



The FLASH!

January 2012

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



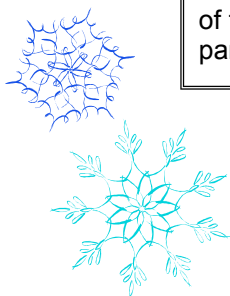
Inside this Issue

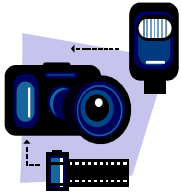
Christmas Party	1
Activities	2
Guest Speaker	3
Marea Downey	3
Winning Images from Competition	4
About the Club	7
Competition Standings	7
Competition Topics	8
President's Message	8



CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our annual party was held December 3rd in our regular meeting room. Dinner was served and many of the members provided interesting slide shows for everyone's enjoyment. Thanks to all who participated. Everyone had a great time.





Upcoming Activities

January 31, 2012 (Changed!) – Wyly Theatre Behind-the-Scene: 10:00am - 11:30pm. A guided behind-the-scene tour at Wyly Theatre is free of charge. The tour starts at 10:00 am. The total time of the tour is one to one-and-half hours. You are encouraged to arrive 30-min early to take some photos around the Art District as well as the interior design of the Wyly lobby area. Please R.S.V.P.

You can bring your tripod with you for this tour. The only thing you can't take a picture of is the stage set. You are welcome to bring your friends and family with you. If you would like to car pool please meet at the Church on 1/31 at 8:15am. For directions and parking see: www.thedallasartsdistrict.org/visit/directions

Lunch (Optional): There are several lunch restaurants you can choose from at One Arts Plaza. For more information about the theatre see: www.thedallasartsdistrict.org/venues/wyly-theatre

March 3, 2012 (Changed!) – Gearing Up Workshop: Armed with some camera basics, you're now ready to capture that elusive image--a magnificent landscape, a compelling portrait, the miniature world of macro, or heart-stopping action. But, is a camera all you need? Tripod, lens, flash, reflectors, shutter release, filters. How do you decide what gear to use when? Come to the next PPC workshop, Gearing Up and learn exposures, lenses, techniques, and more to put that perfect image within your grasp. Look for details later.

March, 2012 – Denison Arts and Cultural District: Eisenhower Birthplace State Historic Site. Look for details later. www.denisonartsculture.com/

April 14, 2012 – Ennis Bluebonnet Trails: Look for details later. In case the Bluebonnets are late, we may delay one week.

April 28, 2012 – Spring Indoor Model shoot: Second floor of the activities building at Grace Presbyterian Church, 4300 West Park Blvd in Plano. 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. Signup details TBA.

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

Other Activities of Interest

February 18, and March 24, 2012 – PUG MARK PARK: McKinney, Texas Wildlife Refuge. See John Yates for details at johnyatesphoto@mindspring.com.

January 31, 2012 – Heard Nature Photography Contest - See www.heardnaturephotographers.com/contest/ Or contact Peter Gilbert at peter.gilbert@att.net or 214-733-1466 (c)

April 19-21, 2012 – Gulf States Camera Club Council Convention “Mudbugs & Shutterbugs” – The Lafayette Photographic Society hosts the 2012 convention in the Ramada Conference Center New Iberia, Louisiana. See gsgcc.convention.angelfire.com. Send an e-mail to thom1936@bellsouth.net with "Convention Update" in the subject line and you will be sent updates about the 2012 GSCCC Convention.

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.

JANUARY GUEST SPEAKER — *PEAK ACTION* — STEWART F. HOUSE

Stewart will speak on action photography, primarily with regard to sporting events, and will also discuss how the same principles apply to other areas of photography.

A resident of Plano, Texas, Stewart F. House has been working for the largest newspapers in Texas for more than 20 years. He specializes in location shooting for editorial, corporate, and non-profits. His assignments have taken him from Washington D.C., throughout the Southwest and to Mexico.

He has been published in major magazines such as Time, U.S. News and World Report, Texas Monthly, The Sporting News, and Life.

His clients have included Chesapeake Energy, The United Way, Colonial Pipeline, Exxon, Six Flags Fiesta Texas, FedEx, and The University of Delaware among others.

He was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize while a staff photographer for the San Antonio Express-News and has received numerous state, regional and national awards for photography. Among them, the Jack Douglass Sweepstakes Award for Photography, the highest honor given photographers by the Texas Associated Press Managing Editors Association.

Visit either of these links for a sample of his work: sfhphotos.com or planosportsphotos.com

MAREA DOWNEY — *CORNWALL TRANSPLANT*

I have found that my photography has become an important enabler for contributions to local charities in the tiny fishing village of Cadgwith in far west Cornwall, where we have a cottage. I have published two books for sale to tourists depicting the fishing activities and evocative scenic images with the sea and sky in various moods. The fishermen are at ease with me because I made online books for each of them, starring each fisherman and their boat! The locals are now tolerant of my eccentricity, and used to seeing me done up in rain gear, perched on headlands and rocks, and up before dawn lugging backpack and tripod. I also try to make my images from viewpoints not normally accessible to casual visitors. This has involved clambering on rocks only accessible through someone's backyard, or getting permission from a fisherman to photograph inside his net shed, and in one case it took me three years to get permission to go to sea with one of the fishermen. It is considered unlucky to take a woman to sea, and I needed to be careful not to wear green, eat a Cornish pasty aboard, or mention rabbits. That was the easy part; the hard part was to stay upright on the rocking boat to take the images, and stay clear of the nets and the winches, and pray I didn't need to use the non-existent toilet on this small boat over the seven hours we were at sea. Having watched monkfish being gutted a couple of feet in front of my lens I do think about what I eat in a restaurant nowadays.

For the second book a local took me to task for not including her side of the village in my first book. This meant pre-visualizing the shot at a good time of day, forecasting the weather, and recruiting some local children to run up and down the hill with the promise of an ice cream. I got a couple of the mothers to stop traffic out of my shot while I worked. Fortunately everyone is on Cadgwith time, so people were content to wait. It really pays to pre-visualize a shot.

Then to capture a view of the village I had not already done I chartered a small plane, had the pilot take the door off, and we circled the village at about 1000 feet. The pilot throttled back the engine, and I shot at ISO 800 at 1/1600th of a second to counteract the vibration. With the ground rushing past four inches from my right foot, and only a seatbelt to keep me in the seat it was the scariest thing I've done in a while. And the pilot was the same age as my youngest son!

A couple of years ago I was asked to help with a charity calendar in the style of Calendar Girls. The models were to be fishermen's wives. They had done a fundraiser over a few bottles of wine for the printing costs, and were all ready to be photographed nude. I decided against taking the nude pictures in a shed with a green screen then putting them into scenic shots taken at another time (very hard to make believable, right?), I wondered about shooting on the beach with the fishermen around, never mind the tourists. I convinced the organizers to do the pictures of the models clothed in the iconic beauty spots around the village. It was hard work, lots of fun, and we still found some fishermen on the beach mending nets at strange hours. Perhaps they were wondering what they'd see? There were also some challenges about grey hair, unwanted pounds and wrinkles. The liquefy filter became my new best friend.

While working on my own books I had the luxury of being in charge of layout, so if the view lent itself to landscape or vertical view, I worked the layout accordingly. But the British Automobile Association is publishing a book I am assisting with at the moment, and now I have to shoot all different views of a subject to satisfy the book designers. I've also been asked to provide some images for yet another tourist book on the South Coast Path, but I have realized it could become a full-time occupation to provide such freelance images, and I value my time more than I want to become a full-time photographer. For me, if it isn't fun there's no point in doing it!

Winning Images: BEGINNERS

Peter Luh	GOLDEN WHEAT FIELD	1st	14
Linfen Hwang	BALD AND BEAUTIFUL	2nd	13
Mary Petterborg	SAN MIGUEL DOOR	3rd	13
Melanie Erwin	GRASSHOPPER	HM	12



Peter Luh



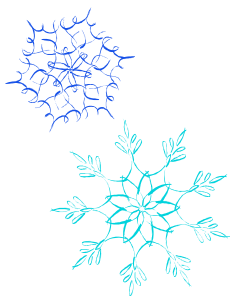
Melanie Erwin



Mary Petterborg



Linfen Hwang



Winning Images: ADVANCED



Jim Shannon

Kent Taylor	MUSE	1st	15
Marea Downey	TRANQUIL MOMENT AT CAPE COD	2nd	15
Steve Sutton	TEXACO	3rd	14
Jim Shannon	KELLYE 1	HM	14
Sharlott Hasty	AMERICAN INDIAN HOME	HM	14



Kent Taylor



Sharlott Hasty



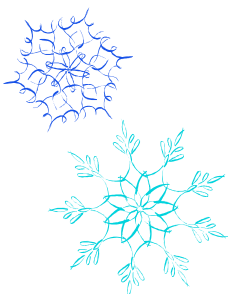
Marea Downey



Steve Sutton

5

Winter



Winning Images: MASTERS

Jamie Hilbig	DAYLILY BLUES	1st	14
Dennis Fritsche	YOSEMITE VALLEY	2nd	14
Jose Artiles	BACKLIT MOON	3rd	14
James Stover	THUNDERBIRD	HM	13



JAMIE HILBIG



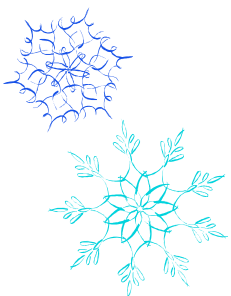
DENNIS FRITSCHÉ



JOSE ARTILES



JAMES STOVER



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 (except December) at the church. Open to all members.

The club is a member of:

*Gulf States Camera Club Council (GSCCC) &
Photographic Society of America (PSA)*

COMPETITION STANDINGS

Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
ADVANCED					
Ron Hasty	19	146	Alan Mann	0	20
Marea Downey	16	140			
Sharlott Hasty	13	136	BEGINNERS		
Kent Taylor	10	129	Linfen Hwang	43	119
Jennifer Carrick	11	124	Mary Petterborg	18	128
Marie Hansen	11	120	Peter Luh	12	130
Joe Sullivan	4	123	Ming Luh	9	125
Carol Barlow	0	126	Karen Chaney	18	108
Sam Wilson	0	126	Charlie Henkle	0	124
Jim Spencer	0	125	Leonard Margolis	0	113
Lee Hatfield	3	118	Debbie Conard	1	85
John Lovelace	1	116	Melanie Erwin	1	85
Jerry Schlesinger	0	115	Linda Lee Bickford	6	64
Tim Morgan	6	108	Bryan Zumbar	0	52
David Forehand	10	101	Lisa Jackson	7	40
Ronnie Scaggs	1	109	Wayne Honeycutt	0	44
Bill Boyd	1	104	Kelli Schmidt	0	40
Aimee Wilson	0	103	Thinh Nguyenphu	13	27
Stephen Finnerty	1	102	Luellen Adair	0	26
Sherri Kidner	0	94	Wayne Kenter	0	26
Linda Grigsby	1	89	Jesse Flores	1	23
Harold Walker	0	88	Kurtis Allen	0	23
Roger Boulanger	5	71	Jane Damon	0	21
Steve Sutton	3	72	Thomas McCallister	0	20
David Philips	0	69	Janice Stovall	0	17
Jim Shannon	1	68	David Allen	0	9
Sevy Strnad	0	67	Vinay Rekapalli	0	8
Willie Baker	6	61	MASTERS		
Danny Fyffe	0	66	Danette Volkmer	32	141
Ken Morton	6	60	Dennis Fritsche	10	140
Thomas Kerwin	0	65	Jamie Hilbig	25	124
Melanie Dyer	3	61	Peter Staxen	12	134
Jean Karlik	1	42	Ernie Tacsik	4	138
Paul Spencer	0	41	Larry Petterborg	6	132
Hal Mayfield	0	24	Jose Artiles	26	109
Terree Stone	0	23	James Stover	2	129
Retha Moulder	0	22	Lois Lehman	11	105
Gene Domingo	0	21	John Lehman	1	111



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: A NEW YEAR

I hope you and your family had a nice relaxing time over the holidays.

I spent a lot of time following all the exciting happenings in the photographic equipment arena. It seems like everyone is coming out with a third generation digital camera (also called mirrorless). I have been wanting a camera system that makes good pictures and is easy to carry. There are so many options now it is very confusing. And I knew that as soon as I made a decision, I would immediately have buyer's remorse because a better one just came out. I opted for the Nikon V1. There are many other options with more pixels and bigger sensors (and bigger lenses). I relied on my very basic requirements and got the system that met them. I am happy with the camera and lenses and they fit nicely in my coat pocket. Does it perform as well as my big DSLR? No and I did not expect that it would. But I am comfortable that it makes images that you will see in contests in the near future. Does it meet all my photographic needs? No. I still need more pixels and a big sensor for landscapes.

For those of you who are thinking of buying your first DSLR or are thinking of upgrading, I really recommend that you look at the options in this new generation of cameras. Lose the weight. Make good pictures. Have fun.

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	Steve Sutton	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	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

Jan.	Texture
Feb.	Open
March	Black and White (Prints)
April	Open
May	Night and Low Light
June	Open
July	Repetition
Aug.	Open

Texture: image where surface detail of objects in the scene contributes significantly to overall interest and impact of the photo. Hint: Surface detail may be enhanced by using side lighting or by increasing local contrast in software. It is challenging to create interest with just texture alone because texture then becomes the subject. Consider using texture to enhance or strengthen the main subject of the image.

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JAMES T STOVER

8

EDITOR