



The FLASH!

July 2013

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



BEST IN SHOW: *PARK & RIDE* - BY DON CHAMPLIN

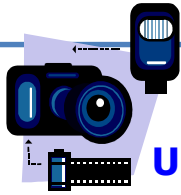
This image was captured about an hour after sunset at the Park & Ride parking lot below George Bush Tollway at Ave K. I had scouted the location previously because it looked to have some potential and took several handheld shots from various locations looking for the best perspective with a 24-70mm lens. Most did not amount to much but this viewpoint had some interest.

I returned the next week on Sunday afternoon, the only time when it is free of cars in the lot, and took some shots with a 14mm lens on a tripod, which worked well. I post processed in black & white in order to enhance the sky and clouds. I knew it could be a better image and one Sunday night I went back at dusk and shot it again with a 17mm T/S lens to straighten up the lines and correct distortion. I lucked out and had the moon and Venus centered between the overpasses the day I took this image. I still think some improvement can be had by shooting earlier with a little brighter sky to bring the blue up and also move the camera back some to include some signs.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Best in Show | 1 |
| Activities | 2 |
| Guest Speaker | 2 |
| GSCCC Competition | 2 |
| Winning Images from Competition | 3 |
| Competition Topics | 6 |
| Competition Standings | 7 |
| President's Message | 8 |
| About the Club | 8 |





Upcoming Club Activities

July 13 - August 2, 2013 – *On the Road Again*. See an exhibit of photographs by Ed Auger, Ron Marabito, Sarah Scott and Carol Stum at the Manske Library 13613 Webb Chapel Road, Farmers Branch.

August 3, 2013, 2:00 – 5:00 – *Tabletop Workshop*: The workshop uses setups that can be contained on a table or similar small area to challenge your photographic skills. It includes Still Life, water drops, black light and other interesting techniques and will be held in the Education Building of Grace Presbyterian Church.

August 16, 2013 – *Highland Village Balloon Festival*

September 15-21, 2013 – *PSA Annual Conference*. Registration is now open for the PSA Annual Conference in Maine, September 15 to 21. Go to www.psa-photo.org, click on Conference, then Overview to see videos from the past few conferences. Contact Jen Carrick if you have questions

August 26 - October 7, 2013 – *Photo Exhibit at The Plano Centre*. If you want to participate or help, contact Valerie at exhibits@planophotographyclub.com. She will send you details.

September 20-22, 2013 – *Plano Balloon Festival*

October 5, 2013 – *Dallas Heritage Village*

Guest Speaker – *Composition, Creativity, and Constructed Images* – Priscilla Derr Killion

My photography involves both creating and recording an image. The composition may begin with an idea, an object, or simply an experiment with some design element or technique. However, I am always interested in “things” - how we perceive the objects around us and the memories or meanings we attach to them.

I bought my first camera after earning my second college degree. First degree was in business (finance), the second in Visual Art. I intended to use that camera as a “sketch pad.” The objects, scenes, or whatever I photographed were to be re-composed into painted artworks. However, new ideas for compositions kept coming faster than I could paint. So, I began putting together complete setups with the photograph as a final product. And instead of buying expensive studio gear, I usually built my own equipment or used items from the hardware store. Although I can now create many effects or setups with Photoshop, I still enjoy the challenge of building a complete composition in front of the camera lens.

At the Plano Photography Club Tabletop Workshops, I have shared some of my special effects setups. I assembled some setups into Technique Boxes with diagrams, instructions, and equipment. These boxes can be borrowed by members to create their own compositions. Because, as many fine artists (and photographers) already know, tabletop setups are excellent exercise for improving skills with camera, composition, creativity ... and getting a beautiful final image.



Gulf States Camera Club Council End-of-Year Competition

PPC has done very well in the GSCCC competitions in each of the last four months:

April's Year-End Competition; PPC placed in all three of the categories in which we competed during 2012-13. For the year, PPC earned: 1st Place overall in Pictorial; 2nd Place overall in PJ and 3rd Place overall in Nature.

March Pictorial Contest: 2nd Place, 12 points, Dennis Fritsche's "Sunrise in Monument Valley."

May Nature Contest: 3rd Place, 12 points, Lee Hatfield's "Vigilant".

June PJ Contest: 3rd Place, 15 points, John Paul Douglas' "Fighting Fire".

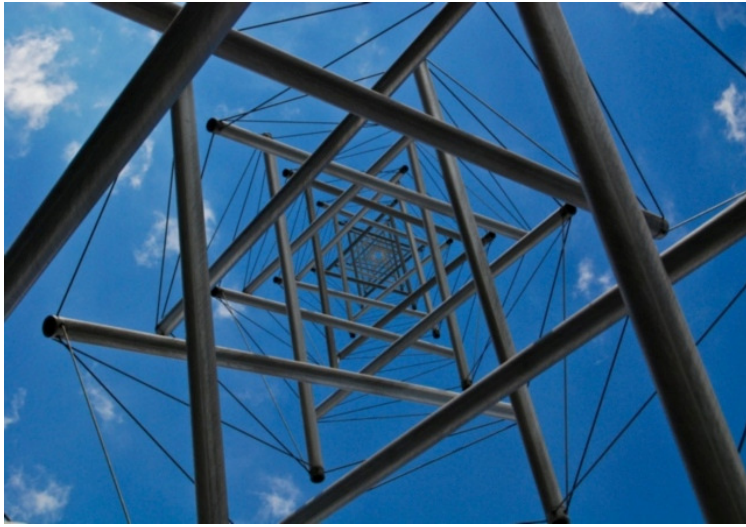
June Pictorial Contest: 1st Place, 15 points, Ron Lin's "Water Lilies", 2nd Place, 14 points, Ernie Tacsik's "Economic Pressure", 1st HM, 14 points, Lois Lehman's "Lady With a Fan".

Congratulations to PPC and congrats and "thank you" to all the photographers whose fine work has resulted in personal and club recognition!

GSCCC Representative - Danette Volkmer

May's Winning Images – Vanishing Point

| MASTERS | | | | ADVANCED | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|----|-------------------|---|-----|----|
| Danette Volkmer | TUNNEL VISION | 1st | 15 | Linda Grigsby | SCULPTURE IN RICHARDSON | 1st | 15 |
| Lois Lehman | THE POPPIES GO ON AND ON | 2nd | 14 | Jim Shannon | LOOKING BACK | 2nd | 14 |
| Ron Hasty | IN THE CATHEDRAL | 3rd | 13 | Ming Luh | GOLDEN VIEW | 3rd | 14 |
| Jose Artiles | VANISHING GLASSES | HM | 12 | Marie Hansen | BALLEYS TUNNEL, LAS VEGAS | HM | 13 |
| Lee Hatfield | CANAL OF CADDO | HM | 12 | Steve Sutton | UNDER THE PIER | HM | 13 |
| INTERMEDIATE | | | | BEGINNERS | | | |
| Don Champlin | PARK & RIDE | 1 st , BoS | 15 | Robin DeRouen | HEAVEN BOUND | 1st | 15 |
| Charlie Henkle | AMSTERDAM CANAL | 2nd | 14 | Mary Jean Blevins | BOAT BUOYS | 2nd | 13 |
| Chris Caho | UNDERNEATH | 3rd | 13 | James Walsh | BRIDGE TO NOWHERE (OR IS IT OKLAHOMA?) | 3rd | 12 |
| Brian Prestemon | WALKING THE TRACKS | HM | 12 | Debbie Conard | STAY BETWEEN THE LINES | HM | 11 |
| James Haynes | SERENITY | HM | 12 | | | | |



Robin DeRouen



Mary Jean Blevins



James Walsh



Chris Caho



Debbie Conard

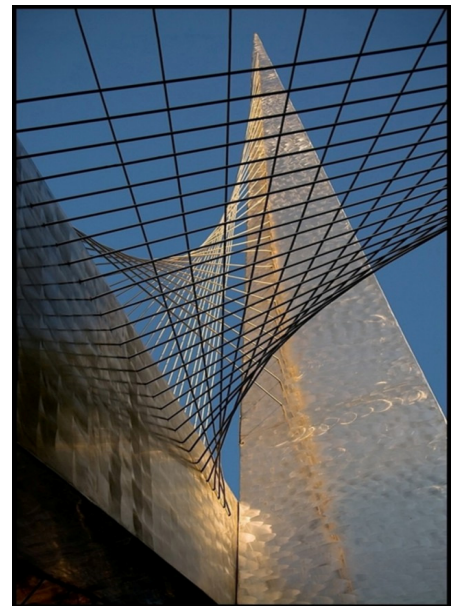


Charlie Henkle

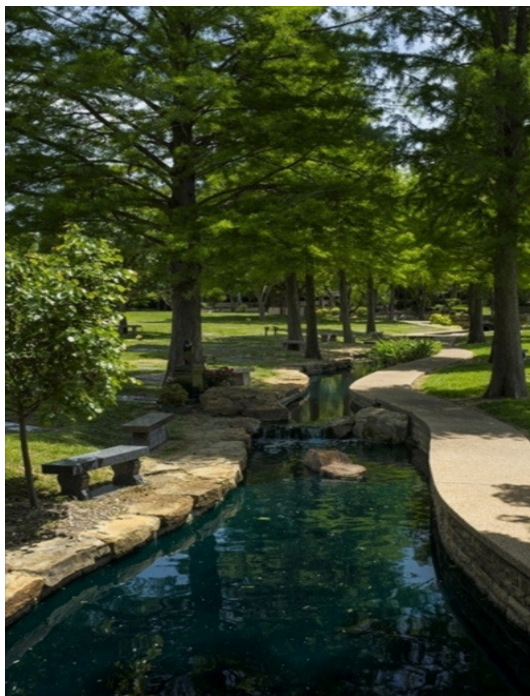




Brian Prestemon



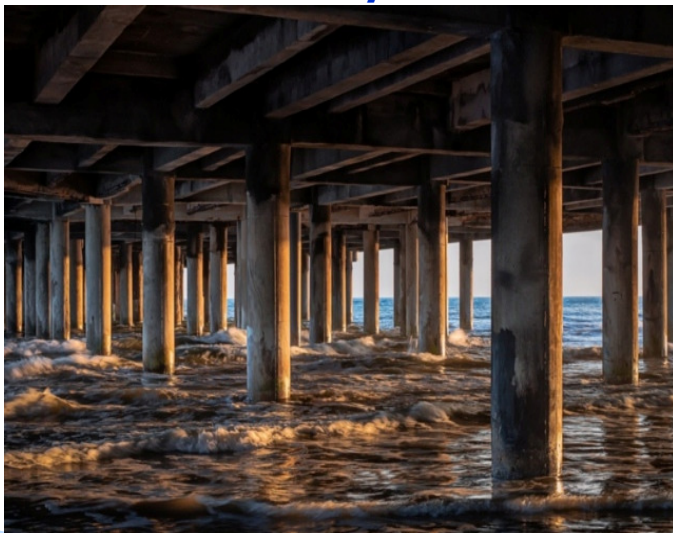
Linda Grigsby



James Haynes



Marie Hansen



Steve Sutton



MING LUH





JIM SHANNON



LOIS LEHMAN



JOSE ARTILES



LEE HATFIELD



DANETTE VOLKMER



RON HASTY



| COMPETITION TOPIC | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|----------|------------------------|--------|---------------|
| July | Solitude | January | PJ: Found in the City | May | S-Curve |
| August | Open | February | Open | June | Open |
| September | Take Five | March | Parts is Parts (Print) | July | Up in the Air |
| October | Open (Print) | April | Open | August | Open |
| November | Stop Motion | | | | |

| COMPETITION STANDINGS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Photographer | Cumulative Place Points | Cumulative Judges' Points | Photographer | Cumulative Place Points | Cumulative Judges' Points |
| BEGINNERS | | | ADVANCED | | |
| Robin DeRouen | 10 | 15 | Linda Grigsby | 10 | 15 |
| Mary Jean Blevins | 6 | 13 | Jim Shannon | 6 | 14 |
| James Walsh | 3 | 12 | Ming Luh | 3 | 14 |
| Debbie Conard | 1 | 11 | Marie Hansen | 1 | 13 |
| Leslie Johnston | 0 | 10 | Steve Sutton | 1 | 13 |
| Lou Warren | 0 | 9 | Jim Spencer | 0 | 12 |
| | | | Karen Chaney | 0 | 12 |
| | | | Peter Luh | 0 | 12 |
| | | | Jerry Schlesinger | 0 | 11 |
| | | | Ken Morton | 0 | 11 |
| | | | Sam Wilson | 0 | 11 |
| | | | Bud Barlow | 0 | 10 |
| | | | Carol Barlow | 0 | 10 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| INTERMEDIATE | | | MASTERS | | |
| Don Champlin | 11 | 15 | Danette Volkmer | 10 | 15 |
| Charlie Henkle | 6 | 14 | Lois Lehman | 6 | 14 |
| Chris Caho | 3 | 13 | Ron Hasty | 3 | 13 |
| Brian Prestemon | 1 | 12 | Lee Hatfield | 1 | 12 |
| James Haynes | 1 | 12 | Jose Artiles | 0 | 12 |
| Steve Carter | 0 | 11 | Ernie Tacsik | 0 | 11 |
| Valerie Johnson | 0 | 11 | Jen Carrick | 0 | 11 |
| Jesse Flores | 0 | 10 | Larry Petterborg | 0 | 11 |
| Brad Sharp | 0 | 9 | Marea Downey | 0 | 11 |
| Bryan Zumbar | 0 | 9 | Sharlott Hasty | 0 | 11 |
| Parvin Stiles | 0 | 8 | Dennis Fritsche | 0 | 10 |
| Wayne Kenter | 0 | 8 | Peter Staxen | 0 | 10 |
| | | | James Stover | 0 | 9 |
| | | | John Lehman | 0 | 9 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Taking Travel Photos without Traveling (too far)

Like so many of you, I love to travel and take pictures. Whenever I am in a beautiful or interesting place, there are usually galleries with amazing images of the location, and I become discouraged that I cannot capture those scenes. Of course, these images are but a small minority of the hundreds the artist has taken over many years or visits.

Although I am a proud Texan, I have to admit north Texas is not the most photogenic locale. However, it is the place I can tour most easily to capture its essence in different lighting, weather, and experiences like the photographers in exotic places. Our club activities and photos have introduced me to unique sites or forced me to look at the familiar in a new way. I'm trying to look at the Metroplex as a destination. If you have a place nearby you like to photograph, share it with the club and maybe even take a group to enjoy it with you. Send your thoughts to activity@planophotographyclub.com.

Carol Barlow.

| PLANO PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB OFFICERS | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| TITLE | OFFICER | EMAIL ADDRESS |
| President | CAROL BARLOW | ppc@planophotographyclub.com |
| Programs | SHARLOTT HASTY | programs@planophotographyclub.com |
| Activities | MARIE HANSEN / SHERRY JACO | activity@planophotographyclub.com |
| Secretary / Membership | ROBIN DEROUEN | membership@planophotographyclub.com |
| Treasurer | PETER STAXEN | treasurer@planophotographyclub.com |
| Contests | JIM WALSH | contest@planophotographyclub.com |
| Contest Site Administrator | JERRY SCHLESINGER | 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 |
| Newsletter Editor | JAMES STOVER | newsletter@planophotographyclub.com |
| Webmaster | SAM WILSON | webmaster@planophotographyclub.com |
| Exhibits | VALERIE JOHNSON | exhibits@planophotographyclub.com |
| Model Shoot Coordinator | KEN GUTHRIE | modeling@planophotographyclub.com |
| Calibration Equip | SHERRI KIDNER | calibrate@planophotographyclub.com |
| Tabletop Equipment | CINDY VAILLANCOURT | table_top@planophotographyclub.com |
| Training | MAREA DOWNEY/JOHN LEHMAN | training@planophotographyclub.com |

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

8

EDITOR