



The FLASH!

March 2013

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



BEST IN SHOW: *BIRTHDAY LILY* - BY VALERIE JOHNSON

It was an extra special birthday when I received a bouquet of flowers and a macro lens from my husband! Being at home sick created a timely opportunity—no delay in getting to know my new lens!

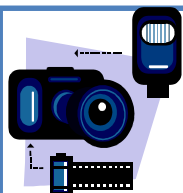
Using window light, I got to work. Set up my tripod, popped in my cable release, and switched image stabilization off (not all agree it's necessary). I used auto focus, but have since decided manual focus works well for macro. Before, I assumed that the largest possible aperture was desirable for macro photography, but quickly learned that some things (like this lily) look better with a larger depth of field. (It can be hard to tell what your subject is if it's mostly blurry!)

Shot with a Canon 100mm macro; f16, .7 second, ISO 200. Post processing done in Aperture and NIK SilverEffex.

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Upcoming Club Activities

March 23, 2013 9:30 – 12:30 – *Fundamentals Workshop*: Arbor Hills Nature Preserve. This workshop will emphasize basic photographic skills such as exposure, lighting, and composition. Learn how to take your camera off automatic and unleash your creative skills. See below for details.

March 23, 2013– *Big Shot Project*: Cowboy's Stadium. Be a part of a huge paint by light photo shoot. Details at www.rit.edu/bigshot or www.facebook.com/RITBigShot.

March 25, 2013, 6:15 – *Snapshots!* “Flash in a Flash” - John Lehman will talk about the basics of using a flash both on and off your camera. He will discuss the ways in which aperture, shutter speed, and ISO work together to get you what you want both indoors and out. For example, shutter speed has virtually no effect on the flash as long as you are within the limits of your camera. He'll also talk about simple, inexpensive flash modifiers that will help you get more pleasing pictures. If you have been wondering what to do with that flash, or are considering buying a speedlight for your camera, this should help.

April 13, 2013 – *Ennis Bluebonnet Trails*: Look for details later. In case the Bluebonnets are late, we may delay one week.

April 22, 2013, 6:15 – *Snapshots!* “Flower Power” - Larry Petterborg. Just when you think there is nothing left to photograph, you can always turn your lens on a flower. Flowers are readily available any time of the day and year. If you can't find any outside, you can easily obtain them from your local market. If the weather is too rough to shoot outdoors, you can stay warm and toasty making flower portraits in your kitchen. During this session, we will go over basic equipment and techniques for making flower photos.

April 25-28, 2013 – *GSCCC Convention*. The Jackson Photographic Society (MS) is hosting this year's convention. There is still plenty of hotel space, so book while you can take advantage of the special rate. See GSConvention2013.com or contact Jack Hourguettes: coljack1220@gmail.com.

June 8, 2013 – *End of Year Party*: Setup 5:30. Dinner at 6:00.

March Speaker – *Capturing the Details of Nature* – Kim Ritzenthaler

My earliest memory of falling in love with nature was when I smelled the hyacinths in my mother's garden as a child. That aroma is what I think is heaven on earth.

I earned a degree in photography from East Texas State University, and enjoyed every day of my eleven years as a photojournalist with The Dallas Morning News. I left the newspaper in 2004 when I had my first child, and currently work as a freelance photographer in Dallas.

Twelve years ago I purchased a macro lens and found my passion...capturing the amazing and intricate details found in nature. There are universes between blades of grass, under leaves and in the shadows of rocks and trees. Nature's beauty seems more alive through that lens, and teaches that life is in the details. My camera looks into worlds that are seldom noticed, even though they are right before our eyes. No need to travel to far-away lands to discover the wondrous beauty of the earth...my mission is to search out and capture extraordinary details of the natural world in urban environments.



Fundamentals Workshop

The Fundamentals Workshop is your opportunity to ask questions about camera controls and the creative use of these controls to take your photography to the next level. Fellow club members will be available in small group or one-on-one settings to share their expertise and knowledge.

Bring your camera, instruction manual, tripod, and questions. Also feel free to bring an image for suggested improvement or critique. The aim of this workshop is to, "Get it right in the camera," rather than relying on post-production techniques.

Small groups will be formed around camera systems (Canon, Nikon, Other) or type (compact, mirrorless, phone) for discussion of the various operational elements: ISO, aperture, shutter speed, focus, white balance, histograms, focal length, sensor size, etc. You may then take photos at the park for practice and feedback at any of the following stations: Creative Use of Aperture or Shutter Speed, Composition, and Lighting.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 23, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm at Arbor Hills Nature Preserve, 6701 West Parker Road in Plano. We'll be at the pavilion with restrooms nearby.

This Month's Winning Images - Delicate

MASTERS				ADVANCED			
Marea Downey	TENDRILS AGAINST THE SKY	1st	15	Jim Spencer	ORCHID	1st	15
Jose Artiles	BROKEN WINGS	2nd	14	Linfen Hwang	INTOXICATED WITH THE DANCE	2nd	14
John Lehman	FATHER'S KISS	3rd	14	Sharlott Hasty	BUTTERFLY ON LEAF	3rd	13
Ron Hasty	RED-EYED FROG	HM	13	Karen Chaney	BUGCAM	HM	13
Jose Artiles	DANDELION WITH MULTICOLORED BACKGROUND	HM	12	David Philips	NEW ZEALAND FERN	HM	12
Marea Downey	AURORA BOREALIS, SWEDEN	HM	12				
INTERMEDIATE				BEGINNERS			
Barbara Pena	PRECIOUS MOMENT	1st	15	Valerie Johnson	BIRTHDAY LILY	1st,BoS	15
Joe Sullivan	YELLOW ROSE	2nd	14	Valerie Johnson	EASTER TULIP	2nd	14
Jim Shannon	DELICATE FLOWER AND ROSES	3rd	13	Cathy Lin	PLAY IN THE GARDEN	3rd	13
Brian Prestemon	BRIGHT IDEAS	HM	12	Ron Lin	WATER LILIES	HM	13
				Bryan Zumbar	SEEDS	HM	12
				Ron Lin	BUTTERFLY	HM	12





Valerie Johnson



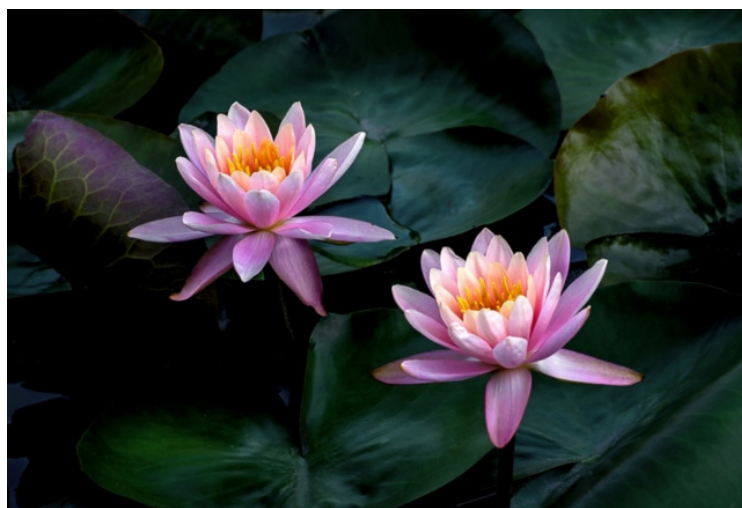
Cathy Lin



Bryan Zumbar



Barbara Pena



Ron Lin





Ron Lin



Jim Shannon



Joe Sullivan



Brian Prestemon



Linfen Hwang



Jim Spencer





KAREN CHANEY



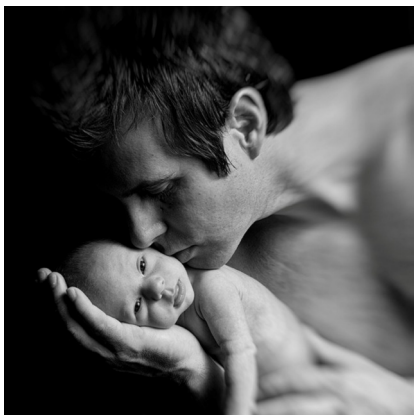
SHARLOTT HASTY



Jose Artiles



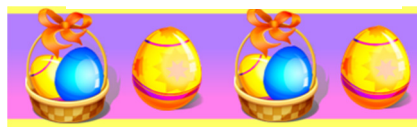
MAREA DOWNEY



John Lehman



Ron Hasty



COMPETITION STANDINGS

Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
BEGINNERS			ADVANCED		
Valerie Johnson	50	170	Lee Hatfield	25	189
Charlie Henkle	12	175	Linfen Hwang	19	188
Wayne Kenter	10	172	Jim Spencer	19	184
Linda Lee Bickford	13	154	Jen Carrick	14	176
Bryan Zumbar	4	159	Marie Hansen	7	182
Ron Lin	21	141	Sharlott Hasty	14	174
Debbie Conard	9	133	Ming Luh	7	178
Melanie Erwin	7	126	Karen Chaney	17	153
Ming Yang	21	101	Peter Luh	10	137
Cathy Lin	9	96	Stephen Finnerty	6	130
Don Huddy	0	83	Linda Grigsby	10	123
Leslie Johnston	0	67	David Philips	11	109
Parvin Stiles	0	46	Sherri Kidner	1	111
David Allen	0	44	David Forehand	0	70
Kurtis Allen	9	29	Alan Mann	1	66
James Haynes	1	35	Bud Barlow	0	56
Rajiv Karanam	4	26	Tim Morgan	11	43
Jesse Flores	0	23	Ken Morton	0	45
Victor Shung	0	21	Steve Sutton	0	25
Gerald Newman	0	20			
Letty Ramos	0	18			
Cheri Soileau	0	16			
Terri Kropp	0	14			
James Walsh	0	12			
Lou Warren	0	12			
Mary Jean Blevins	0	10			
Sherry Jaco	0	9			
Amrit Singh	0	8			
INTERMEDIATE			MASTERS		
Sam Wilson	29	176	Marea Downey	46	204
Carol Barlow	20	178	Larry Petterborg	21	191
Jerry Schlesinger	14	163	Dennis Fritsche	16	186
Aimee Wilson	17	159	Jose Artiles	18	184
John Lovelace	9	150	Ernie Tacsik	14	186
Chris Caho	32	124	James Stover	20	177
Jim Shannon	14	135	Ron Hasty	1	181
Ronnie Scaggs	0	93	Danette Volkmer	4	174
Melanie Dyer	3	68	Jamie Hilbig	6	169
Retha Moulder	0	60	John Lehman	17	140
Joe Sullivan	6	42	Lois Lehman	10	139
Brian Prestemon	2	44	Peter Staxen	1	148
Svatava Strnad	1	24	Russell McGuire	0	66
Sathish Iyer	0	22			
Harold Walker	6	12			

COMPETITION TOPIC

March	Prints - Close-Up	June	Open
April	Open	July	Solitude
May	Vanishing Point	August	Open





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: PPC Needs YOU to...!

During this year of being president, I have gotten to know many of you better and have made new friends in the club. I've been privileged to hear words of praise about our club by speakers and members alike. The Plano Photography Club (PPC) is larger than most photo clubs and provides so many advantages for learning, improving, and networking. Of course, the club doesn't run itself; we depend on volunteers and we have some great ones. However, some of our volunteers must step down for the coming year, and we need YOU keep the club a fun, friendly organization for learning, growing, and sharing our art.

If you have any interest in volunteering, contact me at

ppc@planophotographyclub.com.

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

