Lake Coalition, Self Realization Foundation, Golden Turtle Press, The Nature Conservancy, Tide-Mark Press and others. His work has appeared in magazines that include: Backpacker, Women's Sports and Fitness, The Walking Magazine, Sierra, Motorland, Terre Sauvage, Environmental Protection Magazine, National Wildlife, and others, including National Geographic Traveler.

A WORKSHOP FOR PLANO PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB MEMBERS

A full day digital photography seminar with Canon Explorer of Light, Lewis Kemper, Saturday, May 21st. See *Upcoming Activities* for details.

Lewis will cover topics concerning Getting the Most out of your Digital Camera; Taking Advantage of Digital, Expanding the Dynamic Range of Your Images; and Post Processing your Digital Files. He will cover the use of Histogram and Highlight warnings, Custom White Balance, working in HDR, and demonstrate many of the tried and true techniques he teaches in his Photoshop classes. The morning will be spent on the camera and the afternoon on the digital darkroom. This program is a must for any level photographer working in today's digital world!"

End-Of-Year Party and Awards Banquet



The club's annual End-Of-Year Party and Awards Banquet will be held June 11th at Grace Presbyterian Church in our regular meeting room. Set up is at 5:30 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, about three minutes, the length of a regular song that you would like to share with members. CD or flash drive only.

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



The club thanks LIGHT TEC for their generous support. They have supplied studio lights to the club for shoots for several years. We encourage club members who need to rent lights or photographic equipment to visit them at www.lighttec.com or call them at 214-350-8990.



Winning Images:
BEGINNERS

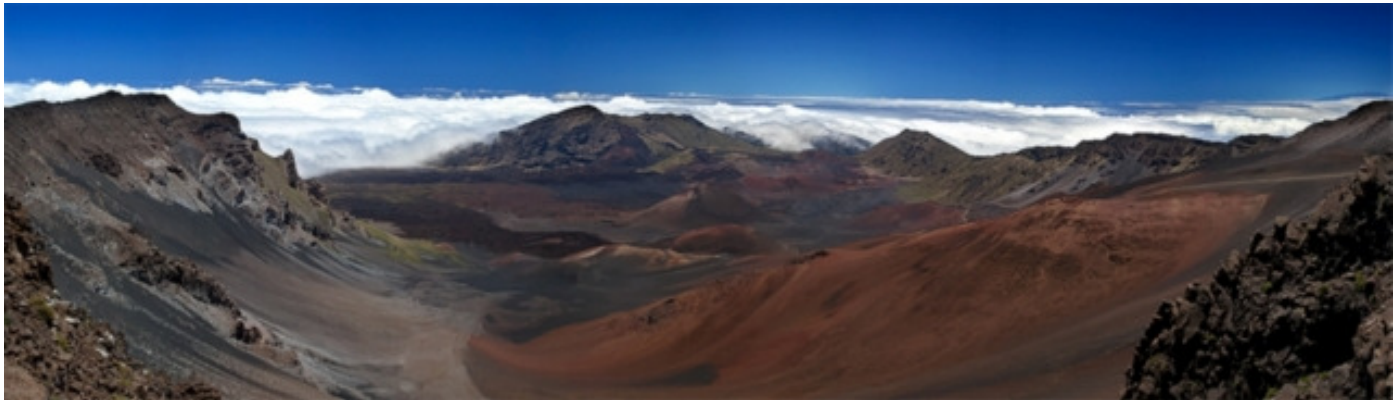
David Forehand	ROCK OUTCROP ON HWY 550	1 st	15
David Forehand	SUMMER STORM CLEARS	2 nd	12
Kurtis Allen	HALEAKALA	3 rd	12



DAVID FOREHAND



DAVID FOREHAND



KURTIS ALLEN



Winning Images: ADVANCED

Steve Sutton	JEFFERSON TRESTLE	1 st	14
Ernie Tacsik	SINGAPORE SUNSET	2 nd	14
Ron Hasty	WINTER HIKE IN YELLOWSTONE	3 rd	13
Marea Downey	VALLEY VIEW, YOSEMITE	HM	12
Sharlott Hasty	CARDINAL'S LUNCH ON THE SNOW	HM	12



STEVE SUTTON



ERNIE TACSIK



RON HASTY



MAREA DOWNEY



SHARLOTT HASTY



Winning Images: MASTERS

Dennis Fritsche	STORM AT BLUE MESA	1 st	15
Jose Artiles	MANHATTAN-LOOKING EAST	2 nd	14
Ed Auger	ORCHIDS 2	3 rd	13
Ed Auger	DALLAS REFLECTION	HM	13
Jose Artiles	TIME SQ. PANORAMA	HM	13



JOSE ARTILES



ED AUGER



ED AUGER



JOSE ARTILES



ABOUT THE CLUB

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

Officers meet at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month (no meeting in December) at *Schimelpfenig Library*, 5024 Custer Road in Plano. Open to all members.

The club is a member of:
Gulf States Camera Club Council (GSCCC) &
Photographic Society of America (PSA)

FLASH-BACK

April 1999 - About 20 members trekked down to Burnet, exploring Longhorn Caverns and ate dinner on the banks of Lake Buchanan with the lighthouse in view. The next day the group boarded a 3-deck vessel for the "Vanishing Texas" ecological river cruise of the rugged Colorado River Canyon. The wind made the waterfall really blow, but from the sheer cliffs, various birds of prey were viewed.

COMPETITION STANDINGS

Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
ADVANCED			BEGINNERS		
Ernie Tacsik	6	236	David Forehand	42	208
Peter Staxen	9	228	Stephen Finnerty	43	201
Jim Spencer	13	214	Aimee Wilson	6	201
Jerry Schlesinger	16	211	Joe Sullivan	16	166
John Lovelace	6	200	Ronnie Scaggs	22	145
Marea Downey	34	192	Karen Chaney	11	137
Carol Barlow	16	190	Charlie Henkle	0	122
Bernard Pysz	0	190	Angie Garcia	0	106
Jennifer Carrick	0	189	Danny Fyffe	13	97
Sharlott Hasty	0	187	Jesse Flores	6	73
Ron Hasty	6	183	Linfen Hwang	0	63
Steve Sutton	13	174	Retha Moulder	0	63
Roger Boulanger	13	168	Thinh Nguyenphu	0	62
Bill Boyd	11	168	Michael Losurdo Jr	0	56
Hal Mayfield	9	165	Steve Wang	9	50
Marie Hansen	0	157	Tim Morgan	6	48
Linda Grigsby	0	156	Kurtis Allen	3	45
Svatava Strnad	6	137	Peter Luh	6	42
Jim Shannon	0	124	Ming Luh	0	42
David Philips	19	123	Wayne Honeycutt	0	41
Jean Karlik	0	122	Lisa Jackson	3	40
Willie Baker	0	122	John Liu	0	22
Gene Domingo	0	120	Christina Angle	0	14
Paul Spencer	6	119	Farbod Dasty	0	7
Ron Deage	0	105	MASTERS		
Billy Erwin	11	74	Jose Artiles	44	259
Lewis Sheriff	0	71	Dennis Fritsche	33	255
Terri Rapp	0	58	Danette Volkmer	48	240
Ken Morton	0	57	Larry Petterborg	6	229
Jennifer Shannon	6	49	James Stover	6	225
Sherri Kidner	0	41	Jamie Hilbig	20	210
Katherine Robertson	0	35	Russell McGuire	17	205
Harold Walker	0	24	John Lehman	11	163
Shelley Franklin	0	23	Lois Lehman	6	89
Fred Grossman	0	22	Eleanore Avery	0	61
Irwin Lightstone	0	22	Ed Auger	3	26
Thomas Kerwin	0	20			



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: OFF TO A RUNNING START

We have barely started the new Club year and I am exhausted! I need a break – I think I'll take a road trip to Yosemite and stop at Grand Canyon, Death Valley, and Sequoia along the way. I'm sure driving 4500 miles will give me some rest. Even though I am running away for two weeks (and will miss the May meeting), that is not the "running start" I am contemplating.

The running is all the activities and learning experiences we have on tap and, especially, I am thinking about the new faces I see getting involved in activities and as club officers and committee heads. This is what makes the Club run and what keeps new energy in the group. I'm asking you to challenge yourself to do more in the club – so you will get more out of it.

Enter a contest for the first time! Need some help getting the images ready and submitting? Ask an officer or an experienced member for help. Go on a field trip! Afraid you will look silly out there? Come to a field trip and raise your hand and say, "I need some help."

The Club constitution says, "The aim of the Plano Photography Club shall be the enjoyment, mastery, and furtherance of photography through cooperation, effort, and good fellowship." This means we want to help!

Dennis Fritsche



PLANO PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB OFFICERS

TITLE	OFFICER	EMAIL ADDRESS
President	Dennis Fritsche	ppc@planophotographyclub.com
Programs	Ronald Hasty	programs@planophotographyclub.com
Activities	Ming Luh	activities@planophotographyclub.com
Secretary	Steve Finnerty	secretary@planophotographyclub.com
Treasurer	Peter Staxen	treasurer@planophotographyclub.com
Contests	David Forehand	e-contest@planophotographyclub.com
Contest Site Administrator	Carol Barlow	contestsiteadmin@planophotographyclub.com
GSCCC Representative	Danette Volkmer	gsccl-rep@planophotographyclub.com
PSA Representative	Jen Carrick	psa-rep@planophotographyclub.com
Historian	Cindy Vaillancourt	historian@planophotographyclub.com
Light Rental	Don Pool	lightrental@planophotographyclub.com
Membership	Lee Hatfield	membership@planophotographyclub.com
Newsletter Editor	James Stover	newsletter@planophotographyclub.com
Webmaster	Carol Barlow Sam Wilson	webmaster@planophotographyclub.com
Exhibits	Jamie Hilbig Steve Sutton	exhibits@planophotographyclub.com
Model Shoot Coordinator	Ken Guthrie	modeling@planophotographyclub.com
Tabletop Equipment	Jamie Hilbig	table_top@planophotographyclub.com
Training	Carol Barlow Marea Downey	training@planophotographyclub.com

COMPETITION TOPICS BY MONTH

May	Planes, Trains, and Automobiles
June	Open
July	Shadows and Silhouettes
Aug.	Open
Sept.	Events
Oct.	Open (Prints)
Nov.	Wide Angle Perspective
Dec.	None
Jan.	Texture
Feb.	Open
March	Black and White (Prints)
April	Open
May	Night and Low Light
June	Open
July	Repetition

Plano Photography Club: The FLASH! – May 2011
www.planophotographyclub.com
 James Stover, Editor

