



The FLASH!

June 2014

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



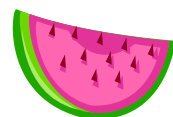
Best in Show: ~ Dad's Pliers - By Brian Prestemon

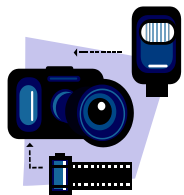
Dad's Pliers is an emotional, evocative image for me that I'd been meaning to create for over twenty-five years. It is of the very last pair of pliers my dad ever owned; he died suddenly and unexpectedly in 1989, at just 58 years of age. A lifelong farmer, he always carried a pair of pliers in his pocket, using them for just about anything and everything, so they were very well-worn by the time they either broke or he lost them and would have to break in a new pair. Dad had a unique habit of holding one handle loosely in his grip and spinning the pliers when he was on the phone, or just relaxing or thinking, thus imprinting one of my most vivid and cherished memories of him.

When I went home for his funeral, I retreated to the basement and retrieved his final pair of pliers from the pocket of his chore pants. His pants were hanging down there ready for him to don again which, of course, he never did. I treasure his final pair of pliers, and I always intended to make them a photographic subject. Finally, twenty-five years after Dad's death, I did so in April for my club contest submission. I am so thrilled that this image was awarded "Best of Show" and find it entirely fitting that I received the recognition on Memorial Day.

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Upcoming Club Activities

June 23, 2014, 6:15 – *Snapshots! Ask the Experts!* The May Snapshots! session features a panel of PPC Master photographers who will do their best to answer your most difficult and vexing photography questions.

July 12, 2014 – Fort Worth Scavenger Hunt: “Hop on, Hop off” trip on DART and the TRE, over to the Ft. Worth Stockyards for a scavenger hunt. Look for details later.

August 9, 2014, 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.

September 19-21, 2014 – Plano Balloon Festival: 2801 E. Spring Creek Pkwy. <http://www.planoballoonfest.org/>

September 19-21, 2014 – 52nd Annual National Championship Indian Pow Wow: Traders Village in Grand Prairie, TX.

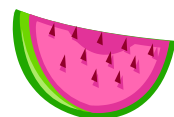
Guest Speaker – *Everyday* – Leonard Volk

Leonard Volk was born and raised in Dallas; has degrees from Yale and MIT; and spent 30 years in the practice of Architecture in Dallas. As a long-time member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and a former principal of Selzer Associates, Architects, he received honors including design awards for Denison Medical & Surgical Clinic and Staff Housing for the University of Texas at McDonald Observatory; the President's Medal from AIA Dallas; two nominations for the Linz Award by AIA Dallas, 20 years apart; and numerous community service awards from AIA Dallas. He served as Chairman of Dallas Chapter Zoning Committee; as organizer and chairman for Interprofessional Committee on Community Goals; served as one of three goal writers at the first Goals for Dallas conference; Chairman of the Community Design Center of Dallas; and Chairman of AIA's Affordable Housing Committee (AIA/AHC). One project of AIA/AHC was selected by the national AIA as best project for that year. He is a Fellow Emeritus of the AIA.

Volk's career as a personal photographer has extended from January 1950 to the present. All his images have been chosen because he cared about the subject matter, not for a market. Since retiring from architecture in 1989 and from volunteering in 1995, he has concentrated on photography. He published a book in 2011, *everyday*, which contains photographs selected from his archives and his essays on art, craft, and life from experience in architectural design and more than 60 years of photography.

Everyday focuses on the familiar and the small, things we usually ignore. When we notice the small, we sometimes find qualities and intensities harder to find in broader views of the world. Such discoveries make us aware that the world around us contains wonders and epiphanies. We find complexity, mystery, drama, poetry, humor, and beauty. Effects are often multiplied by analogy, metaphor, and our emotional responses. ... For me, uniqueness fairly jumps from tiny objects and bits of landscapes. I feel inspired to hunt the significant ordinary. The inner editor, your photographic conscience, integrates your commitments on aesthetics, subject matter, photographic technique, philosophy of life, and heartfelt concerns. I believe a photographer should seek epiphanies, seek to find connections in the great continuum that have significance, and that move us. Although this sounds grandiose, a small insight may delight.

The photographer needs involvement, and steps forward to increase it. The inner editor needs separation, and steps back to see better. Then weak images fall, and strong ones stand. I believe an image is more likely to be successful if it shows one thing well rather than twenty, unless it can make one of the many. Getting everything interesting inside the frame is a beginner's compulsion. But concentration is stronger than diffusion, simplicity more powerful than multiplicity.



PCC End-Of-Year Contest Winners

The club's annual End-Of-Year Party and Awards Banquet was held June 7 at Grace Presbyterian Church. This year's winners were announced:

High Points - Beginner:	James Walsh
High Points - Intermediate:	Don Champlin
High Points - Advanced:	Linda Grigsby, Marie Hansen (Tie)
High Points - Masters:	Ernie Tacsik
Photographer of the Year:	Don Champlin
Digital Image of the Year:	Ernie Tacsik - "Attitude"
Print of the Year:	Linda Grigsby - "Dallas at Sunset"

Congratulations to all the winners and to Marie Hansen and Linda Grigsby on being promoted to Masters Level!



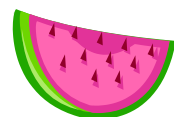
Ernie Tacsik
Digital Image of the Year



Don Champlin
Photographer of the Year



Linda Grigsby
Print of the Year



Aprils Winning Images – Open

<i>Masters</i>				<i>Advanced</i>			
Ernie Tacsik	Watching you watching me	1st	14	Jim Spencer	Signs of Age	1st	15
Dennis Fritsche	Cima Joshua Trees at Sunset	2nd	14	Linda Grigsby	On Golden Pond	2nd	14
Lee Hatfield	Spring Finery	3rd	13	Carol Barlow	Making a beeline	3rd	12
Larry Petterborg	Great Egret	HM	13				
<i>Intermediate</i>				<i>Beginners</i>			
Brian Prestemon	Dad's Pliers	1st,BoS	15	James Walsh	How High is Up?	1st	14
Don Champlin	The Look	2nd	15	Lou Warren	Remembrance	2nd	13
Valerie Johnson	Dinnertime in Ennis	3rd	13	Leslie Johnston	Lost City	3rd	12
Ronnie Scaggs	Not Perfect - but pretty	HM	12	Brenda Armstrong	Iridescent	HM	11
Barbara Pena	Lickity Spot	HM	11	Vincent Carroll	Hiding	HM	11
Ming Yang	Being Fascinated	HM	11				



James Walsh



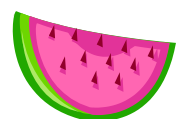
Lou Warren



Leslie Johnston



Brenda Armstrong





Vincent Carroll



Don Champlin



Valerie Johnson



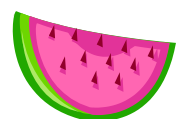
Ronnie Scaggs



Barbara Pena

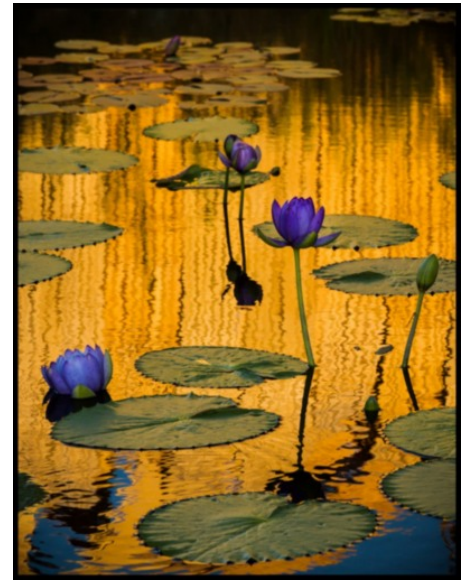


Ming Yang





Jim Spencer



Linda Grigsby



Carol Barlow



Lee Hatfield



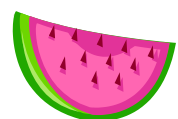
Ernie Tacsik



Dennis Fritsche



Larry Petterborg



Competition Topic

June	Open	December	No Competition	June	Open	December	No Competition
July	Up in the Air	January (2015)	Photojournalism	July	Surprise Topic (TBD)	January (2016)	Photojournalism
August	Open	February	Open	August	Open	February	Open
September	Liquids	March	Vintage (Print)	September	Softness		
October	Open (Print)	April	Open	October	Open		
November	Negative Space	May	Entrances	November	Abstract		

Competition Standings

Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
<i>Beginners</i>			<i>Advanced</i>		
James Walsh	54	137	Linda Grigsby	41	138
Robin DeRouen	48	117	Marie Hansen	43	136
Debbie Conard	30	105	Jim Spencer	36	131
Leslie Johnston	23	101	Bud Barlow	34	123
Cathy Lin	15	75	Carol Barlow	14	116
Lou Warren	12	67	Sam Wilson	6	122
John Paul Douglas	10	35	Linfen Hwang	12	110
Mary Jean Blevins	9	35	Jerry Schlesinger	2	106
Vijayakumar Balasundaram	4	32	Karen Chaney	1	82
Bruce Barlow	6	23	Aimee Wilson	7	75
Joyce Mangum	0	18	Jim Shannon	10	63
Brenda Armstrong	1	11	Peter Luh	10	50
Vincent Carroll	0	11	Steve Sutton	4	48
Krishna Duggu	0	8	Ming Luh	3	47
Alpa Agarwal	0	7	Ken Morton	1	36
<i>Intermediate</i>			<i>Masters</i>		
Don Champlin	94	156	Ernie Tacsik	44	144
Valerie Johnson	17	125	Dennis Fritsche	37	137
Charlie Henkle	15	115	Danette Volkmer	36	137
Brian Prestemon	26	104	Marea Downey	15	132
James Haynes	12	112	Ron Hasty	17	123
Wayne Kenter	7	115	Lois Lehman	22	117
Ron Lin	23	97	Lee Hatfield	10	127
Bryan Zumbar	4	113	Sharlott Hasty	12	125
Ming Yang	12	90	Jen Carrick	5	125
Parvin Stiles	0	79	Larry Petterborg	5	125
Chris Cahoe	13	63	Jose Artiles	6	123
Ronnie Scaggs	1	46	John Lehman	23	106
Brad Sharp	0	39	James Stover	2	111
Jesse Flores	0	30	Peter Staxen	0	92
Retha Moulder	0	30	Jamie Hilbig	0	10
Melanie Dyer	0	28			
Steve Carter	1	24			
Barbara Pena	2	23			
Joe Rougraff	0	24			
Sevy Strnad	3	21			
Michael Losurdo Jr	0	21			
Joe Sullivan	0	20			
Sudheer Vijayakumar	0	8			



President's Message: Hello



"Photo by Lois Lehman"

As the old joke goes, I wasn't born in Texas, but I got here as fast as I could. My folks moved from Missouri to Fort Worth when I was 9 months old, so my father could attend the seminary. But four years later, we moved back to the Midwest, which explains my lack of Texas accent. I came back to Texas to attend Baylor University, and settled permanently in Richardson in 1981. I'm an engineer with Raytheon and have been there for 31 years.

I met my wife Barbara (a Dallas native) at Baylor, and we've been married for 34 years. We have three children. Our older daughter, Beth, helps her husband Michael run a ranch and a restaurant in Oklahoma. They have two boys. Our son, Jon, is a physicist working at Fermilab in Chicago. Our younger daughter, Katie, is a portrait artist and is getting married next month. (If you have ever wanted a portrait of a family member painted, let me know!)

I picked up photography as a hobby about 1999, and got more serious about it in 2005 after a trip to Tofino, on Vancouver Island. I'll share more of my background specific to photography next month.

Sam Wilson

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Training	Bud Mallar / Don Champlin	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
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Editor

