



The FLASH!

January 2013

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



BEST IN SHOW: MIRROR LAKE, WYOMING - BY MAREA DOWNEY

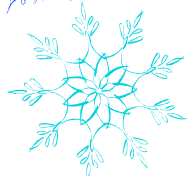
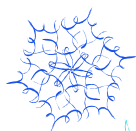
F 16 and Be There.

One thing I've learned in shooting landscapes is that being in the right place at the right time to catch the light is everything. Sometimes this means being in place before dawn or staying long after sunset or possibly returning to the same spot time after time to catch the light perfectly.

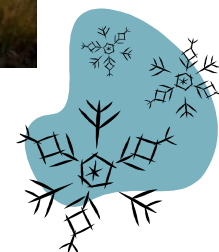
This Wyoming image would not have been possible if my friend and I hadn't gotten up at 5 a.m. to be at Mirror Lake, near the Snowy Range, when the sun rose. We were lucky with the weather, but we had checked the scene the day before and knew we had a chance. Since the lake is called "Mirror Lake," I raised the ISO to shorten the exposure because I wanted to portray it as a mirror. This image is at F16, focused a third of the way into the image, with a ND graduated filter of 0.6. I used Photoshop to dodge the shadows in the foreground.

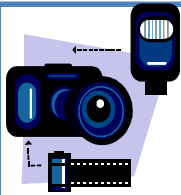
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Winter





Upcoming Club Activities

January 28, 2012 6:15 PM – Snapshot. “Creating HD Video” by Tinh Nguyenphu.

February 1-28, 2012 – Photo Exhibit at The Shops at Willow Bend. Members may submit 2 prints, matted or mounted. If you want to participate, contact Valerie at exhibits@planophotographyclub.com and bring your prints to the January meeting.

February 25, 2012 6:15 – Snapshot. “Panoramas - The basics to get you started” by Jerry Schlesinger.

March 2-3, 2012 – North Texas Irish Festival. www.ntif.org/ Contact Bub Mallar for details.
bmallar@sbcglobal.net

April 25-28, 2012 – GSCCC Convention. The Jackson Photographic Society (MS) is hosting this year's convention. See GSConvention2013.com or contact Jack Hourguettes coljack1220@gmail.com.

January Guest Speaker – Kick It Up A Notch! – Steve Kozak

Steve challenges our members to take control of their work and skills and “Kick It Up A Notch”. Steve shares some of his insights as a judge and techniques as an artist which will help each of us become better photographers. Don't miss this educational and entertaining evening!

Steve Kozak is an active member of the Professional Photographers of America and the Texas Professional Photographers Association. Steve has earned the “Master of Photography” and the “Craftsman” degrees from PPA, and is PPA Certified. His work has appeared in the “Loan Collection” at the exhibit by Kodak and Walt Disney World that is held at EPCOT in Orlando, Florida. Professional recognition of his work include the Masterpiece Award from Fuji Film USA.

Holiday Party and Christmas Lights Shoot

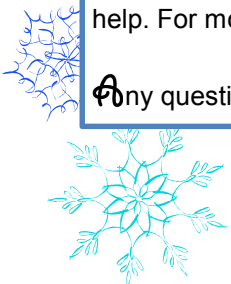
Our annual Holiday Party was held Saturday, December 1 in our regular meeting room. Members shared food while the club provided meat. After dinner, members shared slideshows of some of their favorite images.

Afterwards James Stover made a short presentation on using HDR to photograph Christmas lights. He then led approximately 10 members to Deerfield for a shoot. Members spent several hours practicing HDR techniques. Everyone had a great time and hopefully got some good shots.

Photographic Society of America

PSA offers education, inspiration, and opportunities for personal growth in photography. Individual membership is \$40.00, which includes access to an online version of the PSA Journal; or \$60 for a printed version of the Journal." Members can submit images to be critiqued, and. PSA has 35 mentors, in every specialty, ready to help. For more information go to http://www.psa-photo.org/my_psa/cover-page/

Any questions contact Jen Carrick, PSA Representative. psa-rep@planophotographyclub.com



7 Tips for Wonderful Wildflower Photos - ©2013 – Jeff Parker

www.ExploreInFocus.com

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, “The earth laughs in flowers.” Perhaps that’s part of why we feel so compelled to capture wildflower images come springtime. This spring, as you imbibe in earth’s “laughter” and photograph its “smiles” put these tips to use to collect better images:

1) MORNING SHOTS ARE BEST.

You’ll find flowers not only their freshest in the A.M., but you’ll also often find them covered in photo-enhancing dew. Take advantage of that gorgeous moisture, which sparkles just right in morning’s first light.

2) MAKE FRIENDS WITH FOG & MIST.

Spring mornings can prove unpredictable and the weather might coerce you to stay snuggled under the covers. But when that sweet golden sunshine is absent, instead of staying in bed grab your macro lens and capture the drama created by the added condensation.

3) WIND CAN BE YOUR FRIEND, TOO.

True, in blowing wind photographing small objects like flowers can prove frustrating, especially that in-and-out focus phenomenon. But, wind can actually work in your favor if you slow your shutter speed. Try it and watch as the flowers before you take on new personas. Yes, surprisingly, blur done well can be beautiful!

4) CREATE YOUR OWN SHADE WHEN HARSH LIGHT ABOUNDS.

The nice part about photographing flowers is they’re small enough to shade easily. That provides the flexibility which allows you to work even in harsh light. While early morning and dusk are still the best times for photography, flowers lend themselves to mid-day photo shoots better than many of nature’s other models.

5) GET ON YOUR SUBJECT’S LEVEL.

Wear your bum-around clothes when photographing flowers so you can get down and dirty to capture the intricate beauty of these beauties. Let yourself be a kid again (so what about those grass stains!) and hunker down to photograph your petaled subjects at their most interesting angles and viewpoints.

6) DON’T PUT YOUR MAIN FLOWER DEAD-CENTER IN THE FRAME.

Remember the rule of thirds? An off-center subject pleases the eye much more than one that’s centered. And don’t forget to apply the rule of thirds to patterns, colors, and empty space as well.

7) TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIPS.

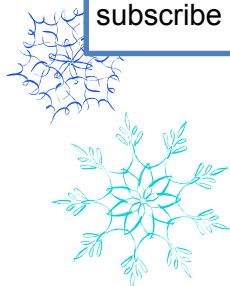
As you get lost in photographing the flora be sure to treat nature’s landscaping gently. To us wildflowers are objects of beauty, but to bees, butterflies, and other animals, flowers provide a means of survival. And the forbs themselves provide a means to perpetuate the species.

Award-winning naturalist photographer, Jeff Parker, leads friendly and informative photo tours and workshops focusing on the flora and fauna of North and Central America. Join him this spring for a fun and educational wildflower photography workshop at the Red Belly Ranch in central-Texas.

To learn more: Call: (512) 378-3355 ~ or ~ Click: <http://jeffparkerimages.com>

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.



This Month's Winning Images

MASTERS				ADVANCED			
Marea Downey	MIRROR LAKE, WYOMING	1st, Bos	15	Jen Carrick	THE ENCOUNTER	1st	15
Larry Petterborg	DANCING WATERS	2nd	15	Jim Spencer	POTTERY	2nd	15
Larry Petterborg	UP UP AND AWAY	3rd	14	Lee Hatfield	STACKED: USAF THUNDERBIRDS	3rd	14
Ernie Tacsik	KENDYL	HM	13	Lee Hatfield	LEONARD'S MILL	HM	13
Marea Downey	STAGECOACH STATION NEAR LARAMIE, WYOMING	HM	14	Marie Hansen	LOVE BIRDS	HM	13
INTERMEDIATE				BEGINNERS			
Carol Barlow	UP, UP AND AWAY	1st	15	Ming Yang	A FACE NARRATING LIFE	1st	15
Sam Wilson	CLOUDS AND MOUNTAINS, NEW MEXICO	2nd	14	Charlie Henkle	NATIVE ALASKAN	2nd	14
Sam Wilson	PATIENTLY WAITING	3rd	13	Bryan Zumbar	KING AND QUEEN	3rd	14
Carol Barlow	HOME ON THE PLAINS 2	HM	12	Charlie Henkle	CASTAWAY CAY	HM	13
Jerry Schlesinger	RURAL SUNSET	HM	13	James Haynes	MEMORIES	HM	13



Ming Yang



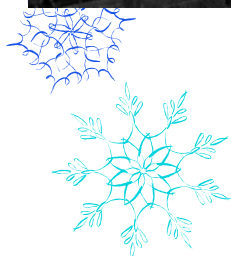
Charlie Henkle



Sam Wilson



Bryan Zumbar



Winter





Carol Barlow



Sam Wilson



Jen Carrick



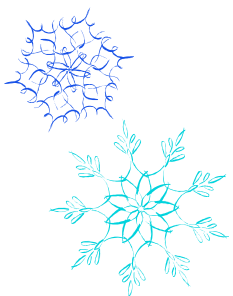
Jim Spencer



Lee Hatfield



Jerry Schlesinger



Winter





MARIE HANSEN



LARRY PETTERBORG



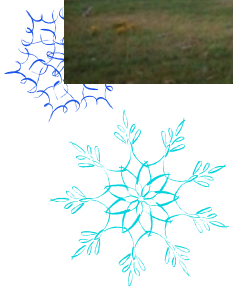
LARRY PETTERBORG



Marea Downey



Ernie Tacsik



Winter

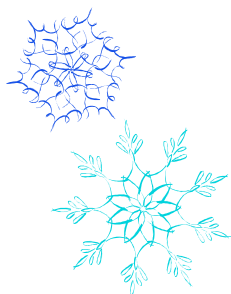


COMPETITION STANDINGS

Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
BEGINNERS			ADVANCED		
Charlie Henkle	9	136	Lee Hatfield	24	145
Wayne Kenter	10	127	Linfen Hwang	13	140
Valerie Johnson	17	117	Jen Carrick	14	135
Linda Lee Bickford	13	117	Marie Hansen	7	141
Bryan Zumbar	3	120	Jim Spencer	9	137
Ming Yang	21	101	Sharlott Hasty	11	133
Ron Lin	18	95	Ming Luh	4	133
Debbie Conard	9	97	Karen Chaney	10	109
Melanie Erwin	6	83	Peter Luh	10	103
Don Huddy	0	83	David Philips	10	88
Cathy Lin	6	72	Stephen Finnerty	6	90
David Allen	0	44	Linda Grigsby	10	82
Leslie Johnston	0	42	Sherri Kidner	0	89
Kurtis Allen	9	29	David Forehand	0	70
Parvin Stiles	0	30	Alan Mann	1	66
Rajiv Karanam	4	26	Ken Morton	0	45
Jesse Flores	0	23	Bud Barlow	0	36
Victor Shung	0	21	Steve Sutton	0	25
Gerald Newman	0	20	Tim Morgan	0	18
Letty Ramos	0	18			
Cheri Soileau	0	16			
James Haynes	1	13			
Terri Kropp	0	14			
Mary Jean Blevins	0	10			
Sherry Jaco	0	9			
Amrit Singh	0	8			
INTERMEDIATE			MASTERS		
Sam Wilson	29	136	Marea Downey	26	151
Carol Barlow	20	136	Larry Petterborg	21	148
Chris Caho	32	104	Ernie Tacsik	14	148
Jerry Schlesinger	14	121	James Stover	20	140
Aimee Wilson	11	118	Dennis Fritsche	15	141
John Lovelace	6	112	Jose Artiles	12	134
Jim Shannon	1	89	Danette Volkmer	3	135
Ronnie Scaggs	0	75	Jamie Hilbig	6	131
Melanie Dyer	3	68	Ron Hasty	0	132
Retha Moulder	0	60	Peter Staxen	1	112
Svatava Strnad	1	24	John Lehman	14	97
Harold Walker	6	12	Lois Lehman	0	106
Joe Sullivan	0	18	Russell McGuire	0	66

COMPETITION TOPIC

Jan. 2013	Delicate	May	Vanishing Point
Feb.	Open	June	Open
March	Prints - Close-Up	July	Solitude
April	Open	August	Open



Winter





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Happy New Year!

Can you believe its 2013, well into the second decade of the "new" century? I don't usually make New Year's resolutions, but I have done a few things to improve my photography in the coming year. One was to go on a photo workshop to Zion National Park. Even though, that was November, I will be applying the things I learned there in the coming months. Two, join PSA, which offers study groups, critiquing of my photos, tutorials, contests, and other ways to challenge my abilities. Three (and this is a resolution), organize my photos and back them up.

With technology changing so quickly, it is imperative that prints, negatives, slides, and digital images be backed up to as current a technology as possible preferably online or in the cloud, but at least in a separate location from your main storage. Join me in resolving to safeguard those precious

images and let's share tips and lessons learned.

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

