



# The FLASH!

January 2014

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

[www.planophotographyclub.com](http://www.planophotographyclub.com)



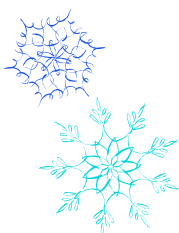
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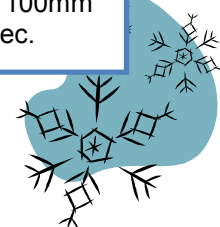
### BEST IN SHOW: *DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS* - BY ERNIE TACSIK

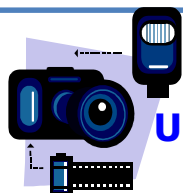
This image is my attempt at capturing a genuine expression of *Día de los Muertos* (*The Day of the Dead*), its emotion, symbolism and intrigue. MANY thanks for the collaborative efforts of models Heather Ann and daughter Emma, artist Javier (who also opened his VATO LOCO Tattoo studio for the shoot), and wardrobe fashionista Aimee Wilson. "Once observed mainly by people of Mexican heritage, Day of the Dead, ... a venerable and quirky holiday that honors the departed with a blend of Aztec and Christian elements, is getting new life in the U.S. among a mainstream audience" (WSJ, 31OCT13). I'd encourage everyone to explore the MANY traditional and eclectic celebrations across DFW.

Shadowy lighting from 3 strobes: gridded Mola beauty dish above & camera right (main), small softbox low camera left (fill), gridded spot far rear camera right (hair). Canon 5Dm2, 100mm f/2.8L Macro IS, ISO 200, f/5.6, 1/500sec.



Winter





## Upcoming Club Activities

**January 27, 2014, 6:15 – *Snapshots!*** “Producing a Creative Photo” ---Bud Barlow. If you saw his Best of Show "Take Five" you know what Bud Barlow can do with some great photos and Photoshop. Bud will share the steps for creating a unique composition where he merges images together to create wonderfully unique photos.

**February 15, 2014, 10:00 - 1:00 – *Flash FUNdamentals Workshop.*** See below for details.

**February 24, 2014, 6:15 – *Snapshots!*** “Producing a Landscape” --- Dan Leffel. Dan is well known in our club (and beyond) for his amazing landscape photography. He will take us through his workflow from bringing the image into the computer, through the enhancement process and to completion ready for the web or printing.

## Guest Speaker – *Photographing Severe Weather: Staying Alive and Capturing Great Images – Mike Mezeul II*

Mike Mezeul II is a professional photographer based out of Allen, Texas. He has spent much of his career as a photographer capturing images for numerous publications and clients around Texas. His subject matter focuses primarily on advertising, lifestyle, professional sports and concerts.

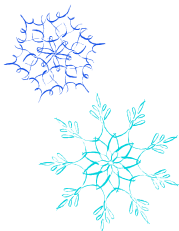
However, during the months of March through July, Mike finds himself traversing Tornado Alley in search of capturing the beauty and power of the severe thunderstorms which wreak havoc to the area on a yearly basis. For the past 13 years, he has documented hundreds of storms, numerous tornadoes, and record breaking hail from as far south as the Texas/Mexico border, up to the Dakotas. He has faced life-threatening situations and driven into some of the world's most powerful storms, all for one shot. Through his images, he strives to bring his audience along for the ride and experience Mother Nature at her worst.

## Flash FUNdamentals Workshop

Come join us for this introduction to flash photography. We will teach you how to use your external flash (speedlight) to get the best possible pictures. Because this is a training session, there will be introductory training and there will be mentors to help you to get to know your own equipment and how to use it to its best advantage. We will be covering flash fundamentals, controlling your flash and creative flash modifiers.

Please bring your camera, external flash, extension cables, wireless trigger, manuals and someone or something to photograph. Here is a chance to practice your skills on a family member or friend.

The workshop will be held at Grace Presbyterian Church Education Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor from 10 AM to 1 PM. The instructional portion is from 10 AM to 10:30 AM. After that there will be one-on-one mentoring and practice sessions.



Winter



## GSCCC Winners

Our club is a member of the Gulf States Camera Club Council and each month we submit images selection from club competition to the GSCCC competition. The following members were winners:

Ron Lin's "Lotus Flower," placed second in the October Pictorial Projected competition for GSCCC. This same photo won an Honorable Mention in our August "Open" contest.

Sharlott Hasty's photo, "Lilac-Breasted Roller, Botswana", earned a 2nd Honorable Mention in the November Nature Projected Digital Contest for the GSCCC.

## PSA Conference Report

One of the Photographic Society Association's priorities is choosing great locations for the annual conference. This past September PSA was held in Portland, Maine. It was the first time many had visited this scenic, historic city, established in 1600's, by English settlers.

Many photographic tours were offered in the first three days. One, entitled "Sunset at Portland Head Light, followed by an Astral Photography/Light Painting", sounded particularly interesting. Even if you did not take the tours it was very easy to explore the coast, historic lighthouses, Longfellow's house and of course the ever popular L.L. Bean at Freeport.

Three days of programs and classes followed. Some of the speakers included R.C. Concepcion of Kelby training, Bill Eppridge, photographer for "Sports Illustrated" and "Life", and Ian Plant, who gave us essential tips for great nature photos.

Next year the conference is to be held in Albuquerque to coincide with the famous Balloon Festival, beginning the day after the conference. Save the dates September 27 to October 3, 2014 and let me know if you have any questions. Jen Carrick, PSA representative.

## PPC 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of our club. In celebration, all this year we will present highlights from the history of the club. To kick-off the celebration we will be providing cake for everyone at the January meeting.

## Heard Nature Photo Contest

We are pleased to support the 36th Annual Heard Nature Photo Contest in February 2014. There are cash prizes awarded in 10 Categories of Nature Related Photo Prints in three Contest Divisions (Junior & Senior Student, and Adults).

All Contest proceeds to benefit the Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary. Contest details and instructions for submitting entries can be found at:

[www.heardnaturephotographers.com/contest](http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com/contest)  
[www.heardmuseum.org/photocontest.asp](http://www.heardmuseum.org/photocontest.asp)

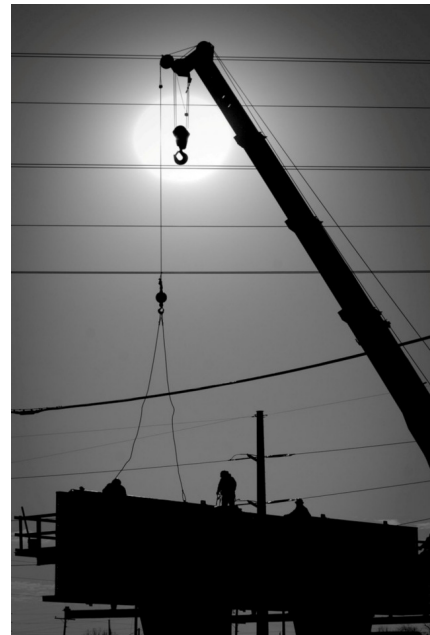


## October's Winning Images – Open

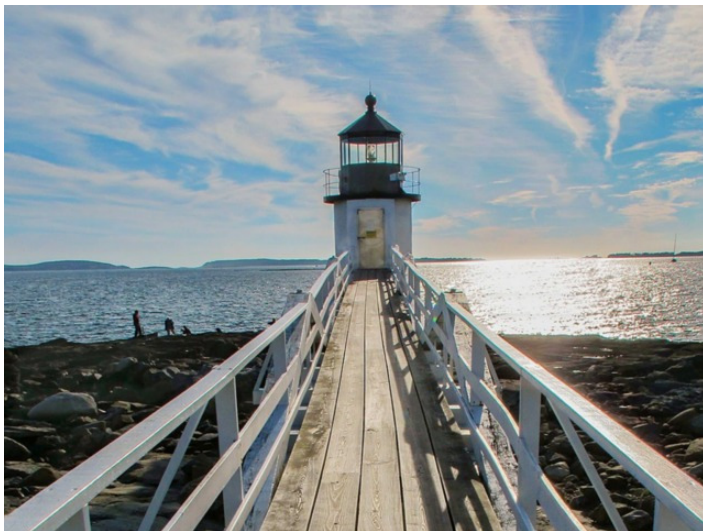
MASTERS				ADVANCED			
Ernie Tacsik	DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS	1st,BoS	15	Marie Hansen	MILKY WAY	1st	14
John Lehman	JORDAN	2nd	15	Linda Grigsby	DALLAS AT SUNSET	2nd	14
Lois Lehman	COWBOY EARLY MORNING	3rd	14	Steve Sutton	TENANT HOUSE	3rd	13
Jose Artiles	TRES AMIGOS	HM	13	Sam Wilson	BALLET IN GLASS	HM	13
Larry Petterborg	SHADOW DANCER	HM	13				
INTERMEDIATE				BEGINNERS			
Ming Yang	WATER ALLEY	1st	14	James Walsh	LOG CABIN KITCHEN	1st	14
Don Champlin	RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD	2nd	13	Robin DeRouen	ADVANCING	2nd	12
James Haynes	AUTUMN LEAVES	3rd	13	Mary Jean Blevins	VANISHING ERA	3rd	11
Bryan Zumbar	MAC	HM	12				



**James Walsh**



**Robin DeRouen**



**Mary Jean Blevins**



**Ming Yang**

*Winter*





**Don Champlin**



**Bryan Zumbar**



**James Haynes**



**Marie Hansen**



**Steve Sutton**



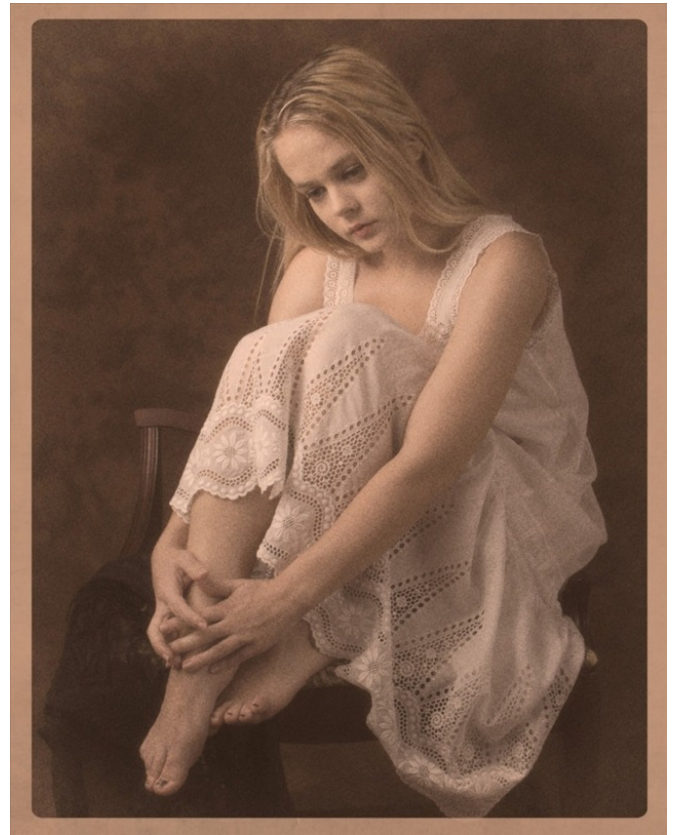
**Linda Grigsby**

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**Sam Wilson**



**John Lehman**



**Lois Lehman**

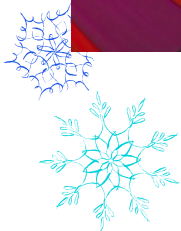


**Jose Artiles**



**Larry Petterborg**

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COMPETITION TOPIC					
January	PJ: Found in the City	April	Open	July	Up in the Air
February	Open	May	S-Curve	August	Open
March	Parts is Parts (Print)	June	Open		

COMPETITION STANDINGS					
Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
<b>BEGINNERS</b>			<b>ADVANCED</b>		
James Walsh	22	71	Marie Hansen	30	77
Robin DeRouen	22	71	Linda Grigsby	22	75
Debbie Conard	21	67	Bud Barlow	18	72
Leslie Johnston	10	55	Jim Spencer	17	70
Cathy Lin	12	44	Sam Wilson	5	69
Mary Jean Blevins	9	35	Carol Barlow	1	63
Vijayakumar Balasundaram	4	32	Jerry Schlesinger	1	60
John Paul Douglas	10	23	Peter Luh	10	50
Bruce Barlow	6	23	Jim Shannon	7	50
Lou Warren	0	20	Linfen Hwang	0	54
			Karen Chaney	0	53
			Steve Sutton	4	48
			Aimee Wilson	7	45
			Ming Luh	3	47
			Ken Morton	0	23
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>			<b>MASTERS</b>		
Don Champlin	54	86	Ernie Tacsik	27	78
Charlie Henkle	9	70	Danette Volkmer	21	77
Chris Caho	13	63	Dennis Fritsche	17	72
Valerie Johnson	7	68	Ron Hasty	14	70
James Haynes	5	65	Marea Downey	8	73
Bryan Zumbar	4	65	Lois Lehman	15	63
Ron Lin	17	51	Lee Hatfield	7	70
Wayne Kenter	0	59	Larry Petterborg	4	71
Ming Yang	11	44	Jose Artiles	5	69
Parvin Stiles	0	47	Jen Carrick	1	68
Brian Prestemon	2	42	Sharlott Hasty	1	66
Brad Sharp	0	39	James Stover	2	64
Jesse Flores	0	30	John Lehman	6	59
Melanie Dyer	0	28	Peter Staxen	0	51
Ronnie Scaggs	0	26			
Steve Carter	1	24			
Michael Losurdo Jr	0	21			
Joe Sullivan	0	20			
Sevy Strnad	3	13			
Joe Rougraff	0	11			
Retha Moulder	0	9			
Sudheer Vijayakumar	0	8			

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: *Happy Anniversary!*



Nineteen eighty-four was dreaded as the year of "Big Brother" according to George Orwell yet that was far from reality. While a recession put a damper on the economy, there were signs of a brighter tomorrow, and Canon demonstrated the first digital electronic still camera.

A photography class sponsored by Plano Parks and Recreation was the impetus for forming an area club to promote photography. From film to digital, prints and slides to projected images, 15 members to over 200, the Plano Photography Club has seen much change. Members have come and gone. This year the club celebrates its 30th anniversary, and our thanks go to those who sought out fellow enthusiasts to enjoy and share their hobby of photography.

Carol Barlow

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Training	<b>MAREA DOWNEY/JOHN LEHMAN</b>	<a href="mailto:training@planophotographyclub.com">training@planophotographyclub.com</a>

### 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**

