



The FLASH!

September 2012

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



BEST IN SHOW: *FIELD OF GOLD* - BY LEE HATFIELD

This June I found three huge fields of sunflowers in Celina just a few miles north of Highway 380. I used my Nikon D300s at f22, 1/60th of a second with ISO at 160. I took several hand held and tripod shots; this particular image was with my 11-16mm wide angle Tokina, f2.8 lens. I went back a few days later when the sky was blue and the white puffy clouds were out, but this shot seemed to work the best for our Repetition theme.

I used the D300s with the Tokina lens for my second place image: Dizzying St. Augustine Light Staircase. Using ISO 200, shutter speed of 1/25 at f4, I was still able to get a clean, hand held shot after walking up all those steps!

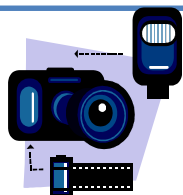
When I purchased the lens two years ago, I had no idea how often I would use it, but it's been a true work horse for me. It produces sharp images and using it for close up shots has been very rewarding. Of course, it works great on a tripod to shoot inside at low light, too. It's also a fast lens for fireworks and since the D300s can shoot 7 frames per second, it's been fun to see what I can capture.

For anyone who is hesitating to enter our monthly competitions, I encourage you to give it a try! Trying to meet the requirement of the themed contest each month has helped me to grow as a photographer. I never would have thought my work would be good enough to win First Place AND Best of Show recognition!

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Upcoming Club Activities

September 24, 6:15 PM 2012 – *Snapshots! Intro to Lightroom*: By Dennis Fritsche.

September 29, 2012 – *Fall Outdoor Model Shoot*: See below for details.

October 13, 2012 – *PSA Judge Training*: Our club is hosting Erik Rosengren, Coordinator of PSA Judges, to train Master-level members to be judges. From 9:00 am to 10:00 am there will be an opportunity for other members to learn how a judge determines winning photos.

October 20, 2012 – *Composition Workshop at Dallas Heritage Village*: At various stations you will learn to compose shots of people, still life, architecture and more. There will be musicians and others in period costume—a great photo op for the entire club.

October 22, 6:15 PM 2012 – *Snapshots! Photoshop Elements*: By Bud Mallar

Other Activities of Interest

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, See website for details: <http://www.psa-photo.org/>

October 13, 2012 – *Explorer of Light Workshop*: See below for details. Learn more about George at: http://learn.usa.canon.com/resources/contributors/explorers/lepp_bio.shtml

Snapshot!

September:

Dennis Fritsche will explore the basics of Lightroom from Adobe to help you decide if it can benefit your photography editing. This session answers the questions you have been dying to ask!

"What is Lightroom?"

"How is Lightroom different from my editing program?"

"Why should I use Lightroom?"

"Should I upgrade to Lightroom 4?"

"How do I use Lightroom?"

"How can I learn more about Lightroom?"

October

Bud Mallar will be presenting Photoshop Elements (PSE) at the 'Snapshots' meeting at 06:15 pm on Oct 22nd. PSE is the 'consumer' version (\$75) of Photoshop CS6 (\$650), however, PSE retains many of the most used editing tools/features of CS6. The object of the session is to provide an overview of how PSE can be used to enhance your images.

The presentation will cover the basic purpose of the software, major differences between PSE, Lightroom and CS6, the layout of the screens, and a short discussion of some of the most used features, such as, cropping, healing/cloning, selection tools, various image editing tools, filters, and a tad about layers. Several simple 'tips' will be presented/documented to allow users immediate benefit in using the software at home. Literature and on-line learning sites will be documented for additional information.



Fall Outdoor Model Shoot

The Fall Outdoor Model Shoot is scheduled for Saturday, September 29 from 10 AM to 3 PM at Hidden Cove Park in The Colony, Texas. Ken Guthrie always does a fantastic job of obtaining models and providing photographers with scenic backdrops and plenty of shooting opportunities.

The PPC event fee of \$24 includes a light lunch/snacks, model fees and rental of a small cabin to be used for the models dressing room--a real bargain. There is a \$10 vehicle entry fee which can be split by carpooling. Although the sign-up deadline was the August club meeting, you may ask to be on the waiting list.

Composition Workshop

The way you compose the elements in your photo can make or break it. Leading lines, rule of thirds, framing--there are guidelines, but these things are not always obvious. If you want more insight into good composition, plan to attend the Composition Workshop, October 20, 10 am at Dallas Heritage Village (formerly Old City Park).

There will be accomplished photographers stationed around the park to help you with composing still life, people, and landscape/architecture. The General Store is the site for still life composition. The farmstead and Millemore Mansion are probable sites for Portraiture while the landscape station will "follow the sun." In case of rain, we will move inside where we will be allowed to use flash.

The park is also hosting gunfighters and old-time musicians that day for an added chance to practice what you learn. Admission to the park is \$ 9/ \$7 for seniors.

Subscribe to *News to Use*

On August 15, 2012, the club began delivering *News to Use* and other announcements from club officers via subscription. Email webmaster@planophotographyclub.com for instructions on how to subscribe to continue receiving the latest club news.

Guest Speaker – *What a Judge Looks For* – Kerry Owens

Photography can be a "fun" hobby, but in Kerry Owen's case, it's more a pursuit of the Holy Grail. Over a period of some years, Kerry had learned to produce pretty good black and white prints in his darkroom, and was trying to learn how to produce color prints from 35mm slides. Then, digital took photography by storm.

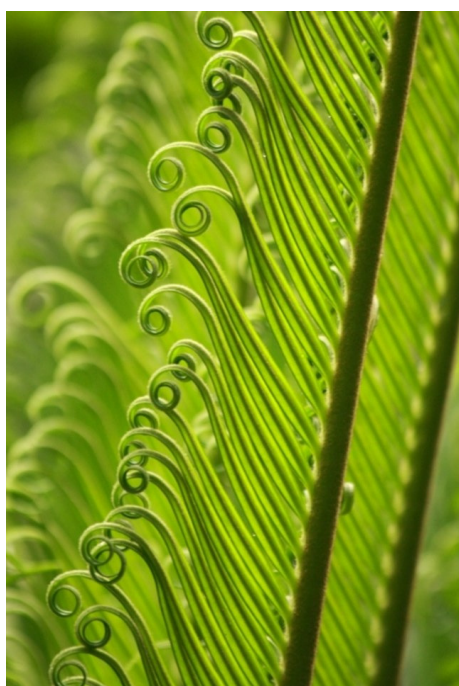
In between colorful comments, he produces prints. He believes, rather strongly, that the print is the highest art form in photography, truly fine art. Projected digital images are fun to see, but are transient, and have to leave every time somebody throws the switch. He has even stronger beliefs about the print process. For serious work, he prints on matte paper only, believing that a good matte paper gives him a natural look that gloss or semi gloss simply does not have, and renders both color and greyscale with the saturation and detail that he prizes.

In addition to producing his own work, Kerry has thankfully accepted invitations to judge for most of the metroplex camera clubs, and/or presented programs of general interest, while serving in several capacities for the membership of the Fort Worth Camera Club.



This Month's Winning Images

BEGINNERS				ADVANCED			
Ming Yang	Rhythm of Green	1st	15	Lee Hatfield	Field of Gold	1st, BoS	15
Ron Lin	Safe and Peace	2nd	14	Lee Hatfield	Dizzying St. Augustine Light Staircase	2nd	14
Debbie Conard	Walking Proud	3rd	14	Karen Chaney	Underground Exploration	3rd	14
Charlie Henkle	Tall Ship	HM	13	Marie Hansen	Ballerinas	HM	13
				Ming Luh	Pantyhose	HM	13
INTERMEDIATE				MASTERS			
Sam Wilson	Star-crowned	1st	15	Ernie Tacsik	Paya Krut battling Naga	1st	15
John Lovelace	Three in one: Trees, carts, bricks	2nd	14	Larry Petterborg	Zoom on Dallas	2nd	14
Sam Wilson	Organ Pipes	3rd	13	John Lehman	Bumper	3rd	14
Chris Caho	Stepping UP	HM	13	Danette Volkmer	Colonial 'Fife'dom	HM	13



Ming Yang



Ron Lin

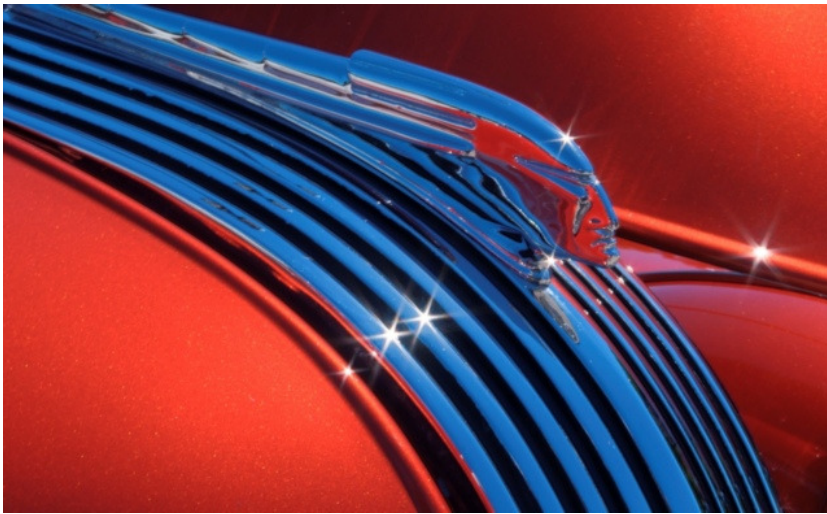


Charlie Henkle



Debbie Conard





Sam Wilson



John Lovelace



Lee Hatfield



Ming Luh



Sam Wilson





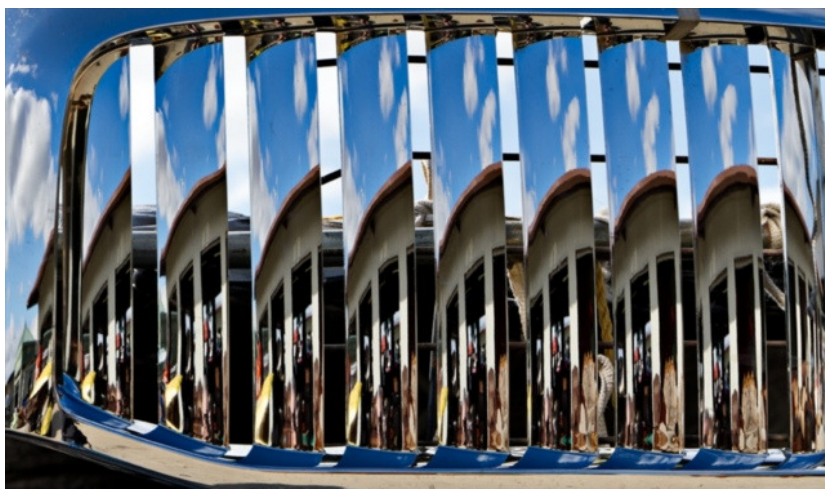
KAREN CHANEY



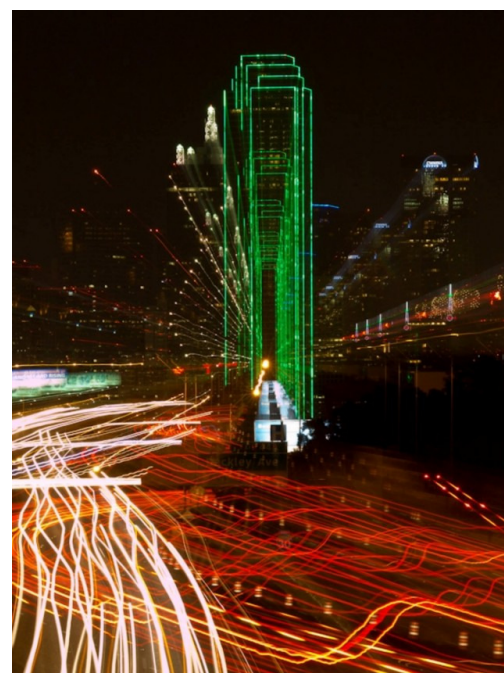
ERNIE TACSIK



DANETTE VOLKMER



JOHN LEHMAN



LARRY PETTERBORG

COMPETITION STANDINGS

Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
BEGINNERS			ADVANCED		
Linda Lee Bickford	12	63	Lee Hatfield	17	73
Valerie Johnson	1	72	Karen Chaney	10	72
Melanie Erwin	6	64	Marie Hansen	5	73
Wayne Kenter	10	60	Jim Spencer	2	70
Charlie Henkle	1	68	Peter Luh	10	61
Charlie Henkle	1	68	David Forehand	0	70
Bryan Zumbar	0	64	Jen Carrick	3	67
Ming Yang	11	53	Ming Luh	1	69
Don Huddy	0	48	Linfen Hwang	0	68
David Allen	0	44	Sharlott Hasty	0	68
Kurtis Allen	9	29	Stephen Finnerty	6	62
Debbie Conard	3	31	Sherri Kidner	0	66
Rajiv Karanam	4	26	David Philips	10	42
Leslie Johnston	0	22	Alan Mann	0	46
Letty Ramos	0	18	Ken Morton	0	45
Parvin Stiles	0	18	Linda Grigsby	0	40
Cheri Soileau	0	16	Steve Sutton	0	25
Terri Kropp	0	14	Tim Morgan	0	18
Sherry Jaco	0	9	MASTERS		
INTERMEDIATE			James Stover	17	74
Chris Caho	22	78	Ernie Tacsik	10	77
Sam Wilson	14	68	Dennis Fritsche	11	69
Carol Barlow	9	68	Larry Petterborg	6	74
Aimee Wilson	7	67	Marea Downey	6	73
John Lovelace	6	60	Jamie Hilbig	6	71
Retha Moulder	0	60	Danette Volkmer	3	71
Ronnie Scaggs	0	57	John Lehman	3	70
Jerry Schlesinger	0	56	Peter Staxen	1	71
Melanie Dyer	3	51	Lois Lehman	0	69
Jim Shannon	0	47	Jose Artiles	1	65
Svatava Strnad	1	24	Ron Hasty	0	66
Joe Sullivan	0	18	Russell McGuire	0	66

COMPETITION TOPIC

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

GSCCC Contest Judging

Our club will be judging a GSCCC contest in January. 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're like me, one of the main reasons you joined the club was to learn more about photography. Maybe you upgraded from film to digital, or point-and-shoot to SLR, or got the "camera bug," or want to move from snapshots to photography. Whatever the reason, our club is a great place to learn. On field trips with fellow enthusiasts, at the introductory Snapshots! presentations, the semi-annual model shoots, and in training workshops, the main purpose is to share knowledge. I've learned from Masters, new members, and many others through these club activities. There's lots going on in September and October so make plans to attend as many events as you can.

And for the curious among our readers, we include Honorable Mention photographs as space allows.

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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JAMES T STOVER

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EDITOR

