



The FLASH!

October 2013

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



BEST IN SHOW: *SPLASH-N-DASH* - BY DON CHAMPLIN

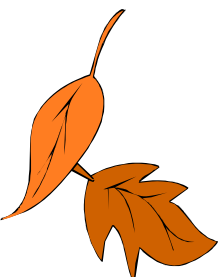
Practice, Practice:

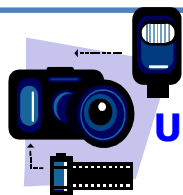
I have to take images with what I have available to build my skills with my camera. This shot was made at a nearby creek which has large trees to shade the water. Enlisting my wife to throw sticks across the creek so our dog could run where I wanted, I made a series of shots with the dog running and splashing as much as possible. This was my 3rd or fourth visit to the site learning how to get action shots, what f-stop, shutter speed and autofocus setting combination works best. Even with the best autofocus getting a perfectly focused capture and stopping action is challenging. There is a balance of wanting a shallow depth of field to blur the background and deep enough to get as much of the dog in focus as possible. At F2.8 it's nearly impossible to get the focus locked on the all-important eyes so f4 – f5.6 is usually better. I shot around 400 images on high-speed continuous shutter release. Several of the shots that day came out very good. It is very satisfying to sort through all the images and find one where it all comes together. The skills practiced should be invaluable in a sports or wildlife setting in the future.

Canon 1DX, 1/1600sec, F3.2, ISO 1600, 200mm (70-200mm 2.8L)

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Upcoming Club Activities

October 26, 2013 – *A Day in the Life of Bonham, Texas* - Bonham is a town of about 10,000 people located less than 60 miles northeast of Plano on Highway 121. It is the Seat of Fannin County. Bonham was named after James Butler Bonham, a South Carolinian, who died while fighting against Santa Ana's Army at the Alamo. Today, the city of Bonham may be best known as the home of the late Texas Congressman and Speaker of the House, Sam Rayburn. See below for details.

October 28, 2013, 6:15 – *Snapshots!* "Making Greeting Cards from Your Images" - Jose Artiles

November 25, 2013, 6:15 – *Snapshots!* "Producing a Portrait" - John Lehman. See below for details.

December 7, 2013 – *Holiday Party and Christmas Lights Shoot*. See below for details.

Guest Speaker – *Panel Discussion* – PPC Master Photographers

The October PPC program will consist of an evening of personal photographic projects presented by club members Dennis Fritsche, Bud Mallar, Lois Lehman, John Lehman, Russell McGuire, and Larry Petterborg. Each presentation will run about 10 minutes and the participants will talk about what they did, why they did it, and what they learned from the experience.

Evolution of a Project by Dennis Fritsche: Dennis will share how his "Water Dreams" project started and how it has been developing over a period of four years. Dennis will also share some thoughts from a recent seminar he attended on the subject of "Projects".

In our Backyards by John and Lois Lehman and Russell McGuire: At a recent PPC meeting, there was a request to the attendees to indicate how many of the members were from Plano. It looked like at least 2/3rds of those at that meeting were from neighboring cities. This prompted John, Lois, and Russell to plan to shoot the downtown areas of some of the neighboring cities. The concept was to make two circuits of the downtown areas - each circuit using a significantly different focal length lens. The project started with Carrollton, then Frisco and McKinney.

Photographing Musical Performers by Bud Mallar: Photographing musicians is extremely challenging. They don't stay still, the venues can range from tiny to huge and are always dark. Harsh lighting consists of floods, tungsten, fluorescent, party lights, XMAS decorations and/or candles. You can't get close to them without becoming part of the show. They don't allow tripods or flash. But, it might be easier than you think. And it is fun.

The Seasons of Restland Cemetery by Larry Petterborg: In an attempt to learn how to operate a new camera, Larry took it on long walks in a nearby cemetery. What started as a simple exercise in using a camera turned into a nearly year-long project documenting the seasonal changes in grave decorations in Restland cemetery. Each month is different and very interesting.

GSCCC Winner

Ron Hasty's image "Cold and Alone", submitted as part of PPC's entry into the GSCCC September Nature Projected Digital Competition, won 2nd Place!

Congratulations Ron!

Producing a Portrait

John Lehman will take an image from the recent PPC Model Shoot and show how it goes from being downloaded into Lightroom through the selection process, basic editing, then into Photoshop for further touch up and editing and on to being a finished portrait that can go onto the web or be printed. He will also introduce you to Nik plug-ins including Color Efex 4 and Silver Efex 2, which can be used within Lightroom or Photoshop to further enhance the image. John focuses most of his photography on people. His flickr site has had over a million views. His website is <http://thewizardofpixels.com>.

Watch for: Producing a Landscape Image and Producing a Still Life/Macro image to come in 2014.

Annual Christmas Party

Our Annual Holiday Party is Saturday, December 7, in our regular meeting room. Setup is 5:30 PM with dinner at 6. Please bring an appetizer, vegetable or dessert as well as a short slideshow on a Flash drive or CD. Sign up at the November meeting. The club will provide meat, drinks and utensils.

After the traditional slideshows presented by members, John & Lois Lehman will give a short presentation on how to make great holiday family portraits.

A Day in the Life of Bonham, Texas

Saturday, October 26, members of the Plano Photography Club will trek to Bonham to document life in a small town in photographs. This new club activity will combine elements of documentary photojournalism and a scavenger hunt. The inspiration for this outing has its roots way back in 1986 when a group 200 photojournalists fanned out across the US to record "the life of a nation on film on a single day." The resulting book spawned many similar volumes from locations around the world. The basic idea is to go to a new town and explore it thoroughly. Work with your camera to record images of the people, activities, buildings, history, and culture of the place. And, do it all in just one day. Think of it as a creative adventure.

The day begins early (around 7 am) with the 27th annual Autumn in Bonham Bike Rally. This might be an opportunity to get that winning shot for the November "STOP MOTION" contest. When you have had enough of bicycles and rural roads, head in to Bonham and see what you can find. We suggest the Sam Rayburn Museum, the Sam Rayburn House Museum, a walking tour of the Willow Wild Cemetery (where Mr. Rayburn is buried), the Creative Arts Center, the Fannin County Museum of History, the Fort English Village, and the Homestead Winery. We have arranged access to the First Presbyterian Church at 11:00 to shoot the stained glass windows. For lunch, we can all meet up at Cappy's Cafe around 12:30 pm. If this isn't enough, there are about 50 large quilts painted on the sides of barns throughout the area, a Country Music Hoe Down at 7:30 pm, and a haunted house that opens at 8 pm at the Creative Arts Center.

August's Winning Images – Open

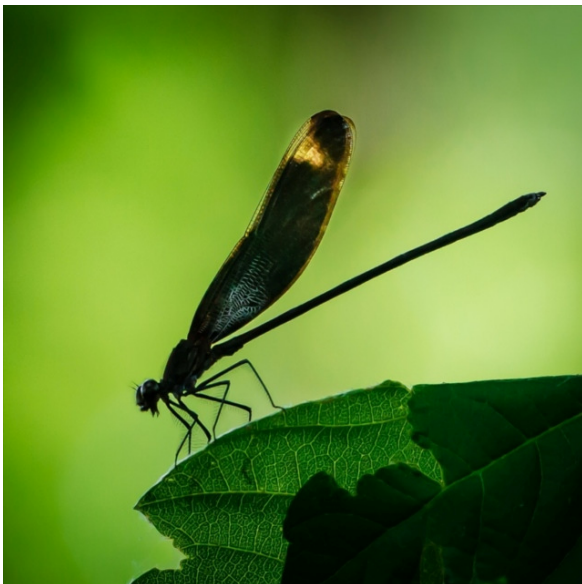
MASTERS				ADVANCED			
Ernie Tacsik	Attitude	1st	14	Peter Luh	A Pacific Moment	1st	14
Lois Lehman	Calvary Life	2nd	13	Bud Barlow	Mask	2nd	13
Larry Petterborg	Bryce Sunrise	3rd	12	Marie Hansen	Starry Night	3rd	12
James Stover	Splash	HM	12	Aimee Wilson	Maine Fresh Fish	HM	12
Dennis Fritsche	Trona Pinnacles at Sunset	HM	11	Jim Shannon	Kitten	HM	12
INTERMEDIATE				BEGINNERS			
Don Champlin	Splash-N-Dash	1st,BoS	15	Leslie Johnston	Waiting to Ride	1st	14
Chris Caho	Make my day.	2nd	14	Cathy Lin	Reflection	2nd	13
Sevy Strnad	Beauty of Monarch	3rd	13	James Walsh	My Green Heaven	3rd	12
Ming Yang	The Journey	HM	12	Vijayakumar Balasundaram	Fresh Honey	HM	11
Ron Lin	Lotus Flower	HM	12				



Leslie Johnston



Cathy Lin



James Walsh



Vijayakumar Balasundaram



Sevy Strnad



Chris Caho



Ron Lin



Ming Yang



Peter Luh



Aimee Wilson



Bud Barlow



Ernie Tacsik



Larry Petterborg



Lois Lehman



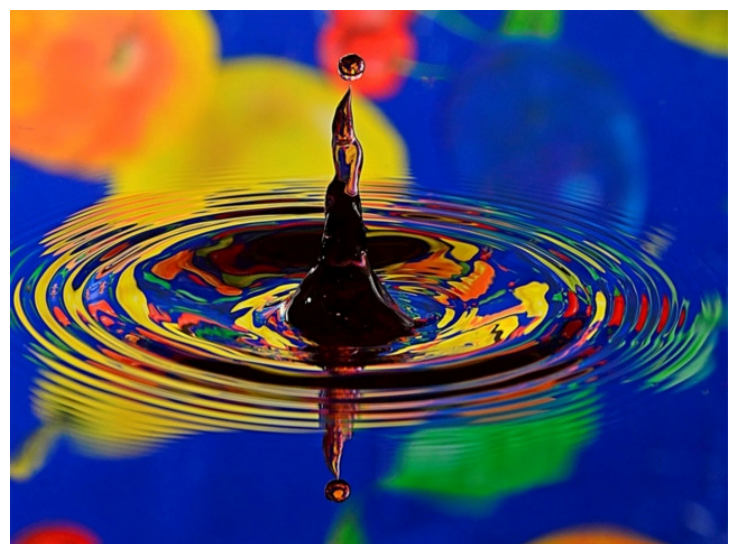
Dennis Fritsche



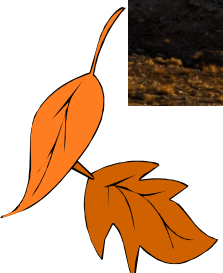
Marie Hansen



Jim Shannon



James Stover



<i>COMPETITION TOPIC</i>					
November	Stop Motion	March	Parts is Parts (Print)	June	Open
January	PJ: Found in the City	April	Open	July	Up in the Air
February	Open	May	S-Curve	August	Open

<i>COMPETITION STANDINGS</i>					
Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
<i>BEGINNERS</i>			<i>ADVANCED</i>		
Robin DeRouen	16	49	Jim Spencer	16	49
James Walsh	9	46	Marie Hansen	14	49
Leslie Johnston	10	45	Linda Grigsby	13	48
Debbie Conard	11	43	Peter Luh	10	50
Cathy Lin	6	32	Bud Barlow	7	46
Vijayakumar Balasundaram	4	32	Sam Wilson	4	47
John Paul Douglas	10	23	Ming Luh	3	47
Mary Jean Blevins	6	24	Jerry Schlesinger	1	44
Bruce Barlow	6	23	Jim Shannon	7	38
Lou Warren	0	9	Karen Chaney	0	43
			Aimee Wilson	7	36
			Carol Barlow	0	40
			Steve Sutton	1	35
			Linfen Hwang	0	35
			Ken Morton	0	23
<i>INTERMEDIATE</i>			<i>MASTERS</i>		
Don Champlin	38	58	Danette Volkmer	21	53
Chris Caho	13	52	Ernie Tacsik	13	50
Charlie Henkle	9	50	Lois Lehman	12	49
Valerie Johnson	6	46	Ron Hasty	14	47
Ron Lin	11	37	Dennis Fritsche	7	45
James Haynes	2	44	Lee Hatfield	7	45
Wayne Kenter	0	42	Larry Petterborg	3	48
Bryan Zumbar	0	40	Jose Artiles	4	47
Parvin Stiles	0	38	Marea Downey	2	48
Brad Sharp	0	30	James Stover	2	44
Jesse Flores	0	30	Jen Carrick	0	45
Melanie Dyer	0	28	John Lehman	0	44
Steve Carter	1	24	Sharlott Hasty	0	43
Brian Prestemon	1	22	Peter Staxen	0	42
Michael Losurdo Jr	0	21			
Ming Yang	1	20			
Joe Sullivan	0	20			
Ronnie Scaggs	0	19			
Sevy Strnad	3	13			
Retha Moulder	0	9			
Sudheer Vijayakumar	0	8			

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: PPC WEBSITE



I hope you make a habit of checking our award-winning web site regularly. You can find the latest information about our club meetings, events, and contests as well as presentations from speakers (at their discretion) and club workshops. Of course, the first place photos each month appear on the sidebars. But, dig down deeper and you'll find member web sites, photo ops in our area, and links to our speakers' sites. In addition, our Facebook page lists items of interest.

My thanks to Sam Wilson who maintains our internet presence and congratulations for winning 2nd place in the PSA website contest.

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

