



The FLASH!

July 2012

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



BEST IN SHOW: MILKY WAY OVER THE GRAND CANYON - BY JAMES STOVER

In May of this year I enjoyed the wonderful experience of a 12 day rafting expedition down the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. Our group (including David Willie and family) had a fantastic time riding rapids, climbing canyon walls, hiking up tributaries, fording streams, and sleeping under the stars.

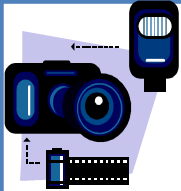
The canyon walls image was taken around 2:45 AM near Saddle Canyon, close to mile marker 47. A nearly full moon had just risen over the canyon walls and bathed the scene in a beautiful glow. I used a Nikon D7000 with an 18 to 105 mm VR lens set at 18 mm and F3.5. Exposure was ISO 1000 for 10 seconds. I shot a series of bracketing exposures and liked this one best. The Milky Way was shot earlier in the night while the sky was still extremely dark before the moon rose. Exposure was ISO 6000 for 30 seconds, with white balance set to tungsten to emphasize the blueness of the sky. I combined the images in Photoshop Elements 5. I briefly considered eliminating the small raft at the bottom center; however, I decided that the human element gives scale, emphasizing the great majesty of the canyon walls.

I took many night-time shots during the trip, which required setting up the camera early in the evening and then monitoring the equipment throughout the night. My second-place image required two one-hour climbs up a very steep hill, one at 3 AM. I also spent three nights shooting star trails. Each shoot took three to four hours, so I endured seven nights of seriously disrupted sleep; but the results were absolutely worth it.

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Upcoming Activities

August, 2012 – *Frontiers of Flight*: Watch for more details.

September 21-22, 2012 – *Spirit of the Cowboy*: Chestnut Square, McKinney. Watch for more details.

September 21-23, 2012 – *Annual Plano Balloon Festival*: Watch for more details.

Other Activities of Interest

August 14, September 18, 2012 – *PUG MARK PARK*: McKinney, Texas Wildlife Refuge. See John Yates for details at johnyatesphoto@mindspring.com.

September 14-23, 2012 – *PSA Conference*: Don't forget to register for the PSA Conference in San Francisco-September 14-23. Register before June 30 to avoid late fees. See website for details:
<http://www.psa-photo.org/>

Snapshots: Presented at 6:15 pm on Meeting Nights

July: Ernie Tacsik: Photography 101: Understanding Color and Light – Part 2

With the May presentation of Part 1 having covered the foundation of "Light," Ernie Tacsik will focus on the other essential element of color - that of the "Observer" (both eye and camera). Digital representation of color and color models such as RGB will also be examined. For those who missed Part 1, a short 10 minute highlight encore presentation will be offered at 6:00 pm just prior to the 6:15 start of the Part 2 session.

September: Dennis Fritsche: Adobe Lightroom

October: Bud Mallar: Photoshop Elements

November: Dan Leffel: Landscape Composition



End-Of-Year Awards

The club's annual End-Of-Year Party and Awards Banquet was held June 30th at Grace Presbyterian Church. This year's winners were announced.

Beginner Photographer:	Mary Petterborg
Advanced Photographer:	Ron Hasty
Masters Photographer:	Dennis Fritsche
Photographer of the Year:	Dennis Fritsche
Digital Image of the Year:	Linda Lee Bickford - "Adoption Event"
Print of the Year:	Marea Downey - "Tranquil Moment"

Congratulations to all the winners!



END OF YEAR PARTY



Mary Petterborg



Ron Hasty



Dennis Fritsche



Guest Speaker – Awareness – Kim Ritzenthaler

Kim will discuss what makes good photography. Her subject will be the key of being aware of one's surroundings and how to tune into lighting, composition and moment to best communicate what is seen and felt. She will have a slide show that illustrates how these three elements can be brought together to create images that have visual and emotional impact. Kim states that ultimately great photography is reduced to a storytelling "moment." The goal is to transmit experience. The camera is but a conduit to universal experience.

Kim Ritzenthaler has been a professional photographer for more than fifteen years. Her clients have included People magazine, the New York Times, the Washington Post, and a wide array of industrial, educational and corporate publications.

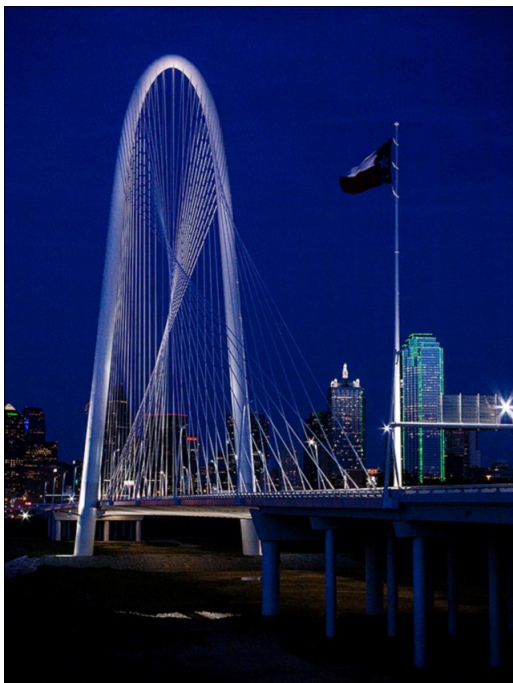


This Month's Winning Images

BEGINNERS				ADVANCED			
Wayne Kenter	ANTICIPATIPN	1st	15	David Philips	POLE STAR	1st	15
Kurtis Allen	TEXAS HI	2nd	15	Karen Chaney	PM AMPED UP	2nd	15
Kurtis Allen	NEW BRIDGE	3rd	14	Marie Hansen	TEXACO BUILDING	3rd	14
Ming Yang	VIVA LAS VEGAS	HM	14	Marie Hansen	LAS VEGAS FIREWORKS	HM	14
Valerie Johnson	COOL SUNSET	HM	13	Jim Spencer	DARK RUINS	HM	14
INTERMEDIATE				MASTERS			
Chris Caho	PURPLE HAZE	1st	15	James Stover	MILKY WAY OVER THE GRAND CANYON	1st,Bos	15
Carol Barlow	REFINING FIRE	2nd	14	James Stover	ETERNAL SKY	2nd	15
Melanie Dyer	DARK SHADOWS	3rd	14	Jamie Hilbig	DAYLILY BY CANDLELIGHT	3rd	14
Chris Caho	I WISH I WERE HOME	HM	13	Peter Staxen	MAGIC IN THE PARK	HM	14
Aimee Wilson	THE WORLD OF COCA COLA	HM	12	Dennis Fritsche	A SPRING NIGHT	HM	14
				Danette Volkmer	PERFORMANCES INDOORS AND OUT	HM	14



Wayne Kenter



Kurtis Allen



Kurtis Allen





Carol Barlow



Chris Caho



Melanie Dyer



David Philips





Karen Chaney



JAMIE HILBIG



MARIE HANSEN



JAMES STOVER



COMPETITION STANDINGS

Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
BEGINNERS			ADVANCED		
Kurtis Allen	9	29	David Philips	10	26
Wayne Kenter	10	26	Karen Chaney	6	27
Ming Yang	1	26	Marie Hansen	4	28
Valerie Johnson	1	25	Jim Spencer	1	27
Bryan Zumber	0	25	Alan Mann	0	26
Charlie Henkle	0	24	Sharlott Hasty	0	26
Melanie Erwin	0	19	David Forehand	0	25
Linda Lee Bickford	0	15	Ken Morton	0	25
Terri Kropp	0	14	Lee Hatfield	0	25
Debbie Conard	0	7	Sherri Kidner	0	25
Don Huddy	0	7	Stephen Finnerty	0	25
INTERMEDIATE			Steve Sutton	0	25
Chris Caho	11	28	Linfen Hwang	0	24
Carol Barlow	6	22	Ming Luh	0	24
Aimee Wilson	1	23	Jen Carrick	0	22
Retha Moulder	0	21	Peter Luh	0	19
Joe Sullivan	0	18	MASTERS		
John Lovelace	0	18	James Stover	17	30
Sam Wilson	0	18	Jamie Hilbig	3	27
Melanie Dyer	3	14	Danette Volkmer	1	26
Ronnie Scaggs	0	17	Ernie Tacsik	0	27
Jerry Schlesinger	0	15	Peter Staxen	1	26
			Marea Downey	0	26
			Ron Hasty	0	26
			John Lehman	0	25
			Jose Artilles	0	25
			Lois Lehman	0	25
			Russell McGuire	0	25
			Dennis Fritsche	1	23
			Larry Petterborg	0	24
			Lois Lehman	11	144

COMPETITION TOPIC

July	Repetition	Feb.	Open
August	Open	March	Prints - Close-Up
Sept.	Awareness	April	Open
Oct.	Prints - Open	May	Vanishing Point
Nov.	Unexpected Angles	June	Open
Dec.	No Contest	July	Solitude
Jan. 2013	Delicate	August	Open

GSCCC Contest Judging

Our club will be judging a GSCCC contest the third week of September. Although we have judges, volunteers are needed to assist with the process. If you are willing to help, contact Danette Volkmer at

gsccl-rep@planophotographyclub.com





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

If you've been fussing over what to photograph for our September contest, then don't miss our July meeting. Kim Ritzenthaler, award-winning photojournalist and accomplished nature photographer, will share her perspective on story-telling through photography.

Our subject for September's competition is "Awareness," a "depiction of a human response to some condition that calls for remedy, which could include poverty, pollution, disaster recovery, effects of drought and famine, or a more personal need." The intent of this subject is to encourage photojournalism skills and elicit PJ images that can be submitted to GSCCC contests. Thus, the reality of the images should not

be altered. Images can be resized, cropped, lightened or darkened, restored to original color, or converted to B & W.

Thanks to Sharlott Hasty, our Programs chair, for diligently matching speakers to competition subject matter. Here's to creativity,

Carol Barlow

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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)*

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EDITOR

