



The FLASH!

July 2014

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



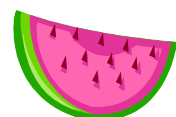
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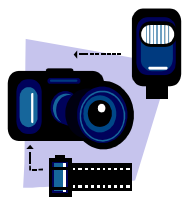
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BEST IN SHOW: ~ VINTAGE PORTRAIT -BY JOHN LEHMAN

The S curve has been a classic posing position for portraits and glamour. The hands generally point in one direction and the feet in the other. You'll see it (along with the C curve) in many portraits, especially of women. Here it is incorporated into this vintage image of Skylar. This was shot in my home studio. The nightgown, scarf and the bench are vintage pieces I have collected to use in my photography. The lighting is from a fairly large softbox placed about 60 degrees left of the camera.

I have been very interested in recreating vintage styles for about 2-3 years. A model/friend introduced me to the photography of Alfred Cheney Johnston. He was a Jazz Age photographer of the 20's and 30's. The Ziegfeld Follies girls were his subjects (along with Ziegfeld's family). Only a few of his images remain, most of his negatives were thrown away when he died because no one wanted them. I have expanded my vintage images now into the Hollywood Glamour styles of the 1940's when the great movie star photographers like George Hurrell were making images.





Upcoming Club Activities

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/>

Late September, early October, - Outdoor Model Shoot Tentative date.

October 18, 2014 – Lone Star Park: Tentative: Free outing to photograph “The King of Sports”, Grand Prairie, TX.

October 25-26, 2014 – USAF Thunderbirds: Tentative: Fort Worth Alliance air show.

Guest Speaker – *Imagination – Photoshop and Compositing* – Hal Wallar

Hal Wallar, MD, is a published and award winning photographer who has had a lifelong interest in photography and art, and obtained his first camera as a kid (an Argus A4) and utilized a “sort of” darkroom that was built in the top of the family garage over the hoods of the family cars. During his college years he was editor/photographer of the college yearbook taking and wet lab printing a number of the photographs for the volume including the setting up and taking of the signature picture of the publication.

Hal was trained as an eye surgeon, and spent his career years in this vocation as well as training other ophthalmologists as a faculty member of the Dept. of Ophthalmology of Loma Linda University in California. Photography is an easy hobby for many ophthalmologists to identify with as they are trained in optics and deal every day with the ultimate “camera”, the human eye.

Following his career as an eye surgeon he found additional time to pursue his passion in photography and image creation the potential of which has only been vastly broadened in scope and artistic possibilities by the advent of the digital age. He enjoys sharing these new possibilities with other photographers and helping them achieve the image potential that this field now offers. His photographic pursuits have ranged from fine art to technical photography and he has served as an author, presenter, and judge in regards to photographic topics.

His photographic philosophy: Photojournalism is a recording of the absolute facts. Fine art photography employs the skill of the photographer to maximize the beauty and art in photography. And now with the digital age “digital art” provides the photographer with the opportunity to allow imagination and creativity to soar to new heights. Photography has truly become art.

In the past photography was not considered art. It was invented in the 1820's, but it wasn't until after World War I that it was considered an art form. The pictorialist movement, pioneered by Steichen and Stieglitz, began to do more than just document events etc. Photography began to involve all the elements of art – technique, emotion, subject, composition, mood, etc. Along with digital photography came the possibility of “digital art” greatly expanding the photographer's ability to produce virtually any kind of image imaginable. The purpose of the talk on “Imagination – Photoshop and Compositing” is not to diminish any of the beautiful photographic art forms that have been available to the photographer in the past, but to encourage photographers to expand their horizons and to take advantage of the possibilities that are now available to photographer to make the most out of their images and to go beyond to create images of the mind. Your imagination is the only limit now.



Denton Air Show

We had a great time at the photo field trip at the Denton Air Show on June 14th in Denton. It was mostly an acrobatic show and antique aircraft that flew low to the ground lots of times. The airport is small and allowed us to be very close to the runway. At times I felt the aircraft were right over our heads. There were lots of old and new aircraft small aircraft to take pictures of too including a P3. I think those with a 400mm focal length lens did very well with their pictures of aircraft in the air. The first picture was taken by Peter Staxen and the second picture of an aircraft on the ground was taken by Lulu Warren. I look forward to this event again next year and hope everyone can join us. - Janet Davenport



35th Annual Plano Balloon Festival

Our September club activity will be the ever popular Plano Balloon festival. Come experience photography fun. Photograph the spectacular hot air balloons filling the sky in various colors and shapes. The three day Plano Balloon Festival begins Friday September 19th, 4pm at Oak Point Park, 2801 E. Spring Creek Parkway and ends Sunday evening. The weekend offers something for everyone from entertainment to fireworks show on Saturday evening, kid's activities, sky divers, variety of food, and the beautiful hot air balloons. The balloons will launch Friday at 6pm, Saturday at 7am and 6pm, and Sunday at 7am and 6pm (weather permitting). We are looking to get limited number of free passes for our club members. If you are interested, send an email to activity@planophotographyclub.com to reserve passes and let us know which day you plan to attend.

Tabletop Workshop

The PPC Tabletop Workshop takes place August 9 from 2 pm to 5 pm in the Education Building at Grace Presbyterian church. This building is adjacent to the main church building where the Club's monthly meeting is held. Enter on the west side of the building and take the elevator to the 2nd floor.

This workshop is an indoor educational event where club members can create images on a variety of tabletop "set-ups," most of which can be replicated at home with little expense or by arranging to borrow the Club's equipment. Stations planned for this event include painting with light, two different black light environments, floral, macro, textured glass, high speed photography (capturing water drops), rain drop reflections, and a light tent. There will be experts available at a "show me" table to demonstrate or discuss photo editing software as well as roaming experts to help you and answer your questions.

At a minimum, participants need to bring a camera and tripod. It is also recommended that you have spare batteries, extra memory cards, a shutter release (cable or infrared), a macro or close-up lens, a polarizing filter, and your camera's manual.



May's Winning Images – S Curve

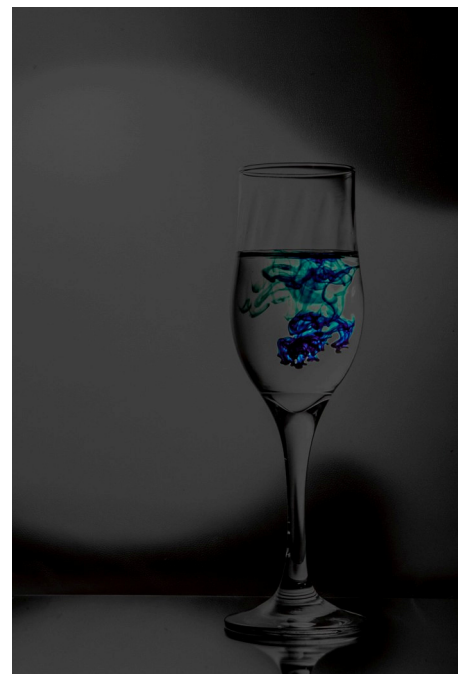
MASTERS				ADVANCED			
John Lehman	VINTAGE PORTRAIT	1st,BoS	15	Brian Prestemon	DOMINOES	1st	13
Dennis Fritsche	EXPLORING	2nd	15	Linfen Hwang	INTO THE WHEAT FIELD	2nd	12
Jose Artiles	RED WHITE AND BLUE	3rd	14	Sam Wilson	EGRET	3rd	10
Danette Volkmer	MONTANA RUSTIC	HM	13				
Larry Petterborg	GREAT BLUE	HM	13				
INTERMEDIATE				BEGINNERS			
Charlie Henkle	ANTIETAM MONUMENT	1st	15	Brenda Armstrong	CURVES OF YELLOWSTONE: BACTERIAL MATS	1st	13
Robin DeRouen	TIN MAN	2nd	13	Debbie Conard	COME SAIL AWAY	2nd	10
Valerie Johnson	SURVIVING THE ELEMENTS	3rd	13	Lou Warren	RORSCHACH CHAMPAGNE	3rd	8
James Walsh	A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT	HM	10				



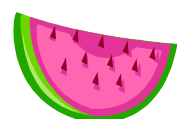
Brenda Armstrong



Debbie Conard



Lou Warren





Charlie Henkle



James Walsh



Robin DeRouen



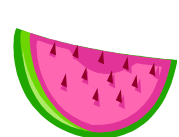
Valerie Johnson



Brian Prestemon



Linfen Hwang

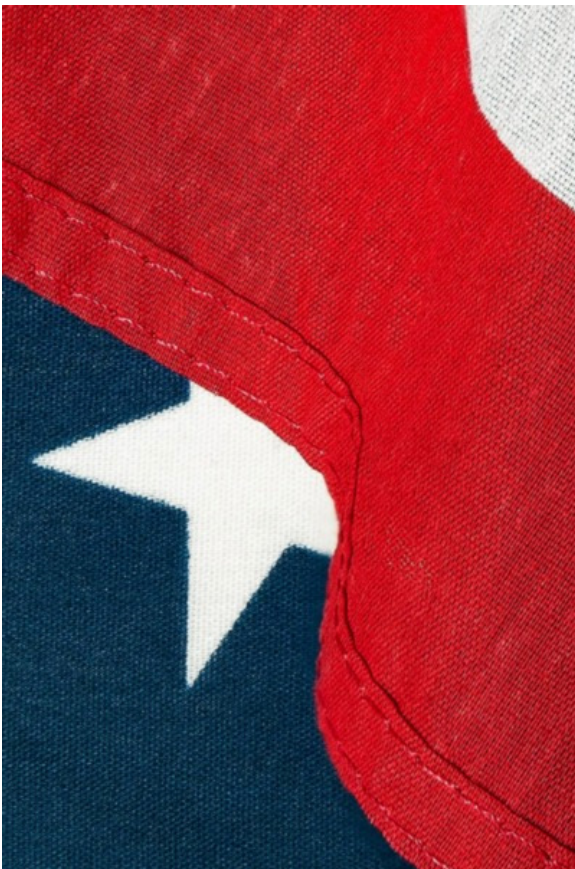




Sam Wilson



Dennis Fritsche



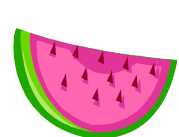
Jose Artiles



Danette Volkmer



Larry Petterborg



Competition Topic							
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		
December	No Competition	June	Open	December	No Competition		

Competition Standings					
Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
Beginners			Advanced		
Brenda Armstrong	10	13	Brian Prestemon	10	13
Debbie Conard	6	10	Linfen Hwang	6	12
Lou Warren	3	8	Sam Wilson	3	10
Leslie Johnston	0	8	Bud Mallar	0	10
Loretta Griffin	0	8	Don Champlin	0	10
Cathy Lin	0	7	Carol Barlow	0	9
Krishna Duggu	0	7	Ken Morton	0	9
Vincent Carroll	0	7	Aimee Wilson	0	8
			Jerry Schlesinger	0	8
			Jim Spencer	0	8
			Bud Barlow	0	7
			Karen Chaney	0	7
Intermediate			Masters		
Charlie Henkle	10	15	John Lehman	11	15
Robin DeRouen	6	13	Dennis Fritsche	6	15
Valerie Johnson	3	13	Jose Artiles	3	14
James Walsh	1	10	Danette Volkmer	1	13
Wayne Kenter	0	10	Larry Petterborg	1	13
James Berry	0	9	Sharlott Hasty	0	12
Ming Yang	0	9	Lee Hatfield	0	11
Ron Lin	0	9	Ron Hasty	0	11
Ronnie Scaggs	0	9	James Stover	0	10
Bryan Zumbar	0	8	Marea Downey	0	10
James Haynes	0	8	Marie Hansen	0	10
Joe Sullivan	0	8	Linda Grigsby	0	9
Parvin Stiles	0	8	Lois Lehman	0	9
			Russell McGuire	0	9
			Jen Carrick	0	8

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: CHIPMUNK



**"PHOTO BY
MARIE**

A chipmunk gets credit for my interest in photography. In 1982, my wife Barbara and I walked a nature trail adjacent to Table Rock Lake, in Missouri. I was carrying, as best as I can remember, a Kodak Tele-Ektra, with a maximum focal length of 44mm. On the trail, we spotted the chipmunk sitting on a log a few yards away. Barbara said, "Quick! Get a picture." Of course, the print was a disappointment, with a tiny chipmunk in the center of the frame.

I determined then I would someday be able to produce really good photos of wildlife. The journey has taken a while. My next camera had a zoom lens, but it still was not enough to get satisfying photos of small creatures. As time passed, that camera was eventually replaced with a digital – an Olympus D-490 Zoom – emphasis on the "Zoom," of course. It was still not enough. Eventually I realized I would never accomplish my goal without moving to DSLR technology and using a true long-range lens.

Though I haven't fully arrived at the destination, I am pleased with my results much more often now. I have had wildlife photos receive awards in our club contests. Further improvement now is more a matter of continuing to learn and practice, and studying the excellent photographs produced by other wildlife photographers in the club, such as Ron and Sharlott Hasty. On the other hand, I wouldn't say "No," if a longer, faster, lens found its way into my kit. Maybe instead of crediting that chipmunk I should be blaming it for the cost of the equipment I have bought on the quest! - Sam Wilson

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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

